

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

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PRAYER FOR A NEW YEAR



Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good, with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help, and the humility and openness to accept help from others. As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible with Your help and guidance.



St. John School will host an FDK Registration Night for parents of both English and French Immersion FDK age students on Wednesday, January 24th, 2018 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Parents will require the following documentation to register their child:

- ✓ Birth Certificate
- ✓ Baptismal Certificate (parent and/or child)
- ✓ Immunization Record

Your child must be four years of age by December 31st, 2018 to register for the FDK program for fall 2018!

Winter Weather Wear & Safety



With the cold weather upon us, we would like to remind our students to dress warmly. This is very important since students spend morning and lunch recess outside. Please have hats, scarves, mitts, boots, coats, and snow pants. We recommend that the children have an extra pair of mittens in their school bag should the other pair become very wet.

VALUE OF THE MONTH IS PEACE



During the month of January, our Catholic Schools are celebrating the value of PEACE. We will work with students to develop models that enable them to make good and conscientious decisions based on scriptural values. We will emphasize the importance of making decisions that do not harm themselves, others or the environment. We will also remind the students of the importance of being able to say “sorry” when they make mistakes and to act correctly, as Jesus would have, in these situations. Please help us by praying for the staff and students as we explore this important value.

Inclement Weather/School Bus Cancellations

When inclement weather occurs please listen to a local radio station or check the consortium website at www.sssc-cses.ca for bus information about delays or cancellations. **If you've signed up for REMIND - you will be notified directly on your cell phone if buses are cancelled.** When buses are cancelled, school remains OPEN. Parents/guardians are kindly asked to let us know if you're keeping your child home for the day. Thank you for helping us know your child is safe!



Sign up to REMIND and receive general reminders, bus cancellation info and/ or emergency communications from St. John School. Simply enter 705-230-0159 and text: @43a23. To date we have over 150 parents who have signed on with us!

Family Literacy Day



Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999, and held every January 27 to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Taking time every day to directly engage with your child is crucial to their development. Even just 15 minutes a day can dramatically improve a child's literacy/math skills. Look for a family tip sheet being sent home on January 26th with fun activities to try. English speaking families with children in French Immersion are reminded of the importance of reading daily to their child in English - as language skills are transferable.

What is the Immunization of School Pupils Act?



The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) is the Ontario law that requires students to have up-to-date vaccinations (or a valid statement of exemption) in order to attend school. Under the ISPA, students can be suspended from school if they do not have all the required vaccinations for diphtheria, polio, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal disease, and pertussis. Children born after January 1st, 2010 are also required to have vaccination against varicella (chicken pox).

Who is responsible for reporting immunizations to the Health Unit?

Parents and guardians are responsible for reporting their child's vaccinations to the Health Unit. School administrators and health care providers are not required to report your child's vaccinations for you. The Health Unit relies on parents and guardians to report the information.

When I registered my child for school, I gave a copy of their immunization card to the school. Why do I also need to report the vaccinations directly to the Health Unit?

When a child is first registered at a school, the school takes a copy of the immunization card and sends it to the Health Unit. However, later on, children receive other vaccinations and each one must also be reported to the Health Unit by parents or guardians to update the child's record. The Health Unit uses these records to make sure students are up-to-date with the vaccinations that are required to attend school for their given age.

Why does the Health Unit suspend students from school for not having up-to-date vaccination records?

Ontario law requires the Health Unit to keep and review vaccination records for all students under 18 years. Immunization protects your child from vaccine preventable diseases and reduces the risk of disease outbreaks in schools, keeping them safe. The Health Unit does issue orders to suspend students if their records are incomplete.

Where can your child get vaccinated?

The Sudbury & District Health Unit's main office offers the following immunization clinics, by appointment: weekdays during normal business hours and on some Saturdays. Appointments are also available at district office locations. For more information, visit www.sdhu.com or call 705-522-9200.

Immunizations can also be obtained via your health care provider or at a walk-in clinic.



Indigenous Education

Mr. Joel Agowissa, Indigenous Support Worker, will deliver programming such as The Four Sacred Medicines, Clan System and Seven Grandfather Teachings, and White Buffalo Circles. Students from FDK to Gr. 5 will have opportunities to participate in these programs into the month of February. We look forward to having Joel engage us all in the beautiful cultural traditions of the Indigenous. Miigwech!

Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program Beginning January to June



St. John School will once again provide students with a weekly serving of vegetables and fruit (every Tuesday and Thursday) via the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program. While providing students the opportunity to experiment with a variety of vegetables and fruit, the program also educates students and their families on the benefits of healthy eating and physical activity for overall health. The Ministry of Health and Long-term Care sponsor this program in partnership with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association and the Sudbury & District Health Unit. Thank you! Merci!



Term One Report Cards go home on Tuesday, February 13th.

Picture Day

CLASS OF 2018

GRADE 8 GRADUATION & FDK YEAR TWO PHOTOS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

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| PLEASE COMPLETE THE BALLOT TO WIN A FREE FAT TUESDAYS PIZZA! |
| NAME: |
| GRADE: |
| BRING YOUR BALLOT TO THE OFFICE |