

January 9, 2017

Dear École Joe Clark School Community,

Welcome back and Happy 2017 to everyone! I hope everyone had a great holiday and family time.

As we head into January, here are upcoming events happening at school:

Jan. 10 – (Tomorrow) School Council Meeting at 7:00pm; Superintendent John Bailey will be attending

Jan. 26 – One School One Book begins (more details to follow)

Jan. 27 – PD Day

Feb. 1 – JK/K Parent Information-Registration Night

Feb 20 – Deadline to Order your ÉJCS 2016-17 YEARBOOK

Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration

We are now accepting Junior Kindergarten (JK) and Kindergarten registrations for September 2017. We have limited spaces for Junior Kindergarten and are accepting all Kindergarten registrations at our school. The reason for the difference in registration is that the JK program is only funded through the fees collected whereas Alberta Education funds the Kindergarten program. We will be having a Parent Information-Registration night on February 1, 2017 at 6:30pm. More details to follow.

Please note:

Your child must turn 4 years old by December 31st, 2017 to register for Junior Kindergarten

Your child must turn 5 years old by December 31st, 2017 to register for Kindergarten

Extreme Weather

During these cold weather periods we will be having indoor recess. We also follow AMA protocols for patrols and will not be able to have patrols outside. Please dress children for weather when they walk to school or even for drop off during this winter weather.

Message from Hot Lunch Committee

The hot lunch committee is asking parents to please check the automated emails that are sent out from the hot lunch program to make sure your child is to receive hot lunch. The hot lunch program is only able to order enough lunches to fill the online pre-ordered amount. There are an increased number of students coming to the kitchen on hot lunch days telling volunteers they did not receive their hot lunch and their names cannot be found on the list. The hot lunch program does not want to turn the students away hungry and at the same time are only able to order the amount of food put into the system. The Hot Lunch Committee thanks you for your help in this matter.

Tower Garden Update

Our Tower Garden Leadership Group has been busy growing lettuce, beans, peas, basil with oregano, tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers still growing. The tower gardens produced enough lettuce for 3 classes to enjoy a salad, the leadership group enjoyed 2 salad feasts and the staff was able to enjoy a salad on a PD Day. This initiative has been so successful and will continue in the New Year. If you are in the school, drop by the parent teacher work room and have a look!

Parking and Traffic around the EJCS

Keeping students safe at school is a priority at our school. In the week leading up to our Christmas Break there were many safety issues involving vehicles during the busy times before and after school reported to the office. Items reported included:

- U-turns in front of the school (some right in front of patrols)
- Parking in bus loop facing oncoming traffic (several)
- Students walking through the middle of staff parking lot (2 students reporting almost getting hit by cars)
- Crossing without patrols in the middle of the street
- Adult almost hit in staff parking lot
- 2 vehicles hit and run in staff parking lot
- Parking in bus loops, leaving vehicle unattended, as buses try to pull in to drop off students

In previous emails I have asked that parents either park in the church parking lot or near Emerson Lake and to avoid parking in our staff lot. We are asking that no one enter the staff parking lot after 8:00am-4:00pm. This is about safety and not about making things difficult for families dropping or picking up students. I do not want to make the parking lot or bus loop a place of conflict for anyone, especially with students near by. Let's start 2017 off with consideration to safety when it comes to the flow of traffic during student drop off and pick up times. It is a busy time and safety must be what "drives" us as we move through the school zone. Thank you all for taking this matter very seriously. In this situation, a group effort is required to keep all of our students safe.

Sincerely,

Marsi Quarin-Wright
Principal, École Joe Clark School

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