



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 - NUT DAY... No Uniform Today - ORANGE SHIRT DAY

In recognition of ORANGE SHIRT DAY, students are encouraged to wear orange. The orange shirt symbolizes the loss of culture, freedom, and self-esteem that many Indigenous children experienced. Orange Shirt Day is a commemorative day that honours the children who survived Indian Residential Schools and remembers those who did not. This day reminds us

that "Every Child Matters". For more information, please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>. Homerooms will also be focusing on this topic throughout the week.

On non-uniform days, students must adhere to appropriate attire. Disrespectful slogans on T-shirts, crop tops, and torn or tattered jeans/shorts are not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - NO CLASSES

For Canadians, September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Canada has been navigating a Truth and Reconciliation journey to address some very difficult outcomes from the many generations of First Nations children who were sent to residential schools. This day is set aside to honour those children who never returned home, and for the survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of this history, and the ongoing impacts of residential schools, is a vital component of the reconciliation process.



As a Christian community of believers, we have a part to play in the process. On this National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, everyone is encouraged to take time to reflect, pray, and learn. It can be an opportunity to explore the rich and diverse cultures, voices, experiences and stories of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. As we do this, we get to experience a small taste of what it will be like one day when every nation, tribe, and language is united in harmony.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - OFFICIAL SCHOOL UNIFORM

On Picture Day, each student will wear a clean, official IHMS school uniform.

Boys: cardigan, golf shirt, navy pants, black or navy socks, black shoes, and a smile!

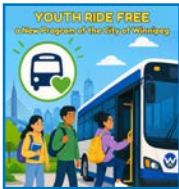
Girls: cardigan, golf shirt, navy skirt, navy tights or knee-high socks, black shoes ... and a big grin!

Students will be photographed individually and as a class.

After Picture Day, families will receive a package of proofs for their child and can order pictures through Lifetouch.



TRANSIT PASSES FOR GRADES 6,7,8



The Manitoba government, in partnership with the City of Winnipeg, is introducing free transit passes for youth in Winnipeg. The passes are available to students in grades 6 to 12. They are valid for a full year and will expire on August 31, 2027. Passes issued to students are not transferable and are for the student's use only. Under current Winnipeg Transit policy, children aged 11 and under may ride free when accompanied by a fare-paying customer. Parents are encouraged to emphasize to students the importance of keeping their pass safe and not losing or damaging it.

For information on transit scheduling, routes or how to use Winnipeg Transit, students and families are encouraged to access: <http://Winnipeg.ca/youthridefree>

For parents of students in Grades 6-8 at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, please complete the attached Transit Pass Order Form if your child will use a transit pass and would like to request one. Please submit the Transit Pass Order Form by Monday, September 28. Transit passes will be distributed on Thursday, October 1.

EARLY READING SCREENINGS

Reading is an important skill that supports children's learning in school and everyday life. In the 2026 - 2027 school year, IHMS will begin annual early reading screenings for students in grades Kindergarten to Grade 4. Each student will receive a minimum of two early reading screenings per year as required by provincial legislation. The first screening will take place at the end of September/beginning of October.

Early reading screening helps teachers understand how students are developing key reading skills. It can help identify students who may benefit from additional support and provide teachers with information to plan instruction that meets students' learning needs. Screening results are only one piece of information teachers use to understand a child's reading progress. Teachers also consider classroom work, observations, conversations, and other assessments when making decisions about learning and reading instruction.

The screening focuses on the foundational early literacy skills that children need to become strong readers. During the screening, your child may be asked to identify letters and their sounds, or sound out words. Activities vary by grade, and no preparation is needed.

Results of each screening will be communicated to parents through the IHMS Term 1 and Term 2 Report Card, indicating whether your child is "developing with support," "approaching expectations," or "meeting expectations" for the reading benchmark at the time of screening.



A PICNIC THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for a Back-to-School Family Picnic. We were so blessed with wonderful weather, even though it looked like the rain might change our plans. God is good, and we thank Him for His guidance and protection during the picnic preparation time.

Gratitude is extended to:

- ... the Parents' Guild Picnic Coordinators: Lesia Wozny, Cristina De Leon, Oksana Gerasymchuk Yana Kostukova, Heather Stephen, Olha Tovarnytskyy and Olha Mala. For their countless hours of planning, shopping, and obtaining donations!
- ... to Mrs. Mala for volunteer coordination!
- ... to Mr. Picklyk & Pani Dudych for their expertise, knowledge and guidance!
- ... to Mrs. Radawetz and the Grade 8 students' face painting skills!
- ... to Mrs. Copp, Mrs. Zulyniak, and Mrs. Khomitska, along with their Gr.8 helpers, for planning fun races!
- ... to Mr. Fil and Mr. Trokhanovsky (School Custodians) for all their extra effort!
- ... to our parent volunteers who signed up to work hard with a smile on their face!
- ... the families and businesses who donated door prizes!



SEPTEMBER

- 28 N.U.T Day - Orange Shirt Day
- 28 Transit Pass Order Form due - Grades 6,7,8
- 29 School Photo Day - official school uniform
- 29 Volunteer Bond Cheques Due
- 30 NO CLASSES - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

OCTOBER

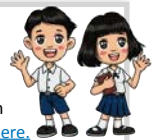
- 2 Student Council Elections
- 8 2:00 PM EARLY DISMISSAL - Staff Meeting
- 8 7:00 PM Parents' Guild Meeting (in-person)
- 9 In-service Day - NO CLASSES
- 12 NO CLASSES - Thanksgiving Day
- 14 3:00 - 5:00 PM Uniform Shop Open
- 16 Grades 6-8 Immunization Clinic
- 23 NO CLASSES - Provincial Inservice Day
- 23 Grade 7 Babysitters Course
- 31 N.U.T Day - No Uniforms Today!
- Halloween Dress-up (fun & friendly costumes)

UNIFORM SHOP

The IHMS Uniform Shop will be open 3:00-5:00PM, Wednesday, October 14.

Families visiting the Shop must make an appointment or place an order online [here](#).

Reminder: all students must wear the official attire purchased through the IHMS Uniform Shop. Navy pants or shorts purchased at other stores are not part of the IHMS uniform dress code.



STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The school halls are filled with fun and witty posters announcing that Student Elections are coming soon! A new IHMS Student Council will be elected on Friday, October 2nd. The Student Council is elected by Grades 5-8 students. The Council is called on during the year to organize student spirit activities and also represent the students at various school functions. The Student Council consists of a President (Grade 8 student), Vice President (Grade 7 student), and 6 Student Council Reps (from Grades 7 and Grade 8). Good luck to all the aspiring politicians!

