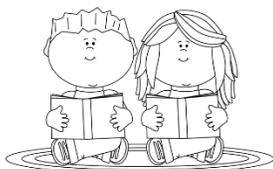




École Holy Family Elementary School

Sheryl Ryan, Principal

Bernadette Kolonel, Asst. Principal



Literacy Week

Dear Families,

Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and held annually on January 27. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development. Even just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve his/her skills as well.

We, the students and staff of Holy Family Elementary, value literacy in all its forms at our school. In this spirit, the Literacy Committee has planned an exciting week of activities centered around Family Literacy Day. An outline of the week can be found below.

Monday, January 23, 2017 - The Second Annual Holy Family Reading Relay

- On this day, we will hold our opening ceremonies and official "lighting" of our reading lantern! This lantern will travel from classroom to classroom, making its way through the entire school. When the lantern arrives in your child's classroom, the lights will be dimmed and your child's teacher will do a read aloud for approximately fifteen minutes before passing the lantern on to the next class.

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 - Visual Literacy Activity

- A winter visual will be displayed on the Interactive Whiteboard in your child's classroom. Throughout the day, students will have the opportunity to respond to the visual through writing. The form of writing will depend on current curricular outcomes being covered in your child's classroom. For example, some classes may choose to write a narrative (i.e., story), others may choose a descriptive paragraph, while others may work on vocabulary development in second-language learning. We look forward to reading each piece of creative writing and showcasing some of these throughout the week!

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 - Guest Readers

- Each class will have their very own guest reader (politician, community worker, television/radio personality, etc.) visit their classroom to share a story.

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Principal

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Under the trustee of the NL English School District

Thursday, January 26, 2017 - Classroom Literacy Game

- All classes will participate in a classroom literacy game (i.e., alphabet games, sight word games, literacy trivia, etc.). There will be a variety of prizes to be won for participation!

Friday, January 27, 2017 - Book-in-a-Bag Activity & Flashlight Friday*

- Students will complete this project at home. Each child will select his/her favourite book and place objects, writing, drawings, etc. inside the provided bag to represent the book. Projects will be brought to school and presented in the classroom on this day.
- Your child's classroom teacher will provide further details and expectations for this project.
- **Flashlight Friday** - Students are asked to bring a small, handheld flashlight from home. At a specified time throughout the day, the classroom lights will be dimmed and children will read their favourite books by flashlight!

As Friday, January 27, 2017 is the first KinderStart session, there will be no classes for our Kindergarten students. Kindergarten teachers will be in contact with their respective classes regarding the book-in-a-bag activity..

A family literacy bingo card will also be sent home to each child. Families are encouraged to complete four or five activities on the card to form a straight line (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal). Completed cards should be returned to your child's teacher on or before **Friday, January 27, 2017** to be entered for some literacy-related prize draws!

Please check out the ABC Life Literacy Canada website at <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy> for more details and activity suggestions that you can do together as a family!

We are looking forward to an exciting and fun-filled week as we celebrate the important contribution literacy makes to our homes, school, and community. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and support!

Holy Family Elementary Literacy Committee



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