



# École Holy Family Elementary School

Sheryl Ryan, Principal

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## December 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:

- Dec. 16 - Breakfast with Santa & Jingle Hop
- Dec. 20 – Recycling Day
- Dec. 21 – Early dismissal at 1:00
- Jan. 3 – School Begins Day 5
- Jan. 19 – KinderStart Parent Meeting 6:30
- Jan. 20 – Staff PD day
- Jan. 26 – Recycling Day
- Jan. 27 – KinderStart Session #1
- Feb. 14 – Valentines Assembly (tentative)– Grade 2s
- Feb. 24 – KinderStart Session #2
- March 31 – KinderStart Session #3
- April 12 – Easter/Spring Assembly (tentative)–Grade 1s
- April 28 – KinderStart Session #4
- June 8 – Kindergarten Celebration (tentative) – 10:50 am
- June 13 – Grade 6 Farewell (tentative) – 10:50 am

### Christmas Concert

What a way to begin the Christmas Season. Our talented Grade 4 students presented an awe-inspiring concert last week!



### Adopt-a-Family Program – New!

We are delighted to announce the implementation of an *Adopt-A-Family Program* here at our school. The premise behind such a program would be to support the needs of some of our families who are going through some difficult times financially. Monies donated for this program would be available throughout the year to help them during Christmas time, Easter, or to enroll their children in summertime sports programs or to assist them with any other need that arises. Donations to this program would be totally optional. With the Christmas season upon us, the financial constraints which some of our families face are insurmountable. If you would like to make a donation of any amount please place it in an envelope marked **Adopt-a-Family Program** and send it to school. While we will issue receipts for all donations over \$10, they are not tax deductible. However, take comfort in knowing that every cent donated will be put aside to help families in our own school community who are down on their luck for any reason.



**Our first 50-50 Lottery was a wonderful success. The winner of \$6239 was Trina Bowers with ticket # 03166. The seller of the winning ticket was Hannah Bailey, she receives \$100 for selling the winning ticket.**

### Our 4 weekly seller's prizes of \$25 went to:

- Tyler Smith
- Harrison Goose
- Quinn Snow
- Jaden Murphy

### Our other seller's prizes

**1 Ice Caps Tickets Package –**  
Jorja Brinson

### 5 sets of 4 Free Skate Passes for Paradise Double Ice Complex-

- Erica Flight
- Kody Thistle
- Matthew Coish
- James Lynch
- Nyah Barrett

### 5 sets of 4 Free Monthly Passes for the Skate Park/Youth Centre-

- Ryder Slaney
- Amy O'Rourke
- Mason Durdle
- Andrew Moores
- Hayden Hobbs

### 6 Toy Hockey Stick and Ball sets

- Amy O'Rourke
- Hunter Skiffington
- Harrison Gosse
- Jackson Coates
- Noah Hollett
- Mason Durdle

### Christmas Treats

In keeping with our classroom treats policy, we are asking parents/guardians to please **refrain from sending along cakes, cupcakes, cookies, lootbags, etc...** for our students at Christmas.

As we explained before Halloween, we have many students with medical concerns such as anaphylactic allergies and diabetes. As well, our school and school district has a focus on promoting a socially-just environment for our students. Every year, we have students who are upset and disappointed because they did not have treats to distribute to their classmates. Not everyone can afford to purchase or make “treats” for special occasions - these children then feel left out.

To ensure everyone’s needs are addressed and that all students can be included in our celebratory practices at Christmas, we must restrict the treat items that come into our building.

If teachers wish to plan a “healthy, allergen-free inclusive” party, they may contact you requesting specific items such as fruits, veggies, cheese and crackers, etc... Please contact your child’s teacher if you are interested in providing such items to your child’s class at some time throughout the year. They may then contact you for support when needed.

Thank you for supporting this policy at Halloween and we look forward to your continued support at Christmas.



### **Breakfast with Santa**

Our School Council will be sponsoring a Breakfast with Santa on Friday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

We are looking for volunteers to help cook in the morning, to provide griddles, to serve, to clean-up, etc... If you able to help, please contact your child’s teacher.

We will be serving the children pancakes along with juice/milk/water. We are hoping Santa will be around to visit our students.

**\*\*\*\*If your child has any dietary restrictions and you have not yet been contacted, please contact the office ASAP.**

### **Another new tradition: Jingle Hop**



In conjunction with our *Healthy Living* initiatives, we will hold a Jingle Hop for our students following the Breakfast with Santa.

For our *Jingle Hop* we are asking that all students come on that day with **two jingle bells**, one for each sneaker. Hint - attaching them by using pipe cleaners, twist ties or paper clips works well. We are hoping to have a very musical experience with “bells jingling all the way.”

#### **Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> Schedule:**

Grade K & 1:	9:00–9:30 Breakfast	9:30–10:00 Jingle Hop
Grade 2 & 3:	9:30–10:00 Breakfast	10:00–10:30 Jingle Hop
Grade 4, 5 & 6:	10:00-10:30 Breakfast	10:30–11:00 Jingle Hop

**New Teacher Professional Development Day: January 20, 2017**  
**- No School!**

### **Christmas Dismissal-December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Please note that on **Wed. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** we will be having a compacted day for students with a dismissal time of **1:00**. Our lunch period for this day only will be from 12:00 – 12:45. Please remember to send in a lunch with your child as our School Lunch Program is NOT available on this day.



Our next Recycling Blitz for this school year will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 20. This will be a school-wide event.

### **Recycling Winners for November:**

KDG: William Clarke  
Gr. 1: Ireland Yetman  
Gr. 2: Rory Greene  
Gr. 3: Gavin Sheehan  
Gr. 4: Sarah Ryan  
Gr. 5: Riley Brennan  
Gr. 6: Chrissy Cox



### **Chapters Night**

Thank you for the support at our Chapter’s Night Event. We are delighted to announce our school has received **\$2358.14 in Chapter’s Gift Cards!** **Awesome!**

### **NLTA Christmas Suite**

We are so proud of our Grade 6 band students and our Grade 5 & 6 Orff Ensemble. Amazing performances at this year’s NLTA Christmas Suite!

### **Winter Clothing & Boots**

Students are reminded to come dressed warmly for outside play. There are occasions when students will be brought outdoors for gym classes and for the play part of the lunch period. Therefore it is important that children are dressed properly with boots, hats & mitts. They are also asked to bring a pair of sneakers for inside wear.

