

Friday, Oct. 23, 2020

Cardinal Léger JH – Bi-weekly Update

Hello Everyone! How quickly we have moved from fall to winter in Edmonton. Already the changing of the leaves seems a distant memory, as cold and windy weather has arrived, and our students have shifted to wearing their warmer coats, hats, and mittens. With the coldest months still ahead of us, it is important to be prepared to face the snowy conditions that are on their way. Please make sure to read the reminders for the seasonal weather in the main body of the bi-weekly update attached.

Halloween is only a week away and the excitement and preparation is clearly evident in the school, as we approach this day. Although things will look a little different this year, we still encourage all students to participate in this fun day, Friday, Nov. 30th, and dress up to help celebrate the season! I know it will be a monstrous good time!

The “Final Term” of the school year begins on Nov. 10th, as students who declared a change in learning stance will either be moving online or returning to school for the remainder of the year. Regardless of the decision to change or to keep the same learning stance, the staff of Cardinal Léger continues to dedicate their efforts to provide an outstanding educational experience for all of our students. Note that based on the data received from the Oct. 15th deadline, there will be no major changes to the existing Homeroom sections or the current methods of delivery for students. Cardinal Léger teachers will continue to instruct Cardinal Léger students and we will do everything possible to maintain the continuity of learning for our classes. Students who have changed their learning stance for Nov. 10th will be contacted by the school during the first week in November to provide information on making their transition to online or in-school learning.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about anything that is happening at the school, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Take Care and God Bless,

Duncan Buchanan
Principal, Cardinal Léger JH

As part of an effort to communicate information more regularly to the school community, please see the attached Cardinal Léger bi-weekly update. Bi-weekly updates will replace the monthly newsletter and will be posted on the website after they are delivered by email. The next update will be sent on Friday, Nov. 6th.

Nov. 10th – Important Date for Students who Changed Learning Stance

A reminder to all students who changed their learning stance from in-school to online, or visa versa, at the Oct. 15th deadline; those changes will go into effect on Nov. 10th. For the students affected, the school will contact you between Nov. 2-6 to facilitate the transition to your new learning site. For those students who did *not* request a change their stance, there is nothing further that you need to do. Please continue to attend as usual. If you have any questions about the process, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will do our best to answer your inquiries.

Halloween Activities

Halloween activities begin in full force next week as we approach the scariest time of the year! Although things won't look exactly the same as in prior years, we still look forward to a fun week as students participate in a Halloween Homeroom "name that tune" competition, door decorating contest and of course the school-wide costume contest. Prizes will be awarded for all of these different events, so we encourage all students to join in on these spooky struggles for Cardinal Leger bragging rights!

Guidelines for Costumes and other Halloween Considerations during COVID

- COVID face masks must still be worn
- Full face masks are not allowed
- No replicated weapons are allowed
- Costumes must allow for sanitization and washing of hands – therefore no hand covering.
- No sharing of candy among students
- All treats distributed by teachers will be individually packaged and handed out while complying with COVID food distribution practices, including hand sanitizing and use of gloves or tongs.

Winter Weather and Student Dress Expectations – Before School and at Lunch Hour

As mentioned, the fall season has quickly turned into blustery winter weather. Students are expected to dress appropriately for the colder conditions and be prepared to remain outside, both upon their arrival at school in the morning and at lunch hour recess. A reminder to all caregivers that the doors to the building do not open in the morning until the first bell rings at 8:15 a.m. and so students are encouraged to arrive at school as close to the start time as possible. During extreme cold conditions, typically -20C or lower, and at the discretion of the administration, the students may be admitted entrance to the school earlier than the regular start time. In these circumstances, upon entry, students must proceed directly to their Homeroom classrooms and stay in their regular seating plans until the day begins. Similarly, if outside lunch hour recess is cancelled due to cold temperatures, students will remain in their homeroom seats until the start of the regular afternoon schedule. Students cannot remain in the hallways during these times due to social distancing and other COVID protocols.

With the addition of winter coats, boots, hats, and mittens as part of the normal daily wear for our students, storage of these items during the day becomes a concern, particularly as they still do not have access to lockers as per COVID-19 protocols. Wherever possible, students will be allowed to keep their winter clothing in their Homeroom class, as long as there are no other new student cohorts using the room. Students should always keep any valuables on their person throughout the day. We appreciate

the students' efforts to clean their footwear upon entrance to the school, so that our custodial staff can keep our hallways and classrooms as clean as possible when wet weather is in the forecast.

Demo of Learning - Parent Teacher Interviews – Nov. 19 – Phone Call Meetings Only

Due to COVID protocols and rules minimizing visitors to the school, we are not able to hold any in-person Parent-Teacher interviews at this time. We recognize how important it is to have a scheduled time to speak with your child's teachers, however, and so will be providing this opportunity through phone call meetings on Thursday, Nov. 19th.

Beginning Monday, November 9th, at 9 a.m., parents who wish to speak with a teacher(s) on Nov. 19th are asked to go online to book a time(s) and to provide a preferred phone number where the teacher can reach you. Note that teachers will be available at 10 min intervals from 1-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on this date. Due to the nature of this new format, we ask parents to respect the time limit of the meeting and understand that it is only possible to book 3 teachers maximum on this date. The link to the online booking site and more detailed information on how to book an interview will be provided in the November 6th Bi-weekly update. Parents are always welcome to reach out to teachers through email or the school, throughout the year, if they have any questions or concerns about their child and their learning.

School Fees

Final submission and approval of school fees for the current year is nearing completion. Now that final student in-school and online learning stances have been declared, parents can expect to see their child's school fees owing in Parent PowerSchool, likely in the first week of November. Fees can only be paid online through the PowerSchool Portal. Parents and guardians who have any questions about fees are asked to contact the school.

ETS Bus Pass Purchase for November

Students who require ETS bus passes for November are reminded that they are only available pre-purchased, online, through Parent PowerSchool. Absolutely no cash or debit/credit can be accepted at the school. The Parent PowerSchool Portal is now open for bus pass purchases until Nov. 6th. The link to Parent PowerSchool can be found here: <http://powerschool.ecsd.net>

PPE – Students Required to Wear Masks

All students are required to wear masks upon entrance to the school, and must continue to wear those masks throughout the day, other than when eating at lunch or when a teacher indicates that it is safe to remove the mask because social distancing is possible. This also holds true for all staff, parents/guardians, and visitors to Cardinal Léger. All students were provided with two cloth masks at the start of the year, to supplement any other masks they may also have purchased. Please continue to use them and wash them regularly. As we enter the winter season this safety precaution is absolutely necessary to reduce the likelihood of COVID19 transmission and keep the school open and safe for the entire school community.

In the past few weeks, we have noticed an increasing number of students regularly coming to school without their masks. The school has a limited supply of disposable masks to accommodate this situation. Moving forward, we are not able to supply masks for everyone who arrives without this mandated PPE. Students who regularly arrive without masks will be asked to contact their caregiver and will not be allowed to enter their classes until a mask is provided from home. Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to work to ensure the safety of our school community

Fire Drills and Lock Down Practice

Over the past two weeks, Cardinal Léger staff and students successfully completed their second fire drill and first lock down practice of the school year. These important safety rehearsals are critical for ensuring the school is prepared in the event of a real incident. We were fortunate to have a member of the EPS help us with our lockdown practice and I am pleased to say we passed with flying colors. All schools are required to complete 6 fire drills and 3 lockdown practices each year.

Student Learning when Required to Isolate at Home

Those students who are required to self-isolate due to close contact with a confirmed COVID19+ individual will continue their education from home through regular, check-ins with their normal classes' Google Classrooms and Teams groups. Their usual teachers will continue to post appropriate notes, assignments, and activities for students to work on while they are away, so that they maintain the pace of their learning for when they return to school at the completion of their isolation. Wherever possible, when scheduling allows, teachers will also look to connect with their classes at the appropriate time in their timetable, in order to provide live interaction and instruction. It should be noted, however, that students in this circumstance will not be switched to an online learning class.

Alberta School Councils' Association - Parent Survey on School Re-entry and Covid-19

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) is conducting a survey to measure the "pandemic pulse" in the return to schooling with Covid-19 implications. All parents/guardians in Alberta with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to participate in the survey.

Participation is anonymous and will inform the ASCA Board of Directors on parents' perspectives during the Fall 2020 school re-entry. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. All responses are confidential. The survey closes on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. The link to the survey is [here](#).

Student Photos – Retake Day - Oct. 28 – a.m.

All students who require a retake of their school picture, for purposes of purchasing a photo package from Lifetouch, are able to do so the morning of Oct. 28th.

Any student who has had their school picture taken by Lifetouch, receives a proof sheet. On this proof there will be a portrait ID # and an access code for parents to view and order their student's photos online. To meet COVID protocols, parents should order photos online to reduce the amount of handling of the packages for the school staff.

Parents should call Lifetouch customer service and ask for their child's unique codes. The customer service # is 1-866-457-8212. Customer Service will email them a form to fill out to ensure we are giving access to the correct person.

Shutterfly is offering a gift with purchase when parents order online. Parents can also choose to have their photos delivered to their home.

Before Coming to School Each Day

A continued reminder to all our families, before sending your child to school each day, we ask that you complete the Daily COVID Screening Tool for Parents. We thank you for helping ensure the health and wellbeing of our community, by keeping your child at home when they are ill. The checklist, can be found [here](#) and is designed to help determine if you should send your child to school.

Introduction to our EISA Program

At Cardinal Léger, we are fortunate to have the support of the Edmonton Immigration Services Association (EISA) and our own Settlement Practitioner Zipporah Greenslade. If you are new to Canada or know anyone who is new to the country, and would like to learn more, you are encouraged to contact Zipporah. All information, including Zipporah's introduction, can be found on the [Inclusive Communities](#) page of the Cardinal Léger website.

NEW TO CANADA?

Or: Do you know anyone who is New To Canada?
(Has lived in Canada for FIVE years or less)

Settlement Services are available at the following Schools:
Cardinal Leger, Dickinsfield, , Evansdale & St. Philip.

Information & Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none">Life in CanadaHealth/ Health InsuranceTransportationHousingImproving English/ FrenchEducation/ TrainingEmployment/ Job SearchMoney and FinancesCommunity Connections	Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community ServicesSocial ServicesESL/ Language ClassesRecreation ServicesImmigration IssuesCitizenship ClassesGovernment ProgramsInterpretation/ TranslationRights & Responsibilities
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For more information please ask our Settlement Practitioner:
Zipporah Greenslade
Email: ZGreenslade@eisa-edmonton.org
Phone: 780-802-8815



This Program is funded by **Immigration Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)**

School Council News

The next virtual meeting will be held on Nov. 25th at 6:30 p.m. It is not too late to be part of the Council and attend our meetings. If you would like to attend, please email the school email at 8287web@ecsd.net with the subject heading: School Council and you will be provided the link to join us in November.

Our Catholic Faith and Social Justice Activities

Cereal Drive

Cardinal Léger collected a massive amount of cereal in our annual Thanksgiving Cereal Drive. All boxes collected will be donated to the ECSD breakfast programs.



Terry Fox Run

Thank you to all families who donated to the Terry Fox Foundation. In total our Cardinal Léger School community raised \$208 dollars through in school and online donations during our Terry Fox Run week in September.

Division Wide Faith Development Day – Oct. 29

There will be no school for students on Thursday, Oct. 29 as all staff in the Edmonton Catholic School Division will be engaged in their annual Faith Development Day. The day remains an opportunity to pray, to listen, to learn, and to share, as we participate in virtual presentations from guest speakers, as well as celebrate with a Eucharistic Liturgy presided by our Division Chaplains.