

MARGARET'S LEGACY

Dear <Insert name of Parents, Guardians, or Caregivers here>,

Allow me to introduce myself... <write a bit about yourself here>

I am really excited to be growing and learning with <insert name of child> this year. It's really important that you know and understand my philosophy and classroom policies right from the start. So here goes...

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

There have been countless studies showing that student success is directly linked to parent's active role in the education process. Of course, this does not mean doing your child's assignments for them or spending hours studying alongside them. It is a communication partnership between parents, teachers, and students. Open dialogue and respectful communication.

Because I encourage students to talk about any and all subjects that they are interested in learning more about or concerned about, some sensitive topics may (and likely will) come up in class. It's really important that you let me know if your child has any history that may impact their ability to cope with specific topics. With this information, I can gently guide the conversation and seek support from the school councilor if necessary.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We will be using Margaret's Legacy Journeys curriculum this year, which is sure to give your child a unique life perspective while covering all of the ministry requirements. I share a very similar educational philosophy to Margaret's Legacy and with that common vision, I hope to empower the next generation of youth one class at a time.

"Because today's youth are bound to pursue careers that don't quite exist yet, we need to broaden the definition of student success and identify new objectives beyond the core curriculum.

We must teach students how to access information and inspire them to become lifelong learners through self-discovery, open dialogue and role-modelling.

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Having a good role model to connect to has never been more critical to children's emotional and educational well-being. We are no longer the spoon-feeders of the world – we are the live influencers that can make it or break it for our student's long-term success.

And we have a LOT of competition with social media. So it's time to work with it instead of against it.

While we value classic learning tremendously, we also believe that empowering students to be their own teachers, influencers, and researchers is what will breed success for their future selves.”

WHAT IDEAS & CONCEPTS ARE EXPLORED THROUGHOUT THE JOURNEYS CURRICULUM?

The Journeys curriculum fosters introspection, hones leadership skills, and helps students identify their core values, while enhancing their social awareness, and increasing sensitivity toward others.

Some of the main ideas and concepts explored include:

- Methods for respectful and healthy dialogue
- Points of view paradox
- Inside out approach to change
- Citizenship & digital citizenship
- Value of home and community
- Understanding the difference between refugee and immigrant
- Reasons why someone would leave their home and concerns related to choice
- History of the Holocaust
- Ethical leadership, conformity, peer pressure, and the idea of being an up-stander
- Overview and timeline of Canadian history as it pertains to world cultures seeking refuge
- A compare and contrast of the Holocaust refugee experience to the experiences of refugees arriving in Canada today
- Mapping concepts and geography of Central Europe, the World, and Eastern Canada
- Modes of Travel then and now
- Overcoming adversity & exploring tools for resilience
- Famous Canadian refugees that impacted the world
- Examining the difference between rising from a personal challenge and rising from a challenge inflicted on you
- Inquiry into family history, history of someone close to you, or a famous immigrant to Canada
- Understanding Canada's current immigration and refugee policies in order to break myths and stereotypes around those seeking new lives here
- Exploring ways to better support refugees and immigrants
- Collaborative humanitarian initiative
- Self-reflection and social emotional development

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HOMEWORK & ASSIGNMENT EXPECTATIONS

<You have to do some of this yourself lol. Include what parents can expect to see and how you intend to support students with accountability (ie. Agenda use or google classroom) >

BEST WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME

<Insert your preferred communication method and how soon parents can expect to hear back from you>

IN CONCLUSION...

Again, I am so excited to delve into learning with <insert student name here>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

Hope you have a great day!

<insert your name here>