

PARENTS4PARENTS PRESS

Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education



September 2021 Newsletter

Who would have ever imagined that we would be returning to a second September of continued COVID protocols and be facing another year of limitations and uncertainty? We continue and soldier on, through what we all pray will be the fourth and final wave, we need to continue to focus on our children and supporting parents across Ontario. We look forward to preparing plans to further our mandate of enhancing, engaging and advocating for publicly funded catholic education.

On behalf of the OAPCE Board of Directors we welcome our new and returning OAPCE Representatives for the 2021/2022 school year. We are excited and glad to have you join the OAPCE family.

Please be reminded that every council needs an OAPCE representative per regulation 612 of the Education Act. If you have been appointed or elected as the OAPCE Liaison Representative please email us to ensure that you are on the email distribution list. As an OAPCE representative you are the critical linkage between OAPCE and your local parent community. You will receive updates and information from OAPCE and your role is to share it with your parent council. In some areas of the province there are OAPCE regional councils and/OAPCE Directors. If you have any questions please reach out to us at oapce@oapce.org.





A Prayer for Parents

A prayer for parents.

O Lord, you who promise to guide us through the wilderness and to protect us through the storm, we ask that you would make us wise when we cannot clearly see the way forward, make us brave when we feel afraid, make us strong in the face of our weakness, and make possible what to us seems impossible, so that we might joyfully entrust ourselves and our children into your tender care in these trying and troubling times.

*FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE."
JEREMIAH 29:11*

"O God, you who make things new, again and again, enliven the thoughts of my mind, revitalize the cells of my body, and cause a fresh outburst of praise to surge in my heart so that I might taste the Life that is truly life this day. In the name of the one whose face is like the shining sun. Amen.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

SEPTEMBER 30

The day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. On September 24, 2021 the Catholic Bishops of Canada published a [Statement of Apology to the Indigenous Peoples of this Land](#).

We pray,

God of our Ancestors, who holds the spirits of our grandmothers and grandfathers and the spirits of our grandchildren:

Remembering the Children,
we now pledge ourselves to speak the Truth,
and with our hearts and our souls to act upon
the Truth:

we have heard of the injustices lived,
of the sufferings inflicted,
of the tears cried,
of the misguided intentions imposed,
and of the power of prejudice and racism
which were allowed to smother the sounds
and laughter of the forgotten children.

Hear our cries of lament for what was
allowed to happen, and for what will never
be.

In speaking and hearing and acting upon the
Truth, may we as individuals and as a nation
meet the hope of a new beginning.

Great Creator God, who desires that all
creation live in harmony and peace:

Remembering the Children,
we dare to dream of a Path of Reconciliation
where apology from the heart leads to
healing of the heart and the chance of
restoring the circle,
where justice walks with all,
where respect leads to true partnership,
where the power to change comes from each
heart.

Hear our prayer of hope, and guide this
country of Canada on a new and different
path.

Amen