# The Cougar Column

ST. JOSEPH - NEWSLETTER | Nov. 4, 2019

A Message from the Principal...

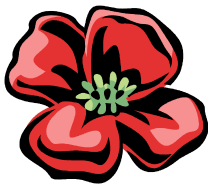
Hopefully everyone had a safe and fun Hallowe'en. With Hallowe'en candy in excess at home, please be reminded that we do not allow candy or chocolate for snacks. We are working hard to ensure that all of our students learn about proper nutrition and that they bring healthy lunches and snacks to school.

Progress notes go home on the 13th of this month. On November 14th, between 4-7 pm, we are hosting a student-led Portfolio night. You will have the opportunity to review your child's chosen work with them. Please join us!

Check your monthly calendar for all of the upcoming events!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pichette



For Remembrance Day, we will honour our fallen soldiers, those who have returned to us and those who are still fighting for our freedoms.

## FOCUS ON FAITH

Our monthly mass will be celebrated on November 7th at 9:30 at St. Joachim Church. Our virtue for November and December is Love.

Students continue working toward their Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion with the Parish this year.

**Reconciliation**

Second Session of Reconciliation: Sunday, November 17th at 6:30 - Parish hall

Celebration of Reconciliation: Sunday, December 1st at 2:00 pm - Parish hall

**Eucharist**

Sunday, Feb. 16th at 6:30 pm - Parish hall

Sunday, Mar. 22nd at 6:30 pm – St. Joseph school

Sunday, April 5th at 6:30 pm - Parish Hall (Palm Sunday – Re-enactment of Last Supper)

**Celebration of Eucharist**

Sunday, April 19th at 10:30 am Mass

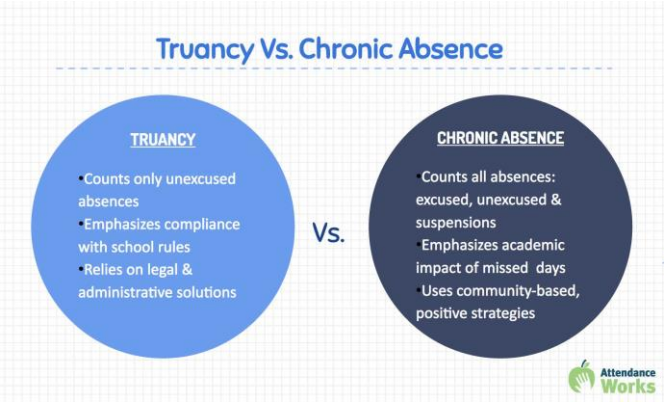
Treaties recognition week is from Nov. 3rd - 9th. It honours the importance of treaties and helps students and residents of Ontario learn more about treaty rights and relationships. Our students will be learning more about why treaties matter to all Ontarians.

During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week – November 17-23, 2019 – Ontario students, school staff and parents are encouraged to learn more about bullying and its effect on student learning and well-being. Bullying and harassment can have a serious and significant impact on learning, student safety and the school climate. In fact, principals must now consider suspension when dealing with acts of bullying.

School climate is the sum of all personal relationships between all members of the school community. A positive climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted. A positive school climate is essential for students to succeed in school.

Our students will be engaging in a school climate survey this month to help us with our School Improvement planning in this regard.

## FOCUS ON ATTENDANCE




While chronic absence presents academic challenges for students not in class, when it reaches high levels in a classroom or school, all students suffer because it hampers teachers' ability to engage all students and meet their learning needs.

The good news is that chronic absence is a solvable problem. What works begins with engaging students and families as well as preventing absences from adding up before students fall behind academically.

By working together, we can ensure all children can get to school every day so they have an opportunity to learn, flourish and realize their dreams.

Please review the attendance summary provided with progress notes. If your child is missing more than 2 days per month, they are at risk. If we can support you in helping your child attend school more regularly and punctually, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**
Nov. 6, 2019 at 6 pm
Elections – All welcome.