



ST. JOSEPH

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NELSON

EDUCATING THROUGH FAITH....EXCELLING IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

August 28, 2023

Dear St. Joseph Families,

I would like to welcome all families and staff back to St. Joseph for our 125th School Year! Celebrations will happen throughout the school year. I pray that you have had a wonderful summer break. We also welcome all our new families to St. Joseph School. We are blessed to have you. We look forward to getting to know you all.

This week, the staff will be attending three days of preparation for the start of the 2023-2024 School Year. Staff will be participating in team building activities, mass, will also enjoy a day working with technology, and our local health nurses.

Please remember the health of our school families and staff are our utmost priority. Keep your child home if they are not feeling well or sick. **Please remember to contact the school & your child's teacher if they are going to be away for any reason.**

When sending food to school for your child(ren), keep in mind that the school is a nut-free school. Many students and staff members have severe nut allergies.

Please check the September Calendar for upcoming events like the Kokanee Creek visits, start of year field trips, our welcome back BBQ, Terry Fox Walk (Toonies for Terry), and Orange Shirt Day. All families are welcome to attend our opening year mass at the Cathedral on Monday, September 11th at 9am. Bishop Gregory will be there to bless our staff & students for the beginning of our 125th School Year.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's day, please try to contact the classroom teacher as quickly as possible. A simple email or phone call can help us deal with issues while they are still small rather than letting them build up. Teachers truly appreciate your feedback.

Parents, please direct any questions or concerns that are not of clerical nature to my office (sjnprincipal@cisnd.ca). I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

I am excited to be back leading this wonderful school community. We are truly blessed to be a part of St. Joseph School.

Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carere
Principal



St. Joseph Staff



Our staff are truly a dedicated and professional team. We are pleased to welcome to St. Joe's the following new teachers: Michelle Allsop - Kindergarten, Rachelle Freeman - Grade 3, Laura Boudens - Grade 6, and Mel Nieva - Music.

MICHAEL CARERE	- Principal	sjnprincipal@cisnd.ca
YVONNE VULCANO	- Secretary	yvulcano@cisnd.ca
MICHELLE ALLSOP	- Kindergarten	mallsop@cisnd.ca
JUSTINE MCLEAN	- Grade 1	jmclean@cisnd.ca
MARCIA ADAM	- Grade 2	madam@cisnd.ca
RACHELLE FREEMAN	- Grade 3	rfreeman@cisnd.ca
JANICE MELANSON	- Grade 4	jmelanson@cisnd.ca
JENIFER GRAHAM	- Grade 5	jgraham@cisnd.ca
LAURA BOUDENS	- Grade 6	lboudens@cisnd.ca
SCOTT MARTENS	- Grade 7/8	smartens@cisnd.ca
JENNY SCHAU	- Grade 8/9	jschaub@cisnd.ca
HOPE CARERE	- Itinerant Teacher	hcarere@cisnd.ca
CATHERINE MCINTOSH	- Inclusion Support	cmcintosh@cisnd.ca
LAURIE HOOD	- French	lhood@cisnd.ca
MARGARET LOVE CALLADINE	- Music	mcalladine@cisnd.ca
MEL NIEVE	- Music	mnieva@cisnd.ca
TODD MANTON	- Phys. Ed.	tmanton@cisnd.ca

All teacher contact information can also be found on our website at <https://www.stjosephnelson.ca/faculty-and-staff-directory.php>

FLORDELIZA CORPUZ	- EA
BECKY LAURIENTE	- EA
NICOLE MATHIESON	- EA
TERESA SEGSTRO	- EA
CHRISTINA VARLEY	- EA
DINDO VILLENUEVA	- Custodian/Maintenance
MELISSA LIWAG	- Custodian

CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF NELSON DIOCESE:

PAMELA GUILBAULT - Superintendent of Schools
(Visit www.cisnd.ca for school board policy & information)

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NELSON

BISHOP GREGORY BITTMAN - Bishop of the Nelson Diocese
FATHER JOJO AGUSTINE - Pastor of the Cathedral of Mary Immaculate

JOEY'S AFTER SCHOOL CARE STAFF: TERESA SEGSTRO – Manager
joeys.childcare@cisnd.ca BECKY LAURIENTE

Please visit our website for more information: www.stjosephnelson.ca

SCHOOL COUNCIL:

St. Joseph School Council is responsible for the business of the school. It is a committee made up of the Pastor from the Cathedral in Nelson, the school Principal, and elected members from the parish.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

PSG meetings are on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting is **Monday, September 25th** at 6:00 – 7:00pm in the school.

All parents are encouraged to attend, we are here to support the school and each other.

Each family is required to contribute Eight (8) Volunteer hours throughout the year. Please read your emails and newsletter for upcoming activities and events.

Please follow the Facebook Parent Portal for fundraising and volunteer opportunities.

www.facebook.com/groups/StJosephSchoolParentPortal

St. Joseph School has been blessed with a very loving and caring school community.



Our New Families:

Posnikoff

Justin

Sutton

George

Durand

Hobbs

Shulman

West

Sereda

Lyon

Kelly

Lehman

Palacio Polanco

Apostolyuk

Huscroft

Leslie

Kaden

Lee

Playground Supervision

School Staff are on the playground for supervision daily:

8:30 - 8:45 am

All classes start at 8:45am

10:15 - 10:45 am – recess (Gr 4-9 – 10:15 to 10:30, Gr K-3 – 10:30 to 10:45)

12:00 – 1:00 pm - Lunch recess

3:00 - 3:10 pm

All classes end at 3:00pm

A reminder to parents that there is **no supervision** at the school until **8:30am**. For safety and liability reasons students should not be on the playground when there is no supervision.

Students should remain outside until the bell rings at **8:45am**.

After school supervision is from 3:00-3:10, students are asked to wait for pick-up on the **upper playground**. Any children who are left on the playground after 3:10pm, will be brought into the school to wait.

Reminder: If your child(ren) arrive late, please have them report to the office so we may adjust attendance.

Student Pick-Up, Drop-Off and Parking!



No Parking Zone on Mill Street. 8am to-4pm on school days.

Please use this zone for pick up and drop off only, this will ensure that the children will arrive safely on Mill Street. If your child is walking, please have them use the CrossWalk.

Entering and Exiting the School: All students are asked to please use the playground gate entrances on Josephine Street.



Students are being encouraged to take responsibility for their belongings. This means keeping track of what they bring to school and taking it home at the end of the day.

Please be sure that all items are labelled.

Lost and Found items will be passed along to Play it Again Kids.

Safe Environment Policy

All Volunteers helping in the school and on fieldtrips are required to get a Criminal Record Check through our school, fill out the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy forms, and attend a Safe Environment training session.

We will be holding a training session on Thursday, September 21 @ 2pm.

These forms will be held on file for 5 years.

Friday School Spirit Day!

School Spirit shirts will be distributed to all new students.

All students are asked to wear spirit wear on Fridays.

Their names will be entered into a monthly draw.

School Spirit Attire will be available for sale in September.



Joey's Out of School Care

Teresa Segstro – Manager joeys.childcare@cisnd.ca

Joey's provides a fun after school program for students who need daycare between **3:00—5:30pm** on school days and all day for most Pro D days.



Please contact Joey's directly for more information on registering your child for this service and for completing current booking sheets. You are welcome to book for the entire year – provided you give two weeks' notice should you need to cancel.

If you require just Pro D Days, this must be booked on the monthly sheets.

Severe Allergy Alert

We have a few students & staff in our school that have life threatening allergies to nuts.

We have worked hard over the years to become a **Nut Aware School**.

Teachers, the principal, and public health can play a big part in creating awareness, but it is the support and understanding of all the parents whose kids share a school with an anaphylactic child that make the world of difference. Even the trace of a nut can kill someone who suffers from severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), vigilance is a matter of life or death. If you have any questions about this, please contact the office.

St Joe's Cell Phone Usage Policy

Please be advised that St Joe's has a NO CELLPHONE policy at school. If parents/guardians need to contact their children during school hours, please contact Yvonne at the office (250 352-3041, or via email sjnoffice@cisnd.ca), or your classroom teacher.

Students are expected to:

- Hand in powered off cell phones to their teacher at the start of the school day
- Use the school phone to contact parents/guardians during the school day
- Not use cell phones on school premises before and after school