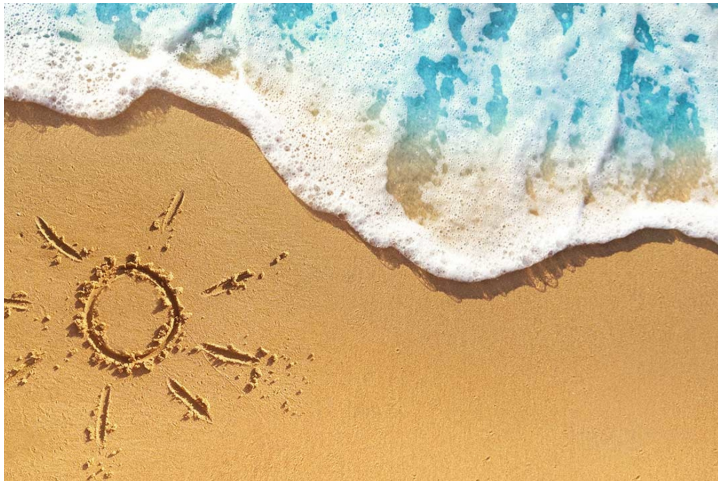




ST. JEROME JOURNAL

JUNE 2021 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER

BY MS. ROCCA PRINCIPAL

Incredible how this past school year felt like the shortest but also longest school year ever!

Although our year had many ups and downs, twists and turns, I feel we accomplished much.

We came together as a school community to support one another through many changes and challenges. Despite all of this we were models for our children demonstrating true resilience, unity, faith and hope. Much of what we all learned were qualitative lessons that will resonate for years to come. Consider this when reviewing your child's report card. Look beyond the grades and find the enduring efforts and experience learned during a most exceptional time. I am very proud of each and every one of our students. In their own way, they made the best of our school year. I am also incredibly grateful to our school staff who rose to the mission and embraced the year with resilience and dedication. Thank you to parents/guardians who walked with us and reinforced our endeavours. I hope this summer your families are able to rejuvenate and find that special time to make many memories. A special farewell to the families who will be leaving St. Jerome. I wish you well as you continue your educational journey. For our returning St. Jerome families, we look forward to welcoming you back in September. Until then-
HAPPY SUMMER!

Mane Events

June 29th-Access of Final Reports
Via Parent Portal

September 3-
Class Placement Notification

September 8- First day of School

September 27- CSC at 6:30 p.m.

Catholic Education Week Nurturing Hope

Throughout the week our school community took part in various activities, discussions and liturgies. We started our week with an inspirational liturgy that set the tone, using the comparison of planting a garden as a way to acknowledge the wonder and hope of new life. We continued learning about Catholic Graduate Expectation through the lens of technology and what it means to be a positive digital disciple. We took part in journal writing, celebrating the week by wearing colours to show school spirit and implementing some mental health awareness strategies. We demonstrated care for others in our community by giving to the Aurora Food pantry in a food drive. We ended the week in celebration of the Rosary and Mother Mary with a liturgy and a most beautiful interpretational dance by our junior class.

Catholic Education week was a wonderful way to continue our faith development embedded in Christ's teachings.

SENDING OUR BEST WISHES

The end of the school year is a bittersweet time when we need to say goodbye, best wishes and thank you to some very special staff members. During one of the most challenging years, they demonstrated constant commitment to student learning and supported our team. They undoubtedly shaped our St. Jerome community in such an impressionable way that they will remain unforgettable in our hearts. These staff members will be missed and we wish them well in all their future endeavours. Best of luck to **Ms. DiNardo, Ms. L. Conte, Ms. Colantonio, Mr. DeCastro, Ms. Nadon, Ms. Pedron, Ms. Servinis, Ms. Belfiore, Mr. Cappadocia, Ms. K. Conte, Ms. Giatti, Ms. Petrilli, Ms. Nobili, Ms. Elia, Ms. Collister, Ms. Elms and Ms. Ataga.**

A special farewell goes to **Ms. Coletta**, our music teacher who will be retiring. We will always remember her each time we enjoy our St. Jerome school song. Ms. Coletta composed this song and we will be singing this lasting memory thanks to her talent and creativity. Wishing Ms. Coletta much health, happiness, and peace in the years to come.



"With knowledge, faith, and courage we are all in God's great family with each other we can do anything."



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



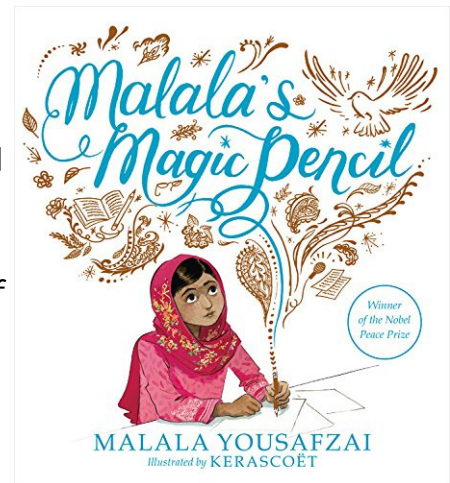
*"Good, Better, Best! Never let it rest...
until your good is better and your better is best!"
~ St. Jerome*

Graduates, you will always be a special part of our St. Jerome family. Although our year, as well as our celebrations, may not have gone exactly as planned, there is much to celebrate. YOU will be a part of our SJE history, making this graduation much more significant. Like no other year before you, our SJE graduates exemplified what it means to be resilient, handle challenges and disappointments and turn them into learning opportunities. On June 24th the St. Jerome community came together to honour our graduates with a virtual graduation, mass from OLG's Father Frank and a clap out. Students were able to receive framed diplomas along with their program and awards. Messages of congratulation and hope came from Interim Director Mary Battista, Trustee Crowe as well as Mayor Mrakas from the Town of Aurora. We strengthened our faith and sense of unity when earlier in the day our whole school came together in a liturgy to end the year and send our graduates into the next chapter of their journey with cheers and well wishes. Congratulations graduates, we are all very proud of you and what the future has to offer you in years to come. Best of Luck!

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

During the month of May we recognized Asian Heritage Month.

With information, activities, stories and discussions, it was an opportunity for us to learn more about the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian descent who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the amazing country we share today. Ms. Rocca had the opportunity to share the story of "Malala's Magic Pencil" by virtually visiting classrooms during "Reading With Rocca" sessions. It was a wonderful and heartwarming way to connect with students, encouraging the message of equality and education for all.



ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Continuing with our celebration of culture and diversity, during the month of June we took some time to recognize Italian Heritage Month. We learned about the first Italian explorer, John Cabot (Giovanni Caboto) who came to Canada. We explored the contributions that Italian Canadians made in the building of our city and also discussed the immigrant experience. We encouraged students to ask questions and learn more about any immigrant experience on their own through family and friends.

PAUL DAVIS PRESENTATION

On June 7th students and parents had the opportunity to listen to Paul Davis, presenter on Internet Safety and Social Media Awareness.

Along with the Notre Dame school community, we came together to learn of ways in which we could better navigate through our world of technology. By being smart, savvy and well-protected, we gained a greater awareness of our digital footprint and trail. To continue to learn more about Paul Davis' message, the following are ways to stay in contact.

www.socialnetworkingsafety.net

800-354-1297

See Feedback from Principals and Parents!

<http://socialnetworkingsafety.net/feedback/>

TEDx Speaker - 2015

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/pauldavisSNS>

Facebook: facebook.com/pauldavistips

A MESSAGE OF LOVE, INCLUSION & ACCEPTANCE



WE ARE ALL WONDERFULLY MADE

We love because he first loved us. (1 John 4:19)

Drawing on the example of Christ, who preached a message of love and inclusion throughout His ministry, St. Jerome is committed to ensuring that we continue to create a nurturing, safe and inclusive learning environment, where every student and every member of the community is welcomed, valued and respected. Our faith teaches that **We Are All Wonderfully Made** in the image and likeness of God and our school staff share messages of welcome and inclusion throughout the year. We honour the dignity in each other by treating one another with sensitivity, compassion and respect. Our school will be receiving this poster/banner and we will proudly display it in our school.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HERITAGE MONTH



YEARBOOK 2020-2021

Our Yearbook, "**Resilience**" is for sale.
Reserve your copy by visiting...

YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM

and enter school code: **18603**

Order by **JULY 1ST** to guarantee a yearbook.

The cost for each yearbook is **\$22.00**.

Payment can be made directly online.

The delivery date for the yearbook is
September.

During the month of June we took some time to learn more about Indigenous culture, traditions and the many contributions Indigenous people have made to our rich and diverse country. This has been a great opportunity for us to understand and embrace their history and use it to incorporate it into our present lives. From understanding our Land Acknowledgement, the Seven Sacred Teachings to interesting facts, we will continue to welcome such teachable moments and grow in understanding of Indigenous culture..

SUMMER PROGRAMS AND STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING

Please refer to a previous email sent regarding summer programs and activities offered to students. Board communication on mental health resources has been sent.

If you require further information please visit the board website page.

<https://www.ycdsb.ca/mental-health/>

2021-2022 STUDENT AGENDAS

Student agendas will be available for purchase in September for grades 1-6. Grade 7 and 8 students are encouraged to source their own style of agenda and style (i.e. digital or paper).

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The YCDSB school calendar will be posted on the YCDSB website. Please download and/or print a copy for reference.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS ONGOING

We are always ready to welcome new cubs to our St. Jerome family. Kindergarten registrations are ongoing throughout the summer. Should you have a new registrant or know of one interested in attending our school in September please refer to the online registration process through the Board.

<https://www.ycdsb.ca/2021/01/04/kindergarten-registration/>

To learn more about our FDK program please refer to our school website and a post titled "Kindergarten Cubs".



REVISED SPECIAL EDUCATION SJE LEAP PROGRAM

St. Jerome is excited to announce that we are one of the chosen schools within our Board that will be offering a revised special education delivery model for our students. We are thrilled to introduce the SJE LEAP Program that is specifically designed to meet student needs through direct teaching and intensive support delivered by an ASD teacher and support staff. Students will have the opportunity work on specific program goals while having meaningful integration with their classroom teacher and peers. This is an exciting opportunity that has wonderful potential. We are thrilled to be able to work with our amazing students in this new setting. Plans are already underway for September.



TRANSITION TO SCHOOL SEPTEMBER

Please refer to an email previously sent regarding transition to school in September for our special needs students. If interested in this offer to have your child become re-acquainted with the school setting and daily routines, please complete the form on the second page of the attachment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

SUMMER BLESSINGS

Go now, children, and know that the Spirit of Jesus will be watching over you.

Go now and enjoy God's summer gifts of warm sun, cooling waters, and long, light days.

Go now, children, with the gifts of faith, that you might see God's hand in all your work and play.

Go now with the gift of hope, that you may know God's guidance, which is keeping you safe.

Go now with the gift of love that you might offer love and care to all you meet.

Go now with the gift of knowledge, remembering all that you have learned. With God's help, live it.

Go now, children, with these words of Jesus in your hearts:

"I will not leave you alone; I am with you always."



FAREWELL PARADE

Lions, we started our year off with being paw-sitive and now we conclude our year with the same positive spirit. On June 25th and 28th we will have our Farewell Parade.

We will say goodbye to our teachers/staff and classmates and wish everyone well for summer! Looking forward to "**Returning with a Roar**" in September!

