

Friday, Sept. 11, 2020

Cardinal Léger JH – Bi-weekly Update

Welcome Back Everyone! What a fantastic first week back to school! It was wonderful to see our students back in school and online as they began full days of classes. Even though our staff and students wore masks, it was apparent by the smiles in their eyes that they were overjoyed to be back together as part of the Charger family.

I want to extend a big “thank you” to all our parents and guardians! We are so appreciative of all the positive messages of support that the staff has received in the past few days. I know that the teachers and support staff have worked countless hours to make sure that we were ready to provide an outstanding learning experience for both students in class and online. Your patience is appreciated as we iron out some of the details of our new daily routines. I also want to thank our students; they have done a great job following the new COVID19 protocols that have been introduced to keep the school community safe and secure.

Lastly, I want to personally thank everyone for their warm welcome to Cardinal Léger! In the short time that I have been here, I already feel like I am part of something very special. I feel blessed to be here and look forward to meeting as many of the students, parents, and guardians as possible, whether in person or virtually, in the upcoming months.

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 attached for the first 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, Sept. 25th.

Welcome to New Teaching Staff for 2020-21

A warm Cardinal Léger welcome to Mr. M. Zietara, our new grade 9 Homeroom and Math teacher. In addition, we welcome Ms. D. Lefebvre, the new Assistant Principal and Science teacher. We are fortunate to have both on staff for the new school year. A complete staff list can be found in the School Information section of the Cardinal Léger website.

Cardinal Léger Website

We continue to update the Cardinal Léger website found here:

[Cardinal Léger Catholic Junior High School](#)

Please return to it regularly for information about our school, as well as to check out the Calendar for current dates of school activities and events.

Before Coming to School Each Day

A 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, which is attached to this email, is designed to help determine if you should send your child to school. In addition, I have attached the AHS Student Illness Guidelines which goes through the requirements for students with COVID-19 symptoms. To reinforce, students who are away, for whatever reason, are always able to see their days work on their teachers' Google classrooms.

Drop off and Pickup of Students – Starting and Finishing the School Day

Because the school will only open immediately before the bell rings to start the day, we ask that parents and guardians who are dropping off their children do so as close to the 8:15 a.m. start time as possible. Any student who arrives before the bell should social distance as best as possible and wear a mask when unable to do so. Please ensure your child has their mask(s) with them for the school day ahead. The school is unable to provide masks to students who have forgotten theirs. Students must wear their masks upon entering the school and throughout the day, other than at lunch hour and when teachers deem it possible to social distance safely for specific activities.

We ask that when students move to their respective grade entrances in the morning, and when they are leaving the school grounds at the end of the day, they do not enter the Staff Parking lot. Because cars are entering and leaving at these times, it is hazardous to have students walking through this area. In addition, when students are being dropped off or picked up, please ensure that they do not jaywalk, particularly on the west, 88 street roadway. Students should proceed to the corner of the street and cross at the appropriate location. The safety of our students in these high traffic areas surrounding our school is our primary focus as we start and finish the day.

Online Learning and Textbook Pickup

By this time, all our online students should have connected with their online teachers. Google classroom codes and Teams meeting invitations have been sent out and lessons have begun. If your child has yet to take part in their daily online classes and/or has not interacted with their online teacher, please contact the school as soon as possible, so that any difficulties that may be occurring can be addressed.

Online student textbooks will be available for scheduled pickup at the school beginning next Monday, Sept. 14th. Students and/or their parent or guardian are asked to come to the main entrance of the school and wait in line, outside, while maintain COVID protocols for masks and distancing. Individuals will be brought into the school where the books will be signed out and distributed. We ask that students or their parent/guardian adhere to the following schedule:

Monday, Sept. 14 - 8:30-11:30 a.m. – Grade 7

Monday, Sept. 14 – 12:30-2:30 p.m. – Grade 8

Tuesday, Sept. 15 – 8:30-11:30 a.m. – Grade 9

Parents/Guardians/Students who are unable to make their scheduled time slot are asked to contact the school to arrange for an alternative.

Virtual Meet the Teacher Evening

With the inability to hold our annual in-person meet the teacher evening, the staff will present a virtual alternative on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd. That evening, recorded video greetings will be available online from all our teaching staff, so that you are introduced to the wonderful team that is responsible for your children's education throughout the day. Information on how and when to connect will be provided as we get closer to that date.

School Council - Annual General Meeting and Membership Drive

Each year, on the same evening as meet the teacher, the Cardinal Léger School Council and the Cardinal Leger Fundraising Association meet and hold their Annual General Meeting. This important meeting allows parents and guardians to learn about the role of School Council, to meet the current Executive of the Council, to review the goals for the upcoming school year, and to encourage new membership in the Council. Again, with the inability to hold an in-person meeting, this year's AGM will occur virtually, on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 6:30 p.m. This year's meeting is even more important, as there is a vacancy in the Chair position of the School Council Executive that needs to be filled. If you are interested in joining the Cardinal Léger School Council, and/or would like to attend the virtual meeting on Sept. 23, please contact the school by email at: 8287web@ecsd.net , with the subject line School Council and further information will be provided to connect to the virtual AGM on Sept. 23rd.

Top 5 Great Reasons to Join School Council

1. To support your child
2. To be informed of your school's environment

3. To maintain an interest in education
4. To contribute to the school
5. To model participation

ETS Bus Pass Purchase

Monday, Sept. 14th is the final date for students to pickup pre-purchased ETS bus passes. Those students requiring bus passes must log into Parent PowerSchool and purchase them online. Absolutely no cash or debit/credit can be accepted at the school. Pre-purchased bus passes will be distributed to students on Monday.

Student Spirit Wear and Apparel

Once again, Cardinal Leger has launched its online apparel store for students and parents to purchase Charger pride wear, phys. ed clothing, as well as other Charger gear at discounted prices.

The link below will take you to the "Leger Store" where you can order various items.

All purchases made on the site will be shipped directly to the school.

The store has already opened and will close for the first quarter on Friday, September 25, 2020

Show your Charger pride!!!

Instructions for purchases are as follows:

1. Click on the following link <https://stores.inksoft.com/cardinalleger/shop/home>
2. Click "**sign-in**" on the top right-hand corner. (It will ask you for your email and password- ignore this and click "**Create account**").
3. Very simple- add your email address, first name, last name, and password-that's it.
4. Now you are ready to order! Click on an item you'd like, and it will open in a larger screen. Here is where you select your color/design, your size and your quantity- add them to cart.
5. Once you have chosen all your items for purchase, click on "**view cart**" then "**proceed to checkout**".

Our Catholic Faith and Social Justice Activities

School Opening Celebration

On Monday, Sept. 14th, the staff and students will celebrate in our Catholic Faith the start of the school year. Together with their Homeroom Cohorts, we will pray to God for a positive, safe and productive year ahead, as we take part in a staff led para-liturgy. Online students will be provided with a link in block 5 after lunch, so that they are able to join the school celebration.

School Visits by Our Parish Priest

We are blessed to have Father Sathia from St. Matthew Parish begin scheduled visits to each of our homeroom classes in the upcoming months. Father is excited to have the opportunity to interact with our students and answer their questions about our Faith and his role in the school community and Parish.

Our District Theme – God Calls Us Each by Name

Each year, the Chief Superintendent gathers with the Division's leaders to discern the theme for the year. This year, our theme is God Calls Us Each by Name. I have attached the beautiful image, and the explanation of its meaning, that was developed to represent our new theme.

Terry Fox Run

Throughout the week of Sept. 21, the Cardinal Léger students and staff will participate in the annual Terry Fox Run. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to run as a whole school, however we will look to run or walk in smaller cohorts throughout the week. This will be our first whole school social justice activity, as we support the Terry Fox Foundation through sports drink sales and other activities.

Picture Day - Student Photos

Student photos, through Lifetouch photography, will take place on Monday, Sept. 21. Lifetouch will have procedures in place to ensure that they can provide a safe Picture Day. After Picture Day, parents and guardians can order pictures on mylifetouch.ca using your child's Portrait ID and Access Code, which will be found on your Picture Day order form which will be provided on Sept. 21.

Chromebook purchase

There have been a number of inquiries about the possibility of students purchasing their own Chromebook for the school year. Edmonton Catholic Schools provides an option for students who wish to make this purchase, at a reduced rate, through Compugen. Information can be found at the following link: [ECS Chromebook Purchase Program](#)
Actual purchases can be made through the COMPUGEN webpage here: [COMPUGEN Purchasing](#)

Please be sure to view the important information found in the attachments provided with this email. These include the messages from our Chief Superintendent and our ECSD Chaplain.

Have a wonderful weekend!