



St. Patrick School News



December 2020
ZONE 4

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

SEASONS GREETINGS

There is already excitement in the air as we begin our journey through Advent, leading us to the big day, Christmas. The birth of Jesus brings salvation and peace for all of us. In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to", and this refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ through our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For the next four weeks the school will be abuzz as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.



Since we are unable to have a family style Christmas dinner in the gym this year, Lunchbox is offering us the Swiss Chalet Festive Special on December 15th. Children will eat with their classmates during second nutrition break.

In lieu of a Christmas Concert, teachers are working on a presentation of the students that will be put on each teacher's D2L/Brightspace page on December 17th for you to watch at your convenience.

We have a Santa Hat day scheduled for November 30th and then a week of theme days beginning Dec. 14th (see inside the newsletter for details).

Despite everything going on in the world, things are going very well so far at St. Patrick School. Please continue using the daily assessment screening on your children every morning. Thank you again for your cooperation keeping children home when they are sick.

The entire staff of St. Patrick School wish all of our families, students and volunteers a joyous and peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Merry Christmas!
Dr. Petruka

A Children's Prayer for Christmas

God, thank you for
Christmas
For all the great toys
and presents
I love this time
And never want it to
end!

God, thank you for
Christmas
For all my friends and
family
I love them so much
And place them all into
Your loving hands.

God, thank you for
Christmas
For sending Jesus to
be with me
I love Him so much
And give my heart to
Him
Amen



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How often should I change my face mask?

A fresh mask every day is helpful. Sometimes more than one mask is needed each day. Cleaning your cloth face mask every night is a good rule of thumb. With the colder weather upon us and students wearing their masks outside, masks have the tendency to get wet and will become uncomfortable. It would be a ideal to have 2-3 masks at school per day in the winter!

IMPORTANT COVID REMINDERS

Self-assessment remains a mandatory daily activity for all staff, students and anyone entering a school or administrative building. The self-assessment remains online through the government of Ontario's website. It is extremely important that if someone is not feeling well or cannot satisfy the requirements of the self-assessment they should not come to school/work

Parents/Guardians: If you are picking up your child early you must remain outside of the school building. Please ring the bell. We will do our best to have your child ready to be dismissed upon your arrival.

In the event that the decision is made to close schools due to Covid and schools are directed to switch to virtual learning, children are to log into D2L/Brightspace everyday. Attendance will be taken each regular school day. Teachers will be posting lessons and teaching some lessons "live". Please watch for more information from your child's teacher about this. Parents can contact the classroom teacher through their board e-mail or D2L/Brightspace. Parents can reach the Principal, Dr. Petruka at 519-717-7941 or dpetruka@bhnccdsb.ca or Mrs. Bennett at gbennett@bhnccdsb.ca during regular school hours.

GRADE 8 STUDENT & PARENT VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE WEEK

JAN 18-22

sjonline.ca/futurestudents



St. John's
College

All families welcome!

SEND IN PICTURES OF YOUR PETS!

We want to create a bulletin board display of everyone's pets. Please send in a picture of your pet with the name of your pet and your child(ren)'s first and last name and grade(s) written on the back or on a separate piece of paper attached. We will start by having a contest to see who can match the animal's name to the pet. Then we will reveal the pet's name and family members. Don't have a pet?—you could be creative (e.g., take a picture of the squirrel that is always outside your window). Your picture will probably get staple holes on it, so don't send a picture you value.



WINTER OUTDOOR TEMPERATURES



When outdoor winter temperatures fall below -20 C (including windchill), St. Patrick students will have recess indoors in accordance with Board policy and guidelines.

When temperatures are between -10 C and -20 C students can be outside for a maximum of 20 minutes. Please continue to send your child with complete winter wear and we will continue to monitor the temperature and the playground conditions for student safety.

For more information on the BHNCCDSB policy around cold weather please visit the following website: www.bhnccdsb.ca

Important — Please remember to send your child to school prepared for all outdoor play. Students should wear boots, hats, gloves or mittens, warm coats, and snow/slush pants.

It is a good idea to send more than one pair of mitts on snowy days since mitts get wet and do not have enough time to dry before second recess. Also, your child should have more than one clean mask available daily to switch out when their mask gets wet.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On Tuesday, December 15th as a special order item through Lunchbox Orders, you have the option of ordering a Festive Dinner for your child.

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we are not able to meet as a school community in the gym as we have done in the past years, so students will remain in their classrooms with their cohort Christmas lunch.

CHRISTMAS THEME DAYS

MONDAY Nov. 30 & Dec. 14		Wear your favourite Christmas hat
TUESDAY Dec 15		Dress like an Elf
WEDNESDAY Dec 16		Antler day – wear your antlers
THURSDAY Dec 17		Wear a Christmas sweater
FRIDAY Dec 18		Pajama Day or Wear red, green and white day

INCLEMENT WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSING

Our students' safety comes first. The decision to cancel transportation services shall be made PRIOR to 6:30 am and will be announced on the designated radio stations, CHCH news, twitter @stsbhn, and our board website.

There are FOUR zones within our school board and St. Patrick School is **ZONE 4**. When morning transportation services are cancelled within our school board, ALL schools, and school trips will be cancelled for that day for all students.

New this year, students will be able to go on-line on to D2L/Brightspace and participate in asynchronous learning opportunities on snow days! System teachers have placed grade appropriate work in the Content section of the site. Classroom teachers may also place work on the site for the day.

Please listen to the local news or check the board website to see if our school is closed.

WINTER PLAYGROUND SAFETY RULES

Children are expected to come to school dressed appropriately for the weather. In the winter that means hat, coat, neck warmer (scarves need to be tucked in), mittens, and snow pants.

Icy areas are off bounds to avoid slips and falls. No sliding on icy areas.

Snowballs are not thrown because they could cause an eye injury or cut.

Putting snow down someone's back, hood or face etc. is not allowed. Snow should stay on the ground.

We do not wreck other people's forts, snow-people, or snow sculptures because people worked hard to build them and we do not like it when someone wrecks our work.

Tunnels in snow drifts are not allowed because they could collapse and suffocate a person.

The top of snow hills and other snow structures are off bounds to avoid pushing, slipping, falling, bumps, and collisions. Children may play on the sides of the snow hills or structures.

Soccer is allowed.

Square ball (four square) is allowed when the pavement is dry and clear of ice and snow.

Wall ball and pavement games are allowed using a "soft" ball (e.g., utility ball or tennis ball) and no ice is in the area.

Students are asked to play non-contact activities (no tackling).

Building snow-people, snow structures, and snow forts are allowed.

Most of all, we want students to have fun, enjoy the snow, and play safe!





INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

BUS CANCELLATION or SCHOOL CLOSURE

If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, or if there is a school closure, **LUNCHES WILL BE CANCELLED** and rescheduled to another school day.



WWW.LUNCHBOXORDERS.COM

1-877-426-6860 info@lunchboxorders.com

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

- November 30 - Santa Hat Day
- December 14 - Santa Hat Day
- December 15 - Christmas Lunch (pre-order through Lunchbox Orders) & Dress Like an Elf Day
- December 16 - Antler Day
- December 17 - Christmas Sweater Day
- December 18 - Pajama Day or Wear Red, Green and White Day
- Last school day for 2020!

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- January 4, 2021** Welcome Back to School—Happy New Year!
- January 4 - Online Registration for Kindergarten opens today!
- January 18 - P.A. Day—no school
- February 2 - Term 1 Report Cards go home
- February 12 - Valentine's Day Theme—wear red, pink, white
- February 15 - Family Day—no school
- March Break** - **March 15—19**

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS....

WATCH FOR IT!

Month of February Calendar Draw!!

Calendars will be on sale soon! Great idea for stocking stuffers, thank-you gifts, a “just because I like you” gift. Whatever the reason, don't delay get your calendars while they last !

Quantities are limited.

Fantastic prizes to be won - DAILY!
Every ticket is re-entered back into the draw and is eligible for the remaining prizes!

Each family will receive 5 calendars to sell. Winners will be notified by phone and posted weekly on our school website.



© Can Stock Photo

Profits will be used to enhance the playground areas and update the School Home Reading Program.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR PARENT COUNCIL AND OUR ST. PATRICK STUDENTS

- KNOWLEDGE -
 - ISSUES -
 - DECISIONS -
 - SUPPORTS -

CONGRATULATIONS !

**TO THE GRADE 5/6 CLASS
FOR SUCCESSFULLY
COMPLETING THE
KIDS PROGRAM**

**Sponsored by the
Ontario Provincial
Police**

LOST AND FOUND

As a result of COVID, parents are not able to come into the school to check the lost and found for missing items.

To make it easier for your child and the staff to reunite lost items to their rightful owners, we ask that you Label all clothing, boots, shoes, etc. with either their full name, first name or initials.

LUNCH ORDERS BOX



An online lunch program,
created by two elementary
school teachers who had a
vision to make school lunches
**easy for parents,
healthy for kids and
beneficial to schools.**



healthy meals

Kids will love their lunch,
even picky eaters.

All meals meet the
nutritional guidelines outlined
by the Ministry of Education's
Food and Beverage Policy.



fundraising opportunities

A contribution
will be made to the
school with every
meal purchased.



convenient ordering program

Our online program
is paperless & cashless.
Healthy school meals
are one click away!

Healthy school lunches
are one click away.

Join us now!

 lunchboxorders.com

 1 (877) 426-6860

 info@lunchboxorders.com