

SEPTEMBER 2017



St. Bernadette's CES

5279 Black River Road,
Sutton West, ON.
LOE 1R0

Phone: 905-722-6226

Trustee: Theresa McNichol
Superintendent: Opiyo Oloya
Principal: Christine deHaas
sbe.ycdsb.ca

Follow us on Twitter @sbe_ycdsb

Dear Families of St. Bernadette's CES,

A warm welcome back to school. The staff and I are excited to open our doors to 219 students this September. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the community. I have been an elementary educator with YCDSB for past 26 years. For six of those years, I was blessed to work in the Curriculum and Assessment Department as a Religious Education and Equity Consultant. I have worked as an Elementary Principal and Vice Principal in several Aurora and Newmarket schools and I was thrilled to be assigned to St. Bernadette's last June. I am grateful for the warm welcome to the community and I am excited to begin our work together. I encourage you to stop by to introduce yourself and I look forward to meeting you at our Curriculum Night on Wednesday September 13th.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the custodial team for working so hard to prepare the school. It is clean and ready to welcome the children. I also wish to thank our staff for preparing the classrooms. They look colourful, organized and

inviting. Thank you to Mrs. Pacelli for answering all of the questions in the office over the past couple of weeks.

Thank you parents and guardians for your patience as we work on establishing our routines. take the time to familiarize yourself with the drop off and pick up routines found in this newsletter. Agendas will provided to all students. We kindly ask each child to provide \$5.00 to the teacher to assist in covering the cost.

Volunteering in the school is a wonderful way to get involved in your child's education. Our Catholic School Council is an active and integral part of our school life and we are continually looking for support in all areas. Our first Catholic School Council meeting will be held on Monday September 18th at 7 pm in the conference room. We encourage all parents to participate and get involved.

We look forward to a wonderful year building partnerships between school, home and parish, as well as meeting you at our upcoming Meet and Greet/ Curriculum Night on Wednesday September 13th from 6:30—7:30 pm. Please come out with your child to meet the teacher and discover what your child will be learning this year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at Christine.dehaas@ycdsb.ca.

May God bless you and your loved ones,



Mrs. C. deHaas, Principal, St. Bernadette's

Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Core Values



Strategic Commitments



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Back to School Blessing

God of all beginnings,

Bless us as we come together from the summer rest

To begin a new season of learning and prayer

Bless all who teach and nurture students

Bless all who assist, mend what is broken, and listen to hearts in need

Bless the families who entrust their children to our care

And send your Holy Spirit to inspire the souls and minds of students.

May everything we say, do, and learn

Be an example of Your love

And witness to justice as we build a better world.

Amen



Mark your calendars

Monday September 4 - Labour Day
Tuesday September 5- Welcome Back
Friday September 8 @ 11:15 Welcome Back Liturgy
Wednesday September 13 - Open House and Curriculum Night 6:30-7:30
Monday September 18 – Catholic School Council @ 7 pm -Elections
Tuesday September 19 – Picture Day
Wednesday September 20 - Terry Fox Assembly @1:30 pm
Friday September 22- Bus Safety
Monday September 25-29 -Safety Week
Monday September 25 – PA Day – No school
Thursday September 28 - Terry Fox Run
Monday October 2nd @ 10:45 am - Thanksgiving Mass
Monday October 11- Cross Country Meet - Bruce’s Mill

School Organization

FDK - Ms. Bogdan, Mrs. Phipps

FDK- Mrs. Quinn, Mrs. Arsenault

FDK- Ms. Ponzo

Gr. 1- Ms. Mallen

Gr. ½- Mrs. Ewing

Gr. 2- Mrs. Hastings

Gr. ¾- Mrs. Spalla

Gr. ¾ - Mrs. Brennan

Gr. ¾- Mrs. Slaven

Gr. ¾ - Mrs. Fraser

French - Mme. Parisi

Music- Mr. Peghin

Phys Ed- Mrs. Stephens

Librarian- Mrs. Cote

Core Resource- Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Carter

Community Liaison- Mrs. McNeil

Support Staff- Mrs. Hazlett, Ms. Grant, Mrs. Bromby, Mrs. Bolton,

Custodial - Mr. Harack

Secretary- Mrs. Pacelli

Principal- Mrs. deHaas



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Emergency Forms to be Verified and Returned

Emergency forms will be sent home with your child. We ask all families to verify the information, make any necessary corrections right on the sheet and return it to the school as soon as possible. If all of the information is correct, simply sign the sheet and return it to the school. Should any information change during the year, please inform the office in writing.

Routines

Morning Routines

It is very important that all students arrive at school between 8:55 a.m. and the 9:10 a.m. They should proceed directly to the yard from their drop off. Our kindergarten students will gather in the fenced area on the east side of the school. It is important to ensure that your child arrive before the 9:10 a.m. bell so he/she can enter the school with the class at bell time.

Yard Supervision

School staff supervises students during all recesses as well as before and after school. Supervision in the morning begins at 8:55 a.m. and ends at 3:55 p.m. Please do not drop students off at school before 8:55 AM as school staff are not available for supervision.

Lunch Time Routines

Students remaining at school for lunch will eat in their classrooms from 12:10 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. From 12:30 p.m. to 1:10 p.m., weather permitting, students are outside in the schoolyard. They are to remain on school property where supervision by school staff is

provided. For safety reasons, we ask that students not bring parent permission forms requesting to visit local stores or restaurants for lunch time. If your child's lunch time routine changes, a note signed by the parent/ guardian will be required. Please come to the office and sign them out when you pick them up

Parking and Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please be reminded that you are not permitted to enter the bus loop from 8:45—9:15 am and 3:30-4:00 pm. This is to ensure the safety of all children riding buses or taxis.

If you are dropping off your child before 9:10 AM and picking them up after 3:40 pm, please enter the east parking lot slowly and cautiously. If you need to come into the school, please park and enter the building through the main doors.



Anaphylaxis

In order to maintain a safe environment for all our students, parents are reminded that St. Bernadette's is a Allergen Safe School. Please ensure that you do not send any nut or nut products to the school in your child's lunch or snacks. Information about other specific anaphylactic causative agents such as egg products, potatoes etc. will be sent directly to the students in that classroom. Kindly refrain from bringing in food to share for special events like birthdays. Pencils and stickers are recommended as a special birthday treats.

Never assume that a food is free of allergenic ingredients. When buying pre-packaged, prepared foods, read the labels carefully every time you shop. Ingredients often change without

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warning – a product that was safe last week may not be safe this week.

More information? Contact Anaphylaxis Canada
Website: www.anaphylaxis.ca

Safety Week

The week of September 26-29 has been designated as “Safety Awareness Week”. During this week, we will be rehearsing a variety of emergency school procedures to acquaint students and staff with the precautionary steps to take in the event of such things as a warning of severe weather, an intruder or a bomb threat. In addition, throughout the year we will hold practice drills to acquaint students with various emergency protocols. Teachers will review these procedures with students in class prior to our practice drills.

The safety and well being of our children is our highest priority. All visitors, including parents of K to Grade 8 students, board personnel, volunteers etc. enter the school through the front doors and report immediately to the office.

All exterior doors will be locked at 9:10 am, except for the front doors of the building. There is a locked door policy so please buzz the office and identify yourself.

Should you need to speak to your child’s teacher, please call the school to make an appointment with that teacher. By doing so, the teacher can attend to the student’s safety without interruption.

Please **do not** enter the yard as you are a stranger to staff and students and will be asked to report to the office.

Safe Arrival Absence Reporting Procedures

In order to report your child(ren)’s absence, you are required to access our Safe Arrival program. The *Safe Arrival* program allows parents and guardians to report their child’s absence in advance, or before bell time for the current day in one of three ways:

Toll Free Number: 1-855-856-7862

Website:

<http://yorkcdsb.schoolconnects.com>

SafeArrival APP on a mobile device

Note: Parents and guardians with email addresses on file will be emailed information on the use of the Safe Arrival system.

All methods will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Therefore future absences may be reported ahead of time, i.e.; appointment, etc. This Safe Arrival reporting procedure is in place for York Catholic Elementary schools.

As part of this program, we also use an automated notification system that will contact parents and guardians who have not reported their child absent. If our system is unable to reach a designated contact after the required amount of time, office staff will follow up. By reporting your child absent in advance or before bell time using the Safe Arrival 1-855 number or Safe Arrival Parent Portal website, you will not receive a call.

To assist you in using this system, we have included two business cards, containing the 1-855 number and the Safe Arrival Parent Portal website, which you may keep in a convenient location for quick reference when reporting your child’s absence.

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If any of your contact information changes, please contact our school office immediately with the updated details.

Should you have any questions in regards to the Safe Arrival program, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Policy 206: Protection of Students with Asthma

In accordance with the *Act to Protect Pupils with Asthma* (Ryan's Law : Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools, 2015) the Board approved a new policy # 206: *Protection of Students with Asthma* at its June 21st Board Meeting. The York Catholic District School Board recognizes that there are some students within the school system who have a diagnosis of asthma which could be life threatening. The York Catholic District School Board also recognizes that asthma management is a shared responsibility among students, parents, caregivers and the entire school community.

It is the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to advise the school immediately upon registration and/or when in receipt of a diagnosis of asthma. It is also the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that all medical information pertinent to their child's diagnosis of asthma is always current.

If your child has a diagnosis of asthma please contact the school office immediately so that the appropriate forms are completed and school records are up to date in accordance with Policy 206.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request and your ongoing support in the shared

responsibility for asthma management in our school. Please refer to the Board's website for more information related to Policy 206.



Policy 210 Pediculosis

The York Catholic District School Board recognizes concerns related to pediculosis (head lice) at the school and community level. Pediculosis (head lice) are not a public hazard, as they do not cause illness, but they are a nuisance. To prevent pediculosis (head lice) from becoming a problem at our school we all need to work together. Please check your child's head on a regular basis for lice or nits. If you do find lice or nits, you must contact the office so that we can notify other parents in your child's class to keep a special watch for any signs of head lice.

A student's readmission to school is contingent upon the Parent/Guardian submitting a completed and signed "Pediculosis Treatment Form" communicating to the Principal that treatment for pediculosis (head lice) has been administered.

More information on the identification, treatment and prevention of pediculosis (head lice) can be accessed from the Canadian Pediatric Society www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/headlice and Toronto Public Health www.toronto.ca/health

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