



# Home of the **CARDINALS!**

## Attendance Matters

At Pope Francis, we are continuing our efforts to improve students' absences and lates. Mrs. Meunier, Attendance Counsellor, came in and presented to each class the importance of being at school every day and on time. At the end of the presentation, Mrs. Meunier provided each student an attendance poster for them to complete. These posters will be displayed throughout the school!





Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in early elementary school so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

### What You Can Do

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind, complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.