

# HOLY SPIRIT SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

**SIGN UP FOR NEWSWIRE:** Newsletters and important school updates will come home via newswire (unless it is sensitive information) directly to your personal email. If you have not already, please sign up for newswire by visiting our school webpage and looking for the newswire icon at the bottom left of the screen <https://holyspirit.wcdsb.ca/> **The rest of this newsletter will be posted next week on Newswire.**

Dear Families

Please find below important information for you as we begin the school year:

**LUNCHBOX:** starts on Monday September 18th! All orders must be placed by Sunday September 17th at noon for this week.

**School CashOnline:** We have sent home various forms to be completed via School CashOnline. It is imperative to complete these forms ASAP. It is now up and running.

**Student Verification Forms:** These hard copies were sent home on the first day of school and we kindly ask for them to be reviewed, signed and returned ASAP so that we have all the correct information in our system.

**Absence:** When calling in an absence, please call the school at 519 621-8973, dial 1 for attendance and leave a detailed message including student's name, teacher and reason for the absence.

**Adults on School Property:** A friendly reminder that only students may be on the school yard from 8:40 a.m. The playground is reserved for students only to play and socialize with each other. Please inform any care givers who are responsible for dropping off your children in the morning. Remember, although your child knows you, you are a stranger to the other children. Further to this, staff are not available at the bell for discussions around your child. If you would like to speak with a staff member, please send a communication via email or the agenda and they will gladly respond when they are available.

**Open House Barbecue Thursday September 28 5:00 pm - 7:00pm.** Remember Me Catering will be onsite for a barbecue. They will be selling combos for \$7.25 of a choice of hamburger, hotdog or veggie dog with chips and water. Also, The Funnel Cloud Food Truck will be onsite. This barbecue is open for the whole family and you will pay them directly that evening. All Staff will be outside for a meet and greet. The classrooms will be open for your child to show you their desk and room.

**Holy Spirit Catholic School Advisory Council Nomination Forms** have been posted on School CashOnline. Form is due by Friday September 15. Notifications for our first meeting will be sent out to those interested.

The staff are excited for the 2023/2024 academic year. It is going to be a great year!

May God bless you,  
Mr. Franco Petrella - Principal  
Miss Ermelinda Luis - Vice Principal

**Critical Dates for  
2023 - 2024 School Year**

September	26: Picture Day 29: Terry Fox Run or Walk
October	2: Orange Shirt Day 6: PA Day 9: Thanksgiving Monday 30: Black and Orange Theme 31: Halloween Festivities
November	10: Remembrance Day Services 13: Professional Activity Day 20—24: Friendship Week 20: Progress Reports Distributed 23: Student Led Conferences
December	12: Advent Liturgy 15: Advent Confessions 18 - 22: Joy Week 25 - Jan 5: Christmas Break
<b><u>2023</u></b>	
January	8: First Day Back After Holidays 19: Professional Activity Day 25: Let's Talk Day
February	7: Winter Walk Day 13: Shrove Tuesday/Valentine's 14: Ash Wednesday Services 15: 1st Term Reports Distributed 19: Family Day
March	6: Lenten Confessions 8: Board Holiday 11 - 15: March Break 24: Palm Sunday 25 - 28: Holy Week Activities 29: Good Friday Holiday
April	1: Easter Monday Holiday 4: First Confessions 19: Professional Activity Day 20: First Communion
May	5 - 10: Catholic Education Week 19: Pentecost Sunday 20: Victoria Day 21—24: Holy Spirit Week 23: School wide Mass at St Ambrose 24: Mission Fund Day 25: Confirmation 31: Professional Activity Day
June	25: 2nd Term Reports Distributed 27: Last Day of School

**ORANGE SHIRT DAY  
MONDAY OCTOBER 2nd**

The Orange Shirt Day initiative, stemming from the poignant story of Phyllis Webstad, who had her new orange shirt taken away on her first day at a residential school, has grown to symbolize the ongoing journey of reconciliation and our commitment to understanding and acknowledging the history of Indigenous residential schools. We will be recognizing Orange Shirt Day on Monday October 2nd in honour of Phyllis and all students who went through the residential system. The first week of October is Truth and Reconciliation Week.



**OFFICE  
HOURS**

**8:30 A.M.  
to  
4:15 P.M**



**Parking** is available across the street. In the before school hours (up until 9:10) and the after school hours (3:40 - 4:00), we ask to please use the parking lot across the street for drop offs or walking your children to school. Please do not drop off in front of the school on the street as it promotes congestion and it is not safe. Parking is available from the hours of 9:30 - 3:15 in front of the school. There are two handicap spots available. We freed this area last spring to accommodate quick drop offs or pick ups during the school day, or if you are coming in for a brief meeting.



**THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER  
28TH  
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.  
See page 1 for more  
information**



**ORDER YOUR SCHOOL APPAREL ONLINE @ SCHOOLTEE.COM**

STEP 1.

- Input School Access Code

STEP 2

- Choose desired garment(s) / Add to cart

STEP 3

- Go to cart to checkout  
- Complete the prompted "Create an Account" steps to continue to checkout & input payment details.  
- Email receipt upon successful order completion

Access Code: **HOLY.CAM**

\* Please note website compatible with Google Chrome or Firefox browsers  
\*CHECK SIZES CAREFULLY! WE CAN NOT REPLACE SIZING MISTAKES\*



Enter Your School Access Code to View Products

Access Code: **HOLY.CAM**

All garments are screen printed with your School Logo



**\$21.45**

**\$21.95**

YOUTH

ADULT

**Dri-Fit Tee**

Black

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$16.45**

YOUTH

**\$16.95**

ADULT

**Unisex T**

Black, Red or Dark Heather Grey

Sizes: YXS to YXL / AS to A3XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL & 3XL\*



**\$19.95**

ADULT

**Ladies Fitted T**

Black, or Dark Heather Grey

Sizes: AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$35.45**

YOUTH

**\$35.95**

ADULT

**Pullover**

Black, Red or Dark Heather Grey

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$30.45**

YOUTH

**\$30.95**

ADULT

**Crew Neck Sweatshirt**

Adult / Youth Sizes: Black

Adult Only: Red, or Dark Grey

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$41.45**

YOUTH

**\$41.95**

ADULT

**Two Toned Hoodie**

Sport Grey Body w/ Red Sleeves or Sport Grey Body w/ Black Sleeves or

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$20.45**

YOUTH

**\$20.95**

ADULT

**Longsleeve Tee**

Black, Red or Dark Heather Grey

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*



**\$31.45**

YOUTH

**\$31.95**

ADULT

**Sweatpants**

Black, or Sport Grey

Sizes: YS to YXL / AS to A2XL  
\*add \$2 extra for 2XL\*

Plus applicable tax on all garments

## IMPORTANT REMINDER RE: MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child is required to receive **ANY** form of **prescription** medication during school hours, the school is required to have your signed consent on file. **It is also necessary that the medication be in the original prescription bottle or packaging.**



- ⇒ Please contact the office (519 621-8973) if you will require an "Administration of Oral Medication" form for your child/children.
- ⇒ All medication must be kept in the school office and administered by one of our staff.
- ⇒ We are not able to accept a verbal request to administer any form of medication.



## Students Transported To/From School by Bus:

As we begin the school year, we would like to remind all students eligible for bus transportation to/from school and their parents of the following:

- When traveling to school, students should be at their designated pick-up location five minutes before the scheduled arrival of the school bus.
- The student and her/his parents should develop a contingency plan should the child miss the school bus when traveling to school (e.g., return home; walk to a neighbour's home; walk to school, etc.)
- When departing school, should any student miss her/his bus, that child should immediately go to the school office for assistance. She/he should not walk home.
- If a student will not be taking the bus that afternoon, parents are asked to communicate this information with their teacher and how the student will be getting home.
- If you wish to discontinue or reinstate your bus service, go to [www.stswr.ca](http://www.stswr.ca) and click "do not ride/return to bussing form"
- Only students eligible to ride a school bus will be allowed to do so when riding to/from school. Those who are not eligible to ride a bus will not be permitted to do so.
- Transported students will only be allowed to ride their designated bus to/from school.
- Lastly, if a bus is delayed, please contact the bus company directly at Elliot Bus Lines 519 648-9548. Alternatively, you are encouraged to sign up for the subscription service @[www.stswr.ca](http://www.stswr.ca) where you will receive automatic notifications of delays and cancellations.



### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

We offer a hot lunch program through an external provider.—Lunchbox.

Lunchbox can be accessed through School CashOnline and you can place your orders there.

All orders must be placed by Sundays at noon for lunch the following week, thus if you order by Sunday at noon you will start the hot lunch the next day.

This year we are offering Swiss Chalet on Mondays, East Side Mario's on Tuesdays, Dominos Pizza on Wednesdays, Thursdays will alternate between Harvey's and Pita Pit and Subway on Fridays.

**LUNCHBOX**  
by SchoolCashOnline

By supporting this program, you are supporting our school as the company provides us with a nominal kick back to support our programming. We thank you for your support!

## School Safety—Morning Procedures

As we begin the school year we wish to highlight some items to help keep our students safe:

- 1) Supervision is available on the yard for Grade 1 - 8 at 8:40 a.m. Please do not drop off your children before this time as they will not be supervised. Grades 1 - 8 will make their way to the back yard. We have an excellent drop off area at the back. The blacktop is for students only. Parents cannot come onto school property.
- 2) Kindergarten students can be dropped off at our fenced in area where we have supervisors waiting for them as of 8:45 a.m.
- 3) The front driveway is for busses and service vehicles only.



## Safe Arrival/Departure Program:



### Attendance Check Procedure

Parents and Guardians are responsible for notifying the school of any late arrivals or absences incurred by their children. We ask that an adult call the school directly or leave a message notifying us of the child's absence. Please do not have your child place the call. Please call 519 621-8973 and press 1 to leave a message. If your child will be late, please leave the reason and the expected time of arrival. If a parent fails to communicate an absence, the school will make every effort to contact the parent in a timely fashion to request a reason for the absence. If no one can be reached, police may be notified.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to inform the school of names and current telephone numbers, in order of priority of parents, guardians, caregivers or other individuals to be notified in case of an unexplained pupil absence.

When picking up or returning children for a variety of reasons during the school day, we are requesting that parents buzz the office at the front door, come in and sign your child out in the main office.

In a situation, where the child misses their bus after school, the child is to report to the office and a phone call will be made home.

We encourage all parents and caregivers to be consistent with these procedures in order to provide the best means of ensuring their child's safety to and from school. We need to be aware of all individuals entering our building in order to ensure a safe and secure school.

Thank you for your cooperation!

## School Safety—Leaving School Early for Appointments

Parents are to call/email teacher and the Main Office, to notify of appointments/early pick up. Parents are to buzz main door, come in and sign out the student.

Students will not be permitted to walk home for appointments unless it is our dismissal times of 11:55 a.m. for lunch or 3:40 p.m. end of day.

## School Safety—Lunch Time

A reminder that students may only go home for lunch if it is indicated on the lunch form sent home via SchoolCashOnline.

# HOLY SPIRIT ECO TEAM NEWS

Holy Spirit Catholic School has always been dedicated to being 'Green', achieving Platinum status.

This year, we will continue to promote **Boomerang Lunches**. The idea is simple, whatever you bring to school, you bring it home. The purpose of this is:

- To increase awareness of the amount of waste created in one day's lunch
- To encourage the use of reusable containers
- To discourage the use of disposable containers and single use plastics

Blue and White Bins are available in the school to promote recycling. According to the Recycling Council of Ontario, the average student's school lunch creates about 30 kilograms of waste per year. This means that the average school can produce over 8,500 kilograms of waste every year just from student lunches. A lunch that contains processed, pre-packaged foods costs about \$4.50, while the average waste-free lunch can cost as little as \$2.50. Packing a waste-free lunch every school day can save you over \$350 per year!

**So, what else can our Flames do to help protect the environment?**



**Battery Collection:** We will continue to safely collect used batteries. Students are encouraged to bring them from home and place them into the bin located in the foyer near the office.

**Paper:** Staff will be reducing the amount of paper used at school in an effort to promote more use of digital technology. We will however continue to have paper recycling bins throughout the school for any waste that may be produced.

**Markers:** We also collect and used markers for recycling too! The bin can also be found in the foyer by the main office.

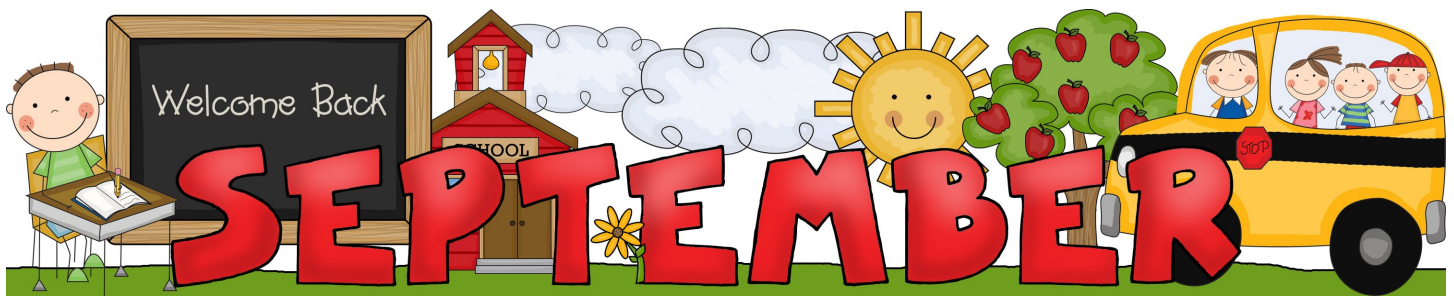
**Walk to school:** As always, walking to school is the best way to do your part. If you are able to, please walk to school. Not only is it good for the environment, but your health too!

Thank you Flames for helping us to stay **Green!**



*We are ready to have a great year!*





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					31 	1	2
3	4 	5 	6	7	8 Spirit Wear Day	9	
10	11	12	13 Spirit Wear Wednesday	14	15	16	
17	18 Hot Lunches begin 	19 Intermediate 3 Pitch	20 Spirit Wear Wednesday	21 Grade 8 Mount Mary Retreat		22	23
24	25	26  School Picture Day Junior Co-Ed Soccer	27  Wear Purple for Concussion Awareness	28 Spirit Wear Thursday  5:00—7:00	29 	30  Orange Shirt Day will be Mon Oct 2 at school	