

St. Emily School



St. Emily Community Newsletter 2025-26. October 20, 2025

Quick Links

[St. Emily](#)

[OCSB](#)

[CSPA](#)

[OSTA](#)

Parish Links

[St. Andrew](#)
613-723-9767

Principal:

Vincenza Nicoletti

Vice-Principal:

Tina Lalonde

Office Administrator:

Elisa Magnes

Superintendent of Schools:

Brent Hopkins
613-224-2222

Trustee:

Spencer Warren PMP
613-692-5949



Prayer

Loving God,

Help us to open our hearts and minds to truly listen to others. Teach us to embrace empathy, understanding the feelings and perspectives of our friends. Guide us to learn from those who see the world differently, so we may grow in wisdom and love. May our actions reflect Your compassion and grace.

Amen

Administration Message

We have so much to be thankful for in our community! We celebrated our **Library Tech** workers this past Friday, and this Tuesday, we show appreciation for our **Child Care Workers and Early Childhood Educators**. Thank you for all you do to enrich our community and deepen the learning at St. Emily.

This **Wednesday, October 22nd**, is **Driver Appreciation Day**. Our bus and van drivers do so much more than navigate routes. They are responsible for the vital task of safely transporting our students, day in and day out, in all kinds of weather. They are truly essential partners in education.

We encourage you and your child(ren) to take a moment to connect with and thank your bus and/or van driver this week. Even a small gesture can make a big difference! For more information, visit Ottawa Student Transportation's website at www.ottawaschoolbus.ca.

Dressing for the Weather

As the weather begins to cool down, a reminder to please **label everything**. Students often leave items behind and they are turned into our Lost & Found. Having their names on items, helps us reunite missing items with their owner. A safety reminder, that students are not

permitted to use umbrellas on the schoolyard at recesses. Students should always come dressed for the weather and outdoor play.

Building Bridges of Understanding

Students are invited to read the Our Father in their home languages as we work on our theme of Building Bridges of Understanding in our St. Emily community. We wish to celebrate and highlight the rich diversity of our school. Students can practice at home and ask their teacher to sign them up.

St. Emily Spirit Week

Show your Golden Eagle Spirit next week as the countdown to our Dance-a-thon is on!



Dance-a-Thon

St Emily School Council is hosting the 13th annual Fall Dance-A-Thon Fundraiser! Students have brought home their fundraising envelope and event information sheet. Envelopes must be returned to school by Monday, October 27th, complete with student information. Students are encouraged to ask family and friends for donations and not by going door-to-door. If you choose not to collect donations, please return the completed empty envelope so your child can still be entered in our exciting prize draws!

On Friday, October 31st, students are invited to arrive at school dressed in their costumes and ready to dance! The 3 top earners will win some fantastic prizes: **1st prize** - Nintendo Switch, **2nd prize** - 100 Level Senators Tickets, **3rd prize** - \$100 Gift Card to Flying Squirrel!! There is also a **VIP Prize**

Package: Swag Bag & Ultimate Lunch with a friend! VIP ballots are earned for every \$50 raised. And over 150 raffle bundles up for grabs!



Thank you for your support so our Catholic School Council can continue to provide special events, activities and fun initiatives for our students, staff and community throughout the school year!

Halloween Costumes

Students are invited to show their Golden Eagles Spirit for our Halloween Spirit Week. We recognize that the countdown is on for parents to find the perfect Halloween costume for their children. As tempting as it may be to dress our kids in pretty much anything they want to be, it is important to consider a more thoughtful approach to whether the costume is appropriate and culturally sensitive. On Friday, October 31, **“Wear your Costumes or “Orange & Black” Day, please ensure costumes are:** not too scary, should not depict violence or other inappropriate messages in keeping with our [OCSB Code of Conduct](#), and should not be offensive in any way. Costumes that could be offensive or perpetuate a stereotype of someone’s culture, gender, heritage, or religion are not permitted. **Students are asked to leave accessories (i.e., plastic weapons) or masks at home and should be sure they are comfortable wearing their costumes all day. As always, the school is not responsible for lost or damaged items. Inflatable costumes are not recommended.**

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, cultural appropriation is, “the act of taking or using things from a culture that is not your own, especially without showing that you understand or respect the culture.” Halloween is a fun event and with some creativity and imagination, parents/guardians can help their child(ren) with deciding on a costume that aligns with a culturally sensitive Halloween. It is everyone’s responsibility to create a safe environment for all students and help students understand how costume choices may impact others in the building. Being proactive can help us to avoid uncomfortable

situations at school and in our community and can help us ensure that Halloween is a fun event where all students feel safe and honoured.

We ask that you do not send treats to share with the class. Many classes will do some Halloween-themed activities. Thank you for your cooperation.

St. Emily Scares Hunger

Our annual Food Drive begins Monday, October 20th! We will be collecting donations from October 20th until October 31st. Our goal is 1,000 donations! Non-perishable food donations can be brought to school or monetary donations can be made directly on the Barrhaven Food Cupboard website [here](https://barrhavenfoodcupboard.ca/). Parents can also drop off donations outside of the main entrance and childcare doors.



Remembrance Day Liturgy

As we prepare to mark Remembrance Day on Tuesday, November 11th, we would like to invite our school community to join us in honouring those who have served and continue to serve our country.

We are looking for students who are members of the Scouts, Cadets, Girl Guides, etc. to wear their uniforms that day and take part in our liturgy. We would also love to welcome family members who are

currently serving or have previously served in the military to attend as special guests.

Additionally, we are hoping to find someone who would be able to perform The Last Post during the ceremony. If you or someone in your family would like to take on this role and attend as a special guest, please contact the school office — we will be happy to share more details with you.

Safety & Parent Responsibilities



We ask that parents leave space in front of our gate (step off the sidewalk area, allowing students to exit and see their parents. We do remind you not to have students cut through the parked cars. Thank you for helping keep our community safe.

Warm Regards,

Vincenza Nicoletti
Principal

Tina Lalonde
Vice Principal

Bi-Weekly (every two weeks) Newsletters will be sent via School Messenger email and posted to our website. To learn more about our school community follow us on:

“X” (formerly Twitter): [@StEmilyOCSB](https://twitter.com/StEmilyOCSB)

Instagram: [@StEmilyOCSB](#)
School website: emi.ocsb.ca

Parish Corner

Please visit <https://standrewchurch.ca/> for this week's bulletin. Here is a link to the copy of this month's parish newsletter for kids!

 [SAP Kids' Buzz Newsletter - October 2025.pdf](#)

[First Communion](#) - click for information

[Confirmation](#) - Click for information

2026 Confirmation Registration: Children in Grade six and up, seeking Confirmation in 2026 must be registered for a preparation program **by Nov 13** at a one-hour parent-only meeting at St. Monica Parish.

Choose ONE of these meetings to attend: Tue. Nov. 4 @ 7pm, Thur. Nov. 6 @ 7pm or Thur. Nov. 13 @ 7pm **Nov. 13 is the deadline for registering - no extensions or exceptions.

Please contact Milva Calla, School Age Sacrament Coordinator, if you have any questions at 613-727-1067 x 238 or sacraments.schoolage@gmail.com. Information we receive will be shared with families via messenger.

School Council Corner

All parents/guardians are welcome to join us at our monthly meetings. Next meeting is on **Tuesday, November 11 at 6:30pm** in the Learning Commons. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. If you are interested in hearing more, feel free to connect with us!

Lunch Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for Tuesdays Pizza Days & Thursday Freshii/The Baker Days from 11:15am - 12:00pm to organize and distribute lunches.

Please email council.stemily@gmail.com if you'd like to help out.

Stay Connected!

Facebook: Facebook.com/StEmilySchool

X: <https://x.com/StEmilyCouncil>

Email: Council.StEmily@gmail.com

A message from the Grade 4 Eco-Eagles

The Eco Eagles Litterless Lunch Campaign continues until the end of October! Keep making an effort to bring in litterless lunches and snacks! The Eco Eagles encourage you to use reusable containers and bring home plastic to be recycled in your blue bin at home! Students have been checking classroom garbage bins to see the classes that are doing the best job bringing in litterless lunches. We will announce our popcorn party winners in November!



Important Dates:

October 20-31: We Scare Hunger - St. Emily Food Drive for the Barrhaven Food Cupboard

October 21: [Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day](#)

October 23: School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

October 20-24: School Bus Safety Week

October 22: [Take Me Outside Day](#)

October 27: Dance-A-Thon Envelopes Due

October 31: Halloween & St. Emily School Council Dance-a-Thon

November 7: PD Day, No school for students

November 10 : Photo Retake Day

November 11: Remembrance Day Liturgy; St. Emily Catholic Parent Council Meeting



St. Emily School
500 Chapman Mills Drive
Nepean, ON K2J 0J2

Phone: 613-825-4300
Email: Emily@ocsb.ca
Website: emi.ocsb.ca
"X": [StEmilySchool](#)

