



ST. BASIL'S NEWS

November 2022

Thoughts from Our Principal

Greetings families!

I often think of things in terms of how complete they are. For example – we are 20%, or 1/5 done the school year. The reflection I have based on this is – if we have had 20% of the fun we will have all year we are off to a great start!

This past month we had so many events – I was pleased to see the community engage with our families to show their support of our school. White River truly is an amazing place and St. Basil's is a prime example of how community, family, and school can work together to make great things happen. I was very proud of our staff who envisioned and realized amazing community events, such as the Family Movie Night and the Halloween Party. Make sure to watch our calendars for what is going to come next!

November brings with it a note of solemnity. During the week of November 6th, we will be recognizing Treaties Recognition Week. As is mentioned in the announcements every day; We are All Treaty People. We will have in-class activities throughout the week in order to learn more about the treaty land on which we reside, and our roles as treaty people.

Remembrance Day approaches exceedingly quickly. On the 11th we remember those who gave their lives for the freedoms which we enjoy. We remember the sacrifices made also by those who returned to an entirely new reality. On this day we will be holding a prayer service for our K-4 students, while our 5-8 students will join in the community event.

As the winter weather envelops us, please remember to send your children dressed warmly. If you suspect they may need additional clothing send a change in their backpack.

The virtue of the month is Wisdom. Wisdom is also one of the Grandfather Teachings. "Wisdom is Nbwaakaawin in Ojibwe. To cherish knowledge is to know wisdom. The beaver represents wisdom because he uses his natural gift wisely for his

survival. The beaver also alters his environment in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way for the benefit of his family. Use your inherent gifts wisely and live your life by them. Recognize your differences and those of others in a kind and respectful way. Continuously observe the life of all things around you. Listen with clarity and a sound mind. Respect your own limitations and those of all of your surroundings. Allow yourself to learn and live by your wisdom." Information found from: <http://ojibweresources.weebly.com/ojibwe-teachings--the-7-grandfathers.html>

A Prayer for Growing In Wisdom

God of all knowledge and wisdom,
inspire me today to do what is right.
In moments that are difficult,
guide my thoughts to what is good and true.
When I am tempted,
show me the right path to follow.
May I be an example to my classmates and friends
so we all grow in wisdom and goodness.

Amen+

Blessings, Mrs. Lambruschini

PROGRESS REPORTS



Progress reports for the first term will be sent home on Thursday, November 17, 2022 for all grades. Parent-teacher interviews will be held on ?. Report cards for all grades will be sent home in February and June.

Friday, November 18, is a PD Day. There will be no school for students on that day.



What's Happening at St. Basil's?

JK, SK & GRADE ONE

This class is rockin' the first two months of school! They have perfected (with some reminders) our daily routine, classroom rules, and classroom procedures. They love learning new letters, letters sounds, and our word games. Their letter formation and sentences are improving each day. They are becoming more brave with their independent writing and reading! I can't wait to see their progress by the end of Term 1.

The students will continue our new Open Court program. Up to this point, the Year 1 and Year 2 students have learned the letters Aa to Kk. They are beginning to use their letter sounds to explore words that begin with the new letter. Grade 1 students continuing the Open Court Grade 1 program. They are learning about digraphs, blends, nouns, verbs, and adding "ing" or "ed" to word endings. They are also continuing the Guided Reading Program. They are eager when called and quickly get to work in their small group. They are learning to point to each word, use their letter sounds to decode unfamiliar words, and use pictures to decode words too. After each page we celebrate, they always have a big smile and a very proud face. They smile for the entire lesson and I can hear them tell their friends, "I just read a book!" This month we will focus our 6 + 1 Write Traits on Organization, with a clear beginning, middle and end to our stories. The month of November is our Gingerbread Unit. We are going to have so much fun reading all the Gingerbread books, with many crafts, writing assignments, and hands-on activities. Way to go class!

In Math, KI & K2 students will begin a new Math Unit: 2D shapes. They will learn the names and attributes, we will count the number of sides and observe the looks of each shape. The Grade 1 students will also begin a new unit: Geometric Reasoning. The students will construct, sort, identify and describe 2D shapes. They will also explore calendar, dates, and seasons. The students will also continue the new math program called Mathology, which connects read alouds and hands-on learning Math games to their daily lessons.

In Science, we are exploring Daily and Seasonal Changes! As the weather changes, we will be doing lots of observations and activities. Mid-month, we will be doing a Social Studies unit on Roles and Responsibilities. We will be talking about our responsibilities at home and at school. They will be sure to have fun!

In Religion, we will begin a new unit "The Road to Bethlehem". During this unit the students will learn that Advent is a time of anticipation, hope, and renewal. We will learn about the Advent Wreath, the Christmas stories, and the Three Wise Man. Term 1 is flying by! I am so very proud of these

students and their development and eagerness to learn!
God Bless, Ms. McLean, Miss Ashley, Mrs. Mikus, Ms. Godin



GRADES TWO, THREE & FOUR

Time is flying by in Grade 2/3/4 and we are having a blast and learning so much!

Next month in Writing we will be writing poems about Remembrance Day and ourselves. We will continue learning about punctuation, and how to use the different types in our writing. We are going to continue on with our phonics and reading groups. The students are enjoying our reading daily and love when we get to read in our small groups! We will be focusing on the reading strategies: visualizing what we read and using our prior knowledge to enhance the story.

In Math we will be continuing learning about shapes, focusing on angles and parallel sides. We will also start our Patterning and Algebra units! I'm excited to see the fun crafts we can do for our units. Last month we did Polygon Monsters and Haunted Houses using shapes.

In Science we will be moving on to our Structures and Simple Machines units. We will learn how to build a table structure and will create some of our own! We will also learn the different kinds of simple machines and see where we can find them in the world. We will be continuing our Social Studies unit on Family Traditions and Communities in Canada. We will be discussing different traditions our families have around holidays like Christmas and comparing and contrasting to learn more about one another! We will also be learning about Remembrance Day, and the importance of it in our everyday lives.

I look forward to another month of learning together and growing as a classroom family!

Ms. Lethbridge



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

The cooler autumn weather is here! The temperature can change very quickly at this time of year. Weather permitting, students are outside for recess. Classes sometimes go for nature walks or other local excursions.

Please ensure that your child has a coat or heavy sweater, a hat and a light pair of mittens at school every day. Once the snow arrives, ski pants are a must for playing in the snow.

GRADES FIVE TO EIGHT

Grades 5 to 8 had a busy October. It seems as though we just start school and suddenly it's November! The class has kept busy in Math working on Patterning and Equations (Grades 6-8), and Multiplication (Grade 5). We are just wrapping up our science unit on Heat, and will be moving on to a unit in history. We have been busy writing: this month we're writing narratives, and are still working on our novel studies.

There were a lot of other activities going on as well. We went hiking and began investigating where we can create a new snowshoe trail. We went to St. Kateri and worked on some mapping and GPS work, which we will be using in class, as well as mapping the snowshoe trail as we plan and create it. Students from Grades 5-8 also helped set up for the movie night, and the Halloween dance.

We're hoping for a quiet November so we can get a lot of work done before the snow finally sets in for a long Winter season!

Mr. Boucher

ST. KATERI TRIP



Remembrance Day



Friday, November 11, 2022

Please wear red and black to school on November 11th. Students in Grades will be going to the Cenotaph. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 will be attending a prayer service at school.



Everyone is asked not to bring anything with peanuts or Brazil nuts or products that "may contain nuts" in your lunch. We have children in the school who have a life-threatening peanut allergy. The well-being and safety of all of our students is our first priority.

Please remember we are also a scent-free school.



If you want milk for your child at lunch in December, please return your form or place your order online. December milk orders are due Thursday, November 24. The cost for milk for the month of December is \$ 12.00.

VISIT US ONLINE

Have you visited our school website yet? hscdsb.on.ca/stbasilscatholicschool You can find our monthly newsletter and calendar, our Parent Handbook, and Code of Conduct, school council and staff information and much more.

We also have a Facebook page St. Basil's Catholic School. Please check the Facebook page often and if you haven't yet joined, please join our group St. Basil's Bears Family for current pictures, information and updates. This year we ask that, if possible, you place orders for milk and other fundraising at: <https://hscdsb.schoolcashionline.com>