Principal’s Message

Happy Fall Everyone!

Welcome back to all Students, Parents and Teachers. I want to say “Happy New Year” to everyone as it seems that the first day of school is actually like New Year’s Day.

It’s an absolute pleasure to see everyone in their new garb and with new pencils and pens in hand. We have had an excellent start with everyone in good spirits and health.

Some staff are in new positions. You probably saw me in my new position. I am probably the highest paid crossing guard in the country. With that said, please be advised that our crossing lights and signs are out of commission. This is a highly dangerous situation for our students. Both the Department of Education and the City are aware of the issue but we are not sure when the situation will actually be rectified. In the meantime, please be extra careful on Wann Road.

As the fall progresses, good luck with your fishing and hunting and have an excellent fall season.

Mr. T. Hupé

Prayer for the New School Year

Lord,

we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.

Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.

Lord, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen

Source: http://prayer-resource.blogspot.com
Holy Family Staff for 2017 - 2018

Additions to staff and staff position changes in assignments are bold:

Principal - Ted Hupe
V Principal/LAT - Lina Radziunas
Kindergarten - Caroline Knickle, Kelly Sanford, Vanessa Stitt
Grade 1 - Julie Todd
Grade 2 - Lionel Colaci
Grade 2/3 - Jenny Dahl
Grade 4 - Corrie LaLonde
English/French Gr. 5 - Rachelle Chicoine
Grade 6 - Don Fedus
Grade 7 - Erin Pasloski
PE/Learning Assist - Joe Morrison
French (pre/post) - Hilary Seymour
LAT/ Counselor - Patti Oxford
Counselor/Music - Jerry Woolridge
Reading Recovery - Kelly Sanford
Education Assistant - Terrie Forrest
Education Assistant - Trina MacLeod
Education Assistant - Denize Brewster-Mellett
Education Assistant - Tirza Spencer
Education Assistant - Atlin Shopland
Education Assistant - Pauline Paton/Amelia Andrews
Religious Ed. Coordinator - Shanon Cooper
Administrative Asst - Debra Burgess
Library Clerk - Kathy Mercer
Custodian - Vicente Acosta

PARENTS AND GUESTS
Welcome to Holy Family Elementary School!
We ask that any time you come into the school (for an event, to drop off/pick up a child, etc.) you use the front door entrance, and check in at the office.
Your Child’s safety is important to us.
Thank you for your cooperation!

Parents/guardians:
There is no supervision for your child/ren before 8:00 am. Please do not drop them off before then.
Thanks!

Holy Family School Council would like to welcome all students, parents, and staff to a new school year.

One of the projects that we worked on last year will be ready to go shortly - a school composting program! (look for the announcement in an upcoming newsletter)

School Council meets the first Monday of every month at 7pm in the staff room (next meeting is on Tuesday, September 4, due to the holiday Monday). All parents are welcome to attend.

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to share an idea, please contact one of the council members.

Amy Fry Amyflinn@hotmail.com 336-8285
Mary Ellen O’Brien maryellen30@hotmail.com 336-8459
Tammy Sehn insehn2@hotmail.com 334-2887
Erin Spiewak erinspiewak@gmail.com 336-2145
John Williams john.williams@atco.com 333-3875

Safety at our Crosswalk
The crosswalk at our school was damaged during the summer months. The lights are not working properly (especially the flashing lights) so we need to be extra cautious when crossing the road in front of the school—it’s a very busy road! While we wait to have the problem fixed, there will be additional supervision to help students cross safely. However, please remind your child/ren to cross over only when the traffic has stopped.

A reminder to parents not to do U-turns at the front of our driveway. It’s not safe!
Don't park near the crosswalk.
Not even for a minute.
**Peanut Alert!**

At Holy Family this year as in past years we have children with severe nut/peanut and other food allergies. We ask all students to refrain from bringing in peanuts, snacks containing peanut products and peanut butter sandwiches to school and eating them at lunch or on the playground. We know this will cause some concern for parents but we have to be conscious of every student’s safety and wellbeing. Please keep this Peanut/Nut Policy in mind when buying or baking products for student consumption.

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**Home/School Communication**

Each teacher/student will be using some form of regular communication. Please read these and feel free to write comments. We will again be using a Catholic agenda for most classes at Holy Family.

**Kindergarten:** C.K. Planners go home daily—please check the pocket for notes. A monthly newsletter will go home at the beginning of each month, starting in October.

**V.S.** Daily pocket folders are used. A monthly, classroom newsletter will begin in October.

**Grade 1:** A newsletter is sent home every week. We will also have a Home Reading Program. (No agenda is required.)

**Grade 2:** Students will use their day planner/agenda to record important activities. Parents can view the class website at [https://lionelcolaci.weebly.com/](https://lionelcolaci.weebly.com/). Possible use of FreshGrade in the future.

**Grade 2/3:** Communication is written in the day planner/agenda at the end of each day, with information about class and school activities to be shared at home. A monthly newsletter will go home.

**Grade 4:** Daily communication in the day planner/agenda will consist of a record of their homework and daily reminders. This is also a communication book between the teacher and home, so please feel free to write notes, comments or concerns. Use of Fresh Grade forthcoming.

**Grade 5:** The day planner/agenda is used for listing homework assignments and reminders on a daily basis. This is also a communication book between the teacher and home so please feel free to write notes, comments or concerns. Use of Fresh Grade.

**Grade 6:** The daily planner/agenda will be filled out at the end of each day, containing a list of homework (copied from the “Homework Board”), information about extra-curricular activities (dates and times), and a student-written journal. Parents/guardians are encouraged to review this information daily and to add comments. Information may also be on the school website.

**Grade 7:** To foster greater personal responsibility and independence in preparation for high school, students are expected to fill out their daily planner from the homework board and to record due dates. Parents are encouraged to review this information and can find more on the class website, erin.pasloski@weebly.com.

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**Parent Items**

**PHOTOS OF STUDENTS:**
From time to time, our staff or media photographers take photos of our students who are involved in school activities. These may be displayed in the school, in our handbook or published in the local media. Forms for media permission will be sent home in the school package. Please make sure you fill out both sides of this permission form. If you have any questions or concerns with your child’s photo being used in this way, please contact the principal, Mr. Hupe at the school.

**BUS LOOP:**
The circular driveway in front of the school is a bus loop not a drop off area. The paved area is the parking lot. If you drive or pick up your children, please use the lay-bys on Wann Road on the side of your direction of travel. U-turns are illegal in a school zone. The speed limit in all school zones is 30 km/hr and is in force from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days.

**PLEASE DO NOT USE EITHER THE BUS LOOP OR THE PARKING LOT!**

**LATES AND ABSCENCES**
We have begun a new school year and we would like to remind parents/guardians of the importance of students coming to school on time every day. If your child does arrive late please remind them to use the front door and check in with the school office; the side doors are kept locked for your children’s safety. Please phone the school if your child will be absent.

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**Thanksgiving Celebration**

Our annual Celebration of Thanks will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 3. Everyone is invited to come and share this afternoon celebration with us. Food donations are appreciated.

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**Gentle Reminder to Return Information Forms**

By now you have received a package of school information forms. We kindly ask that you complete the information and return the forms to the school by September 26.

When writing a cheque or sending money back to the school to pay for fees, please make certain you write your child’s name on subject line of the cheque or along with the cash.
Other Informational Items

Congratulations to our school nurse, Su Omura, who has just started in a new research position, which means that she will be leaving her consulting position with Holy Family. Su has been working with Holy Family for many years, providing information on vaccinations available, health concerns, and many other health programs that are important to school community. We will miss Su but wish her all that best in her new position.

VACCINATIONS

Once again, Flu vaccine (Flumist, nasal spray, for children age 2-17 yrs), and Fluzone (for adults and children under 2 yrs of age) will be available in late October/November at the Whitehorse Health Centre, and locations around town, to reduce the risk of severe flu. Be Wise…..Immunize!

This fall, we would like to encourage all Kindergarten children who were not able to come to the Health Fair in May, to make sure all Kindergarten children are up to date with their Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis-Polio vaccine (TdP-IPV) and Measles-Mumps-Rubella-Variella (Chickenpox) vaccine (MMRV).

In Canada, we have had 30 cases this past year in Canada, most recently in BC, Alberta and Ontario from travelers, (none reported in Yukon). (Sadly, Europe has had over 41,000 cases in the first half of 2018, with 37 deaths.) This is preventable by making sure our vaccines are up to date. We are so fortunate to have access to good vaccines and keep our families healthy.

Appointments can be made at Whitehorse Health Centre, 667-8865.

HPV 9 FOR GRADE 6

We will be offering HPV9 vaccine for all Grade 6 students and information packages and consents will be sent out shortly. We would like you to review this information and send the signed consents by to the School by Friday, September 14, 2018. Vaccinations will begin the first week of October.

New this year, we will be offering vision screening to the Kindergarten students later in the school year. If there is an immediate concern about your student’s vision, please contact your optometrist or doctor. Yukon Hearing Services will also be coming to the schools to conduct hearing and impedance (middle ear) screening on Kindergarten children who did not attend the Health Fair or need rescreening.

TIS THE SEASON

Please be aware that with every new school year, viruses, “bugs” and school related illnesses happen. Please monitor your child/ren and notify the office if your child is infectious. It’s also really important to keep them at home until they are better.

PARENT HANDBOOK

A student/parent handbook is included in the front of student agendas. School policies and helpful information are included in the insert.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We welcome volunteer help in school. The role of the volunteer is to provide support for the teachers and students. Parents/guardians are invited to share their time and talents in a variety of activities and events.

If you are interested in volunteering within the school please contact the school, 667-3500.

INDOOR SHOES

Please ensure that your child/ren are equipped with indoor shoes (NO BLACK SOLES) to be used IN THE GYM AND INDOORS ONLY at the school. Outdoor shoes are removed at the door, which is important in helping our custodians to keep our school clean.

FORMS

Packages requesting consent and contact information have been sent home with all students that will include all the forms and fees required for the 2018-2019 school year. It is important that you read these carefully and fill out all information and return them to the school. Please note that there will also be forms and fees for both agendas (payable to Holy Family) and a religious education fee (payable to Holy Family Elementary School). All forms and fees are due in full by the end of September.

From the Ground Up—Fundraiser

Holy Family students will be continuing with the “From the Ground Up” fundraising event. Students will be selling boxes of fresh, local produce. Holy Family will receive a portion of the money from these sales and money raised will fund positive and healthy programming at the school.

Orders forms will go out on September 4 and are due back into the school by Tuesday, October 2. The pick-up date is Tuesday, October 23 between 3 and 6pm (gym). For more information, please contact Vanessa Stitt or Ms Burgess at the school.

Food Drive!

On Wednesday, October 3, many Whitehorse schools, including Holy Family, will participate in the Annual Food Drive. This is a wonderful way to give back to our community and all grade 5, 6 and 7 students and their families are invited to participate.

Be safe! Be respectful! Be responsible!
Catholic School Councils AGM

The Joint Catholic School Councils & CEAY Annual General Meeting will be held Thursday, Sept 20, 2018 from 7:00 to 8:30pm in the Vanier School cafeteria. All members of the school community are welcome to attend.

This AGM is a combined meeting for all three Catholic school councils (Holy Family, Christ the King, and Vanier), as well as the Catholic Education Association of Yukon (CEAY).

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program for Children

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a program of Christian formation for children. Our Good Shepherd atrium is located in Our Lady of Guadalupe House at 504 Cook Street. An atrium is a sacred space designed for children, where they can grow in their knowledge of Jesus and His love. The children work with materials that represent the essence of the Christian message. CGS began in Rome in 1954 and has since spread internationally.

Our first session this fall will be on Saturday September 15. This year we will be offering both level one and level two.

**Level One** is for children three years old to kindergarten age. The sessions will be on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Level Two** is for children in grades one, two and three. The sessions will be on Saturdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Registration forms are available at both Sacred Heart Cathedral and Our Lady of Victory. Please register as soon as possible as space will be limited.

For further information, contact Monica Best @333-6751 or Caroline Knickle@334-6851. Information is also available online at the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association Canada website at [www.cgsac.ca](http://www.cgsac.ca).

Growth Mindset - What's it all about?

Ideas for Creating a Growth Mindset Environment in the Home Part 7: Developing Important Psychosocial Skills

Consider the following:

A child’s innate ability contributes to only about 25% of achievement. The other 75% are psychosocial skills that must be deliberately developed.

The important skills we can help our children develop include:

- **Perseverance,**
- **Self-confidence,**
- **Resiliency,**
- **Coping skills for disappointment and failure and,**
- **The ability to handle constructive feedback.**

Choose books to read with younger students that highlight characters that demonstrate these skills. Discuss these with your child.

When watching tv or a movie, talk about character’s strengths or lack of perseverance or resiliency.

Name the psychosocial skills words and use phrases that represent these around the house. For example, you might say, “I was watching you (climb a tree, play that video game, figure out the puzzle, etc.) today. You really showed determination and perseverance!”


### September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>NO CLASSES—Labour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 4</td>
<td>School Council meeting, 7pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Opening Celebration, 2pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Gr 4/5 Soccerfest at VCSS</td>
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<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Swim, gr 2/7 1:45-2:30pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Swim 2/3 &amp; 5, 9-9:45am</td>
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<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>V-ball Early Bird Tournament</td>
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<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Pizza Lunch</td>
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<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>Swim 4/6, 9:45-10:30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Terry Fox Run, 1:30pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 27, 28</td>
<td>Teacher's Conference—NO CLASSES</td>
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### October

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>V-ball game 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Celebration 2pm</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Whitehorse School's Food Drive, 6pm</td>
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<td>Oct. 8</td>
<td>Happy Thanksgiving—NO CLASSES</td>
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<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>PD Day—NO CLASSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>School Photo day, V-ball game 24</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Pizza lunch</td>
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<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>V-ball game 3 3:30pm</td>
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<td>Oct. 24</td>
<td>Gr 4 Bible Celebration, 10:30am</td>
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<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>Skate 2/7, 9-9:45am</td>
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<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Skate 4/6 9:45-10:30am</td>
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<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>Skate 2/3 &amp; 5, 1-1:45pm</td>
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<td>Skate 2/7, 1:45-2:30pm</td>
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**Grade 4/5 Soccer Fest!! September 6, 9:00-3:00**

Don’t miss out on the first sport of the year! Join us on the Vanier/Christ the King soccer fields for a fun day.

### Sports

**Beginning in September**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls Volleyball Practices and Games</th>
<th>Boys Volleyball Practices and Games</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Games—Mondays after school: 3:15 - 4:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday Lunch Recess: 11:30—12:00</td>
<td>Monday Lunch Recess: 11:30-12:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practices—Tuesday after school: 3:15 - 4:30</td>
<td>Practices—Thursday, after school: 3:15 - 4:30</td>
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**Co-Ed Serving Practices**

Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays—morning recess
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<td>2</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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<td>Opening Celebration, 2pm</td>
<td>6 Gr 4/5 Soccerfest</td>
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<td>Swim gr 2/7, 1:45-2:30pm</td>
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<td>Swim gr 4/6 9:45-10:30am</td>
<td>V-Ball Early Bird tournament</td>
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<td>27 Teacher’s conference NO CLASSES</td>
<td>28 Teacher’s conference NO CLASSES</td>
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Please note—this calendar is accurate at the time of publication. Dates/times/events are subject to change.
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<td>1 V-Ball game 1 2</td>
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<td>9 Thanksgiving NO CLASSES</td>
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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Because we are located in an earthquake-prone area and other emergencies can occur which require us to evacuate the school, we want to remind you that, in the case of such an event occurring, the following procedures will be followed:

* No student will be dismissed from school unless a parent or designated guardian/emergency contact comes for him/her; no student will be allowed to walk or bike home alone.

* No child will be allowed to leave with another person, even a relative or babysitter, unless we have written or verbal permission to that effect or that particular person is listed as the student's emergency contact. With this in mind, if your child's information is not up-to-date, please call the office as soon as possible.

* All parents or designated guardians who come for students must have them signed out at the office or at the alternate Student Release Station. Signs will be posted at the entrance to the school yard if an alternate location is being used.

In case we need to evacuate Holy Family Elementary in an emergency, our alternate gathering place is the:

* Church of the Northern Apostles at 45 Boxwood Crescent.

* We are prepared to care for children in the event of a critical situation, or if parents or guardians are not able to reach the school. We have a number of people with first aid certificates and we will be in communication with local emergency services. We do ask for your help in the following areas:

  - do turn your radio to CBC (94.5) on the FM dial or CKRW (610) on the AM dial or CKRW (96.1) on the FM dial, CHON FM (98.1) or New Life (100.7) on the FM dial. Information and directions will be given over the radio.

  - please do not call the school; we must have the lines open for emergency calls.

  following an earthquake or other city-wide emergency, do not immediately drive to the school. Streets and access to our school may be cluttered with debris and the school access route and street entrance areas must remain clear for emergency vehicles.

*** Please put this letter in a safe place so you may refer to it if necessary.