St. Bernard of clairvaux

Catholic School

250 Washington St., Waterford, Ontario N0E 1Y0 Phone: (519) 443-8607

[**www.stbernardofclairvauxwaterford.ca**](http://www.stbernardofclairvauxwaterford.ca) **twitter ~ @sbcswaterford**

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Ms. Heather Knill-Griesser – Principal Mrs. Sharon Martinow – Secretary Mr. Ted Rust - Custodian

***rebuild restore renew together***



**October 2021 NEWSLETTER**

***+ Gracious God,***

***As leaves turn to red, orange, and gold,***

***You shine upon us with your goodness and mercy.***

***We give thanks***

***for all of your great gifts.***

***Make our hearts even more grateful.***

***Set our hearts on fire with your love.***

***+ Amen.***

**From the Office:**

Wow….where did September go? We continue to be very busy at St. Bernard’s as we establish our routines and practice physical distancing in our classroom cohorts. Thank you for your support and understanding as we all practise the protocols that have been put in place to keep everyone healthy.

Just a reminder to promptly return your Family Information Update Sheets. The emergency contact information is vital for us to effectively care for your child. We are also missing a number of library books from last year. If you find library books in your home, could you please return them to the school. 😊

May your Thanksgiving tables be filled with the bounty of God’s harvest and be surrounded with the love of your families, whether face to face or with a virtual smile and grateful conversation.

Blessings to you and your families,

Mrs. H. Knill-Griesser

**Important dates for October**

* **Oct. 5th – P.A. Day**
* **Oct. 11th ~ Thanksgiving**
* **Oct. 19th ~ IEPs go home**
* **Oct. 21st – SMILE it’s PICTURE DAY**
* **Oct. 27th~ Dress Purple Day**
* **Oct. 29th ~ Halloween celebrated in our cohorts**
* **Nov. 7 at 2:00 a.m. clocks go back 1 hour**

**Safe Arrival**

The school upholds a daily safe arrival procedure to ensure the safe arrival of your child/ren. If you know your child/ren are going to be absent or late to school, **please call the school at 519 443-8607 before 8:40 am.** Please feel free to call anytime in the evening or through the night and leave a message on our answering machine. If a child’s absence is unexplained, the school automated call out system will call your home, place of work, or the emergency contact number to ensure that your child is safe and accounted for. This may subsequently be followed up by administration to ensure all students are safe.

**Watch Out for Life-Threatening Allergies**

Many children have allergies. A few, however, are **life threatening**. Some children, for example, are severely allergic to peanuts. Even a tiny bit can be fatal within minutes. Nuts, shellfish, fish, eggs, milk and latex products are also known to cause severe reactions. Knowing that your child has allergies and knowing how to deal with them is your best defense. If your child has a severe allergy, please let us know.

With your help, we will do our best to prevent mishaps and to make sure that all of our students are safe and healthy!

**Appropriate School Attire**

Please ensure your child dresses appropriately for the weather…..we will be experiencing a wide variety of temperatures and conditions as we move towards into fall.



**Catholic School Advisory Council**

**I am very pleased to congratulate the following parents to the 2021-2022 executive at St. Bernard Catholic School Advisory Council:**

Co-chairs **Chloé Huszczo**

 **Melissa Korosi-Pereira**

Treasurer **Kristy Sanchuk**

Secretary **Sarah Dredge**

Teacher Rep. **Liz Storoschuk**

**Student Rep. Kaitlyn Sanchuk**

**Community Rep. TBD**

**Your council extends a warm welcome to all parents to attend the next on-line TEAM’s meeting on Nov. 24th at 7:00 p.m. Please contact the school if you are interested in becoming a voting member. You will need to download the TEAMs app before the meeting.**

**POLICE CHECK** 

In meeting our Safe School obligations, it is imperative that any volunteer at our school is

cleared via a police check. This can easily be done through the (O.P.P.) Ontario Provincial Police Department on Hwy #3, Simcoe. Please pick up the necessary forms at our office. Volunteers must also be double vaccinated for Covid-19.

**How will we practice Fire Drills and Lockdowns this School Year?**

**Evacuation Procedures will be staggered in cohorts at specified times – 3 in the Fall and 3 in the Spring**

* Classrooms will evacuate in a manner that ensures physical distancing and the wearing of masks (as required) in accordance with public health guidance.
* The office will simulate the sound of the fire alarm to commence the cohort classrooms evacuation at their scheduled time.
* Cohorts practice evacuation procedures by walking the exit routes while maintaining physical distancing.
* Once the class has safely evacuated from the building, students walk to assigned meeting areas before returning to the classroom, all while physically distancing and wearing masks (as required).
* Once the students and teachers have returned to the classroom, they will sanitize/wash their hands.

**Emergency and Crisis Response Drills (Lockdown, Shelter in Place, Hold and Secure)**

A minimum of 2 lockdown drills must still occur each school year; however, the way in which they are conducted may be modified for the 2021-22 school year.

Conducting Emergency and Crisis Response Drills:

* Teachers will do drills within classroom cohorts.
* A discussion, visual demonstration, or combination of both will be used to provide information regarding:
	+ Identifying an emergency;
	+ Procedures;
	+ Roles and responsibilities

**In the event of an actual emergency or crisis, public health advice related to COVID-19 may not be achievable, based on the response required. Response would be aligned with the most immediate threat.**

**School Cash on Line**

School Cash online is easy to use and a safe way to pay for your child(rens) school fees, and lunches. Now with a few clicks you can pay for your child's trips, hot lunches, spirit wear and so much more from the comfort of your home.  All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and in no time, you will be able to make payments online.  All this can be done easily on our school website...just click on School Cash Online and register....it is that easy. When there is an item for you, you will receive an email notice to look at your school cash.

[https://bhncdsb.schoolcashonline.com](https://bhncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/)

Please also note that **cheques will no longer be accepted** for any school payments. Please**contact the office** if you are having difficulty with this process.   This process will keep our children safe from carrying unnecessary cash to school.   Instructions were sent home last week, if you require a new one, please contact the office.

**Beginning of the year forms**that were sent home please return to the office now. In the future some of these forms will be posted on "SCHOOL CASH ONLINE" as a permission form with $0.00 for you to complete.  Less paper that we need to send home, misplacing them at home and we saved a few trees too in the process.  Mrs. Martinow did send out the Concussion Awareness forms on Cash online to see how our response was.  Thank you to those small number of parents who did see this form and completed it. Unfortunately, the office must have a form for each student, so we are now sending a paper form home to be completed and returned to the office.

**Concussion Awareness**

Please complete the concussion awareness procedure forms and return them to the office as soon as possible. (paper one).

**HOT LUNCHES**

**Pizza lunches** will be start mid-October look for the first paper forms (and on cash online). Pizza will be on Wednesday at second break ,12:45.   We are also happy to announce that we will be having**Kaley's Restuarant**lunches available for Friday lunches starting in November too.

Both lunches will be served in individual lunch boxes per student.  If there are any restrictions, please let the office know.  Gluten free order will also be available.

*  **Hallowe’en Celebrations will be celebrated on Friday, Oct. 29th.**

Costumes: Can happen; no props allowed, culturally sensitive, and appropriate as always; Students must still wear a mask;

Costume parades will take place by a virtual assembly; Each class is able to connect and show off their costumes and be celebrated. This will occur at the same time as our Monthly Virtual Celebration Assembly, recognizing “Gratitude”. Treats from home (i.e., food, pencils, erasers, etc) are not permitted…Even individually wrapped items still means multiple hands are handling them. Any additional **spooky details will be provided later in the month by classroom teachers.**

**BOO**

**Carving Pumpkins for Pumpkinfest in Waterford.**

*265 pumpkins will be delivered to our school for each student to carve* on Oct. 12th. Primary classes will walk downtown in our cohorts, at separate times, on a date to be determined, to see the displays. Please look for your permission forms from your child’s teacher. Parent volunteers who assist with the walk must have a valid police check already at the school and provide proof of double vaccination.