

Arts

Athletics

Academics

FAITH



Newsletter

September 2018

A Message from the Principal

Dear Families:

As the Principal of St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning Panthers. We are especially thrilled to be adding grade 7 and 8 students to our Panther family. A new school year brings with it renewed energy and a sense of hope and optimism and I look forward, in partnership with home, parish, and our dedicated staff, in providing excellence in education, and in further developing the spiritual, physical, and social potential of your child throughout this school year. Among our priorities this year, we will continue to focus on numeracy and literacy across the curriculum. In addition, we will be emphasizing differentiated instruction and technology using a variety of approaches to meet the needs of all learners. As an inclusive school with faith-imbued practices, restorative practices will be part of our everyday approach in how we interact with others. In addition, our new Board theme, "Be Holy...Joy Springs from a Loving Heart" will be a central focus as we put these words into action in our school and community. During the first week of classes, we will be having student assemblies by grade to share important information that is relevant to this school year. It is a pleasure and a great honour to work with all of you as we continue to make St. Joe's the best catholic school in our community. Here's to a productive, fun, and memorable year!

Yours in Catholic Education

Renee Rozon, Principal

Welcome back!

Welcome back to all our students and a special welcome to our new students joining us this Fall. New students enjoyed a tour and a welcome BBQ on August 30th.



PantherPalooza is only one of the activities included in your student fees

Student Fees \$30 for the year

The 2018/2019 student fees are \$30 this year. These fees are important as we continue to strive to run an exciting sports program, an incredible music program, many dances, various themed activities, BBQs and a few special treats along the way. Please ensure that your child submits their fee as soon as possible. The support for these important programs is extremely appreciated. If your child wishes to participate in these various activities but the fee will pose a financial strain on your family, please contact the school. No student will be prevented from participating in any activities due to financial concerns.

SJOSS

NEWS

Chaplaincy

Welcome Back

I hope everyone had a very relaxing and re-energizing summer. I pray that all our students and staff return with a renewed heart and mind. May our God give us the strength and the courage to give ourselves fully to the Gospel of love this coming year and that all His graces be bestowed upon us at St. Joseph's Catholic Secondary School.

Panthers United

Our wonderful group of students will once again be meeting every Wednesday at lunch hour this year starting the second week of school. Panthers United is our social justice oriented group which takes on various roles and leads many activities during the school year. This group is open to all students in grades 9 to 12. So come on out and find out what you can do in our local community or in the global world! You can also follow our Facebook page at Panthers United for upcoming events.

Mission Trip

This year our school will be participating in an outreach trip in Northern Ontario. Students will be going to Sandy Lake during the beginning of June on a building bridges trip. This is open to grade 11 and 12 students. Applications for the trip will be made available later this month and interviews will take place in early October. Please see Mr. Van Putten for more details and to pick up your application if you're interested.

Class Visits

I look forward to the various class visits that are planned for this year. A very warm welcome goes out to our new students and of course all our returning students. Remember that the Chaplain's office is a place where students are always welcome. Have a wonderful year and I look forward to journeying with all our Panthers this year.

Joy & Love in Christ,
Gordie Van Putten, Chaplaincy Leader



Guidance

The guidance department will be very busy the beginning of September as we register and welcome new students to our school.

- The last day for course changes for all students will be on Friday September 14th.
- Colleges and Universities will begin their annual recruitment as they begin to visit St Joe's and provide information on programs they offer and their facilities.

The guidance department will meet with all grade 12 students before these presentations begin to provide information on what to expect and relevant questions that should be asked when choosing a university or college. Please refer to the calendar in regards to dates for these meetings.

School Hours

9:10 am
until
3:30 pm

A School Of *Excellence*



Be a part of the school's musical! Practices for this year's feature will be starting soon. Listen to announcements and see Mr. Levac in the music room for details.

Catholic School Council

We will be having our first Catholic School Council meeting on Monday, September 17th at 6 p.m. in the library.

We would like to invite everyone to join this active group of parents. Please submit your name and your interest to the school principal before our first meeting if you would like to play a role on School Council. We are looking forward to having a productive and successful school year.

Get involved and make a difference by joining our Catholic School Council.

McCarthy's In-School Store

Please take note of the following dates that the uniform store will be open:

Tuesday, September 4th—10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 6th— 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

After this last date, the store returns to its regular day and hours which are every Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



**For transportation
information please
go to
WWW.STEO.CA**

Regular school attendance will ensure success!

Please remind your child that regular school attendance is an important part of his or her academic success. Classroom presence and student success go hand in hand. We would ask that you ensure that your child attends school on a regular basis. Administration and our school success team will be monitoring school absences carefully. If your child is sick or has an important appointment, please call the school and notify the attendance secretary of his or her absence.

Your phone call will avoid our phone call!

If you have any concerns and you would like to meet with the school success team, please don't hesitate to call the school administration to book an appointment. Working together, we will ensure that your child is successful in all of his or her classes.

Physical Education uniform

Please ensure that your child has purchased his or her physical education uniform if he or she is enrolled in the physical education course. The uniform must be purchased through McCarthy's. No exceptions will be made.

Physical Education

We would like to start off by welcoming back our athletes and phys eder's, especially our new students.

We strongly recommend you get involved in our athletic teams.

We have a strong tradition of athletic excellence and we hope this year will be even better than before. The following sports try outs will begin immediately so make sure you DO NOT miss!!!

Fall Sports- Please be attentive to morning announcements for try-out information.

Fall sports offered immediately for secondary students will be:

BOYS: - Football (JR, SR),
- Volleyball (Midget, JR, SR).
GIRLS - Basketball (Midget, JR, SR).
- Soccer (JR, SR)

CO-ED: - Golf, Cross-Country running, and Tennis.

Ready, Set, SMILE!

Picture day is just around the corner. Photo Visions will be at our school on September 12th for Grades 9-12 and Sept 14th for Grades 7-8s. Re-takes will take place at a later date. Please make sure that your child is prepared to have his or her picture taken on this day. The picture is necessary for student cards, and other important documentation. It's also a great opportunity to purchase pictures of your child at a very reasonable price. Students must be in uniform for picture day.

Student Responsibilities

Books—students will be given expensive textbooks in each class. The care of these textbooks are solely the responsibility of the student. If a textbook is damaged or lost, the student will be expected to pay for its' replacement. At the end of each semester, an inventory will be taken and students and parents will be notified if a book must be replaced. Textbooks are extremely expensive and so we do appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker by the office administration. Students are not permitted to change or move their locker. They are also not permitted to write on their locker or vandalize it in any way. They will be responsible in keeping their locker in good working condition. Locker inspections will take place on a regular basis.

Special

Events

First Week Celebration!

We will be celebrating our first week at school on Friday, September 7th. It will be our very first dress down day/spirit wear.

Students will be encouraged to show their spirit and dress down in their school colours.

We will be having our very first pep rally. School houses will be challenged to be the best within the school. The Panthers will need to be up to the challenge!



Student Council

“Panthers, Panthers....let us hear you roar!! Student Council would like to officially welcome St. Joe’s students back to school for an exciting year. An extra special Panther welcome goes out to our

grade nine students joining us for the first time. Student Council encourages you all to jump in and get involved in the many clubs and activities St. Joe’s has to offer. If you like planning dances, talent shows, spirit weeks and fund raisers...joining Student Council might be “just what the Panther ordered” to get you involved and be a proud and active member of the St. Joe’s family.

Looking forward to a fantastic school year!!



SJCSS #Originals Update

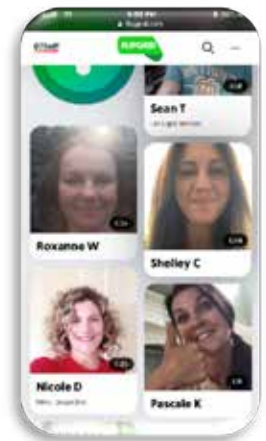
St. Joseph CSS Int. Division 7/8 (Est. 2018)



SJCSS with the addition of the intermediate wing welcomes the new 7/8 students! September 2018 the first grade 7/8 cohorts join the panther family, establishing a now 7-12 St. Joseph's Catholic Secondary School with a student body of close to 1000 students. Grade 7/8 Panthers will have many opportunities to get involved in activities and clubs that will prepare them for the specialized programs awaiting in grades 9-12. Our intermediate wing is equipped with large classrooms, including a science lab and an art/drama room with its own stage. Also in the intermediate



wing, we have our own mezzanine; an excellent space for many things, including our love for Lego and Robotics! Our 7/8 team teachers are passionate, committed and innovative educators who look forward to supporting all students in reaching their potential in preparing them for what's next, ensuring our students are #FutureReady! To



meet our 7/8 team, check out their 60 second video introductions <https://flipgrid.com/n47v6v> After clicking on link or copying link to web address bar, click on Microsoft box, you will need your school username and password to access. We hope you enjoy learning a little something about each of us, as we are excited to learn about you and WITH YOU! We are blessed to embark on this new journey together in writing our own story as the 2018-2019 Grade 7/8 cohort, #originals of SJCSS. Please remember to follow us on Twitter as we will continue to share the great things happening in our 7/8 wing and celebrate our Panther family and student success!



Twitter: @StJoes7_8CDSBEO

Hashtags: #originals #pantherpride #pantherfamily

Bill 13: The Accepting Schools Act

As a school we already have many existing programs, initiatives and procedures such as our Restorative Practices, Model of Progressive Discipline, Bully Prevention and Intervention programs that allow us to support all students with preventative measures against bullying.

We are committed to ensuring all students feel safe, accepted and valued within the school community. If at any time you have questions or concerns we encourage you to contact the school.

By giving students a voice, we are protecting them!

Parking and Student Arrival

St. Joe's has very limited parking for students at the south end of the school. However, there is a large parking area directly across from the school (on Cumberland Street). The numbered parking spaces at St. Joe's have been assigned to school and school board staff. Unauthorized vehicles parked in these spaces will be towed away at the owner's expense. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Pick up and drop off of students on buses will take place in the interim part of the south parking lot. This area has been designated as the bus area. Cars are not permitted in this area to pick up or drop off. Please do not stop or park on Cumberland Street as you are likely to be fined by the police.

Things to Remember

Information Sheet—Parents must fill out the updated information sheet which also includes consent for taking pictures. Please make sure you sign consent on this form. These forms will be coming home in early September. It's crucial for safety reasons that we have the most up to date contact information for all of our students.

Student Accident Insurance—Accidents do happen and for that reason we strongly encourage parents to purchase the Student Accident Insurance plan. The insurance is extremely inexpensive. Details will be provided by the school board for on-line purchase.

Medication Policy—All medication must be kept at the office. Parents must complete a medical authorization form prior to the school staff administering any medication. The form is available on our school website. If your child is anaphylactic, it is your responsibility to notify administration and all relevant information.

Cell phones are not allowed in the classroom—Unless the teacher permits their use for instructional purposes. Please make sure your child understands that they are to keep all cell phones in their locker. If their cell phone is seen or heard in the classroom it will be confiscated for the remainder of the day.

School uniform policy: School uniforms must be worn appropriately—Please make sure your son or daughter leaves for school with his or her school uniform. Only red and white t-shirts are permitted under the golf shirt. No other colour will be accepted. Rolled up skirts and shorts are a uniform infraction and will be addressed. It's important that the integrity in the school uniform is maintained. Please help us in making sure this happens. See the school website to review the policy regarding uniforms.

Student Card Fees—Students will purchase a student card for \$30. The money collected from this fee will be used to subsidize our sport, band and drama programs, as well as special events, dances, orientations, graduation, spirit activities and intramurals. If your son or daughter wishes to participate and the fee will pose financial strain on your family, please contact the school. No student will be prevented from participating.

No Smoking Policy—please ensure that your child understands that smoking is not permitted on school property. Any student caught smoking will be suspended and a fine will be given by the Smoking by-law officer (province of Ontario regulations).

Skateboards— are not allowed on school property.

Visit our school website at www.sjcss.ca