



Immaculate Conception Catholic School

October 2019 Newsletter

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Website: immaculate.scdsb.edu.on.ca

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Important Dates to Remember:

- Catholic School Council — October 3 at 5:00 p.m.
- Thanksgiving (no school) — October 14
- School Mass (Virtue of Faith)— October 9 at 10:45a.m.
- P.A. Day (no school) — October 21

Paying Fees Online—No Credit Card Needed

by Mr. Mathieu

There are many advantages to paying school fees online, and we strongly encourage all our families to do so. Manually receiving fees for hundreds of students every day, which involves counting cash, processing cheques, entering records, and preparing deposits is no easy task and wastes a lot of our resources in the office.

Some of the many benefits of paying online include: more streamlined and efficient method of payment collection, reduced administration effort in time, personnel, and phone calls, better security for the school with less cash on the premises, better security for students as they don't need to carry cash, convenience for parents who can pay online 24/7, no more worrying about when your cheque will be cashed, no more bounced cheques, and more time for teachers in the classroom with students instead of spending large amounts of time collecting and counting money.

Important features of paying online include that parents can pay by debit or credit card, the system displays all expenses

available for payment online, payments are automatically recorded and receipts are automatically provided, and parents always receive an e-mail when there is a new item to purchase. No more lost notes and no more lost money in the bottom of your child's school bag.

A big misconception some parents have shared with us is that a credit card is required to pay fees online. That is **absolutely not** the case. Parents who pay online have the choice to use a credit card or have the money taken directly out of their bank account, just like you would with using a debit card. All you need is your transit, branch, and account numbers. Your bank can provide this information. New since last year, you can also pay with your VISA and MASTERCARD debit cards.

We strongly encourage everyone to set up online banking to pay for school fees. If you need assistance, please call the school secretary and she will be pleased to guide you through it.

Regular Attendance

Why is it so important?

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When students are absent for fewer days, their grades and reading skills often improve—even among those students who are struggling in school. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships, and are significantly more likely to graduate from high school, setting them up for a strong future. The early elementary years – from kindergarten through third grade – are particularly important ones in children's schooling. Parents and teachers know that children acquire new skills and knowledge rapidly during these years. Moreover, the outcomes of early elementary education, particularly whether or not a child can read proficiently by third grade, are a powerful predictor of later school and life outcomes.



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“A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimensions.”

Anonymous

Why Is It Important To Do Homework?

Encourage Healthy Habits

Homework does serve an important educational purpose and it's helpful for parents to encourage a healthy attitude to homework from an early age.

Going to school all day is enough for some children, so coming home and having to do more work isn't much fun. However as much as they hate homework, it is an important part of their

education and learning.

It can be hard work talking children into sitting down and dutifully doing any homework they've been set, but in the long run it's definitely worth persisting with it. At the beginning of the school year, ask about your child's teacher's homework routine. You need to know what kind of homework will be set and the expectations of your input.

Having the responsibility of needing to meet deadlines promotes self-discipline, an attribute which will impact on school work and beyond.



SCHOOL SPORTS



School sports are alive and well at Immaculate Conception Catholic School! This year, our school sports rep. champion is Mrs. Merotto. She attended the board's sports and tournament meeting on our behalf and we are committed to ensuring that students at Immaculate will have the opportunity to take part in all activities. Sports that are currently in progress include Cross-Country Running and Co-Ed Volleyball. Thank you to Mrs. Hayden and Mrs. Lotter for coaching the volleyball team (tournaments are scheduled for December and January) and to Mrs. Merotto and Mrs. Wissell for taking the lead on Cross Country running—this race is currently scheduled to be held in October 2019.

Subway Tuesdays and Thursday Pita Pit

A big 'thank you' goes out to Mrs. Bradley for collecting and organizing all the orders for Subway and Pita Pit. Subway lunches are held every Tuesday and begin on October 8. Pita Pit lunches are available weekly on Thursdays and begin on October 10. Thank you for your support!

What Parents Can Do to Prevent Bullying

by Mr. Mathieu

Addressing the signs of bullying early, before the behaviour and its impact get worse, is important to creating a safe and caring school and community.

As a parent, you can help to prevent bullying by teaching your children how to:

- be caring of others
- get along
- deal with angry feelings
- be assertive without being aggressive in standing up for themselves

Children need to understand how important it is to report bullying. Parents can help by encouraging children to talk about what is happening at school, in their neighbourhoods, on the bus, etc.

As well, it is important to teach children the difference between telling and tattling.

- Tattling is reporting to an adult about someone else's behaviour in order to get them in trouble.
- Telling is reporting to a responsible adult about someone else's behaviour in order to help someone – themselves or someone else.

When something goes wrong at school, children need to know where they can turn for guidance and support, and what action to expect. Listen carefully to your children and report bullying to the school. At Immaculate Conception Catholic School, we do offer special programs that can help, such as our 'Caring Adult' and 'Safe Kids' programs.

Faith and Life

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Faith

It All Begins in our School and Homes

During the month of October, our Catholic Schools will be celebrating the value of FAITH. Catholic schools have the unique educational purpose of presenting a Catholic world view to our students. That means that in all we do, we share our faith looking at the world through a Catholic Church lens. Our faith also brings us together for we share a common belief in God and in the gospel of Christ. We are rooted in the Catholic faith and as a community, expresses our identity through living out gospel values. Our faith must be manifests in three interconnected directions: spiritual growth, community building, and outreach. As a caring school community, we encourage our students to examine and evaluate their beliefs. We want them to make informed moral decisions, integrating faith with life.

The staff and I would like to encourage parents during the month of October to talk to your child about their faith and to help them and guide them with their questions. In your conversations, refer to the teachings of Jesus.

How can we discuss faith at home?

- The Catholic value of FAITH is the foundation of our schools. How can we can we as parents encourage our children live their faith?
- How can we model FAITH for our children?
- How do we foster FAITH in our school?

Things to consider include developing spiritual growth, community building, and outreach.



Reflection

Faith is demanding. How can we profess faith in God's Word, and then refuse to let it inspire and direct our thinking, our activity, our decisions, and our responsibilities toward one another? Faith is always demanding because faith leads us beyond ourselves. Faith imparts a vision of life's purpose and stimulates us to action.

PRAYER

Father, we come together before you today because we share faith; we believe in You. As your faithful people we are called to be one in your Spirit. We are called to share your good news. We are called to share You with all those we meet. May our faith join us together as we share You with the world in all that we do. We love and praise You, Lord, for Your goodness and mercy toward us, and we offer this prayer through the intercession of Your mother, who was the perfect example of faith and love.

AMEN



Immaculate Conception Catholic School
 1748 Pierre Street,
 Val Caron, ON P3N1C5
 Phone: (705) 897-4483 Fax: (705) 897-7512
 Principal: Mr. G. Mathieu



Safe Arrival Policy - For safety reasons, all doors including the ones by the office are locked at all times. All visitors must report to the main office upon entering the school.

October 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Parents, please call and let us know if your child will be late or absent. The phone number is (705) 897-4483	October Virtue: FAITH					Please No nuts, peanuts, tree nuts, sesame seeds/oil, sunflower seeds, shell fish or latex.
	Faith is an attitude that encourages us to involve God in our lives and search for the truth. Faith helps us to maintain and develop our relationship with God and with others, both when things are going well and when they are not.					
ALL PARENTS/VISITORS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN IN THE LOBBY AREA.		1 Bus Patroller Training 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Consortium	2 Pizza Day (\$1.25) Custodian Appreciation Day	3 Catholic School Council Meeting at 5:00 p.m.	4 If you keep your faith, your trust, the right attitude and gratitude, you'll see God open up new doors.	5 World Teachers' Day
	6 You cannot believe in God until you believe in yourself.	7	8 Subway	9 Pizza Day (\$1.25) Mass – Virtue of Faith 10:45 a.m. Gym	10 Pita Pit 'Fresh from the Farm' orders due. No late orders are accepted.	11 Visit the School Website at: http://immaculate.scdsb.edu.on.ca
13	14 Happy Thanksgiving! No school for staff and students	15 Subway	16 Pizza Day (\$1.25)	17 Pita Pit	18 Student Council Spirit Day - Wear Orange and/or Black	19 Through hard work, perseverance and a faith in God, you can live your dreams.
20 Immaculate Conception - Creating Possibilities for Every Child!	21 P.A. Day No school for students	22 Subway	23 Pizza Day (\$1.25)	24 Pita Pit ECE/EA Appreciation Day	25 Bus Safety Presentation 9:30 a.m.	26 Trustee: Mr. M. Bellmore
27	28	29 Subway	30 Pizza Day (\$1.25) Virtue of the Month Assembly 1:30 p.m. (Mrs. Mailloux)	31 Pita Pit Halloween Party Primary 9:30-11:30 Junior 1:00-2:15	Help us protect the future of Catholic education: ensure that your property taxes identify you as a Catholic school supporter. Call the school if you move or are not sure if you are presently a Catholic School supporter.	