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January 28, 2010



## Principal's Message

The season of Lent will soon be upon us. Ash Wednesday is February 17<sup>th</sup> this year. Unfortunately this lands in the middle of our school break, consequently will be no school service as in the past. There will be the traditional service at Christ the Redeemer church at 7:00 P.M.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. It is a season of reflection, fasting and penance, to prepare our hearts and soul for the celebration of Christ's resurrection and ultimately our salvation from this earthly existence to our eternal reward in heaven

It is difficult to see anything that is far off in the distance. When we sin, we step away from God's path. It becomes harder to see God and we fear we will never find our way back to the path.

The good news is that God never leaves us or quits loving us. He remains by our side until we turn to face him again. He calls our name until we hear him and learn to follow his voice again, because his love for us has no limits.

May God bless you and all your families with a meaningful and rewarding Lenten season.

Denis Pion

## Remember H1N1 Safety Protocols

With the H1N1 Flu having hit our school and city this fall we all need to be aware of what we can do to prevent the spread of this potentially life threatening influenza.

Remember if your child exhibits flu symptoms, to keep them home until all the symptoms have disappeared. Follow the protocols that were in our newsletter to help prevent the flu from spreading. If you are unsure of these protocols, please contact the school and we would be happy to provide you with another information sheet. You can also check our website <http://stpats.htcsd.ca> for more information.

## **School Community Council**

The SCC will be holding a pita lunch on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of January. This will be an exciting new flavor experience for our students.

The SCC has entered into the planning stages for a family dance to be held April 30<sup>th</sup> in the church hall at Christ the Redeemer Church. More details to follow in next month's newsletter.

We have a SCC cluster meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 in St. Joseph school library. The SCCs of Shaunavon, ST. Patrick and ST. Joseph will meet together with Central office staff.

Our next SCC meeting at the school will be February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Students Absent From School**

We would like to remind everyone to always phone the school if your child is going to be absent. On days such as we have just experienced where the buses are not running, it is doubly important that we know students are being kept at home safe and not standing on the street, waiting for a bus because the family hasn't heard of the cancelation.

Our intent is to make sure all our students and your children are as safe as possible. Thank-you for your caring and understanding.

## **Telemiracle Skate-a-thon**

Students from grade 1 – 5 will be seeking pledges for our skate a thon to be held February 12<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds will all go to Telemiracle. We will be going to Fairview rink for a 45 minute skate.

Due to the size of our student body this will be done in two groups. The grades 1 & 2 classes will leave the school at 12:50. Grades 3-5 will leave the school at 1:50. All students will be returned to the school in time to catch the buses home.

## **Parish Connections**

The Presentation of the Lord commemorates the consecration of Jesus, the Light of the World. When the Blessed Virgin Mary had completed her 40 days of purification after the birth of Jesus, she presented herself to the priest in the temple and offered a sacrifice, as it was the custom. Upon seeing Jesus the priest, Simeon, said He was, "a light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." (Luke 2:32)

Traditionally, the Holy Church celebrates this feast with the blessings of candles and procession signifying the presence of the Lord with us.

Please join us in celebrating the feast of the "Presentation of the Lord" on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will begin in the foyer with the blessing of candles and a procession into the church. If you wish you may bring candles to be blessed for your home.

Ash Wednesday service – Feb. 17 @ 7:00

**Just a reminder that we now have a 7:00 P.M. Mass, Sunday nights.** This is perfect opportunity to attend Mass if you have been away on the weekend for a sports tournament or just otherwise occupied and missed Mass at our traditional times. Come worship and celebrate with your community.

**Mass times are: Saturday – 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday – 10:00 A.M.  
7:00 P.M.**

## **Student Behavior**

St. Patrick School will be initiating a more pro-active, restitution-based, anti-bullying and respect program. We have found as of late that there are more incidences of pushing and lack of respect for peers and some times authority. As a Catholic school with Christ- centered values, we believe that this is unacceptable. We realize that "children will be children" and mistakes are and will be made, but we hope to educate and help students to make conscious positive decisions that will show respect to others and themselves.

The fundamental belief is that all students have the right to attend our school without having to be afraid of being hurt or shamed by others. We stress that "hands are for helping, not for hurting".

### **Employment Opportunity**

We have an opening for a morning supervisor. This is a 1 hour position from 8:00 – 9:00 Monday thru Friday. Duties to include preparing the milk order for students and providing supervision when buses arrive in the morning until students enter class. A current criminal record check is required for this position. Inquiries- Mr. Pion – 778-4645

### **Parenting Study Group**

This group promotes healthy parent/child relationships through respectful communication, co-operation, responsibility and encouragement. Based on teaching of Alfred Adler and Rudolph Dreikurs.

- Tuesday Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – ADD/ADHD information & Support
- Tuesday Jan.12th – Parenting Group
- Tuesday Feb. 23<sup>th</sup> – ADD/ADHD information & Support

Time: 7:00 - 9:00

Place: Ashley Park School

Phone: 626-3317