

St.Teresa's School École Ste-Thérèse NEWSLETTER

Issue # 5

January 16th, 2019

www.sts.k12.nf.ca.

Twitter: @StTerasasSchool

PARKING LOT

We ask parents to be patient and vigilant when driving on the school lot. If you park in one of the parking stalls, please walk your child across the parking lot. No child should be permitted to weave in between parked vehicles while trying to cross the parking lot. We are also asking people not to park in our spaces designated for disability parking only. Lately several people are dropping off students and not parking in the parking stalls. This is very dangerous, and we are advising that you refrain from doing this. As well, some caregivers are parking in the drive thru lane and getting out of their car and walking in to the school. This is causing traffic to back up and make it unsafe for those walking on the parking lot.



Weather and Delayed Openings

If school has a delayed opening of 2 hours, school doors will reopen at 10:35 am and instruction will begin at 10:55 am. When this happens, the school lunch program would be available to provide lunch. If a morning announcement states there will be an update at 10:00 am and school reopens for the afternoon session, doors would reopen at 12:35 but there will be no school lunch service that day. Students would be expected to eat at home before coming to school.

School Council

All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend School Council meetings.

Please Check in at the Office – Student/School Security

In an attempt to create a safe and secure environment for all students, we ask all students, parents/guardians or any visitor who comes to the school during the regular school hours to use the main entrance and **do not proceed to the classroom area without first checking with the office.** We will gladly assist if you are dropping off an item for your child(ren) or picking them up. This school policy will allow our staff to know who is in the building at all times and ensure the safety of all our students. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter. **Parents are not permitted to proceed to their child's classroom.**

Allergies



Some of our students and staff have *serious allergies* that can result in these people suffering from a *life-threatening condition known as Anaphylaxis*. Breathing difficulties and a drop-in blood pressure or shock can result which are *potentially fatal*.

To help ensure that our students and staff are safe at school **please avoid sending the following food items:**

All nuts – including peanuts, (all nuts) and kiwi.

Your understanding and cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated.

Kinderstart Session

Our next Kinderstart session will be on January 18. There will be no classes for our Kindergarten students on this day. If you know of a child born before December 31, 2014 please remind them to register for Kinderstart. This can be done by dropping by St. Teresa's School with your child's MCP card and proof of address.

Outdoor Clothing

Playing outdoors promotes many social benefits as well as an opportunity for physical development. Many children enjoy playing outside as it allows them the opportunity to play with friends from other classes as well as providing them an opportunity to explore their environment, develop muscle strength and coordination, and gain self-confidence. Playing outdoors also increases flexibility, fine and gross motor skills and is related to the development of a wide variety of physical skills. The fresh air is also welcomed by many! **We will continue to go outside during our lunch period when the weather is suitable. Please ensure that your child(ren) arrive(s) at school dressed appropriately for the weather.**

Recycling

We try to teach our students the importance of being respectful to our environment. Recycling is a fantastic program that promotes environmental awareness and provides funds for our school. We encourage everyone to participate in our recycling program. **Please drop off your recyclables every Wednesday morning.** In the meantime, families may drop off their recyclables to your nearest recycling depot and have the refund credited to St. Teresa's Elementary.



Please Note – Early School Closure Procedures

As in previous years we are prepared for the safe dismissal of our students when an early

closure is necessary. District office personnel will make an announcement via **local AM/FM radio stations, Twitter and Status Central** (please note below the steps to follow to access this system through the District website). The target time will be 6:30 a.m. however, if it is determined that schools will close during the day because of weather the School District communicates that decision through the radio stations and Status Central as well.

Please read – important....We are continuing to use a system called **SynreVoice**. This system will allow the school to call the phone numbers you've provided on your child's registration form. The automated system then informs you of the message. It therefore continues to be essential that the school has **up to date contact information**. If this information which you provided in September on your child's registration form changes throughout the year please make contact with the office and your child's teacher. It is also important as well that your child is aware of the plans that you've put in place for them in the case of a school emergency.

How to access Status Central

To access **Status Central**, log on to the Eastern School District website www.nlesd.ca. (The Status Central notice board is on the right side of the main page.) You can also customize **Status Central** and chose only those schools you want to view.

1. Click on... Click Here to Customize.
3. Select the schools you want to view.
4. Click the Submit button at the bottom of the page when finished.
5. When completed, you will see the message – Configuration Saved.

To ensure you're getting up-to-date information on stormy days, remember to refresh your screen regularly.

Upcoming Dates

January 18 Kinderstart – No Kindergarten classes
January 28 – Literacy Day and Silly Squad – Dress as your favourite literary or movie character
February 7 – Global Play Day
February 18 - Winter Holiday
March 3 - 9 - Education Week

Preventing Head Lice Parents/Caregivers have the responsibility to take an active role in the prevention of head lice outbreaks by; - checking your child's head weekly for lice or nits;
- talking to your child about not sharing hats, brushes, headphones, helmets, hair accessories and other personal items;
- tying back long hair;
- treat properly and let your school know if your child contact lice.

Lost and Found

The lost and found pile is building up. Please look if you are missing any item of clothing or lunch containers. It will be sent to a second hand clothing store if not claimed by the end of the month.

Farm to Cafeteria

In partnership with Farm to Cafeteria Canada and Food First NL, we are proud to announce that we are the recipients of a \$10,000 grant in order to establish a free salad bar once a week here at our school. Through this project we hope to start a school garden, update the recycling program and engage with the local community to discuss food sustainability and healthy eating.

We would love to share more about this exciting project with our school community and we will be hosting an information session on Thursday, January 31 at 6:30pm for all interested people. We would love to hear your ideas and start to build our Farm to School team! If you would like to contact us you can email susandawe@nlesd.ca. Let us know if you can make it!

Global Play Day

Global play day has been celebrated since 2015 and this is our first year taking part.

CALL FOR TOYS

Tell your child(ren) to bring anything they wish to play with to school on Thursday, February 7, 2019. The only restrictions: they must bring toys/games or just their imagination and the toys must NOT require batteries or electricity. No devices. Give them some ideas, today some children rarely play and sometimes own very few toys: board games, dolls, teddy bears, Legos, blocks, trucks, cars, racetracks, playing cards, empty cardboard boxes, markers, jigsaw puzzles, blankets (for forts), social games (charades, Pictionary, etc.) If weather permits some classes will be going outside to play in the snow. Let's make this a day of play, of fun and of learning!