

## St. Theresa Newsletter PIKISKWEWIN



### ST. THERESA HAS A WEBSITE!

Go to [www.sttheresaschool.ca](http://www.sttheresaschool.ca) to see it! Bookmark it so you can access it quickly! More info will be added to it as the year goes on! Once swimming starts the swimming schedule will be on the webpage.

### WE ARE STILL ON FACEBOOK, TOO!

### Important Upcoming-Dates:

September 8– Kindergarten students begin

September 8– World Literacy Day

September 8– LSBC Meeting

September 11 Grandparents Day Tea starts at 1:00pm

September 18– PLC for Staff/Early Dismissal for Students at 12:30 pm

September 20– Community Terry Fox Walk (hosted by St. Theresa)

September 25– Family Friday

September 29– Staff Meeting/Early Dismissal at 1:30 for students

October 1– School Terry Fox Event

Here are St. Theresa's 4 school rules. Please take a moment to review with your child(ren).

### SCHOOL RULES:

1. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
2. Respect others.
3. Follow the directions of an adult the first time.
4. Take pride in your school.



# LITERACY IS THE KEY





### BOOK BONUS:

Every student in the school has their name in a jar. Every day we draw a student name from the jar. That student gets to choose a brand new book to take home.

## LITERACY AT ST. THERESA

*St. Theresa School has a full-time Literacy Lead this year.*

*Mrs. Wheeler has been given the task of working with all classroom teachers and students this year to strengthen our literacy program.*

*This year she will be offering a “Literacy Club” for students during lunch time. During this Club, students will be exposed to literacy activities in a fun and informal way.*

### **PARENT LITERACY CORNER:**

- We are always looking for parent volunteers to read to classes. Contact Mandi in the office if interested.
- Parent “Literacy Tip of the Month”:

Words are everywhere! Take everyday opportunities to read with your child. Your child’s world is filled with words— on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, posters, ads, etc. Wherever you go, you can always find new words and point them out.

### DAILY 5 AT ST. THERESA

The teachers here at St. Theresa are doing many, many things to get students interested in literacy and to help them reach their potential when it comes to literacy skills.

One very important thing our teachers do with our students to promote literacy is called “Daily 5.” This refers to the way they organize their classrooms and how they teach the following 5 literacy areas:

1. Reading to Self
2. Read to Someone Else
3. Word Work
4. Work on Writing
5. Listen to reading

During Daily 5, students build stamina and trust with literacy processes. The way the classroom is organized assists teachers to better address the individual needs of all students. For example, through Guided Reading and conferencing with individuals or small groups.

The teachers also teach students CAFÉ strategies. CAFÉ stands for comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and expanding vocabulary. The teacher using these strategies to set individual goals for their students and classes and improve on very specific areas of need.

Feel free to ask your child about Daily 5 as they continue to learn the process and feel free to ask their homeroom teacher more about it as well :)



# ***LITERACY IS THE KEY***



## ATTENDANCE- "EVERY DAY COUNTS"

Last year St. Theresa saw many gains in attendance. Our monthly attendance rate was up almost every month and our perfect attenders per month increased every single month! Overall, our school attendance increased 4% from the previous year. In a school as large as ours, this feat is amazing :)

Thank you to all of the parents who worked so hard last year to get their children to school each and every day. We appreciate your support, and look forward to working closely with you again this year because it is a proven fact that solid attendance produces improved academic achievement. Improved attendance (among other factors such as our strong literacy initiative) is what is leading to our increase in student achievement levels such as increased PM Benchmark reading levels. More and more of our students are reading at and above grade level :)

We will be continuing with our monthly attendance awards, for example, class trophies, individual certificates and parent letters, monthly celebrations for perfect attenders, and year end awards. We have also added some incentives for most improved monthly attendance.

We have also created time in our staff schedules to address poor attendance, which means increased phone calls, home visits, interventions, reporting, and follow-up for parents of chronic non-attenders.

We encourage parents/guardians to be proactive and call the school when their children are absent to inform us about the underlying reasons for that absence.

Punctuality is important as well. Every minute counts as well as every day. The more a student is in school, the more curriculum they cover.

In short, we look forward to another year of improving attendance and achievement here at St. Theresa and working as a team with our parents and guardians.



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## Extracurricular

There will be a lot of extracurricular opportunities again this year. We will keep parents informed as we continue planning. Some extracurricular activities planned already are:

- ♦ Literacy Club
- ♦ Computer Club
- ♦ Diversity Club
- ♦ Student Council
- ♦ Homework Club
- ♦ Sports Teams
- ♦ Canteen
- ♦ Art Club
- ♦ PALS
- ♦ And much more!!!!

### STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Each month students get nominated by their classroom teachers for having significant academic achievement and/or academic improvement. From these nominations, the Principal selects a boy and girl from K-3 and 4-6 to be our school's "Students of the Month." These students are honoured at our monthly assembly, receive a prize and a certificate, and get featured on the "Wall of Fame" in the front hallway.



Alberta Project Promoting  
active Living & healthy Eating

We are an Apple School again this year which means we will be working on educating our students and staff on the topic of comprehensive health, which includes many aspects of health including mental, social, and physical health. We are starting a "Stay Hydrated" program where all students receive St. Theresa water bottles to be kept here at the school and used during class time to stay hydrated.

### ODDS & ENDS:

- \* Students are only permitted to ride the bus they are registered on.
- \* Please ensure your child(ren) is/are dressed appropriately for the weather.
- \* The Virtue of the Month our students are working on is "Excellence."
- \* Our students learn weekly "Cree Words/Phrases" during morning announcements in addition to taking Cree.
- \* Each month we send home a calendar and newsletters.
- \* Supervisors for students are on duty as of 8:20 a.m. each morning.
- \* We are a NUT RESTRICTED school.

