

*St. Jude's School*

*Bringing JOY to Learning - since 1980*



*Scholars' Hall*

*Igniting Greatness - since 1997*

### **Parent Information Package 2018 - 2019**

All parents are highly encouraged to come to the parent information night on **Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>** for further details on the following information.

In addition, please ensure the school has your email so that you receive the monthly digital newsletter, and that you have joined the Parents of SJSJ group on Facebook to ensure you have the most up-to-date information.

### **The School Day**

#### **Pick Up / Drop off**

The school day starts at 8:30 am. Please aim to drop off students at the back door by 8:15 to allow them to make it to class prepared with all of their required books and supplies.

We encourage you to pick up your children *after 3:45*. This gives everyone a chance to get organized and socialize at the end of the day. After this time the parking lot empties quickly and getting in and out is fairly easy. However; due to the limited number of parking spaces available in our lot, a number of efforts are made to make pick up at the end of the day a smooth as possible.

a) Early dismissal is available for parents that need to get away early at the end of the day. Please call Mrs. Wilson or email her in the office to sign your child up. Students who are signed up will be dismissed at 3:00pm and will be sent to the back porch to wait for their ride. If your child/children are not signed up for the early dismissal, please do not show up before 3:20. Parents who arrive early will find themselves in line to park until early dismissal students are gone. If you frequently arrive before this time, your child will be placed on the early dismissal list.

b) Private busing has been arranged through Driverseat Kitchener. More information on this service can be obtained from the office.

c) We are on the public bus route: #33 Huron Rd. This bus stops right in front of the school.

Your child's safety is important to us. Please:

**Do not stop on Trillium dr. to pick up or drop off. There is no parking in front of the school and it is unsafe.**

**Do not use your cellphone while driving on the property.**

Please drive slowly and follow all signage/directions from school staff while in the parking lot.

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### **Lates/Absences**

If you know that your child will be away from school, please inform the office by calling (519) 888-6620.

If you know your child will be absent for an extended period of time please inform the office, and arrange to speak to your child's teacher. Efforts will be made to minimize the impact on your child's academics.

### **Uniforms**

A variety of uniform pieces and styles are available to be ordered; long or short sleeved, sweaters, pants, shorts and skirts.

Uniforms are ordered through the school office. Sample sizes are available to be tried. During the school year, orders are filled approximately once a month, more frequently in September and October.

The office will open in the summer for uniform sales. Keep an eye on the parent Facebook group and the newsletter for more information.

### **School supplies**

All students will be required to have an agenda to record their homework and assignments in, notebooks, pens, and pencils. Each teacher will give their class a specific list of required supplies for their program on the first day of school. Textbooks will be assigned by the school. It is the responsibility of the student to return the textbooks back in the same condition they were given at the end of the year. Students in the upper and middle school are required to have laptops.

### **Lockers**

All students will be assigned a locker on the first day of school. Each student is required to supply a lock. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain the condition of their locker and ensure that it is frequently emptied of trash. Teachers will help with the skill of organizing and maintaining this space.

### **Daily Schedule**

Our daily schedule is broken into 4 periods. For all grades, Kindergarten to grade 8, period 1 is English, period 2 is Math. This allows us to group students according to skill. It is also the part of the day where a student's focus tends to be the highest. Period 3 and 4 in the afternoon are used for all other subjects.

### **Recess**

Students in grades K to 8, have 3 recess breaks a day: 9:50 to 10:10am, 12 – 12:30, and 1:50 to 2:10pm. Students are free to have a snack at this time. Please keep in mind that we maintain a peanut free environment. Students will be outside for these breaks so please come to school dressed for the weather. Indoor recess will occur when weather warrants it.

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### **Lunch**

We have 1 lunch period per day, 11:30 to 12:30 (Elementary students have recess for the second half of this period). Lunch is not provided, but can be ordered through [thelunchlady.ca](http://thelunchlady.ca) and they will be delivered straight to your child's class at lunch. High school students in good standing may leave the property at lunch, but must sign out at the office first.

### **Reporting**

#### **Report Cards**

Report cards are completed several times a year. All report cards are sent home with the students on the dates listed below. The exception is the final summer reports which are mailed to you. We are currently working on a way for parents to access the reports online.

September 28<sup>th</sup> – High School interim

October 19<sup>th</sup> – Elementary First, High school mid-term

January 4<sup>th</sup> – Elementary Second, High school Semester 1 final

January 31<sup>st</sup> – High School Semester 2 interim

February 25<sup>th</sup> – Elementary Third, High School mid-term

May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Elementary Fourth, High School Semester 2 final

May 31<sup>st</sup> – High School Mid-term reports

June 28<sup>th</sup> – Final Reports, all students

#### **Parent Interviews**

Parent interviews are held the Thursday following your receipt of the report cards. Interviews start at 3:45 and are booked on a first-come first-serve basis. Any or all of your child's teachers can be present in the interview if requested. Please call the school (519) 888 -6620 and speak to Mrs. Wilson or email her at [office@sjsh.ca](mailto:office@sjsh.ca) to book a time. If Thursday's do not fit your schedule, other times can be arranged. Efforts are being made to make interview times available through the website; however, they are not available at this time.

Parents are encouraged to speak to your child's teacher frequently. We want to hear from you!

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### **Special Events**

Further details will be sent home with the students and they will appear on the Parent's Facebook page, and in the monthly newsletters as they approach. Please ensure you have signed up to have the most up-to-date information.

#### **Terry Fox Run**

Friday, September 28 – In support of the Terry Fox Foundation, students can choose to not wear their uniform in exchange for a donation. The run (or walk – your choice) is through the Huron Natural Area across the road from the school. This event occurs in the afternoon and ends with a hotdog, drink, and social time on the school yard. Parents are encouraged to join us!

#### **Picture Day**

Students must be in dress uniform for picture day.

Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Retakes: Not yet scheduled.

Graduation photos (Sr. Kindergarten, Grade 8, and Grade 12): Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Halloween**

Halloween is celebrated at SJSJH on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Students are welcome to come to school in appropriate costumes. Activities will occur in the afternoon; otherwise, for most students classes will be business as usual.

#### **Remembrance Day**

A student-led service of Remembrance is held in the gym November 9<sup>th</sup> at approximately 11am. Parents are welcome to join us. Dress uniform is required on this day.

#### **High School Exams**

Exams occur 3 times per year: December 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, June 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

Students will be given exam outlines and review packages one week prior to writing.

#### **Christmas Vacation**

The SJSJH Christmas break runs from December 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 to January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019.

#### **Knowledge Expo**

Every student at SJSJH, grades K to 8 is required to complete a project for the Knowledge Fair. This is similar to a Science Fair but, as all students have different interests and strengths, this allows students to complete a project in any subject they wish. Specifics and requirements are sent home prior to the Christmas break. The projects are judged by the staff and awards are handed out in the evening of Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. A book fair is also run at this time to raise funds for books in our classrooms.

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### **Spirit Week**

Spirit Week is held mid-mark each year to raise spirits as we wait for spring. Snacks are available for order, activities are held in the gym each day, and dress-up theme days help us have a bit of fun.

### **Spring Break**

Spring break at SJSH starts with Good Friday this year, Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> and runs through Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **The Tea Party**

A soiree not to be missed for the youngest members of our population! An evening of formal dress, food, and activities.

### **End of Year / Awards / Graduation**

High School students end their school year with their final exams, June 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>.

Grades 7/8's will have final exams these same days, but school will continue with an end of the year trip the following week.

Middle and Lower floor students will continue classes until the Carnival Day; Friday June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Awards night is held the evening of Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. This is both the commencement ceremony for the Sr. Kindergartens, grade 8's and high school graduates, and an opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of many of our students during the 2018 -19 school year.

### **Contact information:**

Cheryl McKee – Principal  
Fred Gore – Director  
Zabrina Wilson – Secretary  
Sean McKee/Adam Hall – Vice Principals

principal@sjsh.ca  
director@sjsh.ca  
office@sjsh.ca  
viceprincipal@sjsh.ca

Office phone number

519 888 6620