



OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The month of September has flown by. The first month has been spent getting to know each other, establishing routines and expectations and forging new friendships. The halls and classrooms have been transformed and have come to life through student artwork and written reflections. We are so blessed to have such wonderfully dedicated staff, students and community members that give so generously of their time and talents. Students have already begun to participate in various co-curricular activities giving them many diverse opportunities to contribute to the life of our school community.

I was pleased to meet so many of you on Curriculum Night. We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to all who attended and many thanks to the staff who worked hard to prepare for the evening. Maintaining communication between home and school helps establish a positive partnership that is essential to the academic success and emotional well-being of all students. We would like to take this time to welcome our newly formed 2023/2024 Catholic School Council.

Thanksgiving is soon approaching and we must all be thankful for everything we have. There are so many individuals suffering throughout communities that we must realize and be grateful for all our blessings. On behalf of the staff at Our Lady of Fatima, from our family to yours, we want to wish all the members of our school community a very Happy Thanksgiving. In our busy lives, it is important to take time out and thank God for our many blessings. Enjoy your special time with family and friends. It is in the small things in life that we can appreciate how fortunate we truly are. As a community we are blessed to be surrounded by so many individuals who care about our students.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. F. De Bartolo
Principal

Mr. A. Belille
Vice Principal

Catholic School Trustee
Michaela Barbieri

Superintendent of Education
Tim Laliberte

Pastor
Rev. Rony Grayda

CSC Chair
Melissa Pierrakos

Administrative Assistant
Lina Cicchillo

Principal
Francesco De Bartolo

Vice Principal
Andre Belille

To report student absences and lates, please dial:
1-855-856-7862
OR
go.schoolmessenger.ca

SCE SCHOOL DAY:

- 8:35 Supervision Begins
- 8:50 Morning Entry
- 10:20 AM Recess
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:20 Lunch Recess
- 1:00 Afternoon Entry
- 2:20 PM Recess
- 3:40 Dismissal

<p>Mission Statement</p> <p>Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.</p>	<p>Vision Statement</p> <p>Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.</p>	<p>Core Values</p> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Excellence</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Equity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Fiscal Responsibility</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Catholicity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Inclusion</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Integrity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Respect</div> </div>	<p>Strategic Commitments</p> <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Integration of Our Catholic Faith</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Effective Use of Our Resources</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Engaging Our Communities</div> </div>
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CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF FAITH



MONTHLY VIRTUES

Each month, a different Catholic virtue is highlighted board wide. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these attributes in their daily actions both at school and at home. During the month of October, we celebrate the virtue of **Compassion**. Daily reflections and classroom discussions will be centered around this virtue.



THANKSGIVING MASS

The OLF school community will gather once a month to celebrate mass or participate in a liturgy. Our Thanksgiving mass will take place on **Tuesday, October 10, at 10:45am**. We look forward to this opportunity to gather as a faith community.



SHARELIFE CIVVIES DAY

Civvies Days will be held on the last Friday of every month. Seeing as how we recognized Orange shirt day on Friday, September 30th, our first ShareLife Civvies Day will be held on **Friday, October 6**. Students who wish to participate are asked to wear appropriate clothing to school and don't forget your loonie or toonie. Thank you for your support in our ShareLife campaign.

TERRY FOX RUN

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual Terry Fox Run/Walk on **Thursday, September 29**. Students will be asked to wear red on this day to honour Terry Fox's legacy and enduring message of hope and love. OLF was able to raise over \$3300 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you for your generosity and support!

DRESS CODE

Our Lady of Fatima CES is a standardized dress code school. Our dress code colours are navy blue and white. We encourage all students to follow the dress code policy at OLF. Please see the school website for specific information about appropriate dress code items.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

On Wednesday, September 27, the OLF community came together to form the 2023-2024 OLF Catholic School Council. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:00pm**.

PA DAY

There will be no school for students on **Friday, October 20, 2023**. Classes will resume on Monday, October 23, 2023.

HALLOWEEN SPIRIT DANCE

On **Tuesday, October 31st** all classes will have the opportunity to dance with their peers while wearing their Halloween costumes. More information will be shared with parents in the coming weeks.



PICTURE DAY

Students are asked to bring their best smiles to school on our fall picture day. This school year, picture day will be held on the following days:

Thursday, October 12:

K to Grade 4

Friday, October 13:

Grade 5 to Grade 8



SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS

OUR LADY OF FATIMA IS A CHARACTER SCHOOL

Each morning, as part of our school announcements, we remind all our students that Our Lady of Fatima is a character school. This means that we always hold ourselves to a higher standard. If students should ever find themselves in difficulty and cannot resolve a problem on their own, they are reminded to approach a caring staff member for assistance. We review daily that we must keep our hands and feet to ourselves and only to use kind words, even when we are provoked. Both the YCDSB and our school places excellence, equity, community and positive relationships at the heart of student success and well-being. ***We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all with Jesus as our inspiration.***

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the YCDSB and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School that students will:

- ★ Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- ★ Never negatively comment on or use someone's culture, race, gender, ability & orientation as a "joke"
- ★ Respect differences in people, their ideas and their opinions
- ★ Treat one another with dignity and respect, especially when there is a disagreement
- ★ Respect and treat others fairly
- ★ Respect the rights of others
- ★ Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- ★ Seek assistance from teachers to resolve conflicts peacefully
- ★ Demonstrate respect for people in positions of responsibility
- ★ Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- ★ Be courteous and polite at all times

We thank you for reviewing these expectations for behaviour and overall conduct with your child.

EMERGENCY FORMS & FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Emergency & Freedom of Information (FOI) forms will be sent home with each child. Please ensure the information on the emergency form is correct. If there are changes to be made, please make them directly on the form. The FOI form asks for consent by way of having parents/guardians a number of specific statements. Please sign, date, and return both forms to the school as soon as possible.

REPORTING TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

All visitors must report to the office upon entering the school. Parents/Guardians are not permitted to enter the main area of the school without having checked in at the office. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school safe.

LUNCH ROUTINES

Students who eat lunch at school are expected to remain on school property and respect the Code of Conduct during this time. Students may not leave school property, unless they are picked up by parents/guardians. Parents bringing their child a lunch must leave it on the lunch table in the foyer and clearly place their child's name/grade on the lunch. For safety reasons, please do NOT linger in the foyer.

PETS ON THE PLAYGROUND

As a safety precaution and a courtesy to all, kindly refrain from bringing pets onto school property. We want all of our staff and students to feel comfortable as they make their way to school in the morning and home in the afternoon. I appreciate your cooperation with this delicate matter.

SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

The YCDSB has a primary responsibility and goal to ensure a safe learning environment for all students and staff. As part of our safety initiative, OLF, along with other schools in the YCDSB, practice a variety of safety drills and protocols. In the coming weeks, as a school, we will review and practice a variety of emergency drills and procedures in the event of an emergency situation such as Shelter in Place (extreme weather), Lockdown (intruder in the school) and Evacuation (Fire, Gas Leak, etc.). Schools are required to complete these drills on an annual basis.

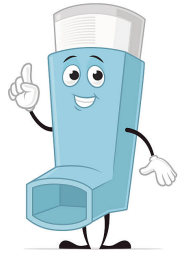


ANAPHYLAXIS & ALLERGIES

The YCDSB has an anaphylactic policy to help protect students affected by life threatening allergies. As outlined in the board's policy, parents are asked to inform the school of such allergies and are required to fill in S15 and S15a forms which are available in the office. Each form must include a passport sized photo so that the student is easily identifiable to staff. Parents are asked to ensure that student for whom Epi-Pens are prescribed have two Epi-Pens at school. It is strongly advised and encouraged that one Epi-Pen is to be on the student's person at all times and the other stored in the office for emergency use. We continue to remind and inform our students NOT to share food at school. **We also respectfully ask parents not to send food items to school for students to share (ex. treats for birthday celebrations).**

ASTHMA PROTECTION

The YCDSB recognizes that there are students within the school system who have a diagnosis of asthma that could be life threatening. The board also recognizes that asthma management is a shared responsibility among students, parents, caregivers, and the school community. It is the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that all medical information pertinent to their child's diagnosis of asthma is always current. If your child has a diagnosis of asthma, please contact the school office immediately so that the appropriate forms can be completed and school records are up to date in accordance with Board policy.



MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Whenever possible, we ask that all medication be administered at home. However, should your child require medication throughout the school day, please pick up the required S16 and S16a forms from the office. Complete each form (including physician's signature) and return it to school. Students are not to keep medication (aside from inhalers and Epi-Pens) in their knapsack or in the classroom.

PEDICULOSIS

YCDSB recognizes and appreciates concerns related to Pediculosis at the school, community, and regional level. The Board also recognizes that the Ministry of Health does not designate Pediculosis as a communicable disease, and as such, it is not considered a health hazard to the community. Anyone can get head lice, regardless of cleanliness. Head lice is not a public hazard, as it does not cause illness, but they are a nuisance. Please check your child's head regularly for lice or nits. If you do find lice or nits, contact the school office. Students will be readmitted to school once treatment has been administered and confirmed by the parent, in accordance with the procedures of this policy.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA CES

TERRA COTTA COOKIE FUNDRAISER

Help raise money to renovate our Library
Learning Commons!

**PLACE YOUR ONLINE ORDER
FROM OCTOBER 2 - 16**

Cookies will be available for pick up at school
on October 30th

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 selling students!



