

November 2019

# St. Ann School

## HALLOWEEN DANCE-A-THON !!

On Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 all of our students participated in an active community event, our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Halloween Dance-A-Thon! A DJ was on hand to inspire our children to participate in the various dances including the Chicken Dance and a crowd favourite the Monster Mash. Join us on our St. Ann Facebook Page and check out all the pictures - "St. Ann Elementary School"

Thank you to everyone who collected pledges!! Our school raised over \$400 this year!!!

## **ONTARIO TREATIES RECOGNITION WEEK Nov 3-9**

Did you know that we are all treaty partners?

St. Ann School, and the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, would like to acknowledge that we are treaty partners in the Robinson-Superior 1850 Treaty territory. St. Ann school is excited to celebrate Ontario's first annual **Treaties Recognition Week** from November 3-9, 2019. During this week, students and staff will have exciting opportunities to discuss and celebrate the significance of treaties and treaty relationships in Ontario and Canada.

## **Report Cards/Parent Teacher Interviews**

Report cards will be sent home on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Nov. 14, 2019

## **SOCKTOBER**

Thank you to all the families who donated socks to the Grade 2 Socktober initiative. This is our second year participating in this event and we were very pleased with our success. Our initial goal was 99 pairs of new socks. Wow! We were surprised by the generosity! We were able to give the Shelter House over 50 pairs of new socks to help many men, women and children. There will be many warm feet in Thunder Bay this year thanks to everyone who donated. A special thank you to Canadian Tire, Mountain Warehouse, Eclipse, Bootlegger and Maurices for donating socks too! The Grade 2 students will be delivering the socks to the Shelter house in November.

November 2019

## Anti-bullying Week

The week of November 18<sup>th</sup> through to the 22<sup>nd</sup> is Anti-bullying Week in the schools. St. Ann School community is in the process of developing a culture of pride which is founded on respect. On a daily basis we are consistently working at creating a learning environment free of bullying. It is important that we demonstrate in word and deed a safe and caring Catholic school culture. Our school will be engaging in a number of activities and initiatives this month to support anti-bullying. Teachers will be focusing on the topic of bullying in their Christian Living programs, and there will be school events run each day of anti-bullying week.

In addition information sheets about bullying will be sent home to our families as to heighten awareness of bullying and how to deal with it. And finally, there will be a pink shirt day on Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup>. On this day all students and staff will be asked to wear pink/red shirts to school to show that we are against bullying. We will also be pre-ordering pink Persians to eat on this day. Please return your order forms or pay online by Monday November 18<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Everyone has a responsibility to help stop bullying and be a peacemaker/peacekeeper. Spread the word that bullying isn't cool.

## Turkey Trot

Turkey trot was a big success. St Ann School gave away 18 turkeys and 18 pumpkin pies to race winners along with students who showed Skyhawk pride and sportsmanship. Congratulations to the following turkey winners!!

ELKP1 - Cecil & Ezra	Grade 3s - Nevaeh & Mattius
Grade 1s - Elvis & Brea & Emma	Grade 4 - Avery & Matthew
Grade 2s - Alice & Easton & Jamie	Grade 5 - Nate & Ethan
	Grade 6 - Jayden & Bruce

**November 2019**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

As winter approaches the District of Thunder Bay, we are reminding all students and parents to be prepared to adjust to school bus delays and cancellations due to poor weather and road conditions. Not only is it important to dress warmly while waiting for the bus, parents and their children must have a plan in place for what to do if the bus doesn't arrive or what will happen if busing is cancelled.

One of the most challenging decisions for Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay is whether to cancel busing during inclement weather. The process starts at 5:00 a.m. with the STSTB Consortium Manager receiving reports on weather and road conditions from our contracted bus companies who compile information from experienced, professional school bus drivers living throughout the district. Additional information is obtained from the MTO and municipal road crews and Environment Canada. After reviewing all the data and further consultation with the school bus contractors and area roads maintenance supervisors, the Consortium Manager then decides whether to cancel busing. The decision to cancel is then relayed to the Directors of Education, or their designates, for each school board via conference call for confirmation by 6:30 a.m. Any further decision to close schools remains solely with each school board's Director or designate.

With such a large area, it is not unusual for weather to be bad in some parts of the district and not others. However, to limit confusion, bus cancellations fall under one of only two scenarios, either Rural-Only or System-Wide (rural and city). As many rural high school routes cross more than one school zone and transfers occur at rural elementary schools it would be confusing to narrow Rural-Only cancellations down to only specific areas. Therefore a rural closure affects all rural areas. Parents may get frustrated if roads in their area look fine, however, travel elsewhere in the district that the bus their child rides on may be unsafe.

Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay understands that cancelling buses in inclement weather has a big effect on families; however, student safety is our number one priority, so there are times we simply must cancel busing in the interest of keeping everyone safe. Once again, we remind all families to have an alternate plan in place should busing and/or schools be closed.

School Bus Transportation Cancellation notices can be found at:

- [www.ststb.ca](http://www.ststb.ca)
- STSTB Emergency Weather Closure phone number: 625-1661
- Local radio stations

## PARENTS PAGE

### Upward Bound Tutoring

St. Ann's "Upward Bound After School Tutoring Program" will start on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and will run until November 29<sup>th</sup>. The program will resume again in the New Year on January 7 to March 7. It will be held in Room # 1 & #5 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3:20 - 4:20 p.m. Mr. Janiec and Mrs. Poluyko will be helping students with literacy, numeracy and assisting students to finish up homework or projects. Registration forms were sent home, however they are still available at the office. Please note that students must be picked up promptly at 4:20 p.m. We thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

### (CSC) Catholic School Council

Our School council held its first meeting in October, The meeting was very positive, and it was nice to see new faces and share information. Our next meeting will be held on November 27 @ 6 pm. Please check the online calendar for dates.

### Christmas Mass

Our Christmas Mass will be on Thursday December 19 @ 1:45 pm at St. Agnes Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### Communication Between Home and School

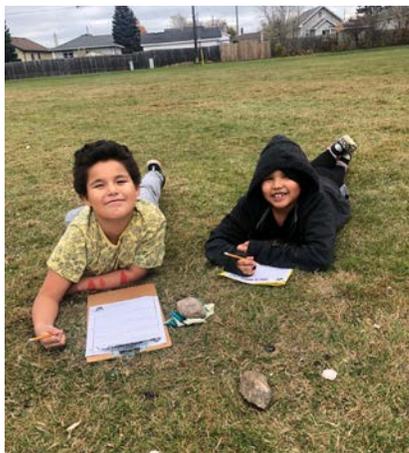
We will keep you informed of all events and activities in your child's life at school in addition to his or her progress. You should have already received a school calendar and the grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 students also received a St. Ann Catholic Agenda Planner or Handbook. The Catholic Agenda Planner is a great instrument to use to communicate between home and school. Students record daily work, assignments, upcoming tests and special dates in the planner (agenda). Parents are asked to sign the agenda book daily. Parents and teachers can use the agenda planner to communicate when necessary.

### Parent Lending Library

Don't forget to come and visit our Parent Lending Library. We have over 50 fantastic book titles to choose from including tips on parenting, cook books, bullying and homework strategies. If you would like to borrow a book from the library please make sure you sign it out in the record book. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration.

**Catholic Virtues in Action**  
**November - Peacemakers**

The month of November is typically associated with Remembrance Day. We continue to take part in the activities and celebrations that are associated with peace. We remember the many men and women who have given their lives to preserve and promote world peace. We are also reminded of the many events that engage our communities as we work together to create peace in our own immediate surroundings. As a school community we will be focusing our efforts to maintain a peaceful school environment especially around Nov.11<sup>th</sup> and during National Anti-Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (Nov 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>).



**Fall Fundraisers**

Our Fall Fundraisers have come to a close and we are very pleased with the results. We raised over \$1100 for our school!! Congratulations to our community on a great effort.

- 1) Halloween Chips - \$700
- 2) Dance-A-Thon - \$400



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