



Home of the **CARDINALS!**

October 2017 Newsletter

"By Our Works, We Show Our Faith," (James 2: 16 - 18).

Principal's Message

October is the month to give thanks. We should give thanks for the food that God has provided and for the blessings He has bestowed on all of us. Our faith and personal relationship with God should be something that we foster on a daily basis and not taken for granted. When we trust in God, He will guide and provide for us. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths." -Proverbs 3:5,6

Pope Francis Elementary School continues to grow and strengthen due to the bonds that have been created between our school, the community, our parish, and the overwhelming support that is provided by our families. During the month of October the school will be collecting non perishable food items for the Timmins Food Bank. I am hopeful that during this month that you will help us, help those individuals in need in our community.

As we approach our Thanksgiving weekend, we should be mindful of the many things in our lives that we can be thankful for. We are grateful for our publicly funded Catholic Schools, our health, the love of our families and friends and for the gifts of life.

In closing I would like to share this Thanksgiving Prayer:

This Thanksgiving let those of us who have much and those who have little gather at the welcoming table of the Lord. At this blessed feast, may rich and poor alike remember that we are called to serve on another and to walk together in God's gracious world. With thankful hearts we praise our God who like a loving parent denies us no good thing.

We pray though Christ our Lord.

On behalf of the entire school community, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends!

Yours in faith and education,
Mr. Berthier
Principal



Reminders:

OUR SCHOOL DAY

8:50 - Entry & Opening Exercises
10:00-10:15 - Morning Recess
11:35-12:05 - Lunch Recess
12:05-12:35 - Lunch Inside
1:55-2:10 - Afternoon Recess
3:20 – Dismissal

OFFICE HOURS

Open from 8:00 am to 11:35 am
Closed from 11:35 am to 12:35 pm
Open from 12:35 pm to 4:00 pm

As a safety issue, we would like to remind you that the supervision of the school yard does not begin until 8:30 a.m. It would be best if students who walk or are dropped off at school do not arrive to school before then. Also, during the lunch hour, there is no one at the office to open the door. Please refrain from coming to the school between 11:35 and 12:35.

Monthly Virtue: Faith

The Importance of Faith: The three theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Love are gifts from God that allow us to be in relationship with Him. We can compare these three virtues to glue—that attaches us to God. In our baptism, we receive the gift of Faith. Faith is our ability to believe with our minds and our hearts to trust.

In order to develop our faith, we can turn to prayer, scripture, sacraments and to what the Church teaches. When we develop our faith, we get to know God in a deeper, more loving way. Faith gives us a new way of seeing God, ourselves and everything around us, above all, the needy. We then are better able to seek and do God's will. Faith is very powerful! It inspires and influences our daily actions. It is not enough to simply believe in God, we are also called to be living examples to others and to also profess our beliefs to all.

Looks like: serving others, lending a helping hand, going to Church, living the Ten Commandments, praying, involvement with the faith community, strong work ethic, responsible, puts the welfare of others ahead of their own welfare, sacramental engagement.

Sounds like: prayer, song, positive attitude, words of kindness and encouragement, responding and singing in Mass.

Feels like: A strong connection with God, safe and secure, comfort, confidence, patience.

A faithful friend or person...

- Is confident God will never withdraw His love or break His promises
- Is a loyal, supportive friend

- Can be trusted to fulfill promises and commitments
- Pray when they can, learns from Scripture stories and knows that we are all loved by God

Welcome Night:

Our Parent Welcome Night will take place on October 12th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. This evening provides an opportunity for parents to meet the staff of the school and to see your child’s classroom. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. After a short general session, parents will proceed to their child’s classroom. We look forward to seeing parents on this special occasion. Please check your child’s agenda for the date.

EQAO results are in!

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (E.Q.A.O.) has released the results of the provincial assessments administered to all grades 3 and 6 students in May of last year. The individual student results have been sent home to this year's grade 4 students. The grade 6 results were forwarded to O’Gorman Intermediate School.

Overall Achievement Percentage at Levels 3 and 4

Grade 3	SHS	St.P	Board	Province
Reading	94%	35%	60%	74%
Writing	88%	13%	55%	73%
Math	94%	19%	54%	62%

Grade 6	SHS	St.P	Board	Province
Reading	91%	50%	68%	81%
Writing	82%	34%	57%	79%
Math	73%	22%	28%	50%

Agenda Fees

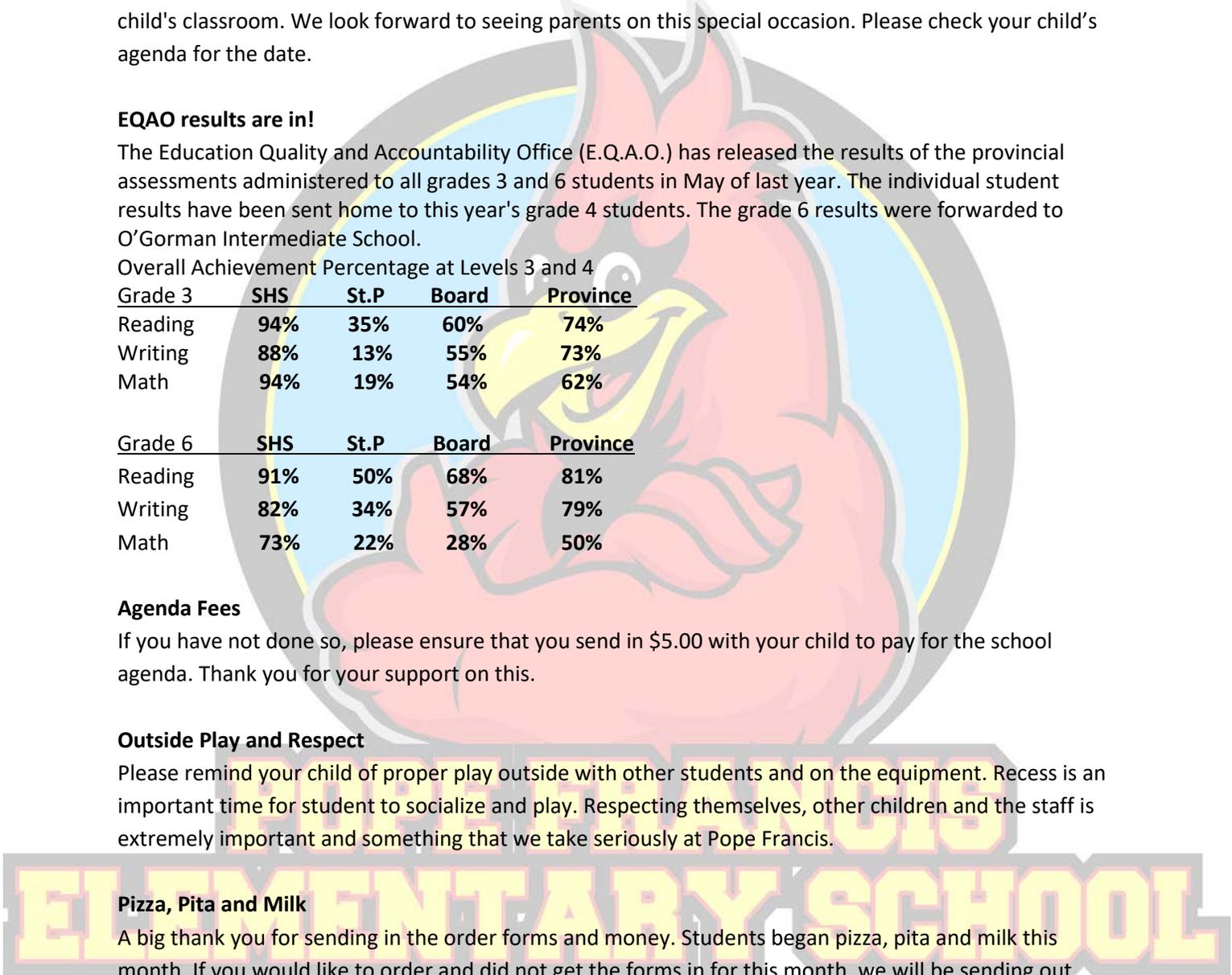
If you have not done so, please ensure that you send in \$5.00 with your child to pay for the school agenda. Thank you for your support on this.

Outside Play and Respect

Please remind your child of proper play outside with other students and on the equipment. Recess is an important time for student to socialize and play. Respecting themselves, other children and the staff is extremely important and something that we take seriously at Pope Francis.

Pizza, Pita and Milk

A big thank you for sending in the order forms and money. Students began pizza, pita and milk this month. If you would like to order and did not get the forms in for this month, we will be sending out additional order forms near the end of the month, for the month of November. As for payment, we will be accepting cash or cheques for these orders moving forward. Thank you for your continued support.



Breakfast Program

General Information

Our school provides a nutritious breakfast for those who are in need to ensure that our students are well fed and ready to learn. Various independent studies have found that when students eat a nutritious breakfast they perform better academically.

The Importance of Eating Breakfast

Food is fuel for learning. By starting each day with a nutritious breakfast students are able to approach their school day with energy and enthusiasm. Although all students are encouraged to eat breakfast at home, we recognize that there may be circumstances that make this difficult. The Breakfast Club is in place to assist students in starting their day off right.

Our program is available to all students every day starting at 8:30 to 8:50 in the Library. Foods provided meet the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) Student Nutrition Guidelines and focus on fruit/vegetables, milk/milk alternatives and whole grains.

How is Our Program Funded

Funding for our program is provided by the Canadian Red Cross School Breakfast Program and this year with support from Giant Tiger. As well, our school welcomes any parental contributions of money or food towards our school's own program.

Parental Contributions

Our school's Breakfast Club is a safe and friendly place where children in need can eat a nutritious breakfast. The program is offered every day and is run by Mrs. Belisle, Mrs. Savard, Mrs. Last, Mrs. Jezic and Mr. Berthier.

Most, but not all of the funding for this program is provided to us by the School Breakfast Program. The Breakfast Club is always looking for donations. Money or grocery store gift cards are always appreciated and food donations will be graciously received as well. All of our food must be peanut/nut free. For more information on this program, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Berthier.

Student Attendance

The Education Act states that students must attend school regularly and be punctual. It is imperative for the safety of students that parents please call the school if your child is absent.

If a child has not arrived at school and a phone call or a note has not been received, the secretary will attempt to alert parents by telephone at home or at your place of employment, if necessary.

When a pupil returns to school, he/she should find out what work was missed and complete it within a reasonable amount of time, as decided by the teacher. Extended periods of absence for reasons other than health, require permission of the principal.

Punctuality

All students are expected to be punctual and to adhere to the school hours. They should quickly be seated and ready for morning activities. Attendance is taken daily. Students who are late for a valid reason must bring a note. They are to report to the office where their time of arrival and reason for being late will be recorded at the office. They will be issued a late slip, which will be necessary for admission to class.

Persistent tardiness and absences may result in a discussion, consultation or other consequence perhaps involving parents/guardians, school board attendance counsellor, etc.

Catholic School Council

Pope Francis would like to begin our Catholic Parent School Council shortly. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the school and speak to Mr. Berthier. At our first meeting, will be located at the school and we will review the role of council members, begin establishing our goals and select future meeting dates.

Terry Fox Walk

Our entire school community walked 2 to 3 km on Tuesday, October 3rd to raise money for the Cancer Foundation in memory of Terry Fox. This event raised over \$341.65. A big thank you goes to your support and to all of our volunteers who helped us put this event together. A special thank you goes out to Mr. Garon, who coordinated this great and worthwhile event.

Community Liaison Officer

The entire staff would like to take this opportunity to welcome back Constable Trevor Southcott and Constable Durepos to our team. Both Constables have been assigned to our school again this year and will be supporting and visiting our school a few times a month. Welcome Constable Southcott and Constable Durepos!

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY:

Pope Francis Elementary School will be closed on Monday, October 9th to celebrate Thanksgiving. We wish you and your family an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday.

Closing Message:

"Everything is God's to give and to take away, so share what you've been given, and that includes yourself." Mother Teresa

Important Dates for October

October 3rd – Terry Fox Walk

October 4th – Thanksgiving Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

October 4th – Local Big Crunch

October 5th – World Teacher Day

October 6th – Last day for the food drive challenge

October 9th – Thanksgiving

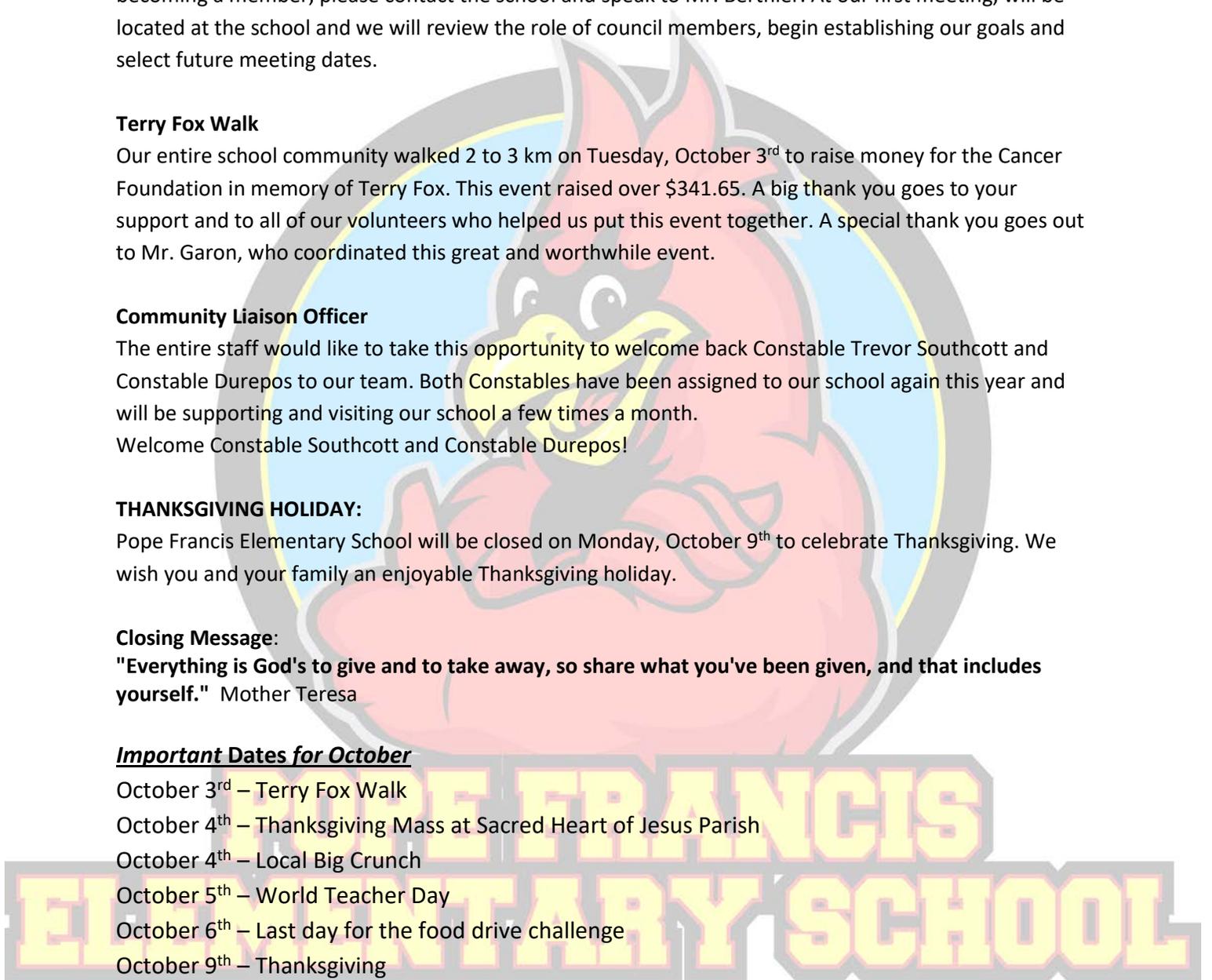
October 12th – Welcome Night

October 13th – Agenda Fee Due

October 16th – IEP's go home

October 26th – Wear your Spirit Wear Cardinal t-shirt

October 31st – Halloween – Wear your costume.



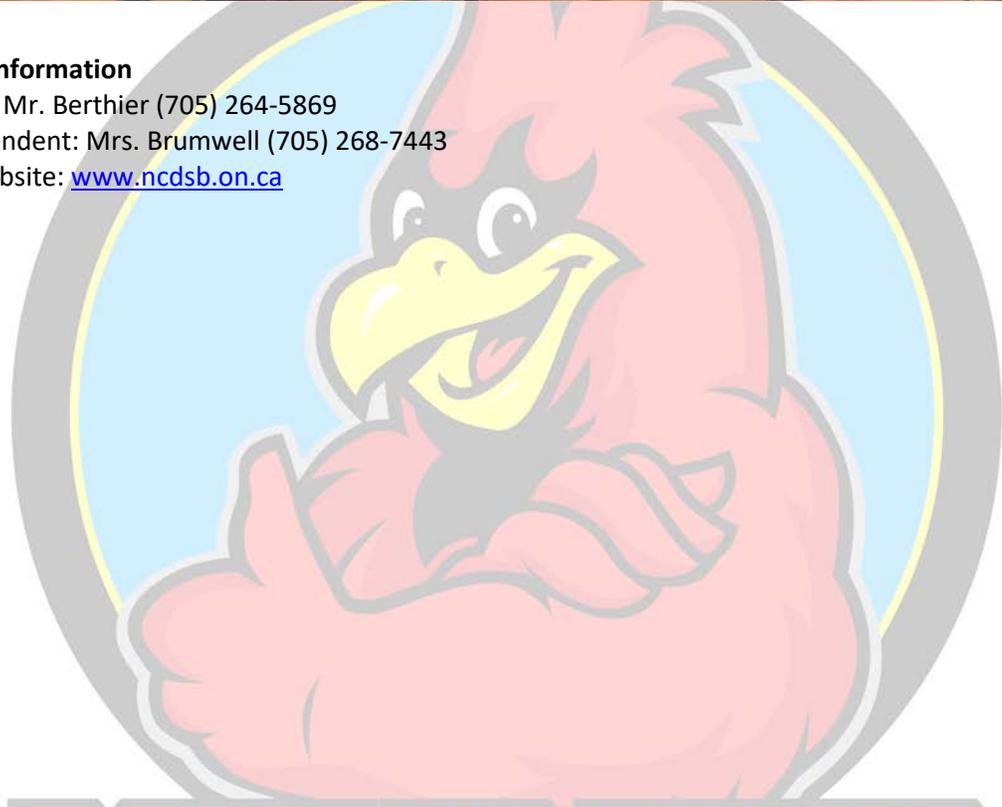


Contact Information

Principal: Mr. Berthier (705) 264-5869

Superintendent: Mrs. Brumwell (705) 268-7443

Board website: www.ncdsb.on.ca



**POPE FRANCIS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**