

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

As we move into the autumn season we bear witness to some of God's very tangible handiwork with the transformation of trees turning into glorious shades of colour. We are reminded of His goodness and His abundant blessings in our lives. In this season of Thanksgiving, I wish to extend to all of you a heartfelt thank you for entrusting your most precious gifts, your children to us. Their smiles, their laughter, their joy and their bright minds full of wonder and learning are among the greatest blessings we know. I am also extremely grateful for the wonderful staff here at St Basil. They are providing a safe, secure and loving environment, rooted in our Faith for your children, not to mention a top quality education. Please take some time this season to pause, give thanks and enjoy the awe and wonder of your family, your friends and the world around us.

God Bless, Lisa Kuyper



Just a friendly reminder...

Communication is Key

Working together is the key to success for our students. To that end, we would like to make an effort to make sure that all communication is timely and relevant. In order to accomplish this we will be updating our school website and calendar on a regular basis. All newsletters and dates of important events will be posted and updated. Each month you will receive a reminder in your child's agenda that the monthly newsletter and calendar have been uploaded. This is also where you can access School Cash Online which is the preferred method of payment for everything from hot lunches to school trips. Additionally, it will be linked to our twitter feed where we will be posting pictures and information from classroom and school events and also keep you up to date with valuable information. Stay informed and receive all the information you need by visiting www.stbasilbrantford.ca and by following us on twitter @stbasilbulldogs. Sign up for notifications to have the information come directly to you!

Eye Tests for Children

Has your child had a recent eye examination? The cost for eye exams for children under the age of 19 is still covered by provincial health care. It is especially important for the youngest of school aged children and their ability to learn to have their eyes checked to see if they need glasses. Please contact your optometrist for more information on this.



Vaccine Clinic for Grade 7 & 8 Students

Date: Friday Oct 9, 2015

Students are asked to eat a healthy breakfast or a snack before the scheduled clinic time. Students should also wear a t-shirt on that day.

Student Absenteeism

Parents are asked to notify the school by 8:45 a.m. if their child is going to be away or late for any reason. If not notified, the school will attempt to contact you if your child is not at school. You may also leave a message on our voice mail (ext. 200) at any time of the day. It's available 24/7.



Used Eyeglass Collection



The charitable organization called "Sleeping Children Around The World" is collecting prescription eyeglasses to distribute to those in need in Bangladesh. Any prescription eyeglasses will be accepted regardless of the style, size, shape, age or prescription.

It is easy to do. Just drop off the eyeglasses in the collection box located in the office at our school. Parents can even bring them in on Meet the Teacher Night. Our final collection day will be October 16 so they can be sent through to the organization on time.

Popcorn Sales

Good News! Popcorn sales will be continuing again this year. Popcorn will be sold every Tuesday and Thursday in October beginning October 6. The cost is \$2.00 each.



Popcorn sales are not posted online. There will be a variety of flavours to choose from. The money raised in the sale of the popcorn will be donated to our Sierra Leone fundraising efforts.



Hot Lunch / Milk Program

Hot lunch days for October have been set. If you have not already done so, check School Cash Online to order for your children. The last day to order is October 5. The days for October are:

- Oct 15 - pizza
- Oct 22 - pita
- Oct 29 - pizza

November dates will be posted on School Cash Online sometime this month so stay tuned.



Our milk program is all set to go. Milk will begin on October 6 for those who have purchased already. The next month of milk will be November 2 - November 30 for 19 days. Stayed tuned for more dates in the next newsletter and on school cash online.

Attendance and Illness

Students, unless ill, are required to be prepared for each day's classes, to have the materials needed, and to have assignments completed. Regular attendance is necessary if a student is to experience success.

However, if your child is ill, we urge you to make arrangements for day care rather than sending your child to school when he/she is ill. Staying indoors during the breaks due to illness is not good for the child or the health of those around your child.



Emergency and Illness

If a student becomes ill at school, the school secretary or teacher will telephone home. If an accident occurs which requires medical attention for your child, we will attempt to contact you at home or at your place of work. If we cannot make contact, we will use our discretion in taking your child to the hospital or, if the injury is more serious in nature, we will call for an ambulance.

School Council First Meeting



The first meeting is scheduled for Wed. Oct. 7, 2015 @ 6:30pm @ St. Basil School. Contact the school if you're interested in a nomination form for an executive position, or just join us to become a member and get involved!



MISSED PICTURE/RETAKE DAY: OCTOBER 27, 2015

CELL PHONES

Cell phones have also become an issue at schools and public places. We know that some families have provided cell phones for safety reasons for the trip to and from school. However, once at school, cell phones must be turned off and must not be used as a communication device while here at school. If there is an urgent reason for a child to contact home, then they can of course come to the office and we will make that call. We thank you for your cooperation in all of these matters.



REMINDER: FOOD ALLERGIES

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated once again in making our school a safe one for all of our students. **This is just a reminder that several of our students have severe and potentially life-threatening allergies.** If your child shares a room with one of these children, then that food item is not permitted in that room. Children who bring the wrong kinds of food will have to eat elsewhere in the school. ***We would also respectfully request that peanuts, peanut butter, and foods which contain peanut products not be sent to school at all as even a residue from that food could cause a severe and deadly reaction.*** If your child has anaphylaxis and you have not yet made us aware of this, please contact us immediately.



Nutrition Guidelines

The Ministry of Education has implemented new guidelines for schools in Ontario, so we have to be very selective about the kinds of food that we provide at any school event. This also applies to the kind of food that, for example, a family might provide for their child's class on a birthday. We must still follow those guidelines for that, so cookies, cupcakes, candies etc. cannot be served in the classroom.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education requires students to take an active part in many physical situations. To do this as safely as possible requires proper dress. Running shoes and gym clothing (shorts/track pants and T-shirts) are required. A good strategy to always have clothes on hand is to leave a set of gym clothes at school for the week and then have your child bring them home to be cleaned on the weekend. Please note that students will not be permitted to participate unless they have proper footwear. If your child's teacher requires that the students have a change of clothing, then they cannot participate unless they have the change of clothing.



Thanksgiving Prayer



Thank you, God, for everything -the big things and the small.
For "every good gift comes from God" - The Giver of them all!
And all too often we accept without any thanks or praise
The gifts God sends as blessings each day in many

ways.

And so at this Thanksgiving time, we offer up a prayer
To thank you, God, for giving us a lot more than our share. . .
First, thank you for the little things that often come our way.
The things we take for granted but don't mention when we pray.

The unexpected courtesy, the thoughtful,
kindly deed.

A hand reached out to help us in the time
of sudden need. . .

Oh, make us more aware, dear God, of
little daily graces

That come to us with sweet surprise from never-dreamed of
places.

Then, thank you for the miracles we are much too blind to see.

And give us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee.

And help us to remember that the key to life and living
Is to make each prayer a prayer of thanks and every day
Thanksgiving.

May God richly bless your Thanksgiving Day!



Family Math Night Food•Fun•Family



On Thursday October 22nd Parent Council will be hosting a Family Math Night from 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Come out and join in some fun games with your children. Get some ideas on what games are not only good family fun but also build solid math skills.

Keep up to Date

School events are constantly being added to our school calendar on the website.

Go to <http://www.stbasilbrantford.ca/events-calendar>

to see all the events that are planned so far at St. Basil. Check in frequently to stay up to date and informed on all events taking place at St. Basil.



First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Mark your calendars!

The initial information session for First Holy Communion is Thursday Oct 22, 2015 at 7pm in the St. Basil parish hall.



The initial information session for Confirmation is Thursday November 5, 2015 at 7pm in the St. Basil parish hall.



Sports Fan Day

Let's show some spirit for our Toronto Blue Jays and Hamilton Tiger Cats teams. On **Friday**

October 9, 2015 dig out your Blue Jay t-shirt or Tiger-Cat t-shirt and wear it to school. Join in the spirit of supporting these teams! Don't have a t-shirt for one of those teams? That's ok, wear a t-shirt to support your favourite sport team.



October Message to City of Brantford Schools

It is our pleasure to offer best wishes to all students, staff, parents and Catholic school supporters. The beginning of a new school year is an excellent opportunity to celebrate what makes our school communities distinct. It is a time to celebrate our successes, showcase the talents of the young people in our schools, and acknowledge the many adults in their lives who inspire, support and encourage our students in developing their faith and accomplishing their goals.

Catholic school trustees are elected to advocate for and represent the perspectives of ratepayers. Trustees govern by policy and are interested in learning more about constituent concerns about Board policy and government priorities. As City of Brantford Catholic trustees, both Mr. Chopp and I are committed to listening to our Catholic community with respect to Catholic education.

Trustees also play an important role in facilitating the communication process between the parents and the appropriate staff in dealing with specific school-based issues. The Board believes that concerns should be dealt with at the closest level to the issue and, therefore, trustees will direct parents to the appropriate staff member to handle concerns.

Prior to the start of this school year, there was much discussion about the ongoing labour negotiations in education in the Province of Ontario. I am pleased to inform you that, in line with our goal of putting our students first, the Board has ratified the OECTA tentative teacher contract thus ensuring a smooth and uninterrupted start to the new school year.

On behalf of the whole Board of Trustees, we wish to extend a special 'welcome' to our new students and families and a wish of much success to everyone in the year ahead as we embark upon our mission of supporting faith formation and providing academic excellence.

Sincerely
Rick Petrella | Chair of Board



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