

St. Luke Catholic School Council Administrator's Report: November 9, 2021

Catholicity and Community of Culture and Caring:

Fire Drills – We have successfully completed three fire drills (Sept. 17, Sept. 21 and Oct. 7). Last one for fall will take place over the next couple of weeks.

Lock Down Drill – We have successfully completed one lock down drill on Friday, October 22.

Fall Food Drive – Huge success! St. Luke families and staff donated more than 1, 500 items to Halton Food 4 Kids! Food Drive provided an excellent leadership opportunity for our Grade 8 students!

Sacramental Lunch Celebration for Grade 3 and Grade 8 Students – On Thursday, October 7 our Grade 3 and Grade 8 students enjoyed a pizza lunch and ice dawg to honour the joyous occasions of their Sacraments (Grade 3 -celebrated the Sacrament of First Communion Oct. 2, Grade 8 – celebrated Sacrament of Confirmation Oct. 5).

CYC Support – Mrs. Paul continues to run a program called, "She Can Be Strong" with our Grade 5 girls (8-10 weeks long, one lunch hour per week). Mrs. Paul has also started the program called, "Kelso's Choice" which is a conflict resolution program with our Grade 1-2 classes.

Library Open – Classes have been enjoying their weekly library visits! Mrs. Benjamin, our school Library Technician has purchased many new books for this year for our students to enjoy.

School Photo Update - Tuesday, November 23 is **Photo Retake Day**. **Grad Photo Day** will be scheduled with Lifetouch in Dec. More than likely to take place in Jan-March 2022. Lifetouch hopes to be able to do class photos in the Spring; this decision will be a **system-wide decision**, not school-based decision.

Intramurals for Grade 7 & 8 Classes – Started week of October 25 for Grade 7's. Will take place every Wednesday at lunch for Grade 7, Thursday for Grade 8. Thanks to Mrs. Cousens, Mr. D'Elia, Mrs. DiNardo, Ms. Nebiolo and Ms. Radachiewicz for their assistance with intramurals!

Interschool Sports – This is a **system-wide decision**! First Interschool Sport for elementary school will be Volleyball. Coaches Meeting to take place in November, season to start in December, 2021. Shortened season to allow for other sports to occur this year.

Day Trips/Overnight Trips – This is a **system-wide decision**, not an individual school-based decision. At this time, we have not received direction from the Board to start planning day trips or overnight trips. When we do receive direction, we will communicate this to our parent/guardian community.

Caribou Math Contests – Students in Grade 5-7 participating. On-going throughout the year. Thanks to Mrs. Pomirko for organizing!

Lunch Program: Pizza Days are Back! – First Pizza Day took place on Wednesday, October 27. Future pizza days will continue to occur every Wednesday. Four Brothers supplying the pizza. Huge thank you to Mrs. Rosati for her assistance organizing our pizza days! Special thank you to our parent volunteers as well! We couldn't run this program without you!

Halloween Dance/Spook-A-Thon – Major Fundraiser for the year. Took place on Friday, October 29 in the gym. All classes had a designated time in the gym to dance and play games. Classes decorated mini pumpkins and created pumpkin artwork used to decorate the gym walls. Thank you to members of our school council and other parent volunteers for their time and effort organizing this huge event! Also, thank you to our Grade 8 students and Teacher, Mrs. Chong for their leadership assisting with decorating the gym, providing the music and helping to run this event. We also thank Mrs. Rosati for assisting with communication to the community and putting the prizes together for our students! Overall, Halloween Dance/Spook-A-Thon was a huge success! Our school community raised \$ 8 965. AMAZING!

November is Indigenous Awareness Month – Mrs. Chong and our Grade 8 students continue to show their leadership skills by putting together some very meaningful and thought provoking announcements for our students. Teachers have been given excellent resources to implement in their lessons throughout the month of November. Tuesday, November 30 will be another Orange Shirt Day to honour our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

November 5-12 Veteran's Week – Mrs. Cousens and our Grade 7 students will lead the way honouring the importance of this week with announcements every morning. Teachers have been given resources to use in their classrooms as well to ensure our students and staff acknowledge the importance/meaning of Veteran's Week.

Remembrance Day Virtual Ceremony - Our Grade 7 and 8 Teachers and students will lead the Virtual Ceremony. Wonderful leadership opportunities! Virtual Ceremony to take place at 10:35 a.m. Link will be sent to parents/guardians to watch at the same time as our students.

Academic:

CCAT 7 Testing for Grade 4 – To take place over three mornings: Monday, November 15, Thursday, November 18 and Friday, November 19 (Periods 1 & 2). Testing serves two purposes. First, helps schools to identify students who meet the criteria for additional testing to determine Giftedness. Second, helps schools understand the learning profiles of students. Mrs. Pomirko to organize and lead with our grade 4 class.

Wednesday, November 24 – Progress Reports Go Home

Thursday, November 25 – Parent/Teacher Virtual Interviews in P.M.

Friday, November 26 – PA Day (No school for students): Parent/Teacher Virtual Interviews

Other:

COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures – The health and safety measures that continue to be in place at St. Luke during COVID-19 such as remaining in class cohorts outside is a **system-wide decision**. Our Board relies on direction from Public Health for major decisions like this. To date, no direction has been given by the Board to mix cohorts outside. Hand sanitizing regularly, washing hands with soap and water before eating, wearing masks in the building (other than during Physical Education Classes or when eating) and physical distancing continue to be important health and safety measures followed at St. Luke and all elementary schools in HCDSB.

Parking Lot Considerations/Safety Concerns – We continue to encourage parents/guardians with children in grade 6-8 to have their children walk to school or for parents/guardians to park on side streets (where parking is allowed) and have their children walk from there to school. Consider this a great way to get exercise! As we all know, the parking lot can get quite congested at beginning of the day and end of the day, this is one very important way to free up parking spots for parents/guardians with younger children. We all need to do our part to ensure the parking lot is safe for everyone! The less congested, the safer it will be. Staff are posted at various spots to help the flow of traffic and to keep everyone safe. Parents/guardians need to ensure they are showing patience, following parking lot rules by parking in a designated parking spot, not in front of school where the laneway needs to be free. Everyone needs to drive slowly and cautiously and follow the direction from staff on duty.

All parents/guardians/staff/students need to wear their masks when on the sidewalk at the side of the school. Physical distancing is not possible in this area at the beginning and end of the day.

All parents/guardians must refrain from bringing dogs (or any other pet) on school property, especially at the beginning and end of the day.

Together, when we are considerate of others, following rules and putting safety first, we can make positive change! It is in everyone's best interest to do so!

Virtual School Update – Virtual School Administration, Office Staff, CYC will be working out of St. Luke School. In addition, many of the Virtual Teachers will also be stationed out of St. Luke School. 4 open classrooms will house the Virtual Staff.