



# The Cougar Column

ST. JOSEPH - NEWSLETTER

Jan. 6, 2019

A Message from the Principal...

I wish a very Happy and Healthy New Year to everyone! It is hard to believe that Christmas is already over and we have begun our New Year!

Our Christmas concert was well attended and a great success! Thanks to everyone who attended and those who worked hard to make the performances so wonderful. The calendar for January can be found with this newsletter. It outlines the activities we have planned for this month.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pichette



## SWIMMING



Swimming will begin in January for the Gr. 3 and 4 students. Please check the dates on the school calendar so children come to school prepared for swimming with a bathing suit and a towel.

## FOCUS ON FAITH

We will be having a Prayer service in the gym this month on January 16<sup>th</sup> as Father Henri is away.



**The Virtue of the month is Forgiveness.**

The goal of this virtue:

Live your life in a way that makes others know you are a follower of Christ.

The first step to forgiveness is to take responsibility for your actions.

If you want to be forgiven, you need to make sure you forgive other people.

By embracing forgiveness, you can also embrace peace, hope, gratitude and joy.



As a school staff, we work with the children to ensure that in their actions, they work toward forgiveness in

the following way:

In having made a mistake, they must:

☺ Take responsibility for their actions.

☺ Apologize to those affected.

☺ Make amends or “make things right” by fixing the problem.

☺ Work on strategies which will help focus on new behaviours so it doesn't happen in the future.



## **SUB, PIZZA DAYS and MONEY**

We have great news! There is a new method for placing orders for pizza, subs, school activities, fundraisers etc. School Cash Online will help us move away from having cash and cheques flow through schoolbags and classrooms. The best part: No more looking for an order form! We are very excited and we hope you are too! If all families could please take 5 minutes to register, it would be very much appreciated. Although there isn't anything available for purchase just yet, we would just ask that you register. Everyone who registers by January 10<sup>th</sup> will have their name placed in a draw to win an indoor/outdoor basketball net. Please follow the instructions at the link below:

<https://northeasterncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

*NOTE: A child can be linked to up to four different adults as long as the email address is different.*

Should you have any questions please feel free to call the school at 705-235-4622.



## **SCHOOL ENTRANCE**

Our new entrance by the gym doors is operational! The buzzer system is working. Please continue to drop off children in the morning and the end of the day at the top of the hill (by buses) for safety, as all of the walkers come through the parking lot. Please do not drive into the parking lot before 9 or after 3:05.

## **FOCUS ON ATTENDANCE**



### **SOME FACTS ABOUT ATTENDANCE:**

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.

Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent.

Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade.

By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.

Research shows that missing 10 percent of school days, or about 18 days per year, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.