

St. Juan Diego School



December 3-9, 2023

December 3rd is the start of Advent. We light the first candle, which represents Hope. We live in everlasting Hope.

God, please fill me with Hope this Advent Season.
Calm my thoughts and soothe my heart.
Help me to share your peace with everyone.
As we get ready for the coming of Baby Jesus.



School Updates

Mrs. Little and Mrs. Lyonnais were able to visit the St. Juan Diego site last week.

The pictures below show;

- the bus lane which is on Main Halyard Lane right out front of the school
- 2 classrooms that will have an accordion wall for co-teaching
- the portion of the yard where the play structure will go... it has an accessible path!
- the staffroom kitchen
- the gym floors starting to go in
- a kinder classroom
- a hallway
- the front foyer

You can see that the floors have been installed in the classrooms and are being worked on in the hallways. The first coat of paint is on the walls, the ceiling tiles are continuing to go in, and the mill works is being installed. There may be a few deficiencies such as landscaping and the siding on the building but with still a month left, it looks like most other things will be complete. **Please be reminded that staff will be starting in the building on January 8th and children will begin on January 9th.**





Happy Birthday to

Maisie M, Olivia G, Elai A, Ethan N, Brooklyn D, Batista I, Jasmine J-A, Lenore C, Yucheng W

St. Juan Diego Feast Day

December 9th is the Feast day of St. Juan Diego. We have all been learning about who St. Juan Diego is and the miracles that he witnessed. [See this video](#) to learn about his perseverance and dedication to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

PD day

This Friday there is no school for students.

OPH Updates

It is influenza (flu) season and with that is also respiratory illnesses. Together between home and school we can try to keep the spread of illnesses lower.

OPH has suggested that we do these things;

- self assess before leaving home
- if experiencing symptoms, day home until fever free (without the help of medication) and symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours for vomiting/diarrhea)
- wash hand and/or sanitize often

- avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
- cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- wear a mask to protect yourself and when you're recovering from illness

Advent Project

Each of our sites will be participating in an Advent project which will benefit our St. Juan Diego families, our host school families and other families within our school board.

St. Cecilia	St. Benedict
A Gift Card Drive - Each class will be assigned to a specific family, ages and number of people in the family will be shared with the class - Families can purchase gift cards and send them in to the classroom teacher -or- parents are welcome to make donations for through SchoolCashOnline - This is a "Share what you can spare" which means that there is no specific amount to donate - The money donated will be used to purchase gift cards that will help our families in need. - All donation are due by December 14th	Hamper Advent Project - Please see this link to a letter for more details regarding the Advent project at St. Benedict. - Homerooms collecting non - perishable food items and some personal/hygiene items (toothbrushes etc) - Christmas Spirit Wear event... make a donation and dress like Christmas (see below)... this money goes to purchasing gift cards to add to the hampers for additional food. - Collecting new waterproof mittens (youth and small adult sizes) and winter hats, warm socks - All donations due to school by December 7th

Christmas Spirit Day at St. Benedict

On Thursday, December 7th, **St. Benedict** will be hosting a Christmas Spirit Day. Children at the St. Benedict site are encouraged to wear their most festive clothing to show their true Christmas spirit. It is time to dig out those reindeer antlers, Santa and elf hats, Christmas pajamas, red and green clothes or top things off with Christmas accessories!

Please consider making a small donation through SchoolCashOnline for our Christmas hampers. ALL

PROCEEDS from this will go to purchasing gift cards for each family to assist with the cost of non-perishable food items. The last day to make your donation is Dec. 7 .

Candy Cane Grams At St. Benedict

The grade 6 students at St. Benedict are offering the opportunity to send Candy Cane Grams to fellow students in the school. See the poster below for more information.



Christmas Camps

The Ottawa Catholic School Board has options for various camps during the Christmas break. [See this link for more information.](#)

Classroom Supervisors

We are looking for new classroom supervisors for St. Juan Diego. If you or someone that you know are interested in some supply work at our school, please send a resume to shelly.lyonnais@ocsb.ca. Your resume will be sent to the school board and the process of hiring will be done through them. You will also need to ensure that you have a vulnerable sector check.

School Council

Thank you to our Volunteers

Tuesday is International Volunteer day! We are just getting started with our school but already we have an amazing group of parent volunteers that have stepped up to create a School Council, organize and run school lunches and help in classrooms. We are so thankful to all of you for helping us to make our school a place of community. We appreciate your time!!

Meeting

Our next School Council meeting is at St. Benedict on December 14th at 6:45pm.

School Council Christmas Party!



Volunteers Needed

School Council is using SignUp.com to organize our volunteers for the Christmas Party taking place this Friday night at St Benedict's.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp: <https://signup.com/go/JXYiHbc>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.

Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

Please keep in mind, these events can't run without the help of volunteers, so even if you only have a few minutes to spare, please consider taking a turn!

Pizza

St Juan Diego School Council is excited to announce the return of our Pizza Lunch Program at our new location! Ordering will be open Friday, December 1, 2023 on School Cash Online.

Payment is due Sunday, December 17, 2023. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Should there be a snow day on Pizza Thursday, the order will be rescheduled on a later date to be communicated by Council. No refunds will be issued if your child(ren) are absent from school on pizza day.

Please note: due to the fact that gluten-free slices are smaller than regular slices, Domino's provides 2 slices for the price of 1. Therefore, an order for 2 gluten-free slices below will result in the delivery of 4 smaller slices.

If you need financial assistance, please contact the school.

The first pizza order will be delivered on Thursday, January 11th. This semester will offer 9 deliveries, until Thursday, March 7th.

Parish

[Link to the Parish bulletin](#)

Upcoming Dates

Dec 3 - 24

- [Advent](#)

December 3

- First Sunday of Advent

December 4

- Lunch Lady

December 5

- [International Volunteer Day](#)

December 6

- [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)

December 7

- St. Benedict site: Christmas Spirit day!
- Pizza Day

December 8

- PD day
- St. Juan Diego School Council Christmas Event

December 9

- St. Juan Diego Feast Day

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