

September, 2025
Volume 16, Issue 1



September Newsletter

Upcoming School Closures

Please keep these dates in mind as some of the dates the school will be closed will not coincide with the public school calendar.

September	October	November
School Opens Tuesday, September 2 Early dismissal at 11am	Thanksgiving Holiday Monday, October 13	Remembrance Day Holiday Tuesday, November 11
Truth & Reconciliation Day Tuesday, September 30	Walkathon Friday, October 10 Noon Dismissal	
	Parent Teacher Conference Friday, October 24 No School	

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school! As we begin this new school year, let's open our hearts to the many blessings God has in store for us. The theme this year is Living, Celebrating and PROCLAIMING our faith. Together, we'll learn not only about the world around us, but also about God's love and how we can share it with others. Let's make this year one filled with grace, friendship and endless opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

St. Joseph's School 2025-2026 Staff Assignments

Principal: Mr. Michael Schultz

Book Keeper: Mrs. Laurie Symington

Secretary: Mrs. Jennie Laxamana

Kindergarten: Ms. Pilar Noguera

Grade 1: Ms. Kora Kaehler

Grade 2: Ms. Gaby Brown

Grade 3: Mrs. Sara Pizzolato

Grade 4: Mr. James Thorpe

Grade 5: Ms. Gabriela Jimenez

Grade 6: Ms. Aoife O'Sullivan & Ms. Jessica Cheung

Grade 7: Mr. Jack Scannell

Learning Support: Ms. Jade Rushby

Physical and Health Education: Mr. Blair Evans

Music & French: Ms. Mika Chu

Learning Commons: Mrs. Jennie Laxamana

Education Assistants: Mrs. Ruwani De Silva, Mrs. Zena Iwanowicz, Mrs. Cristina Primerano, Mrs. Barbara DiFluri, Ms. Amy O'Riordan, Ms. Franny Adullah, Ms. Emily Larkin, Ms. Roisin Brophy, Ms. Myra Bautista, Ms. Graciela Madriaga, Ms. Anria Martin, Ms. Maritza Chouza, Ms. Maria Barros, and Mrs. Jennie Laxamana.

Meet the Teacher Night Thursday, September 4th

****Mandatory Meeting**

****Please meet at the school gym at
6:30pm**

School Schedule

8:40am	Bell rings
10:15am-10:30am	Morning Recess
12:00pm – 12:25pm	Noon Recess
12:25pm -12:40p	Lunch Break
2:45pm	Class Dismissal

Playground supervision:

8:15am – 8:40am
2:45pm – 3:00pm

Afterschool club:

3:00pm to 5:00pm

Office Hours

8:30am – 4:00pm

For safety of the staff and students, there is **NO PARKING** permitted in the school parking lot.

Parking Lot is closed from

730am – 430pm

Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival

The bell rings promptly at 8:40am. Any students who arrive late are to report to the office. This is to ensure that your child's attendance is recorded.

Students are to wait for the bell at the parking lot. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather as they cannot wait inside the school for the bell. Supervision will begin at 8:15am.

Dismissal

The dismissal bell rings at 2:45pm. Students will be meet parents/guardians at the parking lot. Supervision will be until 3:00pm daily. Students who are in the parking lot past 3:00pm will be directed to go to After School Club. Students are NOT permitted to wait in the parking lot or by the stairs on 15th past 3:00pm to be picked up.

If you are going to be late to pick up your child, please contact the office. We will inform your child you will be late and that he/she will need to go to After School Club. You will be invoiced at the end of the month at the cost of \$7/hr.

Picture Day

Individual School Photos

Friday, September 26th

Please note: Students must be dressed in full uniform

Fall Sports

Our sports for this season will begin right away. We offer cross-country running for students from grades two through seven; and girls from grades five through seven may participate in volleyball.

Walkathon | Friday, October 10th

Start planning! Our annual walkathon will be held at Trout Lake on Friday, October 10. This is a major fundraiser for our school and pledge sheets and information will be sent home soon. Save the date because we need volunteers to help us on that day!

Uniforms

We received a list of orders that have not yet been fulfilled by Neat Uniforms. Therefore, we understand that some of you will not have all of your items at the beginning of the year. If your family is in that situation, the students can wear the uniform items that they have in their possession, along with basic clothing that is in line with the uniform (i.e. dark coloured pants for the boys; a plain skirt for the girls). Hopefully, the orders will come in soon!

Please make sure that your children are dressed in full uniform every day. The school uniform **must** be purchased at Neat Uniforms; non-uniform items, such as shirts and pants, must be replaced.

Our uniform policy is described in the school application forms and parent handbook.

Students are most welcome to wear the golf shirts, shorts/skorts until Thanksgiving. If you need further clarification, please speak with your child's teacher or call the school office. Thank you for helping us to instill school pride in our students.

Please label all items including coats, jackets and shoes with your child's name. It really helps if we are able to identify clothing that is lost and found.

Unlabeled items will be put in our Lost and Found cupboard located in the main hallway.

Unclaimed items at Christmas, Spring Break and the end of the year will be donated to charity.

Weekly Mass

Once again this year, Father Minh has arranged for our school community to attend Mass every Friday morning at 9:00am at St. Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Visiting the School during School Hours

For the safety of students/staff at our school, all visitors MUST report to the school office to sign in and get a Visitor badge. You must sign out and return the visitor badge before leaving the school. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please set up a time to meet with them via email or you can let the office know you would like to meet with your child's teacher. We will inform them and they will get back to you to set up a meeting.

If you need to use the washroom, Please use the washroom at the office. You are NOT allowed to use the girls/boys washroom during school hours.

Used Uniforms Sale & PE Uniform Sale

Used Uniforms Sale

We will hold our used uniforms sale on Thursday, September 4 after school and before the the parent meeting. Cash only please.

PE Uniform Sale

We will post when we will have a sale when our stock arrives.

Reminders to help your year go smoothly

Communication

Should you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please contact his or her teacher, who will be pleased to meet with you. The times just before and just after school are very busy for the teachers, so we ask that you call or email the school office to make an appointment.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any items with Mr. Schultz, please do not hesitate to stop by his office at any time throughout the day. You are also welcome to make an appointment for a specific time. We are always eager to work with you for the well-being of your children.

Field Trips

Please be reminded that all children nine years of age and younger must be in a booster seat when travelling in a car. Therefore, on all field trips for students from kindergarten through grade four in which students are transported by parents, the children must bring in their own car seat in order to participate in the trip. Please label the car seats with your name and phone number in order to avoid confusion.

In addition, please ensure that you have completed the volunteer driver form and that the office has a copy of your driver's license and car insurance information before driving students on field trips or for sports events. We will keep this information in a secure file for the entire school year. Parents who have not submitted this information to the office will not be allowed to drive students.

Lunches

At lunch time, the students will play outside from 12:00pm until 12:25pm and then eat their lunches from 12:25 until 12:40pm. If you plan to deliver lunch to your child, please ensure that it is delivered to the office by 12:00 noon, as the office staff will be having their lunch break from 12:00 until 12:25. We do not allow deliveries to the individual classrooms, as these disruptions interrupt the work of the teachers and students. Please remember that we do not permit 'fast food' type lunches (McDonald's, Burger King, KFC, etc.) or junk food (pop, chips, etc.) at St. Joseph's at any time. If children bring any of these foods to school, they will not be allowed to eat them. We encourage parents to make healthy choices for snacks and lunches, and hope that you will make the same choices on weekends as well. Please check product packaging for information regarding the nutritional value of food. ***Please also note that we do not allow food delivery services such as Skip the Dishes, Doordash, etc.***

Personal Electronic Devices

Please be reminded that the use of personal electronic devices is not permitted on school grounds or during school-related activities, including Afterschool Club. Students who carry cell phones for security purposes must turn them off and leave them in their school bags, and may only use them after they have left school property. Students may use the school phone to call home if needed. Electronic games or music devices (such as iPods, etc.) are not permitted on school property or at school events at any time. If these rules are not followed, the personal electronic device will be taken away from the student for an extended period of time.

School Supplies (Grades 5 -7)

All students must have their school supplies by Friday September 5th so that they can organize themselves properly for learning. Stores have a great supply of the necessary items in stock at this time if you have not purchased them through the online kit provider.

Student Commitment

When students join programs or activities, we expect them to make a full commitment of time and effort. Whether it is choir, cross-country, volleyball, or a club the students must attend each session or practice and do their very best. Thank you for your continued support of our programs.

Traffic Safety

Please find attached the map outlining our procedures for drop-off and pick-up of students. Please observe these traffic safety routines, as we have prepared them in the interest of keeping all of the students safe.

Remember that there is **NO PARKING** in front of the school on Fleming Street, or at the side entrance on 15th Avenue. It is only possible to DROP OFF at these locations, on the correct side of the street. Please do NOT drop off your children on the opposite side of Fleming Street, as it is very difficult for drivers to see them as they cross such a crowded, narrow street. Please remember that the maximum speed in school zones is 30kph. You are most welcome to drive more slowly! Please do not make u-turns or 3 point turns in the area of the school, as they are very unsafe.

Most importantly, please respect our neighbours and obey the parking signs. We regularly receive complaints from our neighbours regarding drop-off and pick-up.

Please **do not** park across driveways or park in the Resident Only areas. There is no parking in front of the school on Fleming Street between 8am and 5pm.

We always need more traffic patrollers in the mornings and afternoons. This is perhaps the most important area of participation, as it involves the safety of our children. We hope that you will consider putting your participation efforts towards this duty.

Yard Supervision

St. Joseph's School provides supervision between the hours of 8:15am and 3:00pm. Please ensure that your children are not on school property outside of those hours, unless they are participating in supervised extra- curricular activities. Students are not permitted to stay on the grounds to play after school. Students who remain after yard supervision has ended will be sent to the Afterschool Club and parents will be charged the drop-in fee. The staff is not responsible for supervising students after 3:00pm, as they are busy preparing for the next day and taking part in meetings. Thank you for respecting our staff members' time.

Communication with the Office

When you are emailing the office or sending an etransfer, please add your child's full name and grade in the subject line of your email or in the notes section for your etransfer. We appreciate your cooperation!

Outdoor Education (Grade 6 & 7)

Outdoor Ed will take place from Wednesday, September 10 – Friday, September 12 at Evans Lake. Mr. Evans will distribute the consent forms and information about the camp when school starts.

Hot Lunch Program

Hot lunch will begin on Tuesday, September 23. We will send order forms home on Friday, September 5th.

For this 3 month term, the hot lunch will be as follows:

- Tuesdays – Pizza
- Thursdays - Sushi

St. Joseph's Community

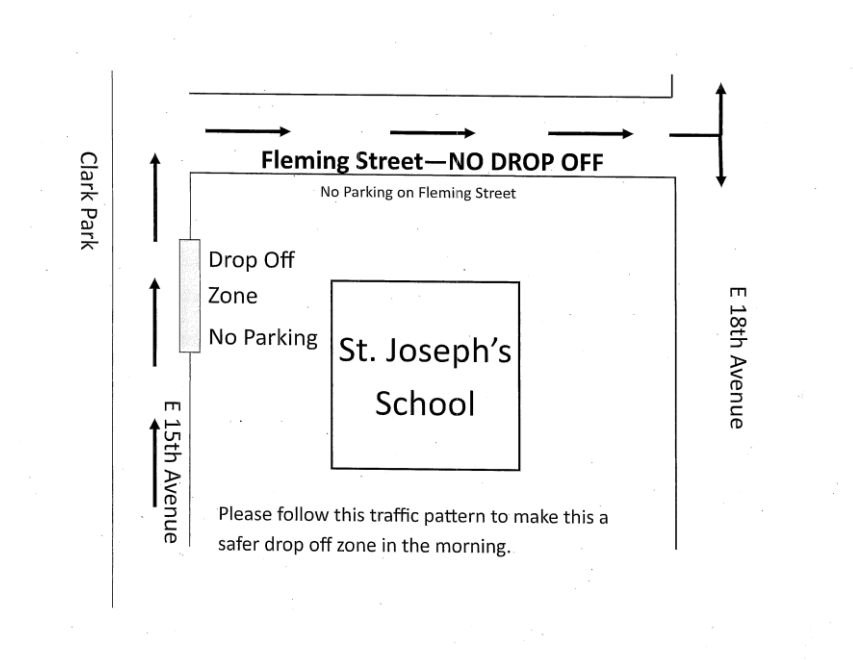
These busy times of day can be stressful, but your courteous behavior makes a big difference—not just for the safety of all our students, but also in setting a positive example for the children watching.

Please help us maintain a calm and respectful atmosphere by:




- Being patient with other drivers, staff, and pedestrians
- Following traffic and parking rules around the school
- Treating others with kindness, even during delays or busy moments

Our school community is strongest when we work together to create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone—inside and outside the building.

Drop Off Zones



September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Labour Day	2 First Day of School School Mass - 9:00am Staff 11am Dismissal <i>* welcome back *</i>	3	4 Meet the Teacher Night <i>meet the</i> TEACHER	5 School Mass - 9:00am Grade 7	6
7	8 Assembly	9 PE Starts	10 	11 Outdoor Education Grade 6&7 	12 School Mass - 9:00am Grade 5	13
14	15 Assembly	16	17	18	19 School Mass - 9:00am Grade 6	20
21	22 Assembly	23	24	25	26 School Mass - 9:00am Grade 4 Individual Picture Day & Staff Photos 	27
28 <i>Every Child Matters</i>	29 Assembly Grade 7 Every Child Matters Day Orange Shirt Day	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation No School	1	2	3	4