

Journey, Encounter, Transform

Hearts on Fire Luke 24:32

Dear families,

Welcome to St. Theresa Catholic school! This week begins a brand-new school year for **all** of us, and we would like to extend a warm welcome to our students and families. As always, the start of a school year holds the promise of new discovery and learning, as well as the prospect of personal growth in all areas. This year will look **MUCH** differently compared to previous years, but we will still have an awesome time learning. We will also focus on social and emotional learning, and new procedures for the classroom for September.

Below you will find information to help you and your child become familiar with our classroom's expectations for the school year. If you need to contact me, I prefer email if possible. My email address is scaniglia@bhncdsb.ca. I check my email each day and I will respond as promptly as I can. If you do not have email, you may call the school and leave a message (519-753-8953). I am also using D2L/Brightspace page to send you announcements and to update you on our school activities. I will be sending your child's login information over the next week, so stay tuned!

There will be a lot of information coming to you over the next few weeks, from our school and board website, phone messages updating you and with notes that will be sent home. Please keep these letters and school newsletters handy so you can quickly refer to it. Don't forget, you can always email me if you have any questions, concerns or need confirmation with anything. I am here to help!

Together we will make this a fantastic school year. Thank you for your patience and cooperation in getting this year off to a great start!

May God bless you and your families with good health, peace and hope,
Mrs. S Caniglia



Our board spiritual theme this year is TRANSFORM

Hearts on Fire: Luke 24:32

This year will be full of joy as we open our hearts and minds to God's transforming love. We will continue to explore the Gospel according to Luke that tells us about the Road to Emmaus, and what that means to us as we work to share the Good News with others.

School Supplies and Materials Needed

Your child will need all the supplies in the list that was sent out by Mrs. Chartrand via email. There will not be sharing of items as we have done in the past. If someone doesn't have glue, scissors, highlighter, etc., I will have a small supply to give out.

Some things to consider:

Please:

*no binders! I have duotangs for your child! If you have duotangs and wish to bring them, **just bring 2**

*no need to bring indoor running shoes, this is just for the first month and we will update you on this! **Please consider having your child wear comfortable shoes or running shoes to school as we will be outdoor as often as we can. More on this below!**

- * do not send in fabric zippered binders or rolling suitcase/backpack bags
- * limit what your child brings to school - no need to bring 15 pencils on the first day! One pencil case should be enough to house pencil crayons, some markers, and a couple of pencils. I have an electric pencil sharpener. **Reminder that this pencil case stays at school, so it is a good idea to keep some things at home as well!**
- * send your child with a reusable water bottle, one that will be taken home daily and washed ready to go for the next day (fountains are closed, but touchless water bottle fillers are available).

As the cubbies will not be used for now, student's belongings will be stored on their chairs at their desks. **PLEASE- just send to school what is needed, no extras like toys or stuffies will be allowed. We just don't have the space to store them. Thanks!**

Agendas and communication

We do have agendas to distribute to each student as a gift from our school to you! However, they are to be left at home. Please encourage your child to use the agenda daily as a tool to keep track of homework assignments, upcoming activities and to write down and review what we covered that day!

New School Procedures

Staff have been participating in 3 professional activity days prior to the beginning of school year. During this time, I had an opportunity to learn and prepare our classroom and school environment to protect all members of our community. I know there is much uncertainty and many questions as we begin this school year. Once I receive more information, I will contact and share any correspondence that will help you and your child return to school.

IN OUR SCHOOL: The school has direction arrows on the floor to indicate how the flow of traffic will work. **We will frequently review mask wearing and removal, hand washing procedures, how to walk down hallways, and washroom procedures!**

Masks and PPE

I have paper bags available with your child's name on it. Your child will use this to house their masks when they are eating, and when they are outside. It is encouraged to bring an extra mask if you can just in case one gets

soiled or damp through use. My own girls have a little fabric bag that they will put in their lunch bag so they will most likely change their mask after eating their lunch and place the morning mask in their lunch so it goes straight home to be washed. Plastic bags are not recommended as they trap moisture. Again, this is only a suggestion and I am thinking about your child's comfort.



With the mask...

YUP- It's ME!!!



Drop off/Pick up Procedures

Please refer to maps sent to you by our amazing Principal, Mrs. Chartrand! This year, students will have designated areas at the front of the school with staff there to help guide the students; parents are asked to stay on the sidewalk. Staff will be out front to walk students to their designated doors (our Gr 4/5 class will be led by staff members on duty and walk around to the playground area and enter through the back doors). I will be there to greet them to begin their day. Students will leave the school with their class again, with parents waiting in the designated area.

I do appreciate how much you all are doing to ensure our back to school experience is successful!

BrightSpace

I am currently in the process of creating and finalizing our page. Here I will upload announcements, information and you'll see work we are doing. A newsletter will be posted there as often as I can to update you! I will also be posting homework and some assignments on Brightspace and your child will have to upload their work here- with the hopes of minimizing paper usage, so please check daily once we are up and running! As you may remember from last spring, each student uses their school email as a log in and 4-digit password they have from the school. I will send out your child's login information during the first two weeks of school.
Username - email (first initial last name@bhncdsb.ca)
Password - four digits



OUR CLASSROOM: Here are some pictures of our classroom and school so you can feel more comfortable when your child arrives on their first day!



Our classroom sink!



The class door and hallway with stickers to help our students!



Outdoor Time

I plan to be outside as much as we are able. That means we will be walking around our playground, sitting (physically distant) on the ground reading, praying, meditating or just talking! It will look weird but will be great! We will use our clipboards for when we are outside for a lesson. This will be time for a 'mask break' - WAHOOOOO!

For this reason, I am hoping you can send your child with comfortable closed-toe shoes or running shoes so we can have these quick breaks outdoors.

I know there might be some things I forgot to add here, but as we experience this new learning environment, I will be sending you information and updates.

I am so excited to be teaching your child and look forward to meeting you all soon!



Please remember to check your email, the school and board website for additional information.

See you on your first day Timberwolves!

May God bless you and keep you safe,
Mrs. Caniglia