



Notre Dame School

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February 2026 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 people who were not identified specifically in the treaty.

† Principal’s Message

Dear Notre Dame Students and Families,

Happy February! As we move through the winter season, our school continues to be a place of learning, faith, and community. Thank you for the support and encouragement you provide each day—it truly helps make Notre Dame a strong and caring school family.

One of the highlights this month is **Catholic Schools Week (February 2–6)**. This special week gives us an opportunity to celebrate the gift of Catholic education and to reflect on what makes our school so unique—our faith, our strong relationships, and our shared commitment to helping every child grow academically, socially, and spiritually.

We are also looking forward to **100’s Day**, when our younger students will celebrate 100 days of learning and growth. It is always a fun milestone and a great opportunity to recognize how much students have accomplished since September!

As we move toward Lent, students will be learning about the importance of prayer, kindness, and serving others. We will mark this season with **Shrove Tuesday**, a day of celebration and preparation, followed by **Ash Wednesday**, when we begin our Lenten journey together. Ash Wednesday is a meaningful time for reflection as we focus on growing closer to God and living our faith through our choices and actions.

Thank you again for being such an important part of our Notre Dame community. Wishing you a joyful, peaceful, and faith-filled February!

*God Bless, Your Partner in Education
T. Richard*



From the Office

BC Family Day

February includes **BC Family Day** on **February 16**, a provincial holiday and a wonderful time to slow down, enjoy time together, and connect as a family. We hope you are able to make special memories and enjoy a restful long weekend.



NET Team – Still Looking for Support

Our school will be welcoming the **NET (National Evangelization Team)** on **March 2–3**, with departure on **March 4**. The NET Team works with schools to inspire students through faith-filled presentations, leadership activities, and opportunities to grow in their relationship with God.

To support this visit, we are looking for **host families** and **food donations**. Families may donate **food items that students can take with them** during their stay. We will have a box at the office for food donations. Any support is greatly appreciated and helps make this meaningful experience possible for our students.

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact:

crichard@cispg.ca

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our faith community.

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Kindergarten Registration



Notre Dame is excited to welcome **new Kindergarten students for the 2026-2027 school year.**

Any child who will be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2026, may register. The Registration Package is available on Notre Dame's school website and at the school office. At Notre Dame, Kindergarten establishes a strong foundation for lifelong learning, as the teacher provides dynamic, play-based opportunities to help each child grow and learn. We focus on the whole child socially, emotionally, academically, and spiritually.

Once the school receives the registration package from families, interviews will be set up. Interviews will start the first week of February.

Weather & Outside Time



We know the weather can be frightfully frigid as our winter continues.

Our policy states that children will be outside for the morning and lunch recess if the temperature is -19°C . **When the temperature hits -20°C , the children will be kept inside.**

Please dress your child accordingly. Dressing in layers is helpful on those days that might start out cold and then warm up. Have your child bring a sweater, jacket, snow pants, mittens and toques. Being prepared for the changing temperatures ensures our students are dressed properly for the weather and can enjoy the outside.



News from Our School Council

- Our next monthly meeting will be on **February 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm.**



Key Dates This Month

Monday, Feb. 2nd to 6th
Catholic Schools Week

Thursday, Feb 5th

Hat & Jeans Day – Bring a Toonie for our Foster Children



Friday, Feb 6th

Virtue Prayer & Awards in the gymnasium @ 9:00 am



Monday, Feb 9th

PSG Monthly Meeting @ 5:00 pm



Friday, Feb. 13th

Grade 4 Class Mass @ 11:00 am at Notre Dame Parish
100s Day Celebration



Monday, Feb 16thth

Family Day – No School



SHROVE TUESDAY

Tuesday, Feb 17th

School Council Meeting @ 6:30

Shrove Tuesday - PSG will provide a Pancake Lunch for all students



Wednesday, Feb 18th

Ash Wednesday

Mass at 11:00, Notre Dame Parish



Thursday, Feb 19th

Spirit Day – Flannel/Plaid Day



Friday, Feb. 20th

Grade 2 Prayer Service @ 9:00 am in the gymnasium

Last day of Read Athon



Wednesday, Feb 25 & Thursday, Feb 26

Student Led- Conferencing – Early Dismissal (1:45)

Wednesday - Pink Shirt Day



Friday, Feb 27th

Praise @ 9:00 am in the gymnasium

Student –Led Conferences

Student-Led Conferences will be held on **Wednesday, Feb. 25th and Thursday, Feb. 26th.**

Students will be dismissed early at 1:45 on both days to allow for conferencing with families.

This term, conferences will be in person, with two families booked every 30 minutes, from 2:15 to 6:30 p.m. each day.

Students will need to be present with their families to lead the conference and then meet with the classroom teacher to discuss, answer questions and set goals for moving forward with the student.

Please watch for an email from the school to sign up for your specific time for your conference soon.



Living, Celebrating and Proclaiming our Faith



For February, we will learn and practice the Virtue and Fruit of the Spirit, **Love**.

What is Love?

Love is the virtue that helps us care deeply for others the way Jesus loves us. Love means choosing kindness, patience, and compassion in our words and actions. When we live with love, we treat others with respect, include others, and forgive—even when it is hard.

What is the Fruit of Love?

The Fruit of Love is the joy and peace that grows in our hearts when we show care and compassion to others. Love reminds us that every person is created by God and deserves to be treated with dignity. When we practice love, we build stronger friendships, a kinder school community, and a closer relationship with God.

How Can Students Model Love?

In the classroom:

Using kind words, including others, helping a classmate, showing patience, and encouraging others to do their best.

At home:

Being respectful, listening to family members, helping with chores, showing gratitude, and using gentle words during disagreements.

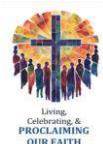
In our community:

Showing compassion to others, being welcoming, helping someone in need, using good manners, and making choices that reflect respect and care.

When we practice love, we help make our school and community a place where everyone feels safe, supported, and valued.

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

— 1 Corinthians 16:14



Virtue & Fruit of the Spirit Awards for Peace

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

Kindergarten Awards: Mayumi Delos Santos, Benjamin Maher, Avery Trail

Grade One Awards: Theo Strasky, Major Tajcnar

Grade Two: Yazmine Tuguigui, Soryn Wiebe

Grade Three: Henley Kimble, Gwenyth Mackie, Logan McLeod

Grade Four: Ariana De Castro, Kalyna Depositar

Grade Five: Saje Dueck, Ameliya Cole

Grade Six: Kale Depositar, Emma Dyck

Grade Seven: Jazmin Adriano, Sophia Nguyen

Staff: Mrs. Duff, Mrs. MacKrell, Mrs. Mountifield, Mrs. Cabrera



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Parent Community Information

From the PSG – Parent Support Group



Hello, Families of Notre Dame,

We want to take a moment to thank our organizers and volunteers who help make the Hot Lunch program run smoothly, and the families who place orders. It is greatly appreciated as all funds raised go to supporting the students.

Our SCHOOL-WIDE Read-A-Thon began on January 26th and will run until February 20. This is our seventh year with this fundraiser. Students continue to track their reading for the duration while raising money for our levelled reader and intermediate reading programs. In the previous six years, we have raised over \$61,325 as a school! Reminder to send checklists/tracking sheets weekly to be entered into the prize draws each FRIDAY. At the end of the Read-a-thon, the Parent Support Group will provide a classroom pizza party to the TOP PRIMARY CLASS and TOP INTERMEDIATE CLASS for the funds raised as a group. The PSG will also award prizes to the top primary and intermediate students for the individual funds raised.

The PSG wants to host our beloved Spring Carnival in May 2026. For Carnival to succeed, we rely heavily on parent volunteers. Please use the link when it comes out to access the Signup Genius. There will be game stations assigned to each grade with time slots for volunteer opportunities. If we do not have spaces filled, we will not be able to confidently proceed with carnival. It is a lot of work for a very fun event. ***If you are interested in taking on a leadership role for the concession, silent auction, or other aspects, please email ndpspg@cispq.ca.*** Together we can make it a success!

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love."
– Lao Tzu.



Morning & After School Care Spaces are still Available

Our morning and after-school care program is available for kindergarten to grade 7 students at our school.

Hours of operation

Morning School Care: 7:30 am – 8:30 am
Afterschool Care: 2:45 pm – 5:45 pm.

Applications for the Morning & After-school Care Program are available on our school website or at the school office.

Notre Dame Pre-School with Ms. Patsy – Registration Packages For 2026-2027 are Available

Monday to Thursday

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

Fridays

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



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Reminders & Resources

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 & Classes Begin



Recess Breaks:

10:15-10:30

Lunch Breaks:

12:00-12:20

Outside Play

12:20-12:45

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." In September, classroom teachers sent alerts about allergies in individual classrooms. We ask that you 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 and that food is not shared. For safety reasons, such as allergies, we cannot eat recess snacks or lunch on the playground.

Student Safety is our #1 Priority

Cross Walk Safety:

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



Parking Lot Safety:

For student safety, Notre Dame Staff Parking will be closed at the beginning and end of each day. **Please park along the sidewalk in legal parking areas 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 **email, write a note, or call the school office (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 a.m.

This is a **safety issue**. When a child is not at school and parents have not called, 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.



Numerous unexplained absences throughout the year also jeopardize our school funding. Absentee notes are important to our school funding!

School Newsletters & Calendars

Monthly school newsletters and calendars will be available on the [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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