

365 Blackburn Drive • 519.752.4111 • www.bbas.bhncdsb.ca • INCLEMENT WEATHER ZONE 3 & 4
Principal: Ms. Lisa Kuyper Secretary: Mrs. Joanne Allen

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Dear Families

March 1st is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of our Lenten season. Lent is a time where we pause and reflect on how we can hear God's voice speaking to us. Here at St Basil School we participate in Christian Meditation and our students find it to be a very meaningful way to not only calm themselves but also to place themselves in the presence of the Lord and invite God in. Lent is also a traditional time for almsgiving. This year in order to support our local St. Vincent DePaul Society we are doing a special campaign. Instead of non-perishable foods, we are collecting Grocery Store Gift Cards in any denomination; new or gently used bedding, towels and pots and pans. If you could help us help our neighbours in need, it would be greatly appreciated!

March Break will soon be upon us. School will be closed from Monday, March 13-Friday, March 17 and we hope that this spring break will not only bring warm spring weather but also serve as a time to rest and rejuvenate our spirits.

Finally, a special thank you to Mrs. Pasztor who has joined our administrative team this winter. She is our vice principal and teaches in some of our Kindergarten classes. Mrs. Pasztor is a welcome addition to our staff and I encourage you to introduce yourself to her when you get the chance! Additionally, I hope you will take the time to say hi to any new families you see. We are a growing community and new families join us on a weekly basis. A special welcome to all!

Warm Regards,

Lisa Kuyper

Kindergarten Registration

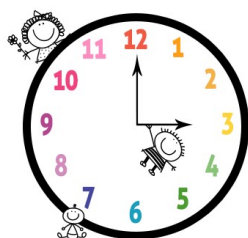


Registration will continue during the month of March. All children who will be 4 by Dec 31, 2017 are able to register for Junior Kindergarten. Children who will turn 5 by Dec 31 2017 are able to register for Senior Kindergarten. **To register, please call the school for more information 519.752.4111.**

At the time of registration, please be prepared to provide the following:

- Birth Certificate to show proof of age.
- A Roman Catholic baptismal certificate for either the child or parent.
- Proof of address, valid driver's license or utility bill

As part of our Early Learning Kindergarten Program, both senior and junior kindergarten students attend school every day, all day. Teachers as well as Early Childhood Educators will work together to help children learn. Please help spread the word to your family, friends and neighbours that St. Basil School is registering for the fall!



Change your
CLOCKS
and your
**SMOKE DETECTOR
BATTERIES!**



On Sunday, March 12, 2017 we turn our clocks ahead one hour. This is a reminder that the batteries in your smoke and CO2 detectors should be changed also.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 1	Ash Wednesday Service & Month End Awards—9:15 Everyone is welcome!
March 2	Pizza Day
March 6	Lottery Calendars home with students
March 7	Brantford Classic Run Training Begins (Grades 4—8)
March 7	Jr. Soccer Tournament—All Day
March 9	Sub Day
March 10	St. Patrick's Day Celebration
March 10	Lost & Found to St. Vincent dePaul
March 12	Daylight Savings—Clocks ahead one hour

March 13—17 March Break No School this week.

March 23	Pizza Day
March 28	Apps Mill—Grades 2 & 6
March 30	Boston Pizza Day

Lenten Campaign March 1 to April 13

****Hot lunches, milk and any other items for April can be purchased on-line from
March 6—26, 2017****



A Note From Your School Health Nurse

Water does Wonders



Healthy brains need to stay hydrated to learn and concentrate. Encourage your child to drink water throughout the day by sending water in a reusable bottle. Remind them to rehydrate after being outside to play or gym class.

Sugar sweetened drinks like pop, juice, and fruit drinks might sound fun but they don't do the same job when it comes to staying healthy and hydrated. Water is always the best option!

For additional ideas, tools and resources to make water more available at school, check out www.brightbites.ca – Water Works.

Adapted from Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health, Bright Bites Program



Top 'O the Morning to You!

Since St. Patrick's Day falls during March Break this year we will be celebrating early on March 10.

Join in the festivities by dressing up in your favourite green outfit.

"May the luck of the Irish be with you!"



St. Basil School uses School Cash Online for all field trips, hot lunch, agenda and many other payments required at the school. No longer do we accept cash or cheques as payment. Most items are online for one to two weeks to allow ample time to pay. Please pay by the date indicated so that your children will not miss out on field trips, hot lunch and milk. Please ensure you receive a receipt at the end of your transaction to confirm completion of payment. You can also check your history tab to make sure that your orders are complete. If you are experiencing any difficulties with payments, please contact the school office and Mrs. Allen will help resolve the issue.



Brantford Classic Run

The date of the Brantford Classic Run is Sunday, April 30 at 10 am - starting and finishing at W. Ross McDonald School. St. Basil School will be taking a team of runners. Grades 3-8 will begin training at school on Tues. March 7th. Training will be every Tues. and Thurs. until the race day.

Registration will all be done on line as paper registration forms no longer exist. Parents are encouraged to join us on race day and run with your child/children. Parents must also register on line in order to get a BIB # to run through the finish line.

More information to come.

School contact: Carol Giles



BEGINS WITH ME



We Care About Our Children

In an effort to ensure timely communication to all families we have implemented an automated phone messaging system. This ensures that you will be called immediately if your child is absent from school and you have not notified us. It also enables us to deliver messages of importance (reminders of special days) or urgency (such as school closure) to all families. If you see the school number on your call display, please be sure to listen to the message in order to stay informed. This is the only way attendance will be done, therefore, it is imperative that the school has the phone number you can be reached to verify your child's whereabouts. By calling the school to notify us of an absence, you can avoid getting this call.

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping us to offer the best possible care for our children.



Volunteering and Police Checks

In accordance with Board Policy, if parents wish to accompany their children on a school excursion or volunteer in the classroom, they must have a current Police Check Clearance Certificate. Please contact the office to obtain a letter to take to the police station. Police check processing can take some time so get yours done early, especially in anticipation of year end trips. No exceptions will be made.

519.752.4111



Lost and Found

Please come and take a look or ask your child(ren) to take a look. Anything not claimed will be donated to the St. Vincent De Paul Society before the March Break.



Pups for Christ and the whole **St. Basil Community** have been working very hard to continue to fundraise for the school we are building in Sierra Leone. To this date, we have raised **\$12,309.02!** This year the students enthusiastically participated in the Walk-a-thon in November. This event raised **\$1,511.05**. The students also showed their support by purchasing Valentine's Day cookies! They were delicious! Our cookie campaign raised an amazing **\$346.45!** There will be many more events throughout the remainder of the school year to continue to raise funds. Thank you to everyone for your continued support with our

'Me to We' fundraisers!

News from Parent Council.....



Parent Council is pleased to announce our **2nd Lottery Calendar Spring Fundraiser**. Last year's Lottery Calendar was our most successfully fundraiser to date, generating approximately \$3,500 for the school.



Our school Lottery Calendar will be sold for \$5 per calendar and offers \$1,500 in prizes. Each family is asked to sell FIVE calendars. We will send the calendars home with the youngest child on **March 6th, 2017**.



February 12, 2017

St. Basil Catholic Elementary School
c/o Ms. Kelly Skrzypek
365 Blackburn Dr.
Brantford, ON N3T 0G5

Dear Kelly Skrzypek: *St. Basil School community:*

Thank you for your gift of \$500 to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Brant.

Thanks to our many donors we were able to assist 1247 different households, 1996 adults and 1272 children in 2016. Our home visitors made over 3300 house calls. In addition almost 100 Store volunteers provided free food, clothing, household items and furniture to our neighbours in need.

Your gift is very much appreciated and your financial support will greatly assist the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul to carry out its mission to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Sincerely,

Pat Lenz
President
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Particular Council of Brant



Elementary International Languages Program

We're expanding and need your help!

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce that we are expanding our Elementary International Languages Program and need your help. Our classes are offered to students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 and no prior language knowledge is required. Our goal is to offer classes to students in their home County (Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk as well as the City of Brantford) so we would like to hear what language classes your community is interested in. For example, does your area have a large Greek or Portuguese population who may be interested in formal language instruction for their children?

All programs are free of charge and classes take place after school and on the weekends. We currently offer classes in Spanish, Italian, Tagalog and Mandarin.

