During the month of February we celebrate the value of COMPASSION. We understand compassion not only as the ability to empathize with another but also to act on behalf of that other person. It is being kind and forgiving to someone who has hurt you. We practice COMPASSION when we: are helpful to a person or animal in need, notice when someone is hurt or needs a friend, imagine how another person might be feeling, take time to show we care, forgive others when they make mistakes and reach out in the community to share our resources and skills.

The more we talk, teach and learn about compassion, the closer our students come to dedicating themselves to creating a respectful and caring St. David School community.

Register for KINDERGARTEN now!

FDK school teaching teams remind all parents that, “to register for the NEW St. David School in the fall of 2016, Junior Kindergarten children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2016, and Senior Kindergarten children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2016”. Parents can call anytime and book an appointment to register. St. David school secretary, Julie Hammond, will fill out all registration forms with parents and will be happy to answer any questions parents have about school and transportation to the new school.

It is important that parents remember to bring their child’s birth certificate, baptismal certificate and immunization record, (child custody papers if any).

St. David School continues to be proud of our culturally inclusive and inviting full day kindergarten learning environment. Our kindergarten program is based in learning through inquiry. We use activity centers where students are encouraged to explore and problem solve.

If you missed the “Kindergarten Open House” don’t worry, call anytime and attend our “Welcome to Kindergarten” activity day on Tuesday May 10, at 11 am - all interested new registrations are welcome - save your spot now!

Call 705-674-4096 anytime to meet Ms. Michel, Ms. Ross, Ms. Gran, Ms. Theriault and Mrs. Blinn our FDK educators and register your JK child now!

Upcoming Dates:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA Day</td>
<td>Feb 5</td>
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<td>Report cards</td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
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<td>Family Day</td>
<td>Feb 15</td>
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<td>Student conferences</td>
<td>Feb 16</td>
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Report Cards:
When teachers and parents work together with mutual respect and caring, children achieve more at school and are happier to be there.

Term One report cards, JK – grade 6, will be sent home on Friday February 12, 2016. Please take the time to read these reports carefully and discuss with your child.

Please remember to complete the student and parent section on page 3 and 4 of the report. The bottom portion of the page is cut and returned to your child’s classroom teacher.

Interviews with teachers can be arranged by individual parents. If you would like to speak to your child’s teacher, please contact the teacher by phone or agenda to arrange for an appointment or a telephone interview. 705-674-4096.

Most classes will be hosting “student led conferences” in their classrooms on Tuesday February 16 at 9:15 am - so save the date!

Partnerships are important!

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:
Please talk to your child about dressing warmly during the winter months. All students should be wearing boots, coats, snow pants, hats and mitts during recess breaks.

Each morning JK - 6 students play outside for 10 minutes, 20 minutes at lunch and in the afternoon are outside for 15 minutes.

Literacy Remains a Focus at St. David...

What is literacy?
Literacy means being able to read and write.

Why is reading important?
A child’s reading skills are important to their success in school and work. In addition, reading can be a fun and imaginative activity for children, which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

Research has identified five early reading skills that are all essential. They are:

- Phonemic awareness—being able to hear, identify, and play with individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words.
- Phonics—being able to connect the letters of written language with the sounds of spoken language.
- Vocabulary—the words kids need to know to communicate effectively.
- Reading comprehension—being able to understand and get meaning from what has been read.
- Fluency (oral reading)—being able to read text accurately and quickly.

Parents play a critical role in helping their children develop not only the ability to read, but also an enjoyment of reading. Read with your children everyday.

Our school literacy goal remains... IF staff members commit to and provide a comprehensive literacy approach that supports student achievement by using data driven instruction THEN students will demonstrate improvement in literacy AS MEASURED BY DRA (developmental reading assessment), progress reports, report cards, and EQAO 2016

VALENTINE’s DAY DANCE:
The school will be hosting a Valentine’s Day Dance on Thursday February 11, from 1 - 2 pm. All grade JK - 6 students are invited to attend this dance. Glow in the dark bracelets will be sold to any interested students.

Help Show COMPASSION...
In the month of February we celebrate the value of “Compassion”. Help us demonstrate compassion by donating a “Loonie for Lent”. On Pancake Tuesday all students will receive a free pancake breakfast with healthy fruit and a drink. We ask all students to donate $1.00 on this day to support a Syrian Refugee family sponsored by St. Patrick’s Parish. All money raised will go directly to St. Patrick’s Church. Thank you for your generosity!
Quick reminder to all families:
Our school yard opens for all students at 8:30 am each morning. Our teachers are not on yard duty until 8:30 am. Please do not drop your children off before 8:30 am. Thank you!

SAFE SCHOOLS - BULLY AWARENESS
We ask that all parents speak with their children and tell them that school-based bullying can be handled in a positive way. Please share with them that if they encounter bullying to:

- Tell an adult. Make sure your child knows to let an adult know what’s happening, whether it’s a coach, a teacher, or you. “You need to let them know,” says John Mayer, an expert in the field. “They can intercede to stop it.”
- Don’t react. Encourage your child not to cry, stop walking, or acknowledge the bully in any way. “This can be super-hard to teach kids, but it’s what works,” Mayer says. “If your child responds, the bully will feed on it. By leaving the bully hanging, she or he will end up looking silly. Then, tell the nearest adult.

Ash Wednesday:
This year Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday February 10. In our Catholic faith, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when we prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

ST. DAVID CATHOLIC SCHOOL
350 JEAN STREET
SUDBURY, ONTARIO
705-674-4096
PRINCIPAL: DAWN WEMIGWANS
VICE PRINCIPAL: MEGAN MURPHY
SECRETARY: JULIE HAMMOND
TRUSTEE: RAY DESJARDINS

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS:
FDK DAVIS & HENRY
FDK GUNNER & LONDON
FDK JACOB & FAITH
1 RILEY & DEACON
1/2 EMMA & TRINITY
2/3 KASHTON & DANTE
3 JOEY & ISABELLA
3/4 SCARLETT & MCKAYLA
4/5 ANGELA & AMELIA
5/6 JOHNATHAN & KAIDENCE

DRAGON OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS:
FDK NICO
FDK JORDAN
FDK AIYANNA
1 WYATT
1/2 BRIANNA
2/3 MATIC
3 LINDSAY
3/4 PETER
4/5 KEELY
5/6 AIDEN

Email Address:
If you would like the school calendar and newsletter emailed directly to your email account, please complete and send in with your child.

email _______________________
Parent Name: ___________________