

# Madonna Della Libera News

# **NOVEMBER 2023**

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Dear MDL Families,

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons and daughters of God (Matthew 5:9).

These are the words of Jesus from his sermon on the mount. In November, our thoughts often turn to those who have sacrificed themselves for our freedoms and to ensure we could live in peace. Before his passion and death, Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you". As we go out into the world, as the body of Christ, let us remember these words and carry



them in our hearts, our words, and our actions. It is needed now more than ever!

Peter Marchand, Principal, and Giovanna Oviedo-Kinrade, Vice-Principal

# **Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, To be understood as to understand, To be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

# **POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER**

Although it is only November, the Christmas season is just around the corner! This year, we will be selling poinsettias. The poinsettias will come directly from a local greenhouse, Woodley Farm & Greenhouses, and are of excellent quality. Orders can be placed via **School Cash** 



Online from Monday, November 20th to Thursday, November 30th. Pick up will be at the school on Wednesday, December 6th from 2—6 PM.

Two sizes will be available: a 6.5" pot for \$10 each and an 8" pot for \$16 each. They come in a variety of colours.

More information will be sent home shortly so please be sure to check you email!

# **Important November Dates**

Progress Reports6
BCHU Grade 7 & 8 Immunizations9
Remembrance Day Ceremony10
Parent Council (CSAC) 6-7 PM15
School Photo Retake Day16
Parent/Teacher Interviews 4-8 PM16
Parent/Teacher Interviews 9-11 AM17
PA Day—no school17
BCHU Dental Screening for Kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, and 723 & 24
Confirmation Parent Meeting @ St. Mary's Parish 7 PM29

#### **Important December Dates**

<u>Important December Dates</u>		
Poinsettia Pick-up	6	
Breakfast with Santa	9	
Scholastic Book Fair	13-15	
Christmas Concert 6-7 PM	14	
Last Day Before Christmas Break.	22	

## **VISITORS**

A reminder that visitors to the school MUST sign in at the office upon arrival. If you are dropping off any items for your chuild(ren) (i.e., lunch), please use the labels at the front office to identify whom it is for. Thanks for your cooperation!

#### **School Bell Times**

Yard Supervision Begins	8:25 AM
Instructional Block	8:40 AM — 10:20 AM
First Nutrition Break	10:20 AM — 11:00 AM
Instructional Block	11:00 AM — 12:40 PM
Second Nutrition Break	12:40 PM — 1:20 PM
Instructional Block	1:20 PM — 3:00 PM
Dismissal	2:50 PM bus students
	3:00 PM all other students

## **ANAPHYLAXIS ALLERGY ALERT**

Madonna Della Libera is a **Peanut/Tee Nut Safe School!** At MDL, we have several students and staff with severe risk allergies to **peanuts and tree nuts.** As a Catholic School community, and in accordance with Sabrina's Law (2005), we ask your co-operation in helping us ensure that all students are in a safe and healthy environment by reading all labels and packing lunches and snacks that are free of



these items. Truly, this is a life saving measure. If other caregivers prepare your child(ren)'s lunches and snacks, please share this information with them.

Please note that the use of peanut butter substitutes (e.g., WOW Butter, etc.) is **NOT** permitted. The reasoning behind this is that these substitutes look and smell like peanut butter, which makes it difficult for staff to monitor as well as possibly causing anxiety for students and staff with a life-threatening allergy.

While it is impossible to create a risk free environment, students, parents, and staff can all take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping ALL of our students and staff safe!

# **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Madonna Della Libera is designated **ZONE 4.** This means if bus transportation is cancelled in Zone 4, then the school is closed for **ALL** students! Decisions to cancel or delay transportation will be made prior to 6:30 AM. Please check the Board website



(<u>www.bhncdsb.ca</u>) and/or Board (**@bhncdsb**) or school Twitter/X (**@madonnaroar**) for updates.

You can also visit the transportation website at <a href="www.stsbhn.ca">www.stsbhn.ca</a> and sign up for direct e-mail notifications of any bus delays or cancellations!

## **DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER**

With the cold weather approaching, students are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. This is especially important as we will continue to bring student learning outside as long as the weather cooperates! Recesses will be outdoors unless outdoor temperatures fall below -20°C (including windchill) then, in accordance with Board policy & guidelines, MDL students will have indoor recess. Please know that if your child is not well enough to go outside then they should not attend school until they are feeling better.

Also, please remember to <u>label your child's belongings</u> as this helps us return any lost / misplaced items to their rightful owner! If you need labels, please consider using <u>Mabel's Labels</u> to help support our school:

#### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Save the date! Our Christmas Concert will be held at the school on **Thursday**, **December 14th from 6-7 PM**. We hope to see you there! Look for more information to come home shortly.

## **PERSONAL DEVICES**

While we realize that some students may have a phone at school for safety reasons, a reminder that students are NOT permitted to use cell phones at school, unless under the direction and permission of their teacher or another staff member. In the event of an emergency, the school phone can be used as we will never deny a student access to a phone. Also, we kindly ask parents to refrain from texting your child(ren) during the school day as it can be a distraction from their learning. If there is an important message to pass along (e.g., a change in pick-up routine), please call the school or email your child's teacher so that we can ensure the safety of your child(ren).

#### **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

If for any reason your child needs to take medication at school on a daily basis, or in case of a medical emergency (e.g., anaphylaxis, asthma), the appropriate medical form needs to be completed. Forms were sent home in June but are available at the office and assist us in establishing a plan to help keep our children safe. If your child's medical condition changes throughout the school year (e.g., they are diagnosed with anaphylaxis, asthma, etc.), please contact the office so that we can establish a plan of care.

In addition, if your child requires the administration of non-prescription medications at times (i.e., Benedryl, aspirin, etc.), please contact the office (519-753-5283) to discuss and establish a plan to ensure this is done safely at the school under supervision and/or with assistance of staff. Thank you for your cooperation!

