

St. Teresa's School École Ste-Thérèse NEWSLETTER

Issue # 6

February 6, 2018

www.sts.k12.nf.ca

Twitter: @StTerasasSchool

Winter Break

All schools in our district will be on a winter break on Friday, February 16 and Monday, February 19. There will be no school on both those dates.

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 a number of 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.

Please review and share this information with anyone who pick up or drop off your child(ren). Safety is all our responsibility!

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

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13 at 6:00 pm. All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.



**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), kiwi, and eggs.

Your understanding and cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated.

KINDERSTART SESSION DATES

The next Kinderstart sessions is scheduled for February 23.

If you know of a child born before December 31, 2013 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 the last Wednesday of the month.** 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.esdnl.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

February 7 -School Lunch Ordering opens for March
February 13- School Council Meeting @ 6pm
February 13- School Lunch ordering due for March, Coding day for Students
February 13 -Grade 3 Concert @1:30 pm
February 14 – Janeway Day/Valentine's Day, Wear Pink, Red or Purple
February 12 – 15 Education Week - see activities at end of newsletter
February 23 - Kinderstart – No Kindergarten classes
February 16 Winter Holiday
February 19 Winter Holiday
February 28 – Pink Shirt Day
March 20 – 2nd Term Reports Released
March 22 – Parent Teacher Conferences
March 30 – April 6 – Easter Vacation

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 has come in contact with lice.

Lost and Found

The lost and found pile is building up. Please take a look if you are missing any item of clothing or lunch containers. It will be sent to a second clothing store if not claimed by the end of the week. This week we will be laying it out on 4-5 tables so that it is easier to check.

Global Play Day

Global play day has been celebrated since 2015 and this is our first year taking part. This is a day for our students to learn through unstructured play.

Tell your child(ren) to bring anything they wish to play with to school on Wednesday, February 7, 2018. The only restrictions: they must bring toys and these toys may 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, race tracks, 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 make this a day of play, of fun and of learning!

Family Literacy Day

Last week we celebrated Family Literacy Day by having students come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book, TV show, movie or comic. It was fun to see so many students and staff dressed as their favourite character. Below are the literacy based activities we have planned during Education Week.

February 12-15 is Education Week!

The theme this year is Believe and Achieve: Je crois en moi, je réussis! We have activities everyday to celebrate student learning!

To help families join in the celebration of learning, we invite grades K-3 parents, guardians, relatives or family friends to bring their child to school on Wednesday, Feb. 14 and join them for breakfast, followed by family reading event during the week. Grades 4-6 Breakfast will be on Thursday.

Please see the schedule below:

Monday, February 12

-Flashlight Reading - Grades K-6
Students are asked to bring their own flashlight for this event if they have one.
-Special Guest Readers – Special guests from the community will be circulating through classrooms to share a story with students.
-Start to work on Book in a Bag for Thursday - Each child will be given a paper bag. Students are asked to put their favorite book in the bag. They are asked to put 2-3 items in the bag that represent their book. These can be drawings, Lego creations, Play-Doh sculptures, stickers or objects. The students then present their Book in the Bag to their classmates!

Tuesday, February 13

Coding Day- Buddy activity to learn the basics of coding.

Wednesday, February 14

Family Reading Breakfast (K-3) - A family pancake breakfast will be served in the cafeteria starting at 8:20 and ending at 8:55. When finished eating, families can then make their way into the gym to read a story together.

Students will bring a book (or borrow their favourite from the class library), find a cozy spot in the gym, and enjoy spending time together.
Drop Everything and Read! – Students will carry their favorite book with them and when Mr. Dwyer makes an announcement; students stop where they are and read!

Thursday, February 15

Family Reading Breakfast Grades(4-6)
Book in a Bag Presentation in class

Throughout the week, we will be holding a book exchange at school. Starting on Monday, February 12th, students can bring in any gently used books they are ready to part with and exchange them for some new reading material later in the week. We will collect the books and put them together; then students will have the chance to pick a new book to read from the donations received. If your child does not have a book to exchange, they will be given a chance to choose a book once other children have exchanged their books.

Any books that remain after the event will be donated to a local library or charity. We encourage you to have a look through your child's books before sending them in to ensure all personal information has been removed. We look forward to an exciting, engaging week!

Friday, February 16 and Monday February 19 District Holidays