



# Welcome to Grade 4

2017 - 2018

Teacher: Ms. J. Toljanich  
St. Joseph's Elementary School

## Schedules:

**\*P.E.**                      Tuesday (2:05 p.m.)  
(Mr. Evans)                Wednesday (9:35 a.m.)  
                                    Thursday (12:45 p.m.)

Please ensure that your child has the proper gym strip, which includes white socks and running shoes. Students can wear their St. Joseph's sweat-suits on top of their gym strips if it is cold. Please make sure that your child wears his/her gym strip underneath his/her uniform for P.E. days.

**\*Library**                    Thursday (10:30 p.m.)  
(Mrs. Curran)

Please ensure that your child returns his/her books on time, or he/she will not be able to take more books out until overdue books are returned.

**\*French**                  Monday and Wednesday  
(Ms. O'Callaghan)

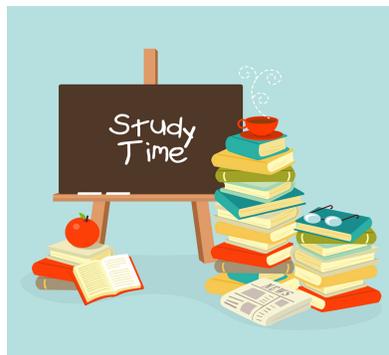
**\*Music**                    Tuesday and Friday  
(Mr. Band)

## **Important!!!!**

Please check your child's planner every night to make sure that all homework is complete. There will be notices for you to look at in your child's homework folder each night and permission slips to sign. Your child is expected to bring their homework folder to and from school daily. All notices will be put there so they do not get lost.

Students are expected to read for 30 minutes each night. Students are also expected to practice their typing skills at least 3 times a week and this will be completed through a class program called typing.com. Each student will have their own individual log in and password. Other forms of homework may include unfinished work; review; studying for tests and quizzes; or assignments/ project work. Each day, students will be given the opportunity to finish assignments in class so the amount of work taken home will vary depending on how much is accomplished during the day.

Your child is expected to finish all homework that is assigned and bring it to school the next day. If your child does not complete his/her homework, he/she will be asked to complete it at recess and lunch and receive a homework slip that needs to be signed and returned the following day.



## Home Reading (HR)

Your child is expected to read at least 30 minutes every night. Students can read on their own, with you, or take turns with their siblings or other family members. As a part of the Home Reading program, each student is required to bring the book they are reading to and from school each day. This is to help promote finishing one book before starting another. There will be a daily check-in where your child will tell me what page they read up to the previous night. Once a week, I will meet with each child individually to discuss their reading goals and progress. They will be encouraged to complete a reading activity once a week to deepen their understanding of the books they are reading; these activities will change periodically. This program is designed to allow children choice in what they are reading but also to keep them accountable for bringing their book both to and from school.



## Curriculum Overview

In Grade 4 the students will first be continuing to build their relationship with God by learning about the faith and showing their understanding through their actions every day. Students will be asked to reflect on all aspects being taught about the Catholic faith in order to deepen their understanding and how God wants us to live.



## BC Curriculum

The Grade 4 curriculum is designed to help students grow as learners and explore areas of interest to them. In Grade 4 this year, students will engage in inquiry and project based opportunities. This will allow them to choose what interests them most about what we are learning by having the opportunity to ask and answer their own questions. We will begin to learn how to properly research a topic, show our understanding and produce a final product. Students will be continuing to use the JUMP Math program, where the concepts are isolated and described very clearly and incrementally so everyone can understand.

## Things We are Working Toward

This year there are a few changes both to the school and specifically to the Grade 4 classroom. St. Joseph's hopes to incorporate google classroom into the intermediate grades. This is a program where each student will be given an email and a password that they take with them from grade to grade. The teacher for the year will have access to student work and will be able to send out both notifications and assignments, as well as to check on student progress. Students will easily be able to share and access files when working in a group and actually complete assignments together, even when at different locations. We are working on learning the program, and you will be informed with any updates.



This year I have decided to set-up a group supply system. This will help ensure that no supplies go missing and each student has exactly what they need to be successful. With that being said, please make sure you have purchased all the correct supplies for your child.

Finally, Grade 4 will be using a flexible seating model for the year. Students will be given choice as to where they feel they will be most successful working in the classroom. They will be taught how to make the right seating choice and know that they can always be moved by the teacher if they are being disruptive. This is intended to help students to



become independent and self-regulated learners who are capable of recognizing when they are focused and ready to learn, and when a change needs to be made. For this model to work, students will not be keeping any personal belongings in a desk. They are expected to keep their book bin and binder area organized.

## Quick Notes on Grade 4

### SWIMMING

Grade 4 will need rides during swimming. If you are able to help, the hours that you contribute will be credited toward your participation hours for this year. If there are not enough rides, students will not be able to go swimming and will miss out on a great opportunity.



### FIELDTRIPS

We aim to go on 3-5 fieldtrips a year. These will help to reinforce the concepts that were taught in specific subject areas. If you are able to help, we will greatly appreciate your contribution!

For the purpose of research and projects throughout the year, the students will take walking field trips to the public library throughout the year.

## FOOD

Our classroom is a NUT FREE zone. Please do not give your child any food that contains nuts.

Fast food is not allowed in the school, even if it is repackaged in a different bag or container. We are trying to teach students to make healthy food choices whenever they eat, whether at recess, lunch or at home.



## BIRTHDAYS

If you would like to bring food for the class for your child's birthday, please make sure that it is healthy.

Examples: fruit, veggies, oatmeal cookies, muffins, pizza.

No cakes, cupcakes, pop, or chips PLEASE!!!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me through email at [jtoljanich@gmail.com](mailto:jtoljanich@gmail.com) I will do my best to respond to your emails as efficiently as I can during the work week. I am also available to set up meetings before and after school.

I look forward to a very rewarding school year working with both you and your child.

Sincerely,

Ms. Toljanich