



Fall 2018 Newsletter

St. John Brebeuf Schoolconnection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families and Friends,

September has been a great success and I am very much looking forward to the upcoming year. This month we have reconnected with old friends and welcomed new friends to our community.

Our first Mass honouring our patron saint St. Jean de Brebeuf was held on his feast day, September 26th. St. Jean de Brebeuf was an extraordinary man, martyred for his faith, who had a great facility for languages. He lived among the Huron-Wendat people in New France and quickly mastered the Huron language, writing Canada's first Christmas carol: the Huron Carol.

At this Mass, our new students and staff were welcomed into our community by receiving a virtues cross, and earlier in the month being inducted into a house. I am proud of our virtues program and house system, both well-established programs that have become part of the fabric of what it means to belong to this community. They promote a positive, empowering culture by fostering ties between students and staff across grade levels, and guidance in developing strong characters. September finished with the Terry Fox walk giving students the opportunity to be present in the neighbourhood, build community within their houses, and raise money in support of cancer research. A special thank you to the parent council for providing a treat for our students on the playground after the walk.

There are many opportunities for our students to become involved in extra-curricular activities. Our sports programming is up and running with three volleyball teams, running club meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays, and intramurals beginning once the weather turns cooler. There are also ample opportunities for our students to become involved in our music clubs, with six different clubs and choirs being run over the lunch hours. Practices for our Christmas concert will start in October, with students in grades 6 – 8 encouraged to try out for a role.

Social justice will continue to be at the forefront this year as we continue with our various initiatives. Care and concern for those in need is a vital part of our Catholic faith and an essential part of our programming at St. John Brebeuf. We will continue to look for ways to increase sustainability thereby caring for God's creation. A reminder to our parents when sending snacks to school *for sharing with the class* to please opt for healthy choices, *even on birthdays*. If any parents are interested in assisting with the healthy schools committee, please contact the office.

I would like to thank all our staff for their commitment and dedication to enriching our children and bringing out the best in them. At St. John Brebeuf we strive to help all our students reach their full potential in a caring and safe environment. I am proud of all our students and their accomplishments, both big and small.

I am looking forward to a busy Autumn term, and would like to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Cara Campbell



STUDENTS RECEIVING THEIR VIRTUES CROSS DURING THE FIRST SCHOOL MASS OF THE YEAR.



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Welcome St John Brebeuf School Parents!

My name is Jennifer Melo and I am the PAC Chair for this 2018-2019 School year. Our Vice-Chair is Kerri Moore. The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meets 4 times a year to discuss ways in which we can support our school and the students. I invite all parents to attend PAC meetings. Our next meeting is on November 19, 2018 at 7pm in the school library.

Our PAC mission for the 2018-2019 will be to fundraise for new gym equipment and new playground equipment enhancements such as balls, skipping ropes, new basketball nets etc. We believe in healthy play for all students.

We are also excited to announce that we will be introducing new school apparel as one of our fundraisers. This will include SJB sweatshirts, sweat pants, t-shirts, and toques to name a few. The online store will be up and running in the next couple of weeks.

We have still have a few positions open in PAC. IF you are interested in any of the following please email us at SJBPAC@sjbcommunity.ca.

Thank you,
Jennifer Melo,
PAC Chair

2018-2019 Parent Advisory Council Roster

Chair- Jennifer Melo
Vice Chair- Kerri Moore
Treasurer- Cristina Patterson
Secretary- Angela Simeonidis
Fund Raising Committee- Open
(looking for multiple people to fill this committee)
Staff Appreciation- Chair Eve Bokouzis
Carnival – Sarah Carpick and Siyao Sun
Pancake Breakfast- Open
(committee: Mandy Stewart and Michelle Thorsteinson)
Gala Committee- Chair Rosie Gupta
(committee: Angela Simeonidis, Eve Bokouzis, Gillian Hauser, Brandy Ellerbrook, Kerri Moore and Jen Melo)
Hot Lunch- Gillian Hauser
Hot Dog Picnic- Brandy Ellerbrook
Christmas Reception- Brandy Ellerbrook
Communications – Sandra Amorim Dew
Volunteer Coordinator- Kelly Morganti
Farewell Committee– Jaime Patrick, Gillian Hauser and Crystal Santarsieri

VIRTUES PROJECT

Seventeen years ago, St. John Brebeuf implemented The Virtues Project as part of its mission to develop the Christian leadership potential of students. The intention of The Virtues Project is to put "love into action" within the school community and beyond.

Each student receives a virtues cross, a simple necklace consisting of a wooden cross and beads. The necklace represents the monthly virtues and symbolizes God's love and the graces he gives us to practice the virtues. These crosses are displayed in our classrooms and are worn on special occasions such as monthly Mass with the school.

The Virtues Project was created by psychotherapist and author, Linda Kavelin Popov (2000). The program is designed to create an environment of caring and respect. The Virtues Project inspires the practice of virtues in everyday life. Each month, the school community learns one of fifty-two virtues. The fall virtues are:

| SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER |
|--|--|--|
| CREATIVITY | FLEXIBILITY | COMPASSION/EMPATHY |
| <i>I am creative. I have special gifts and I am will to develop them. I use my imagination. I am open to inspiration. I am happy to be myself.</i> | <i>I am flexible. I keep changing for the better. I look for new ways to do things. I welcome surprises.</i> | <i>I have compassion. I notice when someone is hurt or needs my help. I take the time to show that I care.</i> |



GRADE 2 FIELD TRIP TO A MAZE IN CORN



Hello from kindergarten!

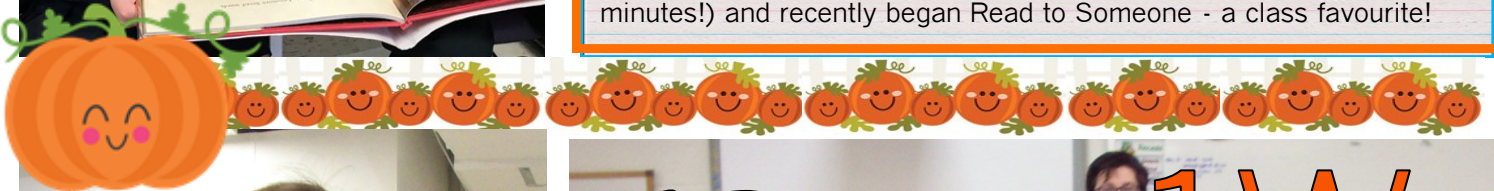
The weather may be quite dreary but there are many bright, smiling faces in kindergarten eager to be at school. The children are making new friends, including their grade six buddies, and are busy with activities in the classroom and specialist classes. Our current learning focus is on numbers, patterns, and letters. We are learning how to print capital letters, the letter names and their sounds, as well as, some sight words. Our theme topics in the next weeks are apples, leaves, colours, and pumpkins. One of the most popular centers in kindergarten is the art center. The children spend a great deal of time using various materials to make their own creative art pieces. We would gladly accept items such as buttons, ribbon, yarn, envelopes, toilet paper rolls, or anything that could be used to help keep this center supplied. Items can be dropped off in the office with a label, K art donation. In kindergarten, we play nice, work hard, and stay kind. We are looking forward to a wonderful year.

Mrs. Wolfe





Grade 1A is off to a busy start. In Science we are enjoying learning about living things. We've started a bulletin board collage, which will include plants, animals and people. We've been reading many books by Kevin Henkes and noticing similarities and differences between them. He is a talented author and illustrator! We love to read and we are building our stamina during Read to Self (our best time is 16.5 minutes!) and recently began Read to Someone - a class favourite!



Welcome to Grade 1W. This year we are "Superheroes" and discovering what our super powers are. We have been working on sight words, beginning number sense, skip counting and discovering what scientists do. We have enjoyed working on puzzles to develop our problem solving skills as well as creating doodles for art. We enjoyed doing daily reading to self, called "DEAR" time. We look forward to many adventures in grade one. Stop by our portal to check up on us throughout the year.



SCHOOL SAFETY PAROLS



Welcome to another school year! This year, we have a group of responsible Grade 5 and 6 students who will be our patrols. These individuals will share their time and talents in the mornings and after school to ensure the safety of our students.

BOBCAT BEAT!

This September, the students have come in excited and ready to get active. Kindergarten to grade 2 students have been working on their running, and participating in a variety of tag and low organized games. The grade 3-4 students have also been working on their running. They have had the chance to play many low organized games, including ultimate ball and kickball so far this year. Grade 5-8 students have now completed their fitness assessments and started developing fitness goals for the year. They have also learned how to play and officiate their own games of Ultimate Frisbee, and can often be seen on our field engrossed in games.

The Bobcats volleyball teams have held tryouts and have started gearing up for the upcoming 2018 season. The teams are eager to take on other teams in the MCSAA and are sure to wow the crowds at their games. Make sure to take a look at the Bobcats schedule that is up on the PE portal! We look forward to seeing some new fans out to cheer on our teams this year! GO BOBCATS!

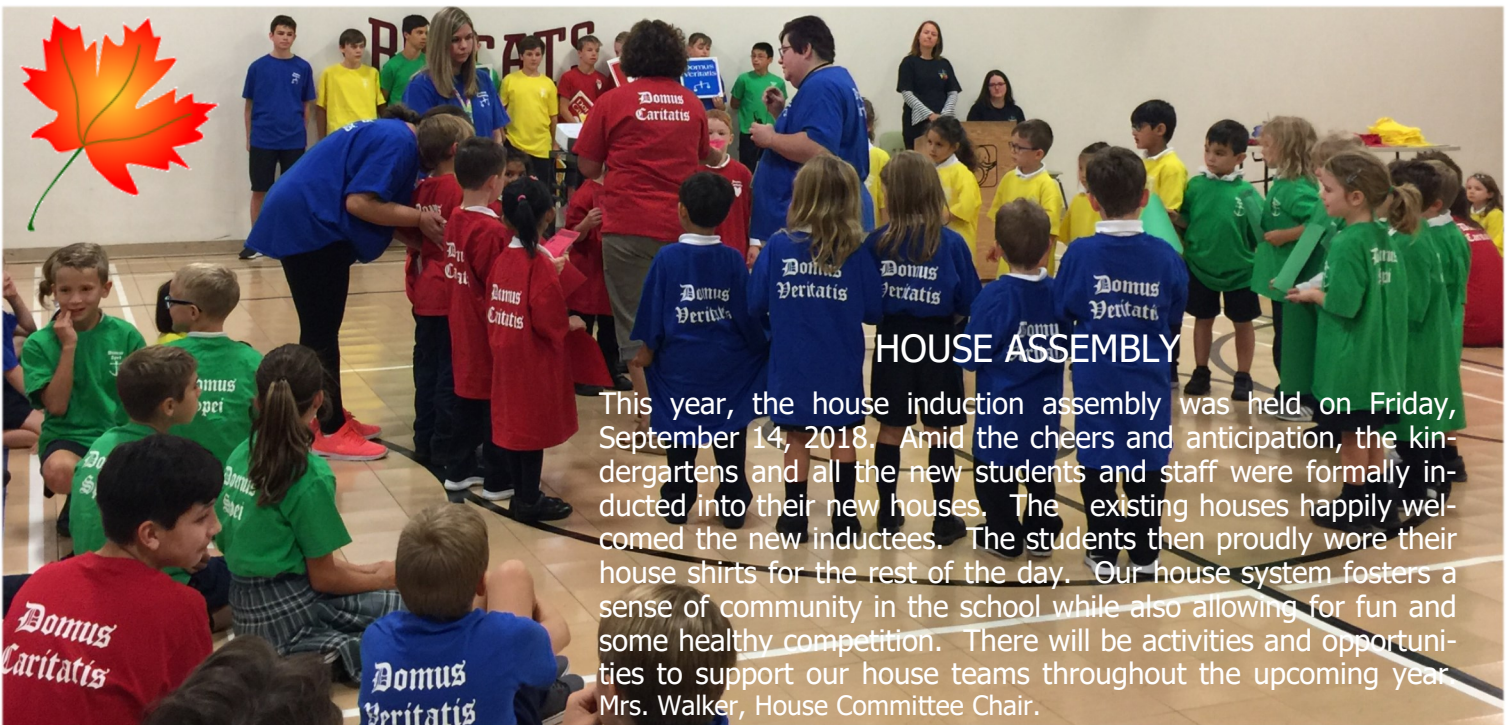
CALLING ALL POTENTIAL COACHES!!!

The Physical Education department is looking for parents who would be interested in helping coach some of our St. John Brebeuf girls and boys sports teams next year. We are also on the lookout for any volunteers who would be interested in helping out with our before and after school clubs. Any expertise or interest that you might have would be greatly welcomed!

We are currently looking for volunteers for...

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Basketball (Dec - March) | Track and field (May/June) |
| Soccer (May/June) | Wrestling (Oct – March) |
| Badminton (March - May) | Running club/cross country (Fall/Spring) |

If you are interested, please contact Ms. Lindsay Craig via email:
craig@sjbcommunity.ca



HOUSE ASSEMBLY

This year, the house induction assembly was held on Friday, September 14, 2018. Amid the cheers and anticipation, the kindergartens and all the new students and staff were formally inducted into their new houses. The existing houses happily welcomed the new inductees. The students then proudly wore their house shirts for the rest of the day. Our house system fosters a sense of community in the school while also allowing for fun and some healthy competition. There will be activities and opportunities to support our house teams throughout the upcoming year. Mrs. Walker, House Committee Chair.

NOTES from the MUSIC ROOM

The music program here at SJB is now rolling to our usual busy pace! There have been a few changes this year to the club offerings, which I think will provide a richer musical experience to our students. Clubs meetings began on September 29th. Fall in the music room is focused on developing routines and revisiting concepts with all of our students, with an eye on the Christmas concert on Dec. 19th. Stay posted for information regarding the Santa Claus parade, which will be coming soon!

Students in grades 4-6 will be starting with their recorders in October. Be sure that you have located them and have them ready to bring in! Recorders will also be distributed to students who ordered them through the school in October.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the music program at SJB!

Mr. Frykas
music@sjbcommunity.ca



LIBRARY NEWS

The school year at Mable Skelly Library has started with a bang!

Our summer reading contest winner was announced; Joseph in 3C, who won a copy of the just-released Amulet #8; Supernova. Contests (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Comic Contest), Reading Initiatives (Marvel-themed Read the Gauntlet), book care lessons for the younger ones (Don't Let the Pigeon Ruin the Library Book), and research lessons for the older ones.

For more information, take a look at the library class portal at www.sjbschool.ca



FLU & COLD SEASON

As the days get cooler, it is important that your child is dressed appropriately for patrols and outdoor recess. Like Winnipeg School Division, we use Environment Canada at the airport to determine indoor or outdoor recess. Including the wind chill, we go outside at -25 or warmer and stay inside at -26 or colder.

Children should be kept at home when they are sick. A sick child has a difficult time concentrating on school work and may pass their illness to other students or staff. There are times when students are unable to take part in outdoor recess because of injuries they have experienced. Children unable to participate in recess due to illness however, should remain at home to recover.

Besides staying home when sick, children are encouraged to make healthy choices at school and at home such as washing their hands often with soap and water, and covering their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.



TERRY FOX WALK



In the event of a severe weather emergency, all Catholic Schools will close if the Winnipeg school divisions close their schools. Listen for school closures on CBC, CJOB, 99.9 FM, 94.3, 102.3 FM and 103 FM. In case of an emergency that requires us to evacuate, students will go to École J.B. Mitchell. E-Blasts and/or website messages will be available in the case of any school closure or evacuation.



GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES



GRADE 8 SCIENCE



IF YOU CAN'T BE ON TIME, BE EARLY!



The morning bell rings at 8:40 am. Outdoor supervision begins at 8:15 am in the playground.

Students arriving prior to this time must go into the Before Care program, for which there is a fee.



SUSTAINABILITY

This October our school is once again participating in Take Pride Winnipeg's Bag Up Manitoba Program. Bring your clean plastic bags to school and look for the container in the foyer of the school where the bags will be collected. Items accepted:

- grocery bags
- retail bags
- newspaper sleeves
- produce bags
- bread bags
- ice bags
- bubble wrap
- case over wrap
- pellet bags
- salt bags
- dry cleaning bags
- re-sealable food bags
- cereal bags



STUDENT COUNCIL
AT THE SCHOOL DANCE



St. John Brebeuf School

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