



Our Lady of Providence Press

OCTOBER 2020

55 Kent Road • Brantford, Ontario • N3R 6X1
Phone 519-758-5056 • www.olop.ca • @olopcatholic



Dear Families,

As we move into the autumn season we bear witness to some of God's tangible handiwork with the transformation of trees turning into glorious shades of colour. In this season of Thanksgiving, I wish to extend to all of you a heartfelt thank you for entrusting your most precious gifts to us - your children. I am thankful that we can once again see their smiling eyes, hear their laughter, and witness their joy and their bright minds full of wonder and learning! I am also extremely thankful for the wonderful staff here at OLOP. They continue go above and beyond to provide a safe, secure and loving environment, rooted in our faith for your children, not to mention a top quality education! Thank you to our school community as well for your continued support and encouragement in our reopening and for following our new protocols and public health directives; for reminding your children about the importance of wearing their masks and washing their hands; and for being extra cautious and keeping your children home when they are not feeling well. Together, we can continue to ensure the safety of all in our OLOP community! Our students have also been incredibly patient and resilient as we are adapting to our new routines and procedures—we are all so very proud of them! We are still working hard at reminding some to ensure that they maintain a safe social distance from others when on the playground and at dismissal. I hope you find time this season to pause and to give thanks for our many blessings. Take care, stay safe, and God Bless.

Peter Marchand, Principal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we thank you for this earth, our home;
For the wide sky and the blessed sun,
For the salt sea and the running water,
For the everlasting hills
And the never-resting winds,
For trees and the common grass underfoot.
We thank you for our senses
By which we hear the songs of birds,
And see the splendor of the summer fields,
And taste of the autumn fruits,
And rejoice in the feel of the snow,
And smell the breath of the spring.
Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;
And save our souls from being so blind
That we pass unseeing
When even the common thornbush
Is aflame with your glory,
O God our creator,
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen



DAILY COVID SELF-ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

All students, staff, and personnel entering the school **MUST** complete the **MANDATORY** COVID self-assessment daily. The Ministry tool can be found here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening>

If your child(ren) will be absent or late for any reason, please remember to inform the office (519-758-5056). Thank you for all of your efforts and support in helping keep our OLOP community safe!

PARENT COUNCIL 2020-2021

Are you interested in being a member of Parent Council this year? Catholic School Councils play an important role as an advisory body which is involved in the educational decision-making process by providing advice to the school principal and to the Board, on school related matters, as requested. School Councils place the overall interest of the school and the students first and strive for the continued promotion of our Catholic education system. Nomination forms for joining our OLOP School Council have been included in this package. All forms must be returned to the school or emailed to BOLP_Principals@bhncdsb.ca by **Wednesday, October 14, 2020 by 3:30 PM**. Meetings will be held virtually through Teams every 6 to 8 weeks and will run for an hour. Our first meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 21 from 6-7 PM**.

School Bell Times

Yard Supervision Begins	8:30 AM
Instructional Block	8:45 AM — 10:25 AM
First Nutrition Break	10:25 AM — 11:05 AM
Instructional Block	11:05 AM — 12:45 PM
Second Nutrition Break	12:45 PM — 1:25 PM
Instructional Block	1:25 PM — 3:05 PM
Dismissal	3:05 PM

ANAPHYLAXIS ALLERGY ALERT

Our Lady of Providence is a **Peanut/Tree Nut Safe School!** At OLOP, 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 severe 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!

HALLOWEEN



On Friday, October 30th, students and staff will have the opportunity to wear their costumes or dress in black and/or orange for the day. The day is meant to provide a safe and fun experience for everyone, therefore costumes should reflect our Catholic values and beliefs and not reflect violence, excessive gore, blood or anything inappropriate or derogatory.

For safety and sanitary reasons, as directed by the Health Unit, face masks (not Halloween masks) must still be worn and props are not permitted due to potential and unnecessary contact. Unfortunately, there will be no parade or school-wide celebration as this does not adhere to public health guidelines but individual classroom celebrations will still take place. Additionally, we are not permitted to do an exchange of any kind. This means we will not be exchanging or delivering candy, treats, pencils, spider rings, etc. While we know that this may be disappointing to some, we also know we want to do our part to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Also, if you do send Halloween treats as snacks in your child's lunch, please ensure they are peanut/tree nut safe.

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! Also, please remember to **label your child's belongings** as this helps us return any lost / misplaced items to their rightful owner! If you need labels, please consider using Mabel's Labels to help support our school: https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/



TRANSPORTATION

Our Lady of Providence in designated **Zone 4**. For transportation updates and information, please visit the transportation website at www.stsbhn.ca and sign up for direct email notifications of any bus delays or cancellations.

PERSONAL DEVICES

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).

CONTACT-FREE DROP OFF

If you are in need of dropping off an items for your child(ren), such as a backpack, homework, etc., we have a contact-free drop off bin located at the front of the school. After an items is placed in the bin, students will be paged to pick up the items as needed. A reminder that a face mask must be worn if entering the school.

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. In addition, if your child requires the administration of non-prescription medications at times (i.e., Benedryl, aspirin, etc.), please contact Mr. Marchand at the office (519-758-5056) to discuss and establish a plan. Thank you for your cooperation!

SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENT SELF-NOMINATION FORM

- I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the school council.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Business phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who is currently registered
at this school. *(name of student)*

I am an employee of the board.

yes no

Candidate's signature

Date