



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

P.O. Box 578. 80, 8th Avenue

Englehart, Ontario P0J 1H0

Phone: (705) 544-2397

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Principal: Mr. Matthew Turner

email: mturner@ncdsb.on.ca

Dear Parents & Guardians,

October 20, 2011

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the improvement initiatives underway by our staff this year. Every school in Ontario is mandated to self-identify areas for improvement, and in this regard our staff has completed a School Improvement Plan where we have come to unanimous consensus on where we can explore new opportunities, as well as refine existing procedures. The basic components of our plan are outlined below.

Faith Development:

We hope to deepen our student's faith development by focusing on our **Catholic Virtue** program and the **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations**. This will also involve an emphasis on the new Learning Skills as found on the Provincial Progress Report and Report Cards. We also look forward to ways in which we can collaborate with Holy Trinity Parish to improve and increase the number of children undertaking Sacramental preparation throughout the school year.

Literacy:

We hope to improve student writing capacity and quality through the creation of a writing continuum where the main forms of writing will be focused on. We will also use the resource "6 + 1 Traits of Writing" to support writing instruction as well.

Numeracy:

We hope to improve students' ability to problem solve using cooperative, three-part lessons in math. Three-part lessons can last a whole period, or could extend into subsequent periods, depending on student needs and on their engagement. We will also look at ways to ensure individual understanding of work done in groups.

Community, Culture & Caring:

We will seek to engage our school community in helping our children succeed academically, socially and spiritually. We will provide regular updates on our school website, as well as host monthly classroom open houses.

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Assessment & Evaluation:

Learning Goals/Success Criteria and Descriptive Feedback

We will continue with a new process that uses *Learning Goals* and related *Success Criteria* with students. *Learning Goals* are displayed as a statement(s) around what the teacher expects students to be able to do after a given amount of learning time, and are usually based on Curriculum expectations. Related *Success Criteria* are simple statements regarding what students must be able to do or understand to achieve the *Learning Goal*. As students progress through their learning time, teachers can then provide constructive *Descriptive Feedback* (either written or orally) to their students directly related to the *Success Criteria*. It is hoped that as students apply this *Descriptive Feedback* in their future work, their achievement will improve.

If you have any questions about this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Sincerely,

Matt Turner

Please find us on the web at www.ncdsb.on.ca/schools/school.php?id=3

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