



Notre Dame School

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November 2023 School Newsletter

"Living, Celebrating and Proclaiming Our Faith"



Notre Dame would like to acknowledge that we are blessed to live, work, and play on Treaty 8 land, the traditional territory of the Cree, Sekani, Dunne-za, Dene-thah, Saulteaux, Chiepwyan, and other Indigenous people who were not identified specifically in the treaty.

Principal's Message

Dear Notre Dame Students and Families,

Welcome to November, a month filled with the promise of autumn leaves, some snowfalls, cozy sweaters, and the excitement of the upcoming holiday season. As the leaves change colours, our school community continues to grow and thrive.

In November, we celebrate the beauty of nature's transformation and the growth and learning happening within our school. It's a time for us to embrace the changing seasons and inspire our young learners to embrace change in their lives, fostering resilience and adaptability.

During the busy month of October, we engaged in many different learning activities. We focused on "Living Our Values" by sharing our Gratitude for each other and our families during Thanksgiving and practicing the Virtue of Gratitude. In addition, we participated in our annual Character Day Parade, and we look forward to more exciting events and activities.

This month, we remember all the saints and the souls of those who have passed away on All Saints, All Souls Day. We look forward to our Remembrance Day Assembly, Intermediate volleyball tournaments and meeting with parents during Student-Led Conferences.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and school community. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Please remember that my door is always open to answer questions or listen to concerns.

God Bless,

Your Partner in Education

G. Richard



November Events

Thursday, Nov. 2nd

Hat & Jeans Day



Friday, Nov. 3rd

Grade 6 Prayer & October Virtue Awards Assembly – Gratitude – at 9:00am



Monday, Nov. 6th

PSG Meeting at 6:00 pm

Thursday, Nov. 9th

Grs. 3- 7 going to the Women's U18 Hockey Game

Friday, Nov. 10th

Remembrance Day Assembly – Grade 5

Monday, Nov. 13th

Remembrance Day Stat. – No School



Wednesday, Nov. 15th & Thursday, Nov. 16th

Student Led Conferences – Early Dismissal at 1:45



Thursday, Nov. 16th

Photo Retakes

Louis Riel Day

Spirit Day – Notre Dame Apparel Day – Wear your Notre Dame T-shirts, hoodies, hats, and/or sweat pants

Friday, Nov. 17th

Grade 5 Mass at 11:00 am at Notre Dame Parish



Friday, Nov. 24th

Grade 3 Prayer at 9:00 am



Monday, Nov. 27th

NI Day – No school for students

Tuesday, Nov. 28th

School Council Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

Our Faith & Catholic Education



Peace is our virtue for the month of November.

What is Peace?

- Begins within ourselves and is an inner state of well-being and calm.
- People respect each other regardless of differences in culture, religions or everyday life habits and beliefs
- No fighting or wars
- Co-operating with others to solve problems
- The root of the Hebrew word for peace, "shalom," means "whole" and point to this two fold meaning: peace within oneself and peace between people

The goal of this virtue is to become peacemakers. To be a Peacemaker, the students and staff at Notre Dame will :

- Use peaceful language instead of name-calling, yelling or gossiping.
- Offer a helping hand and kind words to others. We avoid aggressive and violent actions.
- Talk things out and listen to the other people.
- Look for a peaceful solution.

"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

(Eleanor Roosevelt)



Morning & After School Care Program

Our Morning & Afterschool Care program is open for kindergarten to grade 7 students within our school.

There are 24 spaces available with a ratio of 1 staff member for every 12 children. Our program will provide a beginning and continuation of care for your child before and following their school day. This will include an opportunity for relaxation and dynamic play. Students will have a chance to eat their self-provided afterschool snacks and will be given an opportunity to do quiet activities such as reading, a craft and homework.

Hours of operation

Morning School Care: 7:00 am – 8:30 am

Afterschool Care: 2:45 pm – 5:45 pm.



Applications for the Morning & Afterschool Care Program can be found on our school website or at the school office.

News from Our School Council

- ☐ Our second meeting for this school year will be on **Tuesday, November 28th at 6:30 on Zoom.**
- ☐ Please check out the School Council link on the school website for more details.

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September Virtue Award Winners

Congratulations to all the students and staff who have received awards and to each of you for helping us practice the virtue of **HOSPITALITY** in our school community.

Kindergarten Awards: Ashby Picard, Aaliyah Placido

Grade One Awards: Henry Giesbrecht, Zeke Erickson, Zoe Salta

Grade Two: Bella Ordanes, Jonathan Terry

Grade Three: Kishan Sandhu, Hudson Giesbrecht

Grade Four: Wesley Pohl, Alexia Austin

Grade Five: Archer Brigden, Gabriel Lawrance, Jazmin Adriano, Tenley Juell, Sage Erickson, Blake Lazinchuk

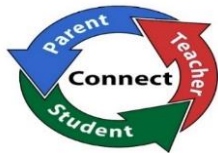
Grade Six: Calla Gibson, Jase Martin

Grade Seven: Zayden MacLean, Jeremy Nguyen

Staff: Bradi Willich, Allison Bijl, Shannon Duff



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News from Our Parent Support Group (PSG)



Hello, Families of Notre Dame!

October was a busy month, wasn't it?! We are very happy that Hot Lunch has returned! Thank you to the coordinator and volunteers who have made this happen. It is greatly appreciated! Thank you to all who ordered ND apparel items in October.

PSG kicked off our annual Holiday Purdy's fundraiser in October. Purdy's is the Top Canadian Chocolatier known for its wide variety of tasty chocolate products made with 100% sustainable cocoa and premium ingredients. Purdy's makes an excellent gift for friends, families, co-workers, employees and teachers! A reminder that all orders are due back on November 20th, 2023.

Remember that the Customer Number to use is **53779**, and the campaign is called **Notre Dame School PSG Purdy's Fundraiser 2023**.

Basket Raffle 2023

It is that time of year when we begin collecting items for one of our **FAVOURITE** school fundraisers. Each classroom is responsible for collecting NEW items for a designated gift basket. Each child is asked to contribute an item(s) with at least a \$10-\$15 value. Alternatively, a monetary donation can be made, allowing an item to be purchased for the basket. Students will bring home raffle tickets to sell to family and friends in December. Please have your item or cash brought to the classroom by November 15th, 2023, to ensure our basket raffle is successful.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will occur on November 6th at 6:00 p.m.



"Choose to be optimistic; it feels better." - Dalai Lama.

Spaces EDU



SpacesEDU

We are excited to share that we are using [SpacesEDU](#) this year!

SpacesEDU is an interactive engagement, portfolio, and assessment platform that allows students to capture their learning and reflect on growth, anytime and anywhere.

SpacesEDU is a great opportunity to engage with your child's learning journey. You will receive an invite to join your child's SpacesEDU class by November 1st. We are so excited to share this new platform with you and invite you to engage with your child's posts.

You can download SpacesEDU for iOS and Android or use the web to view your student's learning artifacts. When new work has been added, you will receive a notification.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about SpacesEDU. With your help, we will continue to build our community of lifelong learners.

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Our Bell Schedule

8:30 Playground gates open:

Students enter the school through the playground gates and mudroom doors upon arrival at **8:30**. Students will change their shoes and then head to their classroom.



Morning Welcome

First bell, parking lot gate is locked

8:40 am

Second bell, bus gate is locked

8:45 am

Morning announcements

Recess Breaks:

10:15-10:30 - 1st Recess: Grades 2,3,5,7

10:30 – 10:45 - 2nd Recess: Grades K,1,4,6

Lunch Breaks:

12:00-12:25

Outside Play

12:25-12:45

Eating in their classrooms



End of the Day Dismissal:

2:45 pm

End of the day exit from the playground. After school supervision is **over at 3:00pm, students must be picked up on time.**



Allergy 'Aware' School

Notre Dame School is **"Allergy Aware"**. Please check with your child's classroom teacher for allergy alerts. Consider peanut/nut alternatives for individual student lunches and snacks out of consideration to our students and staff with food sensitivities/allergies. Students are reminded that snacks and lunch are to be eaten in the classroom. We cannot eat recess snack or lunch on the playground for safety reasons such as allergies.



Student Safety

Cross Walk Safety:

Students are encouraged to cross the road **using the cross walk** for safety. A crossing guard is paid and hired by the school for student safety.



Parking Lot Safety:

The Notre Dame Staff Parking will be closed at the **beginning and end** of each day for student safety. Please park along the road and walk to the gates or have your child meet you at the sidewalk. Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe.



School Absences:

Please contact the school office though email, a written note or call (250-782-4923) if your child will not be at school or will be arriving late. We would appreciate it if you could call in absences before 9 am. This is a safety issue. When a child is not at school and there has been no call in from parents, the school will call you to make sure that your child is home safe with you. It is our responsibility to locate your child as soon as possible.



As well, numerous unexplained absences throughout the year place our school funding in jeopardy. Absentee notes are important to our school funding!

School Newsletters & Calendars

Monthly school newsletters and calendars will be available on our [school website](#) at the beginning of each month, and emailed out to families.

You can also check us out on Facebook for upcoming events.



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