

HOLY SPIRIT FLAMES

October

2023 NEWSLETTER

Individual Photos and Class Composites by PEGASUS took place last month

- ◆ The composites are unique to each child, they are personalized with their own photo for a very inclusive picture program. They will also use retake day so they can add any students who miss on the original day.
- ◆ Proofs will be sent back to your school sorted by homeroom approximately two weeks after photo day for distribution to the students.
- ◆ Parents will have the opportunity to view a proof prior to making a purchase online
- ◆ Picture retake day is scheduled for *Friday November 3rd*



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE UNIL THURSDAY OCTOBER 5

- ◆ Once again we are supporting St. Ambrose Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul. This Thanksgiving Food Drive will help support their Christmas Hamper Campaign. In the past year, the members of St Vincent de Paul managed to support 940 adults and 645 children.
 - ◆ We are asking for the following items this year: canned fish and meat, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned beans, jam, honey, peanut butter, pancake mix, pancake syrup, fruit juice, cranberry sauce, hamburger helper, macaroni and cheese, cereals, shampoo, hand soap and tooth paste. For any monetary donations, please make cheques payable to St Vincent de Paul – St Ambrose Conference
 - ◆ All items will be picked up on Thursday October 5th. Thank you for your generosity.



SPIRIT WEAR STORE CLOSSES ON THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

- ◆ Our Spirit Wear Store continues to be open but will close Thanksgiving Weekend.
- ◆ Please click here schooltee.com
- ◆ Access Code: HOLY.CAM



Happy Thanksgiving!

*Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.
1 Chronicles 29:13*

Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day as we bow our heads to pray, we give You thanks and praise Your glorious name. We thank You, Lord, for family and friends and all the blessings that come from above. We love You, Lord, in Jesus' Name, Amen.

SAM DEMMA EMPTY YOUR BACKPACK



Through our Board NTIP Program, many schools in WCDSB have been able to secure this *best selling author and on of the most in-demand key note speakers in the Education Sector*. Our Grades 3—8 students will hear his message on Thursday October 5.

In his latest book, Empty Your Backpack, *Sam Demma demonstrates that your dreams are in reach, and it's the beliefs you carry and they actions you take that determine whether you will achieve them. The backpack we carry is weighed down by people dismissing our dreams as unrealistic. Demma offers actionable ideas to help young people keep faith in their dreams even when those around them lose theirs.*

(samdemma.com)

SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2024

Chair: Trish Gerth

Co-Chair: Daniella Ciotti

Secretary: Jennifer Williams

Fundraising Coordinator: Alysha Davy

Volunteer Coordinators:

Nancy Fernandes & Nancy Cherri

We look forward to an exciting year for our school community.

October 3rd, 2023

Dear Holy Spirit Families,

The 2022/23 Catholic School Advisory Council would like to thank you for your support in our fundraising efforts during the previous school year. Thanks to your ongoing support we had two very successful fundraisers and were able to purchase much needed items.

With the money raised from the School Council Generated Funds, we were able to purchase DVD players for classrooms, a pop-up tent for track and field and other events, pins for our First Communion students, necklaces with Crucifixes for our Confirmation students, a television for our front foyer that displays current announcements, gym equipment, and a large laminator. We also were able to have a DJ at the Halloween dance-a-thon and purchase candy for it as well, gift cards for prizes for our Big Box of Cards fundraiser, and bags with supplies for our Welcome to Kindergarten night. We also funded a portion of our turkey lunch, paid for the bus for the grade 2 retreat, pictures and statues of Mary, and paid for Rock Solid to come out to teach the kids curling which was a huge success.

None of this could be possible without your continued support.

Your 2023-2024 Catholic School Advisory Council looks forward to another successful school year.

Further to the above messaging, the school receives funds from various places that is put into a School General Account. Last year, this account was used to lower the cost of various classroom trips, assist with rising cost of bussing for trips and also cover the cost of busses for our school wide trip to church for mass. We supported the turkey lunch and the school agendas to keep costs low for you. Furthermore any requests from clubs or sports supplies were purchased. We also used these funds to help lower the cost of graduation for our Grade 8s. Lastly, we also support families in need who cannot afford items like school supplies or trips and we also supported a school in need within our board as an act of charity so that they could provide their students with a graduation.

We will share with you in the upcoming months our fundraising goals for this school year.

Thank you

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.



School Safety—Leaving School Early for Appointments

- All students must be signed out of the office by a contact provided to the school if they are leaving early.
- 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.
- If an older student is walking home at lunch and they usually stay, a note/email must be provided to the teacher.

Bus Student News:

- There is a shortage of Bus Drivers. As such, this may result in bus delays and/or cancellations. It is important that all families with bus students are signed up with STSWR to receive these notifications.
- The school has trained Safety Patrollers on the bus. It is the students responsibility to listen to the direction of the safety patrollers. They are there to keep everyone safe.
- Furthermore, students must behave appropriately on the bus by being respectful, quiet, facing the front at all times and not moving around the bus until it has reached a complete stop. Failure to comply, which includes not following the direction of the bus driver and safety patrols will involve a warning and possible removal from the bus and the families will be responsible for getting the child to school.
- If a child misses the bus after school please remind him/her to stay at school and report to the main office. The school will call home to arrange for pick up.



Calling Volunteers!

We are looking for volunteers for our Strong Start Program. It is a program where individuals support our SK and Grade 1 students with letter, sounds and words. Training is provided. Please contact the school so that we can offer this valuable program to support our students.

Progress Reports and Interviews!

- Progress Reports will be sent home on Monday November 20, 2023.
- Interviews will occur on Thursday November 23, 2023.
- Please stay tuned for more information

STUDENT PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES



Halloween Costume

Students are welcome to wear costumes to school on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

The costumes must respect the following rules:

- Faces must be visible (no Halloween full masks)
- Make-up is to be applied at home
- Props are discouraged (save them for Halloween)
- No blood or graphic injuries
- **All costumes must be appropriate to be modelled for young children** (eg. provocative or violent costumes are not appropriate)
- Students are welcome to bring a change of clothes.
- Students are **welcome to wear black and orange** instead of a costume if they wish to save their costume for the big night!
- This day will also be one of our Food Exemption Days where students are permitted to bring in treats to share with their classmates if you wish. Your classroom teacher will provide further information about this. Treats are to be store bought and nut free.



The focus for the month of October is **Digital Literacy!**

- Students select and use appropriate digital tools to collaborate, communicate, create, innovate, and solve problems.
- Students understand how to manage and regulate their use of technology to support their mental health and well-being.
- Students use digital tools to define and plan data searches, collect data, and identify relevant data sets. They analyse, interpret, and graphically represent, or “visualize”, data in various ways to solve problems and inform decisions.
- Students demonstrate a willingness and confidence to explore and use new or unfamiliar digital tools and emerging technologies (e.g., open source software, wikis, robotics, augmented reality). Students understand how different technologies are connected and recognize their benefits and limitations.
- Students manage their digital footprint by engaging in social media and online communities respectfully, inclusively, safely, legally, and ethically. Students understand their rights with respect to personal data and know how to protect their privacy and security and respect the privacy and security of others.
- Students analyse and understand the impact of technological advancements on society, and society’s role in the evolution of technology.

Catholic Graduate Expectations focus for October



A Responsible Citizen who gives witness to Catholic Social Teaching by promoting peace, justice, and the sacredness of human life.



An Effective Communicator who speaks, and writes honestly and sensitively, responding critically in light of gospel values.

The Seven Grandfather Teachings: An Anishinaabe Tradition.

- As a part of our efforts with Truth & Reconciliation, we will link one of these teachings with our monthly themes.
- For the month of **October we will focus on Truth:**
- Debwiwin (Truth) • The Turtle carries truth. Truth is symbolic of law and principle. Since the beginning of time the turtle has not changed. The turtle has been chosen to be the bearer of truth and the basic truth of the laws of nature have not changed. The turtle has been able to adapt to change without changing; thus he represents truth. He also represents time. His shell has thirteen big plates, symbolizing the thirteen moons in one year.



October Happenings

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Spirit Wear Day 	5 Blue Jay Day' 	6 PA Day 	7 
8  Happy Thanksgiving	9	10 Flag Football Tournament	11 Spirit Wear Day	12 Spirit Assembly	13 	14
15	16 Dieleman Fundraiser Begins	17 IEPs Come Home SK Vision Screening a.m.	18 Spirit Wear Day	19	20	21
22	23 Wear your Crocs Day	24	25 Spirit Wear Day/ or Raptor's Wear 	26	27	28
29	30 Black & Orange Day	31 Halloween 				