



# École Holy Family Elementary School

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## October 2016 Newsletter

### Vision Statement

École Holy Family Elementary, learning progressively to empower all students to achieve in an inclusive and active environment.

### Mission Statement

By 2017, the École Holy Family Elementary school community will maximize student learning and achievement by progressively engaging the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner through inclusive and collaborative practices.

### Dates to remember:

- Oct. 12 – Terry Fox Walk at 1:10 pm
  - New School Lunch Menu for Nov.
- Oct. 18 – School Lunch Orders due
- Oct. 25 – Professional Development Day for Staff – No school for students!
- Oct. 27 – Recycling Day
- Nov. 10 – Grade 5 Remembrance Day Assembly 10:50 am
- Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day Holiday
- Nov. 16 – Chapters Night
- Nov. 24 – DARE grad for Grade 6 students... details to follow...
  - Recycling Day
- Nov. 29 – Report Cards go home
- Dec. 1 - Parent/Teacher Conferences – Early dismissal
- Dec. 8 – Grade 4 Christmas Concert – 7:00 pm
- Dec. 22 – Recycling Day
- June 8 – Kindergarten Celebration (tentative) – 10:50 am
- June 13 – Grade 6 Farewell (tentative) – 10:50 am



### Halloween Activities on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

The entire school community is excited about Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>! We will keep a regular schedule in the morning, with the afternoon dedicated to classroom activities.

A few safety reminders:

- Children should not put on their costumes until after lunch. Classroom teachers will inform students about this.
- We do not permit make-up, as many of the students are unable to apply it independently and the washroom facilities are not available to accommodate this. If a parent/guardian chooses to take a child home at lunch time to do this, please check in at the office and notify your child's teacher.
- Please remind your child of the regular Halloween safety tips (i.e. costumes with a tripping risk, wearing masks that do not permit them to see properly, **weapon-like props are not permitted**, etc.).



### Notice – Closeout Days

**There will be no school on Tuesday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> due to a District Professional Development Day for staff.**

### **Remembrance Day – Nov. 11, 2016**



### Thanksgiving Food Drive

Many thanks to our school community for their generous donations of food during our recent Thanksgiving Food Drive. Many bags of food, as well as a monetary donation, were collected for the CBS/Paradise Family Aid Center.

**Congratulations to our Grade 3 students, along with their teachers, Mrs. Suter and Ms. Perchard. What a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration!**



Just a reminder –In keeping with our school policy, please do not send in **treats/lootbags** (food and non-food items) to be distributed to students. *Please do not place a classroom teacher in the difficult position where she/he has to refuse to distribute treats/lootbags in the classroom and then send the items back home with your child.*

We still want our students to have fun – just safe fun where everyone feels included. Children are encouraged to bring along a **party snack for themselves** for their Halloween party.

*Thank you once again for your support and understanding as we all work together to ensure our students come to school in a safe, caring and socially-just environment.*



Our first Recycling Blitz for this school year will take place on Thursday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be a school-wide event.

We will host a Recycling Blitz for all students on the last Thursday of every month. Grade level prizes will be awarded each month. Funds raised will be used to enhance our school resources.



### Coleman's "Kids Eat Healthy" Program:

A HUGE thank you to Colemans for donating a \$500 gift card to our school. We will use this card towards the potential start-up of a breakfast program here at École Holy Family.



### Chapters Night

Once again this year, we have made arrangements for an École Holy Family Night at Chapters in St. John's. A percentage of the sales at Chapters on this night will be used to enhance our literacy programs. Please join us at Chapters on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>! Save the date!

### Remembrance Day



Our Grade 5 students will present at our annual Remembrance Day assembly to be held Thursday, Nov. 10 at 10:50. Parents/family members of our grade 5 students are invited to this assembly.



### Teacher Emails

Many parents/guardians routinely use email to contact teachers. **However, it is important to note that there is no obligation or time provided for teachers to check emails each day.** Hence it may mean that your email may not get a response for several days. If you have an urgent need to contact a teacher please call our office and leave a message for the teacher to make contact with you after class.



### Safe Arrival Program

We have been invited to participate in a Safe Arrivals Program being piloted by the NLESD. This program is designed to notify families in the event that a child is absent from school when no notification has been provided to the school. Details will be sent to all families once the program is ready to begin.

### Report Cards



Report Cards for all students in Kindergarten- Grade 6 will be sent home on Tues. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. This report will detail your child's progress during Term 1 of this school year. Please make sure you review the report card with your child, celebrate and praise his/her efforts and successes and help him/her set goals for the next term.



Parent/guardian interviews are scheduled for **Thurs. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**.



### Lateness

We are noticing more and more students arriving late in the mornings. This disrupts classroom routines and instruction. Even 2-3 minutes late creates a disruption in the class that can last an extra 5- 10 minutes in resettling students. It also takes extra time from our secretary as she has to make contact with every classroom teacher to ensure classes have not already relocated to gym, music, or the resource center – safety first! Students should be at school by 8:55 am as classes begin promptly at 9:00 am.



### Tips For Parents/Guardians Regarding Bullying

If your child says, "I was only joking," and you investigate and find out the other child was upset...that's taunting. If the other child knew he/she was joking, then that's teasing. It's important to teach children the difference. Teasing you do amongst friends, with humor and in good nature. Taunting is deliberately trying to hurt someone. One person is left laughing, the other person is left upset or crying. That is classified as bullying and its important children know the difference.