



Our Lady of Good Counsel School
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September 5th, 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. The people of BC came together over the summer in response to the wild fires burning throughout B.C. Many came to each other's aid in ensuring everyone was safe and cared for. We are very excited to start our new year together at Our Lady of Good Counsel School and strive like those helping those affected by the fires to live out the spiritual theme this year, "Care for Everyone in Our Common Home." Special attention will be placed on caring for everyone this year.

I took a pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal this past Summer. There I saw the 1st class relic of Saint Andre Bessette's heart. I prayed for those needing healing in our community. In particular we pray for Mrs. Wilkinson who was badly injured in a car accident mid- August. We pray for Saint Andrea's assistance in having her heal well from all her injuries.

Mrs. Wilkinson's mother passed away as a result of this car accident and we pray for the repose of her soul as well as Mrs. Garzitto's dad and our Grade 7 student Zoya Wajer's dad.

Thanks to Brian, our OLGC Maintenance Man, and the few parents who helped to ready the school for opening this September. A new roof was put on the Kindergarten entrance, pre-schol interior painted, music room painted, and entrance area painted to name a few completed tasks. September 16th and October 7th will be our first two work parties. Please inform the office if you are available to attend. We do appreciate all you give of your time and talent in keeping our 60 year old building looking great.

We will continue to run our e-newsletter again this school year. If you are a new family to OLGC School or a family that is having difficulty receiving the newsletter please email newsletter@olgc-school.ca. By subscribing, you will be added to our school's email list and you will receive all school announcements and weekly newsletters while assisting us in reducing paper use and costs. If this is not successful please contact the office so your e-mail can be added manually. If you do not receive a copy of our e-newsletter, see the PDF copy on the school's website at olgcschool.ca If you do not have computer access please advise the school office for a paper copy.

We welcome our new staff and returning staff who create caring learning environments for everyone in our school. The staff look forward to journeying with our students and parents in our 60th Anniversary!

We ask you to pray that we have a joyful school year together in Christ, filled with great spiritual, academic and community building experiences, while ensuring the peace, safety, and happiness for all our students.

Sincerely in Christ,

Gerard Wright,
Principal

Meet the Teacher Night- September 13th

Meet the Teacher night has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 13th . The evening will begin with a back to school BBQ between 5-6 p.m. This will be followed by a mandatory parent meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. teachers will conduct a meeting in their classrooms as to class expectations etc. Parents with children in Grade 2,4,7 should make sure they attend classroom meetings due to Sacramental and Gr. 4 Big House information. As well, you are encouraged to bring in your collected OLGc Lap-a-Thon pledge monies at this meeting.

Uniforms

Please read the policy regarding uniforms located in our OLGc Student Planner, which includes information regarding accessories and hair coloring. All students **MUST** comply with school policies. Students are required to be in full uniform (sweaters and shoes) for each and every Friday Mass. Please read the uniform policy for more information. A September ordering day will be announced shortly.

Student Pick up/Drop Off

For the students' safety, the yellow line marks the drop off zone. When entering from 140th Street, a "Drop-Off Zone" is provided near the fence marked "NO STOPPING DURING SCHOOL HOURS." It is very important that parents move ahead to the church stairs or as far as possible before letting their child out. Please do not park in this zone or block the emergency entrances. Cars are not permitted to the right of the yellow line or on the grounds. Please follow the lines and arrows in a ONE-WAY DIRECTION. Parents are to park in the designated areas near the church and the Don Bosco Youth Centre, or in the 139th Street parking lot if they wish to park first and assist their children to enter the school grounds. The parking supervisor is clearly identified as he/she is wearing a fluorescent vest. Please remember that we are all here to protect our children, so please follow the directions from the parking supervisors as politely as possible so as not to make their important job any more stressful. Thank you for your cooperation!

Students should not be left on the playground before 8:15 a.m. or after 3:15 p.m. as there is no supervision. Students left before and beyond these times may be sent to the OLGc Before and After School program and be charged the daily drop in fee. Please consult your school policy manual located in the front pages of the student planners. Please ensure that you have made arrangements prior to coming to school for your child to be promptly picked up! If there is an emergency, please call the office.

2017 Lap-A-Thon

We will hold our one and only Annual Fundraiser, the OLGc Lap-a-Thon October 6th. Remember to collect pledges and send them into your classroom teacher ASAP. The prize this year is an iPad mini thanks to a donation from Columbia Business Systems. If you are interested in volunteering – working on your 30 hours - in the backfield, handing out treats to students, and assisting with the supervision of students during the Lap-a-Thon, please contact the office.

We will be collecting PLEDGE SHEETS with donations at our Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, September 13th. As always, your attendance is required at this meeting. This year, families submitting completed pledge sheets with their \$200 or more pledges at the Meet the Teacher Night, will be entered into a draw to have their 30 parent participation hours WAIVED for the upcoming school year.

OLGC Preschool

Our OLGc Preschool started today. We currently have 44 Preschoolers registered. Preschool is for 3 and 4 year olds. If you have questions about the Preschool please contact Mrs. Martins at 604-581-3225. We still have some spaces available.

OLGC Out of School Care- Expanded Program and Space

We can accommodate up to 50 students in our OLGC Out of School Care. We currently have 30 registered. If you need the care call Mrs. Martins at 604-581-3225.

Supervision Duty Days

Please remember it is of vital importance for our children's safety that supervision is covered. As you know it is your responsibility to complete your supervision days. **If for any reason you are unable to cover your days you must find someone who will cover your schedule.** Please **do not phone the school office to get coverage**-it is your responsibility to contact a replacement.

At the Meet the Teacher Meeting you will be notified of your duty days for the coming year. You will also receive a list of substitute parents willing to do your duty days for a fee of \$30.00 per day.

Parent Supervision Responsibilities

Please carefully review the requirements of Parent A and B in front of your child's OLGC Student Planner. Please note you are requested, for the safety of our students, to arrive 5 minutes prior to all start times.

Visitor Tags

For the safety of our students and staff, all visitors and parents are required to report to the secretary's office where a "Visitor" tag will be issued. Parents are NOT to go to their child's classroom during instructional times. **Supplies and lunches should not need to be left at the office.** Please encourage your children to bring all needed items to school daily.

Parent Participation

Just a reminder that parents are responsible for keeping an account of the number of hours worked. In your registration package, there was a "Parent Work Program Tracking Sheet". This sheet is to be taken with you whenever you are doing hours. You are to have a coordinator/supervisor sign your sheet right away. Contact the office if you need new sheet. It is important to note that parents complete their own work hours. Nobody else can do your work hours unless approval is given by the PEC. Also, 30 is the minimum. Many parents do much more, and we thank you all so much for your commitment to our children and OLGC School.

Absentees

It is very important that you call the school by 8:30 a.m. if your child will be absent or late. This will save us calling you to check if your child is home. Upon returning to school, your child **must** bring a note to the classroom teacher explaining the reason for the absence and stating the day(s) absent. This information is required for our annual attendance audit that determines our government funding for the year.

Change in Information

It is critical that you inform the school office immediately if you have moved, changed your home or work number, or have a new emergency contact. A child may become ill and need to go home during the day. If our files are not updated, it can be upsetting for your child if we can't reach you. Please call our school secretary if you have made any changes to your information over the summer.

Extra-curricular Sports

Teachers are preparing for the fall extra-curricular sporting activities that are offered at OLGC. Practices for Girls' Volley Ball, Boys' Soccer and Cross Country will commence next week. Students in Grade 4-7 can participate. Permission and information letters will be going home this week. Have a great season to all of our student athletes.

Camp Elphinstone 2017

The Grade Seven class and the OLGc Outdoor Education Team are looking forward to the Outdoor Education at YMCA Camp Elphinstone to be held starting early tomorrow. Pray for the students and staff venturing out of Surrey during this week. Mrs. Quikert has sent home an update today with your Grade 7 students.

Work Party:

Our first work party will be Saturday, September 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please contact the school if you plan to attend. For our new families, the work party consists of doing maintenance tasks around the school and offers parents an opportunity to work on your 30 hours work commitment.

Attachments:

- Year Calendar (paper and website)
- September Calendar
- Supervision Calendar (only for those parents with September Supervision)
- PEC Intro letter

Important dates:

- September 11th -Individual Student Picture Day
- September 13th -Meet the Teacher Night – 5 p.m. start
- September 16th -Work Party #1
- September 28th -Terry Fox Run
- October 6th -OLGC Lap-A-Thon - 12:15 p.m. Dismissal