

# NEWSLETTER

## Grade Seven 2016/2017



### MAJOR GOALS FOR GRADE SEVEN:

1. To learn in an environment that fosters respect and understanding in a welcoming family environment.
2. To develop organization skills and strong work habits such as management of time and working in a sustained way.
3. To develop the habit of service.
4. To prayerfully prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
5. To encourage and foster Christian leadership and witness to the Faith.
6. To develop greater awareness of his or her talents and set SMART goals

### OUR PHILOSOPHY

We believe that every child is able to learn in a positive and safe environment where he/she can develop spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically.



With Christ as our center, we are sure to succeed in providing the children with learning experiences that will allow them to become responsible and caring individuals at home, school, and in the community.

### THE KEYS TO SUCCESS

LEADERSHIP

HARD WORK

TIME MANAGEMENT

ORGANIZATION

RESPONSIBILITY

TEAM WORK

PRAYER

RESPECT

SERVICE



## MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Welcome to the Seventh Grade!

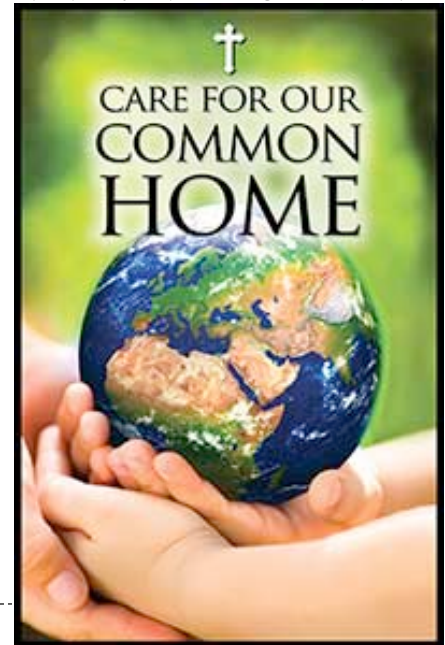
It is hard to believe that a month has already passed but we have been hard at work in Grade Seven. We started the year off wonderfully at Camp. It was truly an amazing growth experience, both individually and collectively. We really came together as a class and discovered our role as the leaders of Our Lady of Sorrows School. We learned more about the need for the Holy Spirit in our lives and to ask for this in prayer. Finally, we understand that this year will be “bitter-sweet”, meaning it will be one of the best years of our lives but it will also be an end to our elementary experience. We pray that we will continue to grow to be our best and use the graces God provides daily.

**We have developed these Grade 7 Class Goals:**

1. To lead by example
2. To promote an attitude of respect at all times
3. To be our best for the honour and glory of God
4. To strive for high academic performance
5. To be responsible

*This year, let us rediscover the gift of our Catholic faith and through the archdiocesan school theme, let us*  
**CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME.**

*Holy Spirit, keep us faithful as we serve in our school, parish, and community. May we live as people of faith, walk as people of hope, and grow as people of love. Amen.*



## CLASS PRAYER AND SCHOOL MASSES



Students begin the day with morning prayer. They will learn the importance of listening to the Word of God and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to see how this Word is fulfilled in their own lives. Each morning two students will lead the prayer using the psalms and the Scripture reading of the day. Once a term, each group of

students will plan, prepare and deliver prayer on a non-Mass Friday. Through this prayer experience, they will learn more about themselves, and they will see that Jesus wants to come to meet them, that He loves them, and that He has a plan for their lives. In addition, we meet to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist with the entire school body for Mass at least once a month.

**Please join us in Liturgies!**

**School Masses are scheduled:**

October 7th

November 4th [Gr. 7 Mass](#)

January 6th

February 3rd

March 1st [Ash Wednesday](#)

April 7th

May 12th

June 2nd

June 23rd [Farewell Mass](#)

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION

*“In educating the young it is not sufficient that religious instruction be given to them at fixed times; it is necessary also that every other subject that is taught to them be permeated with Christian piety. If this is wanting, little good can be expected from any kind of learning.”*

Pope Leo XIII

## GRADE SEVEN OVERVIEW

**Homework**

No more than one to two hours of homework will be assigned each night. Students will need to manage their time in class and their assignments throughout the week in order to stay within that time allotment. All homework is to be completed and handed in on time. Homework excuse forms will be sent home if needed. An important goal this year is to have the students develop effective study skills and organizational methods in order to be prepared for Grade Eight. One way to do this is to properly use their agenda books. After students copy their homework and reminders in the agenda, we will initial it until they have demonstrated good and consistent homework habits. We ask that you initial it as well after completion of their homework. Homework is also posted on the Gr. 7 Webpage and more detailed descriptions in Google Classroom.

**Expectations**

Students are expected to follow all classroom and school guidelines. As leaders of the school, they will need to be good role-models for the younger students. They must remember that they are a representation of OLS at all times. The uniform policy is outlined in their agendas and will be strictly enforced. Students are reminded to wear completely black shoes and navy or black socks. Grad sweat-shirts are

acceptable as a school sweater and is mandatory for all assemblies and school masses.

**Quality of Work**

Students are expected to do their best work at all times and ensure their work is neat and accurate. In this way, a sense of pride may be developed. If a student does not appear to be producing work that he/she is capable of doing, he/she may be asked to spend more time to improve it or he/she may be asked to redo the work.

**Communication**

Parents and teachers are partners in a child's education. It is important that we work together for the benefit of the child. Please feel free to contact me if there is something that concerns you and we can set up a time to conference.

[bcrescenzo@myolosschool.com](mailto:bcrescenzo@myolosschool.com)

If you just want to inform me of something minor, you can write it in the agenda book or send a note with your child. I will do the same. If I feel that there is a need to meet with you, I will contact you immediately.

**Behaviour**

**OLS is emphasizing their commitment to a 'Bully Free School' along with the rest of CISVA. It is key that we all act as partners in ensuring the well-being of all the students at OLS not just our own children. There is a zero tolerance for bullying in our classroom and in the school. Be NICE and RESPECT everyone!**

**Confirmation Calendar****October 24th**

Meeting for Confirmandi & Parents @ 6:30pm in Hall

**November 27th**

Enrollment Mass for Confirmation Candidates & Parents @ 11:30

**February 6th**

Meeting for Sponsors & Confirmandi @ 6:30pm in Hall

**April 8th**

Compulsory Confirmation Retreat for Confirmation Candidates @ 9:30am

**Date for Confirmation & Rehearsal TBA**

(usually end of April or May)

**Farewell Ceremonies**

This is a school event honoring and paying tribute to the Grade Seven students as they complete their years of elementary education and take their leave from Our Lady of Sorrows School. This special event takes place during the school day allowing the entire student body, staff, and special guests to be present and participate in the ceremonies and tributes. The ceremony, which takes place at the end of the school year, includes a Holy Mass, Valedictory Address, Distribution of Certificates, Presentation of Awards. A Luncheon will follow which will be organized by a Farewell Committee made up of Grade Seven Parent Volunteers.

**Date: June 23rd**





## CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS

Starting the New Curriculum, I will be taking a more integrated approach through the areas of **HUMANITIES**, **STEM**, and **FINEARTS**. Students will focus on communication, collaboration, and critical thinking as well as becoming more personally aware and socially responsible.

**HUMANITIES:****Religion:**

Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life  
Confirmed in the Spirit

**Theme: Care for Our Common Home**

- Preparation for Confirmation & understanding of the sacraments
- Importance of Prayer and scripture in their own life
- Service Projects
- Devotions to Our Lady, the rosary
- Awareness of monthly dedications
- Understand the role of Stewardship
- Leadership through example of Saints
- Understand the foundational beliefs of Catholics through the Apostles Creed
- Advent and Lent Preparations
- Virtues, Works of Mercy, Beatitudes

**Socials:** Early Civilizations

**Skills:** question, hypothesize, summarize, debate, research, present, inform, create timelines and maps.

**Content:** The students will discover connection between our collective and their individual past, study the history of early man as well as the society & culture, politics & law, economy & technology, and the environment of the Ancient Civilization of Mesopotamia. Finally complete an inquiry project on one of the following civilizations: Ancient Egypt, Ancient India, Ancient China, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, or First Peoples of Canada.

**French:** ActiVie

**Themes:** Greetings, School, Food, Family, Weather as well as French cultural studies

**Skills:** Vocabulary, Grammar, Reading & Writing, Oral Language Activities.

**Language Arts:****Oral Language**

**Students will develop their oral language skills throughout the year across all curriculum areas.**

**Skills:** oral reading, presenting, discussing, debating, reciting poetry, and delivering speeches.

**Writing Skills**

**Genres:** narrative, descriptive, expository, persuasive, informative, poetry.

**Skills:** Students will utilize the Writing Process, work on building writing skills using the Stylistic Writing techniques and the Write Traits. Grammar and vocabulary building programs will also be taught to help strengthen their skills.

**Writing will be integrated into all curriculum areas throughout the year.**

**Reading Skills**

**Skills:** build comprehension skills, learn the elements of a story as well as literary techniques. Nelson Literacy Readers and "Reading Power" will be used to assist with reading strategies.

**Units:**

Informational Reading  
Novel Study on Schooled  
Short Stories  
Poetry  
Literacy Circles

**Reading integrated with other areas of the curriculum especially HCE themes.**

**HCE Health & Career Education:**

Goal Setting  
Career Skills  
Character Development  
Healthy Relationships  
Health & Safety

**FINE ARTS****Drama:**

**Skills:** Improv, Skits, tableau, miming, role playing, presenting: Christmas Concert, Remembrance Day, Anti-bullying Day.

**Visual Arts:** Art Connections

**Units:** Emily Carr & VanGogh: Landscapes, Georgia O'Keeffe: Still Lifes, Traditional Catholic Icons, Ukrainian eggs, frescos, tattoo art, and/or persian tiles.

We will explore different mediums, learn new styles and techniques, and work with a variety of tools and equipment. We will also learn to incorporate a variety of Elements and Principles of Design.

**STEM**

**Science:** BC Science 7

**Skills:** Observing, Questioning, Hypothesizing, Testing, Measuring, Analyzing, Drawing Conclusions, and the Scientific Method

**Content:**

Life Science - Ecology  
Physical Science - Chemistry  
Earth & Space - Geology

**Information Technology:**

Students will become more comfortable with computers and information technology tools and resources. We will cover several aspects of Foundations, Process, and Presentation throughout the year using an integrated approach. Technology will be used as a tool and/or resource in most subject areas in order to assist, reinforce, compose, and present concepts and ideas.

**Math:** Math Power 7

Number Concepts  
Number Operations  
Patterns & Relations  
Measurement  
Geometry  
Probability & Statistics  
Problem Solving in all units