



I LOVE TO READ WEEK - OUR VOICES ARE UNIQUE

This theme was created by the *Reading Council of Greater Winnipeg*. The theme is meant to help readers recognize the importance of being their true selves and sharing their stories. We can develop a deeper understanding of different perspectives by sharing our own stories and by listening to others' stories. Every day this week, there is a different theme we are focusing on through stories, videos, activities and guest readers:

Monday, February 26 - "We Are All Different - and THAT's AWESOME!" - Cole Blakeway

Tuesday, February 27 - "I Am Me - A Book of Authenticity" - Susan Verde

Wednesday, February 28 - "Only One You" - Linda Kranz

Thursday, February 29 - "It's Okay to be Different" - Todd Parr

- EXTRA special Leap Year Buddy Reading and a 'leap year' snack will be provided for ALL students.

- Special Guest Readers!

Stop/Drop/Read as well as Spot the Reader will be happening throughout the week!



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26 - MINDFUL MONDAY

Bring \$2 and it's a N.U.T Day (No Uniforms Today)! Mindful Mondays is a Students Making a Change (SMAC) initiative with money going towards the Lenten Christian Service project. On non-uniform days students must adhere to appropriate attire. Disrespectful slogans on t-shirts, crop tops, and torn or tattered jeans are not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.



PIZZA LUNCH DAY

Pizza is sold for \$2.50 per slice (cheese or pepperoni). Students bring their pizza money on Tuesday morning and order through their homeroom teacher. Pizza must be ordered by noon - no late orders! Other food and drinks can be brought from home to supplement snack time and lunch. **ORDER** day: Tuesday, February 27 **LUNCH** day: Thursday, February 29



OBSERVING LENT AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL

Lent is a special time of prayer, sacrifice, and good works in preparation for the celebration of Easter. This year Lent began on Monday, February 12. A beautiful Lenten Prayer Service was held on Thursday, February 22. At the Divine Liturgy on March 22 we will bless pussy willows and teach the children about Palm Sunday. Each of the students will be able to bring a blessed pussy willow home with them to share with their family. The Students Making a Change Team (SMAC) is leading a Christian service project to raise money for local families impacted by the war in Ukraine.

This year our Lenten Focus is on LOVE!! Each week the school will focus on different people we love: Jesus, School, Friends, Family, Self and Community. Every morning during Lent, the students and staff pray the Prayer of St. Ephrem.



Prayer of St. Ephrem

O Lord and Master of my life,

Take away from me the will to be lazy and to be sad,
The desire to get ahead of other people, to boast and brag.

Give me instead a pure and humble spirit,

The will to be patient with other people,

And to love them.

Let me realize my own mistakes,

and keep me from judging the things other people do.

For You are blessed, now and forever. Amen

ANTI-BULLYING NATIONAL PINK SHIRT DAY - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

It's a N.U.T Day! 'No Uniforms Today and wear a pink shirt. Organized by the S.M.A.C team, the committee encourages everyone to wear a pink shirt (or something pink) to show that we are all working together to prevent bullying in our schools, communities and online. If your child chooses NOT to participate in Pink Shirt Day, students must wear their school uniform.

Pink Shirt day started in 2007 after a male student was bullied for wearing pink to school. His friends then bought and distributed pink shirts to his classmates to support their friend!



CHARITABLE TAX RECEIPTS



The Income Tax Act allows Immaculate Heart of Mary School to issue a charitable contribution receipt for a portion of registration / tuition fees (if a family qualifies). Letters regarding receipt information for the 2023 calendar year are available to be picked up from the School Office on February 28, 29 and March 1. On March 4, IHMS will send whatever letters are left by Canada Post mail. Before and After School Program Fees are considered a child care expense and not eligible for a charitable receipt.

FEBRUARY

'I LOVE TO READ MONTH'

25-29 I love to Read Week

26 Mindful Monday - Bring \$2 and it's a N.U.T. Day

27 Pizza Lunch Order Day

27 9:00AM Divine Liturgy at Cathedral

28 Anti-Bullying Pink Shirt Day - NUT Day

28 Fundraising Dinner Ticket Orders due

29 Koubassa & Cheese Orders due

29 Pizza Lunch Day

MARCH

1 NO CLASSES - IHMS Inservice Day

4 Spring Fundraiser Information sent home

4 Mindful Monday - Bring \$2 and it's a N.U.T. Day

5 Cookie Bake Sale

7 7:00PM Parents' Guild Meeting - Online

8 Term Two Report Cards sent home

9 IHMS Fund Raising Dinner

11 Mindful Monday - Bring \$2 and it's a N.U.T. Day

12 Pizza Lunch Order Day

13 IHMS Uniform Shop Open 3:00-5:00PM

14 Pizza Lunch Day

14 2:00PM Early Dismissal - Staff Spiritual Dev.

18 Koubassa & Cheese Distribution

18-22 Ukrainian Week

18 Blue & Yellow N.U.T. Day

21 Vysyhyvanka N.U.T. Day

21 1:00PM Grades K-8 Ukrainian Concert

21 7:00PM Grades K-8 Ukrainian Concert

22 Divine Liturgy at Cathedral - Bless Pussy Willows

22 Perogy Lunch Day

22 Last day of classes before Spring Break

Spring Break March 25-29

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 - MONTHLY DIVINE LITURGY

Please join us at 9:00AM for our monthly Divine Liturgy at Sts.

Volodymyr and Olha Cathedral.

Parents, grandparents, friends, family and alumni are invited to join us.



FRIDAY, MARCH 1 - NO CLASSES

IHMS teachers are working on preparing Report Cards, that will be sent home on Friday, March 8, 2024. Parent / Teacher Conferences for second term are by appointment. **Homeroom teachers will be contacting families with individual requests.**

If you do not receive a request to meet with a teacher, but wish to discuss your child's progress with their teacher(s) please call 204-582-5698 to make an appointment.





EASTER KOUBASSA AND CHEESE ORDERS DUE - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

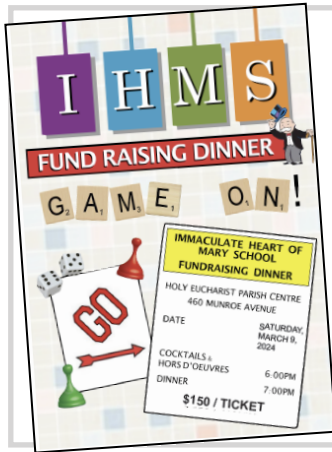
Order Forms were sent home for the IHMS Parents' Guild - Easter Koubassa and Cheese Fundraiser at the beginning of February. Interlake Packers Fine Garlic Sausage (\$9), Interlake Packers Ham Style Course Garlic Sausage (\$10) can be ordered, as well as a variety of Bothwell cheese (4 different purchasing options available ranging from \$8 - \$35). Workplace Order Sheets are available through the school office upon request. Orders with payment will be accepted until 4:00PM on Thursday, February 29, 2024. Orders will be ready for pick-up (from the school gymnasium) on Monday, March 18, just in time to put into your Easter basket!! Thank you for your support!!



PUNCTUALITY IS IMPORTANT



Punctuality is an important life skill for all students to learn. Students are to be in their classroom, and getting settled at the beginning of each school day no later than 8:40AM. Being punctual benefits the individual student, and as well, doesn't disturb the rest of the class. Reminder ... all students arriving after 8:40AM, must come through the front doors and are required to stop at the office for a late slip.



IHMS FUND RAISING DINNER - SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024

Families in our school community are encouraged to mark this date on the calendar and support this important fund raising event for the school. The IHMS Fund Raising Dinner is wonderful evening taking place at Holy Eucharist Parish Centre and will include a spectacular meal, entertainment, as well as, fabulous raffle prizes. All proceeds from the Dinner will be directed towards the academic, spiritual and cultural programs at Immaculate Heart of Mary School.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact the School for more information regarding sponsorships.

Gather a group of friends and book a table! Tickets are \$150 each, which includes a charitable contribution receipt (issued after the event).

Ticket Order Forms were sent home on February 5 and are due on Wednesday, February 28. Tickets are now available in the School Office.



BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS

Thank you to those who have been able to donate a prize for the Fund Raising Dinner!! The IHMS Parents' Guild are continuing to accept basket raffle prizes. You can make a personal family donation, or if you work for a business that is able to donate, we can provide you with a solicitors letter. Please tag donated items with your family name and clearly label them as RAFFLE. Prizes can be left at the school office anytime now. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Parents' Guild President Lesia Wozny, or another member of the Parents' Guild Executive.



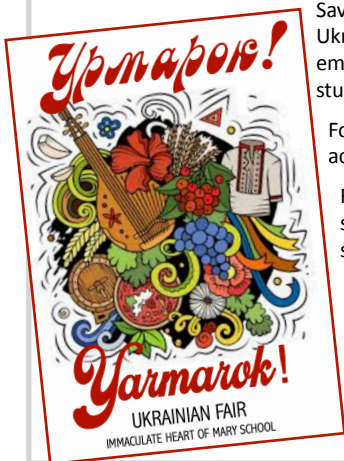
FUND RAISING DINNER VOLUNTEERS



Thank you for being part of our school community and helping with this fund raising and community building event! Please watch for a follow up email in the next couple weeks with details of your volunteer opportunity. If you need to make any changes, please contact the school office.

If you purchase tickets to attend the Dinner, your volunteering obligations are waived. We welcome anyone to gather a group of friends and book a table! Tickets for the Fund Raising Dinner are available at the IHMS Office.

IHMS UKRAINIAN WEEK There's going to be a *Урмарок! ... Yarmarok - Ukrainian Fair!!*



Save the date! There's going to be a *Yarmarok - Ukrainian Fair* taking place at Immaculate Heart of Mary School during Ukrainian Week (March 18-22)! The children are learning about everything that takes place at a *Ukrainian Fair* ... musicians, embroidery, vegetables, fruit, dancing, singers, many different types of crafters, and maybe even some gypsies?! The students will perform a Ukrainian Concert about a Yarmarok on Thursday, March 21.

For the *Yarmarok - Ukrainian Fair*, all the students will be participating in a craft activity. IHMS teachers will lead the activity and volunteers will be requested to assist. More detailed information is coming.

For the Ukrainian Concert on March 21, each student will wear a vyshyvanka (Ukrainian embroidered shirt / blouse). For students that do not own a vyshyvanka, perhaps arrangements can be made to borrow one from a friend. IHMS has a small inventory of vyshyvanka that can be borrowed to students. For families that wish to purchase one, please visit:

- Svitoch Ukrainian Export & Import located at 621 Selkirk Ave
- Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre located at 184 Alexander Avenue East

At the end of Ukrainian Week, a delicious Perogy Lunch will be served!! Perogy Lunch Order Forms will be sent home on Tuesday, March 5, and are due to be returned on Thursday, March 7.

IHMS Ukrainian Week 2024 is sponsored by Access Credit Union.

