

June 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

As part of the ongoing communication within our Catholic school communities, this letter will provide you with information around the assessment and evaluation of Religious and Family Life Education on the June report card. You will see in the Religious and Family Life Education comment box, your child's grade and written comment based on the successful acquisition of knowledge and skills from the collection of learning of your child's work over the second term.

To arrive at the grade and comment, teachers have the responsibility to assess student knowledge and understanding of the content of the curriculum, the acquisition and use of religious and family life literacy, their development of thinking and communication skills, and their ability to apply what they have learned across various situations and within other subject areas. A standard province wide achievement chart guide is used by the teacher which enables them to make informed judgments about your child's work that is based on clear performance standards and on a body of evidence collected over time.

Teachers will teach not only the content of religious education but by the witness of their lives, they will help your child discover what it means to live their faith. It is our hope that your child is nourished and developing essential lifelong, spiritual growth as they live out their faith daily. At this point, it is important to be clear, we are only assessing knowledge and skills of the Religious and Family Life Education content.

The grade and comment on the report card is in no way reflective of your child's faith, spiritual growth or the attitudes and values that are part of their faith and make up the Catholic worldview. For, *"we have no right to judge, in a definitive way, another individual's relationship with God - nor is it actually possible - for much of faith resides deep in the silence of the human heart."* (Ontario Catholic Elementary Curriculum Policy Document Grades 1-8. 2012. 37)

From this June forward, Religious and Family Life Education will be a subject for evaluation on the report card. If you have any questions please contact your school Principal.

Yours in faith,



Jane Dillon-Leitch,
Superintendent of Education - Elementary