

Holy Family Elementary School

2016-2017 Annual School Development Report



**P.O. Box 130
50B Main Road, Chapel Arm
Newfoundland and Labrador
A0B 1L0**

“Here Everyone Respects Others”



A Message From
TONY STACK
CEO / DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Interim)

The school development report for the 2016-17 school year outlines your school's successes in areas such as student achievement and professional development.

School development plans align with and support the Strategic Plan of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, and also give guidance to individual staff growth and development plans. Producing this report is not done to simply satisfy an administrative requirement, but rather it is an important exercise that captures what has been achieved in order to frame the next steps that schools must take to continually ensure the safety, security, and success of our students so that they may have all the tools needed to realize their full potential.

Our schools are full of passionate educators and staff who give of themselves every day to see a child realize their potential. Our teachers, support staff, administrators, school councils, parents, guardians, and students are truly invaluable as we set collective goals to take us into the future. Each and every member of our school communities has a role in creating an accomplished education system and please know we appreciate your support, feedback, and continued efforts as evidenced in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tony Stack'.

Tony Stack
CEO/Director of Education (Interim)



**A Message from Susan George
Principal of Holy Family School**

The Annual School Development Report for 2016-2017 highlights the school year for Holy Family Elementary. This document contains information about our academic successes and challenges as well as information about the many projects and events in which we have participated as part of our school's Academic and Safe and Caring goals.

Our school and students cannot reach their full potential without the support of parents, families, School Council and the surrounding communities. As always, I am proud of the support of everyone in our school family and for that I say thank you!

Each school year we continue to seek new ways to grow and improve our school and to help our students reach their full potential academically and socially. We are continually working to ensure our school is a safe and happy place for our young learners, our staff and our visitors. Environmental initiatives with our Green Team, STEM projects, music and drama programs along with regular strong support for academics are just some of the ways we help our students.

Please take the time to read this report. Ask questions, volunteer at school, get involved with your child's learning – show your child that you value their education, their teachers and their place of learning. They deserve nothing less and TOGETHER we can accomplish so much more!

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan George

Principal
2016-2017

Message from the School Council

Holy Family Elementary School Council Members 2016-2017

Tracy Smith, Chair, Community Representative
Krista Murphy, Community Representative
Crystal Piercey, Parent Representative
Stephanie Hurley, Parent Representative
Shelley Thorne, Parent Representative
Colleen Power, Teacher Representative
Susan George, Principal

The Holy Family School Council supports the Annual School Development Plan, which includes academic, and Safe and Caring goals. We work in conjunction with staff and administration and assist in any way to see these goals through to completion.

The School Council is also responsible for approving annual fundraising activities and often assists in the planning and the running of these events.

Our School Council also acts as a liason between parents and the community and the staff and administration.

We have enjoyed working closely with Holy Family School in the 2016-2017 school year with the shared common interest of serving the needs of all students.

Tracy Smith, Chair

Overview of Our School

Our School Community

Holy Family Elementary School, a Kindergarten to Grade 6 located in Chapel Arm, is part of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, which includes 259 schools with five alternate learning sites. There is a student population of approximately 67,000 and 8000 employees province-wide.

Holy Family serves the communities of Chance Cove, Fairhaven, Bellevue Beach, Bellevue, Thornlea, Norman's Cove, Long Cove, Long Harbour and Chapel Arm.

In the 2016-2017 school year we had a student population of 92. We offered the full prescribed Provincial Curriculum in a single stream configuration from Kindergarten to Grade 6. There was a teaching staff of 10, a part time Guidance Counselor, as well as a full time secretary and caretaker. We had access to District Services including, but not limited to, a Speech Language Pathologist, an Educational Psychologist and a Computer Support Technician.

Key Highlights/Special Projects

September

- Teacher Professional Development in New Curriculum
- Terry Fox Walk
- Curriculum Night

October

- School Wide Thanksgiving Dinner
- Food Bank Donation
- Primary Outing to Lester's Farm
- After School Art Club
- Harvest Run
- Jamarama
- Elementary outing to Manuel's River
- Grade 6 Haunted Maze

November

- Remembrance Day Assembly
- Royal Canadian Legion Poster Contest
- Primary Division STEM project in Math
- Scholastic Book Fair and Family Night Event
- "Learn Not to Burn"

December

- Candy Cane Day
- Reindeer Day
- Grinch Day
- School Wide Skating Party
- Pajama and Hot Chocolate Day
- Christmas Singalong
- Christmas Concert

January

- Drama Club
- Scripps Spelling Bee
- Art Smarts
- Family Literacy Day
- Donation day for community of Milltown, NL

February

- Green Team “Sweater Day”
- Friendship Assembly
- Education Week
- 100th Day Celebration
- Pink Shirt Day
- Green Team Polar Bear Day

March

- Green Team “Waste Free Lunch” Day
- School Heritage Fair
- Kids Eat Smart Variety Concert
- Elementary Ski Trip to White Hills
- “Apple Day”

April

- Drama trip to “The Wizard of Oz”
- Rotary Music Festival
- School Public Speaking
- Ray Johnson Visit

May

- Grade 6 Orientation
- Regional Public Speaking
- Regional Heritage Fair
- Volunteer Morning Coffee
- Scholastic Book Fair and Family Night
- Green Team “Plastic Bag Challenge”

June

- Visit from children's author Necie
- Grade 6 School Ending Outing to St. John's
- Drama Concert "The Comic Book Artist"
- Grade 6 overnight trip to Brother Brennan Centre
- "World Ocean's Day" interactive displays
- Elementary Dance
- Grade 6 supper and slideshow
- Spring Concert
- Kindergarten Celebration
- Sport's Day
- Canada's 150 Birthday Celebrations
- Year End Fun Outings K to 6

Ongoing Activities

- Parent Volunteer Hot Lunch Program
- Kids Eat Smart Breakfast Program
- Recycling Program
- Lunchtime Intramurals
- Traditional Music Groups for Guitar and Violin
- Walking Club on Fridays
- Grade 6 Leadership Activities
- Daily Morning drop in
- Board Games Cart
- Primary Prefects
- Library Prefects
- Bus Helpers

.....and these are just some of the wonderful things our staff and school community accomplished last year!

Partnerships

We partner with many, many groups including local businesses, Exxon Mobil, MUN, Kids Eat Smart, NL Arts Council, Rotary St. John's Northwest, NL Fire Services, RCMP, MMSB, local churches and Ministerial Association, Royal Canadian Legion to name just a few. We have strong community support here at Holy Family.

Internal Assessment Data

Schools are data rich places, especially in the Primary and Elementary world. Teachers are assessing and evaluating students regularly – using both summative assessments, such as a quiz at the end of a unit of work, and formative, such as observational notes, conferencing and checklists. This data is called “Internal Data” as it is collected here at school by staff members working with students each day.

A rich source of Internal Data is Report Card data. Report cards are distributed to families three times a year at the end of each term. They contain a snapshot of a child’s learning to date in all subject areas and include a written comment by one or more teachers. Report card data is also entered into an Excel table where we can further analyze student achievement in the core areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Parents and guardians are invited to drop by the school to discuss their child’s report card with the teacher(s) to ascertain where they can best support their child’s learning at home.

What do these results tell us?

Our internal data for 2016-2017 show growth school wide for our students and we are very pleased with gains in achievement school wide especially in the areas of Math and Language Arts. Teacher professional development and home support for learning is yielding positive results. We remain focused, however, on further improving our results. We continue to focus on strategy development for instruction and assessment in the areas of number sense, problem solving and writing. Students who are not yet meeting grade level expectations are monitored closely and supported in a variety of ways to help bring them to where they need to be. We use tools such as Assistive tech, Alternate Format Materials, the LLI reading kit and Individual programming to pinpoint areas that need to be supported. Academic achievement is our number one priority at all times.

We also use data sources to help us improve our learning environment, enrich school spirit, enhance safety in and around our school and keep children active and making healthy food choices.

From the varied data sources we set up our School Development Plan for the upcoming year to focus on the areas we note as needing further attention in our school.

Report on School Development Plan for 2016-17 Year

Goal 1. To increase student achievement across the curriculum through enhanced teaching, learning and assessment practices using an inclusive and collaborative approach.	
Objective 1.1: Continue a strong focus on developing student literacy levels.	Objective 1.2: Continue to focus on developing problem-solving reasoning and communication skills in mathematics.
Evaluation 1.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some primary teachers have begun using the LLI kit to help move struggling readers forward. • Elementary students are benefitting from Assistive Tech to help with writing. • Various Google Apps are being explored. Still much to learn here. 	Evaluation 1.2: Through the Primary STEM Math project, teacher learning in the area of number sense and thus, student knowledge and understanding, has shown growth and continues to grow.
Goal 2. To continue a focus on enhancing a child-centered school that fosters an active, healthy and respectful lifestyle in a safe, caring and inclusive environment.	
Objective 2.1: Continue to develop digital literacy in our students and staff.	Objective 2.2: Continue to find ways to encourage and develop active living, healthy eating and positive school spirit among students.
Evaluation 2.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Citizenship lessons were delivered to students • Google accounts were distributed to all staff and students and were used for school academic purposes. 	Evaluation 2.2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canteen items now include fresh fruit when possible • School Crest entries were designed by students. • Board games were purchased from a Safe and Caring School Grant and utilized in the lunchtime hours.

Operational Issues Report 2016-2017

Operational Issue	Action	Evaluation
Purchase and install outside Video Surveillance Cameras	Approval received from District and quotes obtained. School Council and community informed. System ordered.	On the list for installation of a new system.
Separate front porch entrance into two sections, move camera and doorbell inside so visitors do not have to wait outside the school in poor weather to be admitted into the school.	No action as of the close of school year. Maintenance supervisor aware of this request and has approved in principal	No action taken so cannot evaluate at this time. Need still exists.

Actions for Change

Goal 1. To increase student achievement across the curriculum through enhanced teaching, learning, and assessment practices using an inclusive and collaborative approach.		
Objective 1.1: Continue to enhance and develop student writing proficiencies.	Objective 1.2: Continue to increase student reading levels and comprehension.	Objective 1.3: Continue a focus on improving student number sense.
Actions for Change 1.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop the use of Assistive Tech • Explore Google Read and Write 	Actions for Change 1.2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to grow the use of the LLI kit • Explore the reading process with staff • More work to enhance reading assessment including running records 	Actions for Change 1.3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number sense strategies developed in the Primary STEM project will be expanded to include elementary math

Goal 2. To continue a focus on enhancing a child-centered school that fosters an active, healthy and respectful lifestyle in a safe, caring and inclusive environment.	
Objective 2.1: To prepare our K to 6 students to be citizens of the world and responsible for their own actions.	Objective 2.2: Continue to find ways to encourage and develop active living, healthy eating and positive school spirit among students.
Actions for Change 2.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DARE program for Grade 6 class • ATV Safety presentation • Continuation of Digital Citizenship lessons 	Actions for Change 2.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating success display in main corridor • Monthly school wide activity to promote team work, school spirit and outside play.

One Year School Development Plan 2017-2018

School Development Plan 2017-18

Goal 1: To increase student achievement across the curriculum through enhanced teaching, learning and assessment practices using an inclusive and collaborative approach.		
Objective 1.1: Continue to enhance and develop student writing proficiencies.	Objective 1.2: Continue to increase student reading levels and comprehension.	Objective 1.3: Continue to develop number sense K to 6.
Strategies: 1.1.1: School Based PD Day on Literacy Nov.1 1.1.2: Initiate and teach students in the use of Google Read and Write. 1.1.3: Purchase Chromebooks for students with Written Output LD	Strategies: 1.2.1: School Based PD Day on Literacy Nov.1 1.2.2: Continue to grow use of LLI Kit 1.2.3: Staff PD on Running Record Analysis for deeper understanding and thus, instruction	Strategies: 1.3.1: Staff-wide presentation on Number Sense to include elementary teachers 1.3.2: Explore the use of Math Running Records and alternate forms of assessment in math
Indicators of Success: 1.1.1: Day will proceed and learning will occur 1.1.2: Google Read and Write will enhance student writing and scores will improve 1.1.3: Chromebooks will benefit Written Output students and they will be better prepared for Junior High	Indicators of Success: 1.2.1: Teachers will gain a better understanding of how to help struggling readers 1.2.2: Use of kit will continue to grow. Student reading levels will increase 1.2.3: Evidence will be visible for deeper Running Record analysis	Indicators of Success: 1.3.1: Elementary teachers will be willing to try some new strategies 1.3.2: Primary teachers will try a math running record and adjust for their students.

Goal 1. Support Plan

Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
- Purchase Chromebooks	- Staff Literacy Lead Teacher will deliver PD and Primary team will lead PD on Number Sense.

Goal 2: To continue a focus on enhancing a child-centered school that fosters an active, healthy and respectful lifestyle in a safe, caring and inclusive environment.	
Objective 2.1: To continue to develop student responsibility for their own actions and to help them make safe choices.	Objective 2.2: Continue to find ways to encourage and develop active living, healthy eating and positive school spirit among students.
Strategies: 2.1.1: D.A.R.E program will be delivered in the Grade 6 class this year before they go to Junior High 2.1.2: Auxiliary RCMP will also deliver an ATV Safety presentation in the Spring 2.1.3: Our Guidance Counsellor will deliver the Roots of Empathy program to the Grade 4 class	Strategies: 2.2.1: Develop a main corridor display celebrating student success in academic as well as many other varied areas. 2.2.2: Monthly school wide outside activity to promote teamwork, school spirit and outside play. (ex. Scavenger Hunt across grades, Orienteering).
Indicators of Success: 2.1.1: DARE will be delivered in full and a parent-attended graduation will occur with student essay presentations 2.1.2: ATV session will include parents and will be well attended with valuable discussions 2.1.3: The Grade 4 class will respond appropriately the Baby and Mother and empathy will be more visible in the students	Indicators of Success: 2.2.1: Display will feature all students from K to 6 at some point during the year and will include pictures, models, writing samples etc celebrating student success. 2.2.2: Students will participate in outside school wide activity and the response will be favorable from students and staff alike.

Goal 2. Support Plan	
Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
- No financial support needed here.	- Guidance Counsellor is trained in the “Roots of Empathy” program, no other professional development required by staff. - Time will need to be found for development of the display in the main entrance and to plan the school-wide monthly activity. Actual carrying out of the activity will be based on weather and scheduling but will occur at the end of the month.

Operational Issues for 2017-2018

Operational Issue	Intended Action
Visitors to the school have to wait outside in the weather.	Partition off main entrance porch, and move camera and bell inside. Replace flooring in the porch.
Poor signage on main road to indicate location of school.	Design and install school sign out by the main road entrance in Spring 2018.