**Our VIRTUE for the month of MARCH is: FORGIVENESS**

*MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER*

**Our VIRTUE for the month of FEBRUARY was: COMPASSION**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK:**

Parents and Guardians,

The end of February was a difficult time for many of our families in our community. Seeing the impact of COVID-19 on our school has been hard. For the individuals and their families that have been directly impacted by COVID-19, we are thinking about you. We are all wishing you a speedy recovery.

I’d like to thank everyone in our community for their cooperation, support, and commitment to their children and our school. This has not been an easy time and the positivity that I have seen from both our students and their families has been incredible. Thank you for your patience and understanding while enduring the difficulties that came with the news of COVID-19 and thank you for helping our staff transition smoothly to online learning.

I also want to thank our incredible staff who have been so very professional throughout the entire process. From helping to transition students from school to home when they needed to leave, to rapidly preparing and executing the switch to online learning, to jumping in to cover duties and solve problems to make the school safe and secure for our students. We are all looking forward to another quick transition back to in person learning in our school on March 11th. To ensure everyone’s safety upon return, our school is currently undergoing a deep and thorough cleaning.

March will also bring a celebration of a different kind for a very important member of our school team. It is bittersweet that we announce the retirement of Mrs. Dugas at the end of March. Mrs. Dugas has been a dedicated member of the BHNCDSB for nearly 30 years – the last 2 ½+ years at St. Peter School. She is an incredibly hard worker and has always cared deeply for the students and others around her. Mrs. Dugas will be greatly missed. We all wish her a happy retirement! (I hear a rumour that she may even become a volunteer at our school!)

On April 1st, Mrs. Bennett will be joining our school team. Mrs. Bennett comes with many years of experience which will help with the transition. Welcome Mrs. Bennett.

Thank you,

 Lucas Boluk

**MONTHLY AWARD WINNERS – JANUARY**

We congratulate the following students on their academic success and/or demonstration of the virtue of RESPONSIBILITY throughout the month of. Awards were presented to the students during our Month End Virtual Assembly.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACADEMIC WINNERS** | | **VIRTUE OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY WINNERS**  **- RESPONSIBILITY** | |
| **Teacher/Class** | **Student Winner** | **Teacher/Class** | **Student Winner** |
| Ms. Dobrovodsky (JK/SK) | Evan H. | Ms. Dobrovodsky (JK/SK) | Evarly P. |
| Miss DiSabatino (gr 1) | Noah V. | Miss DiSabatino (gr 1) | Aryella D.K. |
| Miss Csercsics (gr 2/3) | Matteo B. | Miss Csercsics (gr 2/3) | Olivia S. |
| Mrs. McVey (gr 3) | Ainslie C. | Mrs. McVey (gr 3) | Olive S. |
| Mr. Halsey (gr 4/5) | Danica S. | Mr. Halsey (gr 4/5) | Ezio L. |
| Mrs. Smith (gr 5/6) | Maria M. | Mrs. Smith (gr 5/6) | Ella S. |
| Mrs. McBride (gr 7) | Frank P. | Mrs. McBride (gr 7) | Zane S. |
| Mr. Enns (gr 8) | Abbey C. | Mr. Enns (gr 8) | Owen D. |

**PICTURE DAY AT ST. PETER**

This year’s school photo day for all students, as well as graduation photos for grade 8s, will take place on **THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021**. Promotional literature has already been forwarded to all families (please note the NEW date).

**Graduating students** should wear a **white collared shirt** and all other students are asked to ***AVOID wearing solid green*** as it interferes with the backgrounds.

**LUNCH DAYS AT ST. PETER SCHOOL – WE WELCOME LUNCHBOX ORDERS**

We are happy to share that Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online will be offered at our school.

Not familiar with Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online? Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online is a convenient, online ordering platform featuring local restaurants. An ordering calendar has been coordinated for the school community at [www.lunchboxorders.com.](http://www.lunchboxorders.com/)

The lunch calendar is **NOW OPEN** and will feature the following options: 



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Delivery Day** | **Featured Restaurant** |
| Wednesday  Friday – Select Dates | Papa John’s Pizza  Pita Pit or Subway  or Pace Catering & Takeout |

How to Order:

1. Go online at [www.lunchboxorders.com](http://www.lunchboxorders.com/) and click “ORDER LUNCH”.
2. **New to Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online?** Click “Create an Account” to register your family’s account.
3. **Already registered?** Please login directly with your current username (e-mail address) and password.
4. Add your child to your account by clicking “add a student” and register your child with their teacher and grade for the current school year. ***\*\* Please ensure the correct teacher and grade are selected to prevent errors on delivery days.***
5. Click “Order Now” (beside your child’s name) to access the school’s ordering calendar.
6. Proceed with ordering your child’s lunch by clicking on the blue box for each restaurant featured.
7. All orders are submitted on the website and payment is processed on-line by Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Debit MasterCard or Visa Debit. Visa and MasterCard prepaid cards are also accepted.

# The Benefits:

1. With every meal purchased, a contribution will be made to the school’s fundraising program.
2. Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online is paperless and cashless. Ordering online is fast and easy!
3. Staff are welcome to order.
4. All menu items featured are compliant with the Ontario Ministry of Education’s Food and Beverage Policy.
5. Orders may be placed weekly or in advance, for the full length of the program.

# Important Dates:

* Delivery is scheduled to start on **~~Wednesday, March 3~~ Now Friday, March 12th**
* **SUNDAY, MARCH 7 at NOON (12pm)** is the ordering deadline for the first scheduled delivery.

# Things to Remember:

* New orders must be placed by Sunday at 12pm (NOON) for the following week.
* Orders will not be accepted after the Sunday deadline.
* Cancellations will be accepted two (2) days prior to delivery.
* If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather or if there is a school closure, lunches will be cancelled, and credit will be issued within 3 business days.

**Questions?** The Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online Customer Service Team is available 6 days a week.

The following dates and lunch vendors have been scheduled from March through June 2021 (should any changes/cancellations be required, parents will be notified in advance of the lunch day):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Food** | **Date** | **Month** | **Food** | **Date** |
| **March** | ~~Pizza~~ | ~~Wed. 3~~ | **May** | Pizza | Wed. 5 |
| ~~Pasta~~ | ~~Fri. 5~~ | Pasta | Fri. 7 |
| ~~Pizza~~ | ~~Wed. 10~~ | Pizza | Wed. 12 |
| Sub | Fri. 12 | Sub | Fri. 14 |
| Pizza | Wed. 17 | Pizza | Wed. 19 |
| Pita | Fri. 19 | Pita | Fri. 21 |
| Pizza | Wed. 24 | Pizza | Wed. 26 |
| Pasta | Fri. 26 | Pasta | Fri. 28 |
| Pizza | Wed. 31 | **June** | Pizza | Wed. 2 |
| **April** | Pizza | Wed. 7 | Pasta | Fri. 4 |
| Pasta | Fri. 9 | Pizza | Wed. 9 |
| Pizza | Wed. 21 | Pizza | Wed. 16 |
| Pasta | Fri. 23 | Pita | Fri. 18 |
| Pizza | Wed. 28 | Pizza | Wed. 23 |
| Sub | Fri. 30 | Sub | Fri. 25 |

**THEME DAYS IN MARCH**

It’s been a while since we were able to have theme days so in March, we are going to have TWO.

For the FIRST time ever, we will be enjoying St. Patrick’s Day ON St. Patrick’s Day (since that day usually falls DURING the March Break!) by wearing **GREEN**. Let’s have some fun with the day and wish the “luck of the Irish” to everyone.

Our theme day for Friday, March 26th will be Jersey Day. Wear a sports jersey from your favourite team and show your support!

**SPRING BREAK**

As you are aware, the provincial government, with the advice of the Chief Medical Officer, has decided to move the “March” Break from the week of March 15-19 to the week of April 12-16. Instruction will continue as normal throughout the month of March.

**WE NEED MORE LUNCH MONITORS!**



 We are in desperate need of additional lunch monitors for the nutrition breaks: 10:15-10:55 am and 12:35- 1:15pm. Lunch monitors are **paid positions**. PPE is provided by the school and all safety protocols identified by the Health Unit are required. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in this position (you do NOT have to be available full-time to be accepted!), please contact the school asap at 519-752-1611.

**LAST DAY TO MOVE BETWEEN VIRTUAL SCHOOL AND IN-PERSON LEARNING**

If you are contemplating moving your child from Virtual School to In-Person Learning, or vice-versa, the dates to be aware of are as follows:

* anytime during the month of MARCH, inform the school of your plan to MOVE from one format to the other
* students will be moved electronically during the new Spring Break time – April 12-16
* students who move will begin instruction at either VS or in St. Peter’s building on *Monday, April 19.*

**STRONG START – WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** The Strong Start ***Letters, Sounds and Words*** program is now in full operation at our school and we are looking for volunteers. Because of the impact of COVID-19, your help is needed more than ever.

This program is offered to us by the **Strong Start Charitable Organization** which is funded through donations from individuals, businesses, Foundations and community groups. The ten-week program is available to help children aged five to seven learn the names or sounds of letters, recognize commonly used words or how to blend sounds together to form words. Volunteers are required to take four hours of free training which is available **online**. Visit the Strong Start website or use this link to register for any part one **and** any part two session. [https://www.strongstart.ca/programs/letters-sounds-and-words/training/](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.strongstart.ca/programs/letters-sounds-and-words/training/__;!!Kq1SNukRZg!s8RGeK7uVoV1gXV9aEFC3fBfbtD5A8WyKRYQxlawS_rr0LTnexKPNjApHRyVRE9w$) .

After taking the training, volunteers will work one on one with a child for thirty minutes each week for the 10-week time period. If you have more time you can work with more children.

During COVID-19 Volunteers must meet the screening protocols of the school and school board where they are volunteering and wear the appropriate PPE provided. Volunteers will also be required to use the sanitation supplies that will be made available at the school.

If you are interested in this meaningful volunteer opportunity, more information is available at [www.strongstart.ca](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/www.strongstart.ca__;!!Kq1SNukRZg!s8RGeK7uVoV1gXV9aEFC3fBfbtD5A8WyKRYQxlawS_rr0LTnexKPNjApHXKozBcf$).

Please contact Miss Grosvold or Mrs. Male at St. Peter School (519-752-1611 or [cgrosvold@bhncdsb.ca](mailto:cgrosvold@bhncdsb.ca) or [lmale@bhncdsb.ca](mailto:lmale@bhncdsb.ca)). Miss Grosvold and Mrs. Male coordinate this program at St. Peter if you are interested in volunteering.