



Remembrance Day



November 2020
St. Leo School Newsletter

St. Leo Catholic School
233 Memorial Drive
Brantford, ON
N3R 5T2
Phone:
519-753-3314
Website:
www.bleo.bhncdsb.ca
Twitter: @stleocatholic

Principal:
Jennifer McLaren Gibbons

General Information

We are a dual track school offering instruction in English for JK-8 and in French Immersion for JK-SK, Grades 1-5 (expanding by one grade each year)

Next School Council Meeting:
November 18th, 2020 @ 6:30 -
virtually



During the month of November, we honour all the Saints of our faith. We also pray for the Faithfully Departed, our loved ones who have died. Let us remember our family members who have gone to their eternal rest with Jesus. May they rest in peace.

First term progress reports are going home on November 6th. These reports give a good indication of how your child is achieving in the various curriculum areas and how they are progressing in their learning skills. Next steps are provided to ensure your child reaches their potential. Interviews will be scheduled by classroom teachers individually this year. Please ensure you reach out to your child's teacher to ensure you have an interview time. If you wish to have an interview with prep or French teacher or SERTs please reach out to them directly by emailing them or calling the school to arrange an interview.

Friday, November 13th is a PA Day. Students do not attend classes – teachers are conducting parent-teacher interviews (morning) and involved in professional development activities (afternoon).

God Bless,
Mrs. McLaren Gibbons
Principal

Little Poppy
Little poppy
Given to me,
Help me keep Canada Safe and free.
I'll wear a little poppy,
As red as red can be,
To show that I remember
Those who fought for me

PARISH NEWS



ST PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

9 Waverly Street,

Brantford , ON N3R 2K2

Ph: 519-753-8439

www.stpius.ca

Father John Redmond, Pastor

Andrew Beach, Pastoral Associate

A Message from our Pastoral Team: Christmas @ St Pius Parish

It's been an unusual year, that's for sure. We know that your family has faced many disruptions - changes to school schedules, learning from home, the adoption of face coverings, and perhaps even layoffs and job losses. The world is not what it was when we celebrated Halloween last year. Please know that we have been praying for your family in this trying time, and for all those involved in our school system. If there is some way that you'd like us to pray for you in a special way, please get in touch and let us know. There's a link to make a prayer request on our website, or just give us a call. We have a dedicated team of nearly 30 individuals who bring these prayer requests to God on a daily basis, and we'd love to pray for you.

In the middle of September, while many of you were getting into the swing of a return to school, we were already having another conversation at the church - what will Christmas look like? We know that for you, as for us, Christmas is one of the most special times of year. There's no doubt that with the pandemic raging on, Christmas will be different this year. We excitedly welcomed nearly 900 people to our 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass last year, and still had four more well-attended Masses. With physical distancing requirements, we'll be lucky to fit 900 into the church across all five Masses this year. As a result, while we'll be happy to welcome those who would like to join us, we'd also like to encourage you to consider joining us in another format - online, from home. You'll hear a lot more about this in the coming weeks, but in the meantime, we'd love you to participate in helping us keep Christmas special. One way you can help? If you have a picture from the past year of your engagement with the Parish (a Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, attendance at an event, etc.) and you'd be willing to share it publicly, pass it along! We'll be including a picture slideshow of the past year as part of our online program for Christmas Eve. You can forward any pictures to pastoralassociate@stpiusbrantford.ca

First Eucharist & First Reconciliation

A reminder to all parents that registration for First Reconciliation & First Eucharist in the spring of 2021 is now available. Head to <https://stpiusbrantford.ca/first-communion/> to find out more or to register. If you have any questions please contact the parish office at 519-753-8439 and speak with Andrew.

Youth Ministry

Our Youth Ministry Program for young people in grades 6 and above has been on hold since the middle of March. However, we have a special project in mind for Christmas. If you're interested in more information, please contact Andrew at 519-753-8439 or email pastoralassociate@stpiusbrantford.ca.

Confirmation

Confirmation preparation began approximately a week ago, and we're excited that nearly 60 young people have chosen to move forward with receiving this Sacrament despite the pandemic. Please pray for them - and our leadership team! - as we navigate this complicated preparation process together. We are blessed to have these young people seeking the Lord's good gifts!

Children Not Yet Baptized

If you have a child you would like to have Baptized, please call the Church Office at 519-753-8439. Baptisms take place monthly, except during Lent.

If your child is over the Age of Reason (around age 7), they will need to go through a special preparation process and

will celebrate all three Sacraments of Initiation at once. If your child is interested in this program, please contact Andrew at the Church Office as soon as possible. This preparation journey is scheduled to begin at the end of November.

WINTER WEAR

This is the time of year to dig out those snowsuits, hats and mittens. Please remember to **label** all your child's outerwear. Ensure that your child has proper clothing for the weather. This includes proper footwear to stay warm for our outdoor play.



SCHOOLCASH ONLINE:

Our School Board continues to encourage the use of SchoolCash Online for parents to submit payment for school related purchases. All payments this year at St. Leo will be through School Cash Online. For those who have not yet registered please follow these steps:



Step 1: Go to this website: <https://bhncdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Notes from the Office:



ON TIME ARRIVAL - One of the key ways that you can support your child's learning, and create sound work habits, is to ensure they arrive on time for school. Our bell time is **8:45 AM**.

GET PREPARED FOR A SUCCESSFUL DAY - Please help them to organize themselves at night by packing their backpacks, laying out their clothes and making their lunches so that the morning is organized. A good night's rest sets up the next day for success.

EARLY LEAVE/APPOINTMENT – The school office is a busy place, especially at the start and end of the school day. Last minute requests for students to leave early are difficult to manage – both due to the volume of requests and their last minute nature. Parents are reminded to send a note to their child's teacher if there will be a different dismissal arrangement (early pick up, different person to pick up, no bus, no YMCA, etc.) ***If a change legitimately occurs at the last moment, please make EVERY effort to contact the school BEFORE 2:45 pm.*** Thank you.





Check Your Child's Hair:

You know the routine - it's that time of the year again. Check your children's hair at least twice a week, remind them not to share combs, hair bands, hats, scarves, and call the school if you notice a problem. Remember too, that if head lice is detected, you also need to treat your entire house - bedding, upholstery, any clothing that is pulled over the head, and anything that comes in contact with the hair. It's a big job, but it's necessary!

INCLEMENT WEATHER:

As we head further into Fall, it is time for us to review our inclement weather policy. Transportation by bus is impacted tremendously by inclement weather – be it delays to buses or cancellations. Decisions are made by 6:30 am regarding cancellation of buses and school closures. Please check the Board's website for any cancellations after 6:30 am. Safety is the deciding factor when making this decision. **When buses are cancelled, schools are closed** to all staff and students. Please check the Student Transportation section at the front of your child's agenda for further details. **St. Leo School is in ZONE 4.**



Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week 2020

("People of Transformation: Living as Joyful Disciples")

November is the month where attention is on Bullying Awareness across Ontario. The Brant Haldimand Catholic District School Board is committed to ensuring and promoting safe and accepting schools. In the spirit of the month (remembrance and peace), the Church preparing our hearts for Advent, and our Board theme (Hearts on Fire: Transform) our hope is to continue to foster and deepen the culture of belonging, hospitality and welcoming that is present within our schools. This year, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board's theme for Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week is "People of Transformation: Living as Joyful Disciples".

During the week of **November 15 – 21, 2020**, our school will be focusing on what it means to 'Transform' and to live as Joyful Disciples in a peaceful community; an inclusive community, a respectful community; and a community of kindness where **ALL** students feel welcome, accepted, and belong to the school community. Students will participate in Scripture, prayer and class activities that draws attention to the actions and consequences of bullying and highlight how we can choose to put our Board theme into action and Keep our 'Hearts on Fire'. Students will be challenged to leave butterflies of love and kindness as we journey together in faith to promote safe schools and a positive learning environment.

Date	Monday, November 16, 2020	Tuesday, November 17, 2020	Wednesday, November 18, 2020	Thursday, November 19, 2020	Friday, November 20, 2020
Focus:	Living as Joyful Disciples in a Peaceful Community	Living as Joyful Disciples in an Inclusive Community	Living as Joyful Disciples in a Respectful Community	Living as Joyful Disciples in a Community of Kindness	Closing Liturgy: Sharing the Good News - Called to Witness

Brought to you by Lunchbox Orders

Cooking with Kids



Healthy school meals are just one click away.

Place your lunch order at www.lunchboxorders.com

Cooking with Kids! by Amy Skeoch MHS, RD

Do your kids help out in the kitchen? Can't even imagine inviting them in? If you can relate with the latter question, you're not alone. Many parents feel that having kids help prepare meals and snacks is just too much work and takes too much time. Initially it may take longer for those veggies to be

cut-up, or that lettuce to get washed, but over time you might actually appreciate your child's acquired food skills!

Cooking with your kids is a great opportunity to connect with them, while teaching important life skills. See below for a *general guide* to what your child can handle:

Ages 3-5 - With supervision, they can pour liquids, tear lettuce, simple stirring, washing produce

Ages 6-8 - As motor skills improve they can use measuring spoons, form meatballs, dice veggies when supervised/taught how to use a paring knife* (watch those fingers!), grease pans, drain/rinse items, make sandwiches, scrape plates and load/unload the dishwasher

Ages 9-11 - The optimal age! They can use a toaster oven, read and follow a recipe, use the pizza cutter, can opener, make scramble eggs, pancakes, muffins, and wraps

Age 12+ - Follow more complicated recipes, use kitchen appliances

*Note: to learn about safe knife skills visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hue1A6LoC8>

Tips:

- ✓ Start Small – focus on 1 skill/month.
- ✓ Keep it Simple – start with basic skills and food items they like to eat to build their confidence.
- ✓ Think Weekends – Sometimes we are too rushed throughout the week, choose a weekend breakfast or snack to invite them to help you.
- ✓ Compliment Them – everyone likes to know when they've done something well!
- ✓ Enjoy the Moment – don't worry about the end result, instead make some great memories with your kids!

Sources:

<http://www.momables.com/teach-your-kid-how-to-cook-by-age/>

<http://www.familykitchen.ca/>

Movement Across the Day: (This message is brought to you by Ophea)

The Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines have been released for the Early Years (0-4) and Children and Youth (5-17). The highlights are below.

Sweat: children should accumulate at least 60 minutes/day of moderate to vigorous physical activity. These activities should increase heart rate and breathing and may cause a child to sweat. Examples include running, climbing on playground equipment, and dancing.

Step: children should accumulate several hours of light physical activity throughout the day. Examples include walking, wheeling, and active chores.

Sleep: children should receive uninterrupted sleep each night with consistent to-bed and wake-up times. 3-4 year olds need 10-13 hours, 5-13 year olds need 9-11 hours, and 14-17 year olds need 8-10 hours.

Sit: children should limit the amount of time they spend sitting for extended periods. Recreational screen time should be limited to no more than one hour/day for 3-4 year olds, and no more than two hours/day for 5-17 year olds.

How does physical activity fit into your family's day?

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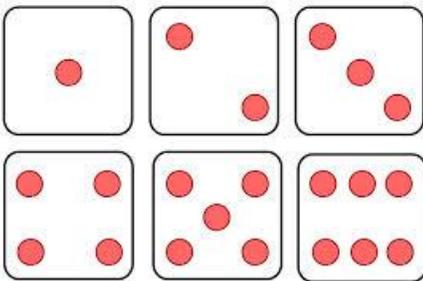
MATH FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Dice games can be really fun and they teach and reinforce many math skills.

Recognizing Patterns and Numbers:

This is great activity for primary students. The goal here is to teach the children to look at the dice, recognize the pattern of dots on the dice and associate the dots with number value.

1. Roll the dice
2. Model how to count the dots
3. Assign a number to number of dots
4. Now start to have fun!
5. Each player rolls one dice
6. The player with the highest number wins. When this becomes easy, add more dice.



Addition:

Roll two dice together. Read the numbers on the dice, for example: 3 and the other 4. The math question would be $3+4=7$. Play this often and see how fast your child can recognize the dots on the dice and then quickly add the value of the dice.

Beat it Game:

The “Beat It,” game assists children with place value. Roll the dice and place the dice in order to make the highest number possible. If you use two dice and roll 6 and 5 your highest number would be 65. Make the game more interesting by adding more dice. If you use three dice and roll 4, 6, 2 your highest number would be 642. You can assign a winner for each round.

Multiplication:

Similar to playing with addition – older students can roll the dice and multiply the dice numbers. Similarly you can use a deck of cards and multiply the numbers of each card you draw.

Spirit Wear:

St. Leo School is excited to sell Spirit Wear this year. Orders will need to be placed on School Cash. Items will be ready for purchase soon and families will receive notification when it becomes available on School Cash.

