

# St. Dorothy Express

October 2019



## **Family BBQ Evening**

Thank you to all who attended this welcome back to school event on September 13th. Your presence made it special! The weather was gorgeous, the food was delicious, and the children played and played. Parents and staff had good opportunities to meet and talk about the various programs we look forward to offering this school year. Many thanks to the parent volunteers and staff who helped organize, set up, cook, supervise games, and clean up.

## **Playground Refresh Project Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

In 2010 our main school playground was built, financed by a KaBOOM grant and organized by volunteers from Foresters Financial. This year St. Dorothy School received a grant from KaBOOM to refresh the school playground. In collaboration with volunteers from Foresters Financial and parent volunteers from the St. Dorothy community, tasks such as adding mulch under the play structure, painting picnic tables, benches and planters, repainting the game lines on the asphalt, and planting flowers were done on a beautiful sunny Saturday. There were supervised activities for the children who came with their parents. Everyone took a break and shared a St. Hubert BBQ lunch.

Many thanks to all who made the day a great success! In particular, I wish to thank Ms. Georgia Jerkovic, Member Coordinator from **Foresters Financial**, for getting the project going, helping in the extensive planning process, and organizing volunteers from Foresters, and Ms. Maggie Bahrmassel, Grants Program Manager from **KaBOOM**, for helping with the grant process, planning, and coming to Montreal from Washington, D.C. to coordinate the set up and take down of the project. Both of our school playgrounds are now quite beautiful and fun for children!

## **EMSB Chorale**

Bravo! to the following St. Dorothy students who were chosen to be part of the EMSB Chorale: Ahmed Abusitta (Gr. 4), Maria Luisa Sciortino (Gr. 4), Laurence Brabant-Rondeau (Gr. 4) and Lorena Molina-Selvaggi (Gr.5). Students had to audition with the Chorale director, Ms. Patricia Abbott, to have a place in this award-winning choir. Congratulations to all of our students who auditioned this year. Many thanks to our music teacher, Ms. Caroline Derome, for her excellent coaching of the students.

## **Terry Fox Fundraising Run**

Mr. Martin has once again organized the Terry Fox Run, which will take place on October 1<sup>st</sup> (October 4<sup>th</sup> in case of rain). Please let Mr. Martin know if you wish to assist in supervising the students. After an inspirational presentation about Terry Fox by Mr. Martin, the whole school will run, jog, or walk around the block (older students) and the school yard (younger students). Everyone will enjoy snacks in the school yard after the run. Students are encouraged to bring donations for the Terry Fox Foundation

## **School-Wide Field Trip**

On Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> we will have our school wide field trip for the year to Le Verger Labonté, located in Notre Dame de l'Île Perrot. All the students and staff will be attending this outing. The children will have the opportunity to learn about local apples as well as learn about the method for making apple cider. They will also sample apple juice, pick their own apples off a tree and spend some time enjoying the great outdoors. Please check your child's bag for more information and a **permission form to sign and send back by the deadline of October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

## **Permission for School Outings**

Throughout the school year information and permission forms will be sent home with students for various outings off school property. The school is permitted to allow **only students with permission signed by parents/guardians** to attend

school outings off school property. **A phone call to the office the morning of the event is not legally acceptable.** Please note that we always make alternate arrangements for students to stay at school with another class if necessary. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

### **School Pictures**

School pictures will be taken on Thursday, October 10, 2019. The purchase of school pictures is optional. Retakes (individual portraits only) will only for students absent on October 10th.

### **Progress Reports**

On **Friday, October 11, 2019**, parents will be receiving their children's interim report. It is important that you take the time to look over the report with your child, discuss how it is going in school, and encourage him/her to continue to progress throughout the year.

### **Breakfast Club**

Our Breakfast Club will start on Tuesday, October 15. This program cannot function without the help of volunteers. We welcome our new volunteer coordinator, Ms. Daly Hernandez. Mr. Marco De Crescentis will also be working in the program, helping to organize student volunteers. Participating students will once again be provided "Hot Meal Breakfasts" for a minimal registration fee. If you have not yet sent a registration form for your child(ren), please do so as soon as possible. In order for all the children to have as much time as possible to eat, parents are encouraged to bring their children (no earlier than) 7:45 a.m. Also, please remember that children who have registered for the Breakfast Club and arrive late (after 8:00 a.m.) will not be receiving a meal. I would like to thank all the parents who have volunteered their time to come and help with the serving of the meals. Please contact the school office or Daly Hernandez if you would like to volunteer.

### **After School Programs**

We are very pleased to announce that St. Dorothy will be offering once again PELO (Italian) and Robotics programs after school. As well, Homework Assistance will be offered to selected students. More information will be sent home this week in order to register your child for these activities.

### **Governing Board**

We are very appreciative of the service of the following parents to the 2018-19 Governing Board: Grace D'Elia, Mauro Calligaris, Andrea Bagarollo, Josie Pesce, Milan Cardone, and Elvira Corso. At the General Assembly of parents which took place on September 13th, the following parents were elected to join this year's Governing Board: Stephen Lepage, Daly Hernandez, Sandra Scalia (two year mandates) and Jessica Kendall (one year mandate). In addition to the newly elected parents, Elvira Corso will be replacing Josie Pesce for the second year of her two year mandate, and Assunta Brunetti will be replacing Andrea Bagarollo for the second year of her two year mandate. Stephen Lepage was elected to serve as Regional Parents' Committee/Central Parents' Committee delegate, with Jessica Kendall as alternate. Our first Governing Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the staff room.

### **PPO (Parent Participation Organization)**

Our first PPO meeting took place on September 25 at 6:30 p.m. Sandra Scalia will serve as chairperson, Daly Hernandez as secretary, and Elvira Corso as treasurer. This organization is vital to the smooth functioning of school activities and to communicate the concerns of the parent body to the governing board. The next PPO meeting will be on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, to finalize plans for the Halloween activities on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Message from PPO Chairperson**

**We need your help !!! Calling on all those whom are free to Volunteer !!!**

- Volunteers to help with Mini day swimming activity 3-4 graders next mini day is Wednesday October 30. 2019 (times to follow during the day)
- We would need assistance with getting ready for our annual Halloween celebrations on Wednesday October 30th in the evening. (times to follow).
- Halloween Party on Thursday October 31st , 2019 come celebrate with your children and help us make the day great!(times to follow).
- If anyone is interested in helping out with the above mentioned days and or events please let me know @ [sandra.scalia30@outlook.com](mailto:sandra.scalia30@outlook.com)

We are looking for any donations to the school regarding Halloween and Christmas Decorations, if you have something to give we appreciate it and ask that you bring it to the front office at school

### **Parent Volunteers**

You do not have to be a member of the PPO to help out at our school! Thank you to parents who have put their names forward to be called to help when needed. Ms. Sandra Scalia will be contacting you throughout the year to pitch in. It's never too late to contact Sandra to volunteer whatever you can to help out.

### **Mini-Days**

There will be 9 mini days during the school year. The first mini day will take place on October 30<sup>th</sup>. More info will be sent home soon with information on the activities planned this year.

### **Spiritual Animator**

We welcome back Ms. Alie Cabelli this year as our Spiritual Animator. She will continue the character traits program, as well as be involved in school life activities, such as school council and Spirit of Giving.

### **St. Dorothy's Website**

We are in the process of developing a new web site over the next couple of months, which will be more user friendly. Please make sure to consult the St Dorothy's Website (<http://www.emsb.qc.ca/stdorothy/index.asp>) to keep up to date on school news, monthly events and student projects.

### **St. Dorothy's Facebook**

St. Dorothy has a Facebook page which is being used again to post photos, videos, and announce events. **Please note that the school does not use Facebook for communication.** Should you have any questions or concerns, kindly contact the office by phone and leave a message for the person with whom you wish to communicate.

### **B.A.S.E Daycare**

Our first PED Day will be on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. All Aboard Games will be providing activities for an extra fee. A letter will be sent home this week. Many exciting activities take place in the daycare on a regular basis; please make sure to read all info sent home.

### **Important Dates to Remember**

Please see the attached calendar

***On behalf of the staff of St. Dorothy School, I wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving!***

***Denise Maroun, Principal***