# **Principal's Update**

# 13/10/2020

## **Dear Families**,

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As you are aware, we have been notified by Alberta Health Services (AHS) that a case of COVID-19 has been diagnosed in an individual from St. Nicholas Catholic School last week. I again would like to thank our St. Nicholas community for being so supportive as we strive to keep everyone safe and continue to provide a calm, fun and engaging learning environment.

Thank you for your cooperation to continue to monitor your child for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Please note, AHS has updated the daily screening questionnaire – <u>Updated Screening</u> <u>Questionnaire.pdf</u>

As well, AHS has created this document to assist with guidance of when to stay home - <u>Guidance for</u> <u>Staying Home.pdf</u>

During this time of Thanksgiving, I want to thank you for being such an important part of our St. Nicholas community. Although we are in a difficult and challenging time, Thanksgiving provides us with an opportunity to reflect and be grateful for all that we have. On behalf of the St. Nicholas staff, I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a Happy Thanksgiving. God Bless,

Peter Rachmistruk

## Principal

#### Upcoming Important Dates:

- Monday, October 12 Thanksgiving (no school)
- Wednesday, October 14 School Council AGM/meeting at 6:00pm (virtual)
- Thursday, October 15 Apple Fundraiser deadline (information below)
- Wednesday, October 21 Picture retakes & Grade 3 Ukrainian photos
- Friday, October 23 Grade 4 bible blessing

### Information

Halloween is quickly approaching and is a very fun time of year for children. We want to ensure
we continue to create a fun and safe environment for our staff and students. Students are invited
to come to school dressed in their costumes on Friday, October 30. Students who choose to wear
costumes that day are asked to keep costumes school appropriate. A reminder that we will
continue to follow our safety protocols including staff and grade 4 students wearing PPE

(masks). Your homeroom teachers will be reaching out to communicate specifics about that day for their particular classrooms.

- Parents, just a friendly reminder to please keep the disability parking spaces free (no parking) unless your vehicle has a disability parking placard. Thank you for your understanding.
- Please note that some teachers will be emailing parents to explain protocols for singing in classrooms. I would like share an excerpt from the EICS Covid-Protocol handbook for your reference:

Music, Dance and Theatre Programs Practice, rehearsals and instruction of music and vocal performance is permitted, provided the guidance for music and vocal performance is followed, including the following:

- Singers should be staggered so they are not directly behind one another
- Performers should not directly face other performers while singing

• Singing should occur in a room with a high ceiling, where possible. Singing should be avoided in small, enclosed spaces that lack adequate ventilation, such as bedrooms, dressing rooms, hallways, or loading areas

• Limit vocal activity to 30 minutes, followed by a 10-minute break to allow for air exchange in the room. Instructors, directors, conductors and all singers should wear masks, both when singing and when not singing

## • <u>Although local authorities may exempt certain children from masking during regular school</u> <u>activities, everyone participating in singing should wear a mask</u>

• Singing activities should have a leader (such as a teacher or conductor) to ensure guidance and precautions like distancing and masking are consistently followed.

- School Council (PAC) Information
  - Parent Council will be having our AGM Wednesday, October 14th at 6:00pm. Directly following the AGM, will be our monthly meeting. Please join us virtually via this link - <u>meet.google.com/fdk-</u> <u>vaad-tzj</u>
  - Our Davison Orchards Apple Fundraiser deadline is fast approaching! These apples are fresh from the Okanagan, they keep well in a cool dry place, and are great for lunches, snacks and baking! Please fill out the google form found in the link below. <u>Once you have completed the order form please send an etransfer to jvpac1009@gmail.com as soon as possible to complete your order.</u> Please note that Parent Council's bank account has been set up to automatically deposit your etransfer so there is no password necessary. <u>Orders will be accepted until Thursday</u>,
     <u>October 15th.</u> The apple pick-up date will be held on Tuesday, October 27th more details to follow. Please feel free to share the order form link with family, friends and on social media to help make this fundraiser a great success for our school! ORDER FORM: <u>Davison Orchard Order Form</u>

#### Faith Corner

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever" (Psalm 136) Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to? Be thankful when you don't know something, For it gives you the opportunity to learn. Be thankful for the difficult times; During those times you grow. Be thankful for each new challenge, Because it will build your strength and character. Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons. Be thankful when you're tired and weary, Because it means you've made a difference. It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for setbacks. Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive. Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, And they can become your blessings. (Author Unknown) God, thank you for always being there for me, whether I realize it or not. Your love washes over me daily, hourly, and moment-by-moment. Thank you, God, for offering to take my burdens. I am so fortunate to have you walking with me and loving me for Your goodness knows no bounds. Thank you for stepping into my life and showing me the power and strength you possess and help me to turn to

You always. Amen



# **St.Nicholas Catholic School**

@stncatholic F Facebook

"Our Catholic School Family, embracing both English and Ukrainian Bilingual programs is dedicated to providing the best opportunities for learning while nurturing in our students' continuous personal growth."

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