

November 3, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for supporting the We Scare Hunger Food Drive. It went exceptionally well and our school community was able to donate 2000 non-perishable food items and $550.00 to The Community Table in Riverside South.

School Photo Retakes will take place next week on Tuesday, November 10.

Progress Reports will be available in the Parent Portal on the evening of November 12 and Parent/Educator interviews will take place on November 26. You will receive information on how to schedule an interview in the near future.

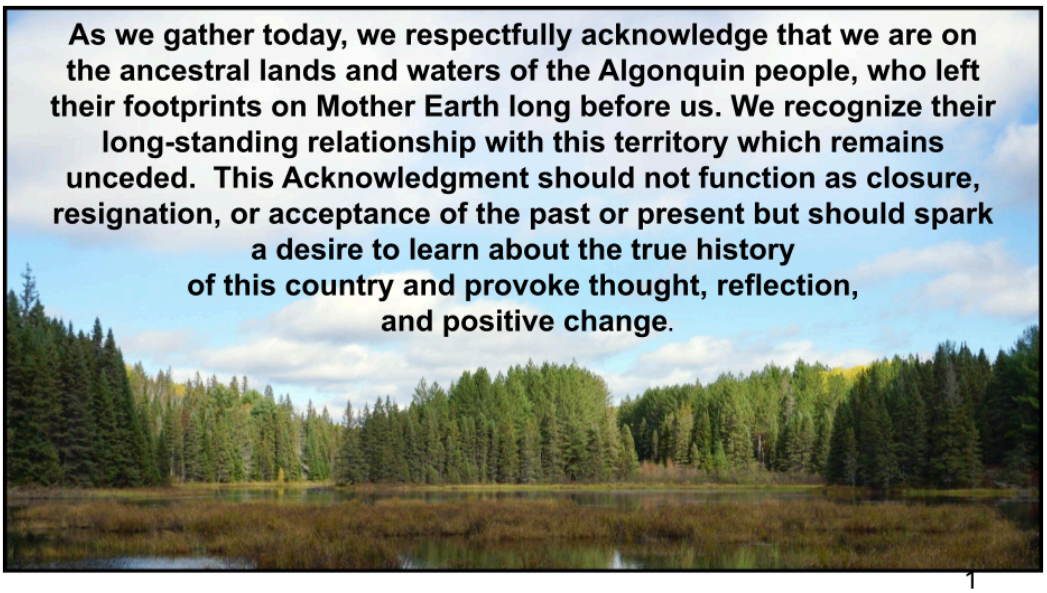
Thank you for being cautious while driving and parking near the school and not parking in our school bus and van parking zone in front of the main entrance.

The school parking lot is closed during dismissal for the safety of students, staff and parents. Please do not enter the parking lot between 2:30 and 3:10 p.m.

Regards,

Jonathan Hogg
Principal





Shades of Gold

So many shades of gold
Autumn
Another miracle we take for granted
Another expression of the artist's vision
The blending of the autumn hues
with the setting sun
Warm
Comforting
Perfect
Thank you for autumn, Lord.

- Author Unknown

First Communion Information

Please see the following letter about the **First Communion Preparation Program:**
First Comm Letter for St Gianna School Oct 2026

Please register by Nov 8th through our website at **www.stleonardparish.ca** (use the First Communion Registration Banner on front page). For further information please contact the prep team at **fcprep@stleonardparish.ca**

A Message from Ottawa Public Health

October 21, 2026 - Keeping our community healthy this respiratory season

Dear Parents, Caregivers and School Staff,

As illnesses such as influenza, COVID-19, and other respiratory viruses become more common during the fall and winter months, there are steps you can take to help keep you and/or your child healthy and reduce the spread of illness in schools and the community. Please read the important information below from Ottawa Public Health.

Get vaccinated

- Vaccination remains one of the best ways to protect against serious illness.
- Flu and COVID-19 vaccines are now available for everyone aged six months and older who live, work, or attend school in Ontario.
- Ensure your child's routine immunizations are up to date and **reported** to Ottawa Public Health.

Stay home when sick

- If your child is ill, keep them home until:
    - symptoms are improving;
    - fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without medication (48 hours for vomiting or diarrhea);
    - they can participate in normal activities.

Practice healthy habits

- Wash hands regularly and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Consider wearing a mask if recovering from illness or if you wish to reduce the risk of infection and transmission.

Learn More

- **OttawaPublicHealth.ca/RespVirus**
- **OttawaPublicHealth.ca/Immunization**
- **Respiratory Illness Factsheet** – Ottawa Public Health & neighbouring health units
- **Where to Seek Care** – Ottawa Public Health & CHEO

Thank you for helping to keep our community healthy this respiratory season.

Dr. Laura Bourns
Deputy Medical Officer of Health
Ottawa Public Health

E- Scooter Safety

E-scooter use among youth is resulting in an alarming number of accidents and injuries. CHEO is reporting this as a serious concern. E-scooters can only be used by those 16 and over. Riders who are under 18 also have to be wearing a helmet.
Ottawa Police have shared the following resources with us about e-scooter use, in collaboration with the City of Ottawa. The poster and video are in both English and French. Please consider sharing this with your school community and putting the poster up in your school.

E-scooter poster - English
E-scooter poster - French

Video: La sécurité des trottinettes électriques à Ottawa - Trottinettes électriques | City of Ottawa
Video: E-scooter safety in Ottawa - E-scooters | City of Ottawa

E-scooter rules and safety requirements - E-scooters | City of Ottawa
Règlements et exigences de sécurité concernant les trottinettes électriques - Trottinettes électriques | City of Ottawa

Attendance

Regular school attendance is directly linked to academic achievement, but **school is about more than just grades**. **It's also a place for students to develop social and emotional skills.** Attending regularly helps students build habits that will set them up for success now and in the future.

Check Out the Numbers

- **Missing 10% of school days** for any reason (excused or unexcused) is known as **"chronic absenteeism"**.
- Research shows that **missing 10% of school days** (approx. 18 days per school year or 2 days a month) **negatively affects a student's academic performance**.
- **By 6th grade, chronic absence** becomes a leading **indicator** that a student will **drop out of high school**.

I encourage you to take a look at the following links.

Every Day Matters
JK/SK: School day strategies
https://www.ocsb.ca/parents/school-attendance/

Messages from our School Council

Winter is coming… ❄️ ⛄

Are you looking for an easy way to keep track of your child's belongings while supporting our school AND getting a discount?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!!!

Every eligible purchase helps support St. Gianna!

Simply shop at: **campaigns.mabelslabels.com** and use our fundraising code **STGIANNAS10** at checkout.



St. Gianna School Council Paint Night – November 25

Dear St. Gianna Families,

Join us for a fun evening of creativity and family time at our upcoming **Paint Night!**

Whether you're an experienced artist or just looking to have some fun, we hope you'll join us for an enjoyable evening with the St. Gianna community.

Event Details

- **Date:** Wednesday, November 25, 2026
- **Time:** 6:00–7:30 PM
- **Location:** St. Gianna Catholic School – Gym
- **Cost:** $17.00 per person

Registration is limited to 100 participants, so be sure to register early! Spots will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A Few Important Details:

- All children must be accompanied by a parent or adult.
- Parents who wish to participate in the painting activity must also purchase a $17.00 ticket.
- All painting supplies and materials will be provided.
- Each participant will receive a juice box or water and a bag of chips.
- Please arrive by **5:45 PM** to allow time for sign-in before the event begins.

Please Note: All ticket sales are final and non-refundable.

We look forward to seeing our St. Gianna families come together for a fun and creative evening!

St. Gianna School Council

Catholic School Parents' Association (CSPA)

Careers Beyond the Screen: The Apprenticeship Pathway in an AI World - A Parent Evening, with award-winning employment researcher Dr. Jon Callegher, is taking place on Wed, Nov 4th, at St Pius X High School beginning at 6:30PM. Register HERE.

Student Spirit Wear

Dear Families,

We are excited to share that we have partnered with Gadar Sportswear to offer St. Gianna school spirit wear for purchase!

You can browse and place your orders through the website below, which will remain open until **November 12th**. Orders placed by this date will qualify for free shipping directly to the school.

Please note: All orders and transactions are managed directly between families and Gadar Sportswear. The school is not responsible for processing or managing orders, returns, or any clothing concerns.

Thank you for your support and school spirit!

The link for school clothing is https://st-gianna-guardians.secure-decoration.com/







Ottawa Public Library - Manotick Branch

Lego Party! Every Saturday morning create and build with Lego®, from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. A drop-in program for families.
Pyjama Evening Storytime. Thursday Nov 12, 2026 at 6:30 pm 30 minutes. Wear your coziest pyjamas for an evening storytime. Drop-in program. All ages welcome.
Storytime (Family) with Stay & Play. Tuesdays until December 15 from 1:30-2:30 pm, drop-in for preschoolers and their families.
Storytime (Family) with Stay & Play. Wednesdays until December 09 from 1:30-2:30 pm, drop-in for preschoolers and their families.

After School Care Option - 6Tigers

Hello St Gianna!

I hope everyone is having a great year! We run an aftercare program for children in the area and this year we have moved to a new and larger location and can pick up is available for St. Gianna's kids! Our 6Tigers van will pick up from your school and bring the children to our professional instructors at our safe, structured aftercare program which includes games, crafts, lots of physical activity and their karate class!

What: Safe, reliable, active aftercare with bus drop off for St. Gianna students
When: All school days with care available until 6:15 pm PD Day camps are also available.
Where: 6Tigers Academy (in the Manotick Mews at 1160 Beaverwood Road)
Registration: https://6tigers-academy.gymdesk.com/signup
Learn more about 6Tigers: https://6tigers.ca

Lunch Orders

Pizza Days: November 5, 12, 19 and 26

December 3, 10 and 17

Every student receives an individually portioned packaged and sealed pizza.

If your child is sick, pizza can be picked up between 12 pm and 1 pm on Thursdays. We will not be holding pizza until the next day.

On inclement weather days, "Snow Days when school buses are cancelled", the pizza lunch will be moved to a future date. We will send an email.

Parent Council Run Food Days:

Freshii (Monday)**, Burritto** (Tuesdays), **Subway** (Wednesdays)**, Booster Juice** (once per month).

You will receive ordering information through Lunchbox by School Cash Online.

Popcorn Days

What's poppin' St. Gianna Guardians? We are so excited to be starting up our Kernels Popcorn fundraiser once again this year! This is a fundraiser for our Grade 6 students' end of year activities. We will be selling popcorn every second Wednesday, starting November 4th. The bags are $2.75 each and there are 6 flavors to choose from: buttersalt, salt and vinegar, ketchup, dill pickle, caramel and white cheddar.

Dates are the following Wednesdays:

November 4, November 18, December 2, December 16, January 13, January 27, February 10

February 24

Please add these dates to your calendar.

Boomerang Lunches

This means that any leftovers from eating (wrappers, apple cores and any uneaten food etc) will be put back in your child's lunch bag. It will get messy so please plan accordingly when buying a lunch bag. This practice will enable you to be able to see exactly what is eaten and compost and recycle as a family.

Dress for the Weather

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear to be outside in all weather except heavy rain and extreme heat or cold (as outlined by Ottawa Public Health).

Picking Up Early

As a reminder, parents/guardians who are picking up their child during the school day must **sign their child out at the main office**. Please enter through the main entrance and not through the River's Edge entrance. At regular dismissal, parents/guardians should meet their child at their **designated dismissal area**. For the safety and security of all students, parents/guardians should not enter or walk through the school during school hours. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and secure learning environment for everyone.

Contact Information

If your contact information changes, please notify the school by emailing gianna@ocsb.ca. Or you can make changes in the Parent Portal on the OCSB Student Verification Form. How to update your contact information

Student Clothing

It's highly recommended to label your child's clothing and belongings (shoes, jackets, hats, hoodies etc.) so that if items are misplaced or left on the school yard they can be returned to their rightful owner. We do have a lost and found bin, which you are welcome to look through.

Medication

Please note, the school is not permitted to give any child routine medication on a short-term basis e.g. Tylenol, antibiotics, cough medicine etc. Please contact the school to discuss this further should this situation arise at any point in the year.

Child Care located in St Gianna:

A reminder that the Ottawa Catholic Child Care Corporation is responsible for child care in our building and not our school. For any family looking to have their child registered for child care at River's Edge Early Learning Centre this fall, the link is available on the Ottawa Catholic Child Care Corporation website. If you did put in an application and have any questions, please reach out directly to Early.Learning@ocsb.ca or phone (613-224-4455 ext 2382)

SCHOOL HOURS AND WELL-BEING BREAKS

School Day: 8:30 am - 3:00pm

Block 1	8:30 - 9:45
Morning Wellness Break	9:45 - 10:00
Block 2	10:00 - 11:15
Outdoor Play & Lunch	11:15 - 12:15 (20 mins eating @ the end)
Block 3	12:15 - 1:30
Afternoon Wellness Break	1:30- 1:45
Block 4	1:45 - 3:00

Upcoming Events:

Date	Event
November 8	Deadline to register your child for First Communion
November 10	School Photo Retakes
November 11	Remembrance Day Ceremony @ 10:15 a.m. - Parents are welcome to attend
November 12	• Progress Reports and Kindergarten Initial Observations in the Parent Portal • Deadline to order student spirit wear
November 20	PD Day
November 25	St. Gianna School Council Paint Night
November 26	Parent/Educator Interviews 3:15 - 7:15 p.m.
November 29	First Sunday of Advent
December 6	Second Sunday of Advent
December 13	Third Sunday of Advent
December 21 - January 1	Christmas Break
January 4	First Day of School after Christmas Break
January 29	PD Day

St. Gianna School
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gia.ocsb.ca