



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to the last term of elementary school for our grade 7 students! We are now planning our trip to Terrace for the soccer tournament at the end of May. A camp meeting is scheduled to discuss the various parent volunteer positions available, and to fine-tune details of our activities. Please see the calendar below for dates and times.

Thank you for all your efforts in selling 250 boxes of Krispy Kreme doughnuts. The students did well and all the boxes were sold; the funds raised will be very useful for our soccer trip at the end of May. We will need two volunteers to pick up the doughnuts at the warehouse, and a letter with further details will go out to parents this week. Your support is much appreciated when coordinating the pick-up and delivery of the boxes on April 10th.

Students will be practising their knife skills and food safety preparation techniques in the hall kitchen for two sessions. We will use the stove top for our first lesson and the oven for

the second class. I believe applesauce and ice-cream are on the menu as well as breads and cookies!

REMINDERS

- Please return all signed permission slips and forms as soon as possible.
- Students should be reading regularly for 15 - 30 minutes per night. This is a habit that should be well-established by the time students enter Grade 8.
- Please sign the homework planners every day. Students are encouraged to use their planners as organizational tools, noting any homework tasks, reminders and work due. They are also useful for communication between home and school. In Grade 8 their planners will be an indispensable organizational tool, as they learn to be in the right place at the right time. 😊

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Math - Financial literacy - including calculations of percents, and word problems with money calculations and change. We will also review decimals, fractions and integers. Students will be tested on these concepts.

Reading - *Red Wolf* by Jennifer Dance is our novel study this term. A smaller group is also working on a separate graphic novel, *Swing* by Audrey Meeker, which is at their reading level. Students read for 30 minutes every day (independent reading), and out loud in class (shared reading). They will complete a variety of comprehension and vocabulary exercises, and participate in class discussions.

Writing - The students are refining skills in different styles of writing, e.g. Narrative (storytelling), Persuasive (convincing). Expository (informing), and Descriptive (painting with words). This month, we will explore persuasive writing techniques, work on paragraph writing, and prepare debates.

Art - Using painting techniques, the class will create a mural based on the still-life painting, *Goldfish* by Henri Matisse. They will also be learning about graffiti art.

ADST - Food Studies - practicing knife and measuring skills to create shared dishes. We will be using the parish hall for two classes. Students will start their Genius Hour, choosing a project that they are passionate about, to work on during the term, for one hour a week.

Health - Puberty: Examining changes to the human body during puberty. Boys and girls will have separate classes as appropriate to the topics discussed.

Careers - An examination of time management strategies and developing good study skills that will help students as they transition into high school.

Christian Education - Students will participate in the symbolic washing of the feet at the Lenten Retreat and participate in Easter activities. Daily prayer and weekly attendance at Mass are also an integral part of their school life.

Science - Students will be studying the relationship between electricity and magnetism. We will start with examining relationships between magnets , circuits and battery cells.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

April 1 - Lenten Retreat Day

April 2 - Blue Day (for Autism) - non-uniform day. Bring a Loonie or toonie.

April 3 - 6 - Easter break

April 7 - Resurrection Assembly at 11:15am in gym.

April 9 - Camp Meeting at 6pm

April 10 - Pick-up and distribution of Krispy Kreme doughnuts. Down's Syndrome Day

April 16 - Hall booked for Food Studies (09:00-10:15am)

April 17 - College Heights Secondary School visit from 10:45-11:45am.

April 22 - Earth Day (Blue and Green Day)

April 23 - "Celebration of Learning" 6-7.30pm.

April 24 - School Mass (09:00am)

April 30 - Hall booked for Food Studies (09:00-10:15am)

Here's hoping spring arrives soon!

Best wishes,

Jean Garcia