



Notre Dame School

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April 2025 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, Chipewyan, and other Indigenous peoples who were not identified specifically in the treaty.

Principal's Message

Dear Notre Dame Students and Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and joyful spring break, filled with time for family, reflection, and renewal. As we return to school, we are grateful for the opportunities ahead and the chance to continue growing together in faith and learning.

As we journey through this blessed season of Lent and prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter, I am reminded of the deep faith and hope that guide us as a school community. Easter is a time of renewal, a reminder of God's endless love, and an opportunity to reflect on the blessings in our lives. It is a season that calls us to embrace kindness, forgiveness, and the joy of Christ's resurrection.

At Notre Dame, we continue to nurture these values in our students, helping them grow in faith, knowledge, and service. Throughout Lent, our students have been engaging in acts of prayer and almsgiving, demonstrating their commitment to living as disciples of Jesus. As Easter approaches, we rejoice in the promise of new life and the hope that Christ's resurrection brings to us all.

As we welcome the joys of spring, we also look forward to the exciting learning opportunities ahead. From classroom projects to faith-filled celebrations, our students continue to shine in their academic and spiritual growth.

May this Easter season bring peace, love, and abundant blessings to your families. Thank you for your continued support in making our school a place where faith and education flourish together.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Easter!

Remember that my door is always open to answer questions or listen to any concerns.

God Bless,
Your Partner in Education
C. Richard



April Events



Monday, Mar 31st

First Day Back to School



Thursday, Apr. 3rd

Hat & Jeans Day -Bring a toonie to support our Foster Children in Haiti

Friday, Apr. 4th

Gr. 3 Prayer Service & Virtue Awards @ 9:00 am, Notre Dame Gym



Monday, Apr. 7th

PSG Meeting @ 5:00 pm

Wednesday, Apr. 9th

Vimy Ridge Day

Friday, Apr. 11th

Gr. 1 Mass @ 11:00 am, Notre Dame Parish



Tuesday, Apr. 15th

School Council Meeting @ 6:30

Thursday, Apr. 17th

Spirit Day – Early Celebrating of Earth Day – Dress in Green & Brown



Friday, Apr. 18th

Good Friday – No School



Monday, Apr. 21st

Easter Monday – No School

Friday, Apr. 25th

Gr. 2 Prayer Service @ 9:00 am



NET Team



Notre Dame School Community Members

A team of seven young Catholics will visit Notre Dame School and minister to our grade 7 students at the end of the month! The NET team will be in Dawson Creek starting the evening of Mar. 30 to Apr. 1st.

We are in need of food donations while they are in Dawson Creek, and food to send with them on their travels to the next CISPG school after they leave us! **If you are interested in being a part of this missionary initiative by helping provide for the food needs of our NET Team,** please contact Mrs. Richard (250-782-4923 or crichard@cispg.ca) or send in a box of cereal, snack bars, fruit and/or treats to help out.



Special Note of School Day April 7th



Monday, April 7th is a school day for all students at Notre Dame.

However, SD#59 schools will not be in attendance, and SD#59 buses will not be running on this day, as they are in a Non-Instructional Day.



Parent Support Group



Welcome to April! We hope you had a wonderful Spring Break. The PSG wanted to take a moment to thank all families and staff that have participated in the apparel order and the Easter Purdy's Fundraiser. The PSG helps with various fundraisers throughout the year to help make this trip a reality, and we rely on the support of our school families' participation and support.

PSG has cookbooks available for purchase. The cost of each is \$25.00 and it is full of amazing recipes from our school community.

The next wave of Hot Lunch ordering will be available soon. Thank you to the volunteers who continue to make this program available to the school.

Best wishes for a wonderful spring month from the PSG!

"Your mind is a garden, and your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds."

-Anonymous-



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Our Faith & Catholic Education



Embracing Justice and Goodness in April

As we enter April, we reflect on the virtue of **justice**. Justice calls us to treat others with fairness, dignity, and respect, ensuring everyone receives what is rightfully theirs. It reminds us to stand up for what is right, advocate for those in need, and foster a community built on honesty and integrity.

Alongside justice, we focus on **goodness**, one of the Fruits of the Spirit. Goodness is a call to live with moral integrity, kindness, and a heart that seeks to do what is right in God's eyes. It encourages us to extend compassion, serve others selflessly, and bring light to the world through our actions.

What is Justice? Justice means acting with fairness, honesty, and compassion. It involves treating others with respect, standing up against wrongdoing, and working towards a world where love and fairness prevail.

What is Goodness? Goodness is living in a way that reflects God's love and truth. It is choosing to be kind, generous, and ethical in all we do, even when no one is watching.

How Can We Practice Justice and Goodness?

- 🌱 **Speaking Up for Others:** Defend those who are treated unfairly and promote kindness in your community.
- 🌱 **Choosing What is Right:** Make decisions guided by truth, even when it's difficult.
- 🌱 **Helping Those in Need:** Look for ways to serve others through acts of generosity and love.
- 🌱 **Leading by Example:** Show integrity and fairness in your words and actions.

Why Justice and Goodness Matter?

Justice ensures that we create a world where love and fairness thrive. Goodness allows us to embody God's love and bring positivity into the lives of others. Together, these virtues inspire us to build stronger, more compassionate communities.

Let's commit to living out justice and goodness in our schools, homes, and daily interactions this April. We can reflect God's love and make a meaningful difference in the world through our actions.



Virtue & Fruits of the Spirit Awards for Love & Joy

Congratulations to all the students and staff who have received awards and to each of you for helping us practice the virtue and Fruit of the Spirit of **Courage**.

Kindergarten Awards: Victor Bandong

Grade One Awards: Khayleb Cabilangan, Matty Termulo, Soryn Wiebe

Grade Two: Korbin Groebmair, Zoe Salta, Vincent Viener

Grade Three: Ariana De Castro, Jaxyn Green, Eli Sandberg

Grade Four: Hudson Giesbrecht, Finley Martin

Grade Five: Denisse Nica Semilla, Joshua Solatorio

Grade Six: Nolan Ardelian, Gabrielle Basingan, Dominik Rhode

Grade Seven: Carter Mullin, Sahiba Sandhu

Staff: Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. McLain



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Weather & Outside Time



We know the weather is changing, and we will have some nicer days with puddles and sunshine. Please dress your child accordingly. Dressing in layers is helpful on those days that might start cold and warm up. Have your child bring a sweater, jacket and maybe rubber boots for those rainy days. Preparing for the changing temperatures ensures our students dress appropriately for the weather and enjoy the outside.



Morning & After School Care

Our Morning & Afterschool Care program is available 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.

Hours of operation

Morning School Care: 7:30 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. There are **drop-in days available if we have space.**

Hallow App



As a reminder, parents can download Hallow on their own devices and pray with their students all Lent long. Here's how:

1. Goto <https://access.hallow.com/redeem/code>
2. Enter the following promo code:
•**NotreDameCISPGstudents2425**

Notre Dame Pre-School



Notre Dame's Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten has classes with Ms. Patsy on:

Monday & Tuesday

Morning classes: 8:30am – 11:30am
Afternoon classes: 12:30 pm -3:30 pm

Wednesday & Thursday

Morning classes: 8:30am – 11:30am
Afternoon classes: 12:30 pm -3:30 pm

Fridays

Morning classes only:
8:30 am – 11:30 am



Feeding Futures

We are excited at Notre Dame School to continue our "Feeding Futures" initiative. Various fruit, apple sauce, crackers, and granola bars will continue to be available in a snack box in each classroom daily.

News from Our School Council

- ☐ Our first meeting for this school year will be on April 15th **at 6:30 pm.**
- ☐ Please check out the School Council link on the school website for more details.



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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

8:40 am

The second bell, gates are locked

8:45 am

Morning Announcements & Classes Begin

Recess Breaks:

10:15-10:30

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 3:00 pm, 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. We encourage families to consider peanut/nut alternatives for individual student lunches and snacks out of consideration for our students and staff with food sensitivities/allergies.

Students are reminded that snacks and lunch are to be eaten in the classroom. For safety reasons, such as allergies, we cannot eat recess snacks or lunch on the playground.



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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