



# St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School

## Newsletter September 16, 2016

*"I alone cannot change the world,  
but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."*  
St. Teresa of Calcutta

Dear School Families,

A huge **WELCOME TO SCHOOL!!!!** How amazing is the new addition!! It has truly been a marathon of a summer getting our new wing of classrooms up and running. "Thank you" does not even begin to address the gratitude we feel for everyone who has helped us get into this new build:

- Everyone who actually made this whole project possible
- An amazing construction crew on site that is working so hard on our school
- A fantastic group of parent volunteers and men from Freedom's Door who helped us with our marathon move last week
- Three custodial teams who have worked so hard to get the new wing ready and keep the 'in progress' wing habitable
- A front office staff (Mrs. Sehn and Mrs. Thiessen) who have been working in a temporary office space amidst all of the building and moving challenges
- Mrs. Farr who has been working tirelessly engineering and co-ordinating the move and a thousand other 'non vice-principal' jobs for the past several weeks
- An unbelievably dedicated and beyond what ever could ever be expected hardworking staff who all worked 12++ hours/day for many days getting their new classrooms moved and set up. The teachers literally had only 2 days to unpack a whole classroom (including furniture and supplies), not just for themselves but for their students.

And of course YOU, the families who have embraced the chaos and the construction, and the amazing new addition. Without everyone on board, we would not have had such an unbelievably smooth start. We are so blessed to be in the new wing and are looking forward to the completion of the new foyer and office area.

With blessings and gratitude,  
Lynn Fleck



## **School Mass**

Thank you to all of the parents and guests who joined us for our school mass. What a wonderful way to role model the importance of our faith to our children. Your presence is always welcome and so appreciated.

## **Drop off/pick up times**

There are children being dropped off well before our school supervision begins at 8:15. There are many construction vehicles working during that time so it is essential that you either stay with your child until the supervisor comes on or make alternate arrangements. Please also remember that all students are to be picked up by 3pm.

## **Safety First**

Here at St. Joseph School, the safety of the children is number one. Thank you for continuing to help keep our parking lot clear of parked vehicles during construction. By parking on Sutherland, Ethel or Elliott this has really helped our traffic flow. We will continue to follow the requirements set out in last week's information letter but please note the following information below:

**It is extremely important that you do not block our neighbours' driveways or park in their driveways. You may need to circle around in order to find a space.**

### **If you are parking on Elliott before or at the end of the school day:**

Please do not park at the end of Elliott (closest to the school) on the grass as this is private property. Please also do not use private driveways to 'turn your car around'. There is a 'right of way' roadway at the end of Elliott turning right beside the fence which will bring you out onto to Copeland (the next street). If you treat Elliott as a one way street there will be less traffic congestion.

## **Staff Prayer**

Our staff gathers for prayer every morning at 8:05am. At that time the office will be closed for approximately 10 minutes. If you have an emergency, please see the staff members on supervision outside.

Thank you for respecting the importance of staff to be together to pray at this time.

## **Terry Fox Run**

Our annual Terry Fox run is on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm. Students may wear their gym strip that day to come to school. The primary students can dress in active wear. If your child has not participated before, they will learn the details about the event next week. The length of the course varies according to each grade. As always we encourage the students to bring a minimum donation of \$2 which will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation. As this is a volunteer organization ALL money donated goes directly towards Cancer research. Student donations may be given to the classroom teacher any day this coming week. If you would like to donate online our page is: <http://www.terryfox.ca/StJosephElementary> . Our goal this year is \$800.00

To make this event a success, we need extra parent help (which doesn't involve running!). **If you are able to come and help supervise on the run please call or email the office before Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.** If you are not involved in helping, you are of course welcome to join us for the run.

### **Monthly Calendar on the Website**

Our calendar is on our website for you to check for upcoming events at our school. Please keep in mind that times and dates do sometimes change, so it is important for you to check the calendar on a regular basis. Remember to click on the item to see all the details. September has been updated and we will be working on the rest of the months next week.

### **Volunteering with our school**

At St. Joseph School we really believe in the importance of home/school connection and volunteering with our school is a great way for you to be a part of your child's education. To volunteer, you must have fully completed the Safe Environment Policy. This policy has 3 components to it: review of the written policy, attending a Safe Environment Policy workshop, and completing a specific criminal record check:

A Safe Environment Policy workshop will be held on Thursday, October 6 at 7 p.m. in the Blue Room at the Catholic Pastoral Centre. New volunteers who work with children, youth or vulnerable adults, people who are renewing their criminal record checks and anyone interested in learning more about this policy and how to protect vulnerable people is welcome to attend. Please read the policy before you arrive. It is available from the Safe Environment Office webpage ([www.nelsondiocese.org](http://www.nelsondiocese.org)) or from your school or parish office. Please RSVP to [renee.burzuk@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:renee.burzuk@nelsondiocese.org) (preferred) or 250-448-2725 ext. 225 so she can plan accordingly.

You must complete this training and a specific criminal record check (the application form for this must be picked up from the school office - please do not go to the RCMP station) before you are allowed to volunteer for the school.

### **Lost and Found**

Missing: a girls cardigan labeled with: Jenna Macfarlane

## 2016-2017 Staff

### Teaching Staff

Kindergarten	Mrs. Herron	Grade 4	Mrs. Braund
Kindergarten	Miss Johnston	Grade 4/5	Mr. Zerr
Grade 1	Miss Nutini	Grade 5	Mrs. Hopley
Grade 1/2	Miss Griffin	Grade 6	Mrs. Beetlestone
Grade 2	Mrs. O'Brien/Miss Nagy	Grade 6	Ms. Pedrette
Grade 3	Mrs. Aitken	Grade 7	Mrs. Basso

Phys-ed/Religious Ed  
Mrs. Mlikotic

### Education Assistants

Mrs. Booker	Mrs. Moore
Mrs. Crombie	Mrs. Raible
Mrs. Dyer	Mrs. Rendon
Mrs. Kirzinger	Mrs. Shaw
Mrs. Lee	Mrs. Schober
Mrs. McCoy	Mrs. Thiessen
Mrs. Michielson	

Principal	Mrs. Fleck
Vice Principal/Band	Mrs. Farr
Director of Student Services	Mrs. Dreher
Learning Assistance	Mrs. Braun
Librarian	Mrs. McCoy
Custodian	Mr. Fonda/Mrs. Puno
Office Administrator	Mrs. Sehn



Please join us for our first PSG meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30p.m.

Location TBA.

## **Attachments**

- School Uniform Alterations
- HA Babysitting Course – Safety Council
- Okanagan Children's' Choir



Our mission is to foster the development of the total child in spirit, mind and body. Through Jesus, we encourage the pursuit of excellence in a community of love and respect.