

# St. Juan Diego School



## September 29-October 5, 2024 Newsletter

### School Updates

#### Happy Birthday to...

Tomi A, Emil KJ, Dionte B, Nathaniel A, Sean O, Solomon K, Tatum B, Caelyn T, Natchatra M, Tessio F, Yevdokiya G, Arham J, Jasmine R, Max D, Noah G, Liana G, Hailmary O and Malia F!

#### Orange Shirt Day

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, originally and still colloquially known as Orange Shirt Day, is to recognize the legacy of the Canadian Indian residential school system. This event is designed to commemorate the residential school experience, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation.

#### Parking Lot and Bus Lane

As you may be able to tell, our school parking lot is smaller than you would expect for our building size. We have 50 spots available for 60 school staff members plus our Early Learning staff. This means that many of our staff have to carpool or park on city streets. We ask that parents do not park in our parking lot at drop off or pick up times.

Please be reminded that the park and ride area in the parking lot is for daycare parents only that are dropping off/picking up their children. This is not a spot for school age parents to park and drop off or pick up their children.

We also ask that parents do not park in the bus lane, even if at the very end. We have seven buses and special transportation vans, they take up nearly the entire space.

#### Walk-a-Block

As you have noticed, traffic for school drop-off and dismissal can be very heavy. This makes the school zone a more dangerous place for our student walkers and those being picked up by parents/guardians. It also creates issues with local residences whose driveways are blocked during this time. OSTA has a wonderful initiative to help make the school zone safer for all students by reducing parent/guardian traffic at the school - Walk-A-Block. They have provided maps to suggest areas where you can park in the community and walk the final kilometer here: <https://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca/walk-zone/for-families/walking-route-maps/>



### School Blessing

The grade 3-6 students will be invited to a liturgy in our gym this week for our official school blessing. Thank you to Ms Peixoto for facilitating the liturgy, to Mrs. Borowski and our choir for leading our music and to Ms McAllister, Ms Maleszyk and Ms Peixoto's classes for creating art.

### Australian Delegates

Delegates from school boards in Australia are coming to tour our school this week to learn about Deep Learning and to see how we use our modern spaces.

### National Custodian Day!

Please offer a thank you or high 5 to our Caretakers this week! Mr. Steve, Mr. Jacques and Mr. Matt take great care of our school and assists us everyday with countless messes. They are the best!

### The Rudhro Prince Elementary Friendship Award

This award is named after a remarkable OCSB student, Rudhro Prince, who attended St. Mary School. Rudhro suffered from severe asthma and tragically passed away in May 2018 at the young age of eight. Rudhro is remembered as a warm, friendly, and compassionate child, who was known as a "friend to all." This award is presented annually to an individual at each elementary school who exemplifies Rudhro's admirable qualities and is made possible by the Prince family and the foundation that they established in Rudhro's name.

In addition to awarding a worthy student at each OCSB Elementary School, we would like to share information about the Rudhro Prince Hope Foundation which hosts an annual fundraiser walk in Rudhro's memory. The [6th Annual Rudhro Prince Memorial Walk](#) is **September 29 at Andrew Haydon Park**.

### Terry Fox

Thank you to all of our families that donated to Terry Fox and to all of our staff and students who organized it and participated in it! St. Juan Diego has raised \$815!

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## **School Council**

Thank you to all of the parents that came out to our first School Council meeting!! Thank you as well to last year's School Council who created a very strong foundation on which this Council can build.

Our new School Council is:

Chair: Balkiran Romana

Vice Chair: Crystal Thorburn

Community Representative: Dominic Ofoluwa

Parent Representatives: Mansi Gera, Sarita Grant, Chandra Rathnayaka

CSPA: Charmy Modi

Treasurer: Tim Wieclawski

Secretary: Charmy Modi/ Dionne Matear

Parish Representative: Mandisa Peterson  
Belonging Ambassador: Agnes Kitto Affum  
Communications Representative: Damaris Ngambi

### Save the Date

There will be a Halloween/ Fall event on October 25th that all families are invited to attend. Keep an eye on the newsletters for more information as we get closer to the date.

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## **Parish**

### Weekly Bulletin

### First Communion

[Please see this letter](#) outlining the process for First Communion through St. Andrew parish. This for any students grade 2 and older that have not received this Sacrament. [Please see this registration form.](#)

For ALL (both Catholic school and public school) baptized Catholic children. You can only register your child for the reception of the Sacrament of FIRST COMMUNION in person at ONE of the following Parent Information Meetings (parents only).

These meetings will take place in the parish hall at St. Monica Church. Choose ONE of these meetings to attend: Tue Oct 1 @ 7:00 pm /Thu Oct 8@ 7:00 pm /Thu Oct 10@ 7:00 pm

\*\*\*Oct. 10 is the deadline for registering - no extensions or exceptions Please call Milva Calla, School Age Sacrament Coordinator if you have any questions (613-727-1067 x 238).

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## **Upcoming Dates**

September 29

- [Police and Peace Officers' National Memorial Day](#)

September 30

- [Orange Shirt Day](#),

- [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

October 1

- Baker Pie Day

- [International Day of Older Persons](#)

October 2

- Lunch Lady

- [National Custodial Workers Recognition Day](#)
- Rosh Hashanah (*Oct 2 at sundown to nightfall on Oct 4*)

October 3

- St. Juan Diego school blessing
- Pizza day

October 4

- Australian Delegate tour
- [National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQ+ people \(MMIWG\)](#)

October 5

- [World Teachers' Day](#)
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