



### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - NO CLASSES - LOUIS RIEL DAY

Louis Riel was the driving force behind Manitoba becoming Canada's fifth province. Did you know that on December 7, 2023, the Louis Riel Act received Royal Assent, bestowing the honorary title of First Premier of Manitoba on Louis Riel!



### 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. Lent begins on Monday, February 16. A beautiful Lenten Prayer Service will be held at 9:00AM on Friday, February 20. Pussy willows will be blessed on March 27, and the children will learn about Palm Sunday. Each student will be able to bring a blessed pussy willow home with them to share with their family. Each morning during Lent the students and staff will 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

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



### FEBRUARY

#### 'I Love To Read Month'

- 16 NO CLASSES - Louis Riel Day
- 16 First Day of Lent
- 19 Hot Dog Lunch Day
- 19 Grade 8 at Festival de Voyageur
- 19 Fundraising Dinner Tickets Orders Due
- 20 9:00 AM Lenten Prayer Service
- 23-27 I Love to Read Week at IHMS!
- 23 N.U.T. Day - No Uniforms Today ... Dress as your favourite occupation!
- 25 Koubass & Cheese Order Forms Due
- 26 1:00 PM Sacrament of Confession
- 27 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vladimir & Olga Cathedral
- 27 Gala Dinner prize donations due
- 27 Bring a flashlight for Buddy Reading



Be In SCHOOL  
Be On TIME

Punctuality is an important life skill for all students to learn. Students are required to be in their classrooms and settled by 8:40 AM at the beginning of each school day.

Being punctual benefits the individual student and does not disrupt the rest of the class.

Reminder: All students arriving after 8:40AM must enter through the front doors of the school and stop at the office.

### HOW CAN FAMILIES HELP WITH THE FUNDRAISING GALA DINNER - 'Frosted Night!'

- Volunteer:** As a 'Volunteer Family', your family is responsible for providing at least one person to work at one shift. Thank you to all those who have signed up to help! There are still a few slots left. [Click here to SignUp](#)
- Purchase Tickets:** Volunteer families who purchase tickets to attend the Dinner receive 2 volunteer hours per ticket and support the school by raising funds for the children's education.
- Help Advertise:** Like and Share when you see our posts on Social Media.
- Donate:** Please see the note below from the Parents' Guild regarding Basket Raffle Donations. If your family is unable to donate, but you know of a company that may be able to, Support Letters are available from the school office. We would appreciate all donations by Friday, February 27th.

### IHMS BASKETBALL TEAMS - GO SPIRIT GO!

IHMS has excellent participation in interscholastic basketball this season, with four teams competing in the Manitoba Catholic Schools Athletic Association. Come and cheer on the IHMS teams when they play home games in the IHMS Gymnasium. Games begin at 4:00 PM and are usually over shortly after 5:00 PM. Thank you to our talented and dedicated basketball coaches: Mr. K. Dedio (Physical Education Teacher), Mr. E. DeMelo (Parent Volunteer), Mr. M. Marcelino (Parent Volunteer), and Ms. K. Rowe (Educational Assistant) & Ms. H. Stephen (Parent Volunteer).



### RUNNING CLUB

Running Club has begun and is open to all students in Grades 4-8 to prepare for the upcoming track season.

Training occurs on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:00 to 8:40 AM. Permission slips must be signed before students can begin!



### BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS

The IHMS Parents' Guild is planning and gathering prizes for the Raffle Room at the Annual IHMS Fundraising Gala Dinner on Saturday, March 7. We're looking forward to your valued donations so can assemble some truly impressive prizes for this event. Donations of new items that would make excellent prizes for men, women, children, and teens will be graciously accepted. We also gladly accept coupons, gift certificates, and cash for purchasing larger prizes.

You can make a personal family donation, and if you work for a business that can make a donation, we can provide you with a solicitor's letter. These letters will be available from the school office. Please tag donated items with your family name and clearly label them as RAFFLE. They can be left at the school office at any time. Some examples of prize donations were listed in last week's eNews. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Parents' Guild President, Lesia Wozny at 204-582-5698 or [parentsguild@ihms.mb.ca](mailto:parentsguild@ihms.mb.ca)

### EASTER KOUBASSA AND CHEESE FUNDRAISER

The Parents' Guild is working with ML Signatures Inc. to provide families with a variety of options to enjoy at home or add to your Easter Basket! Two different types of delicious Sausages for \$10, and two different types of Pepperoni Sticks for \$8 from Archie's Meats. A variety of Bothwell cheeses is available in four purchasing options, priced from \$8 to \$35. Multiple orders from family and friends can be added to one order. **Please submit orders to the School Office, or email to [parentsguild@ihms.mb.ca](mailto:parentsguild@ihms.mb.ca), prior to February 25, 2026. Pick-up will be from 3:00 -4:00 pm on Friday, March 20th, in the school's gymnasium.**



### DIGITAL LIBRARY AT IHMS!

Over the past several years IHMS has been working on digitizing the entire library collection. Book by book, information has been diligently entered into a program that tracks the book's title, author, illustrator, topic and much more. There have been over 10,000 books entered in the system! Barcode book labels have been applied to each book, new computer hardware has been acquired and new furniture has been built. Searching the library for information, whether by title, author, or topic, has become much more efficient. Thank you to Mrs. Radawetz and Mr. Szun for leading the project, to Mr. Fil for building furniture, and to the many volunteers for their helping hands. Gratitude to the Metropolitan Michael Bzdel Foundation for funding this very worthwhile initiative.

### FEBRUARY 24 ... FOUR YEARS OF RESISTANCE

February 24 marks four years since Russia's brutal invasion of the innocent citizens of Ukraine. Immaculate Heart of Mary School continues to support families from Ukraine in many ways as they seek refuge. During morning prayer, IHMS students and staff pray for God's blessings on the Ukrainian people, both in their homeland and worldwide. May He grant them the strength of a strong Christian faith, of enduring good health, and the support of many people of goodwill. Peace in Ukraine.

