

Memo #8

Date: October 24, 2018

To: Simcoe Muskoka Catholic Elementary Teachers

Re: **Progress Report Cards – 1 to 8, and Kindergarten; OTIP News**

Progress Report Cards

The intent of the progress report is to comment on the progress to date, not the achievement to date. Teachers are to use their professional judgement to determine where/how a child is progressing and it is **not necessary** to comment on every subject or learning skill. Teachers are to provide an assessment using the four-letter codes (E, G, S, N) for all six of the learning skills and to comment on at least **three of the six** learning skills in the adjacent comment box.

Grades 1-6	Assessment Indicators	Comments
Homeroom Teacher	Yes	Yes
French	Yes	Yes
200 minutes/week subject	Yes	Yes
40 minutes/week subject	Yes*	No*
Grades 7-8		
Homeroom Teacher	Yes	Yes
French	Yes	Yes
40 minutes/week subject	Yes*	No*

*Please refer to page two of Joint Memo: Prep Time. (attached)

Homeroom teacher is responsible for commenting on: **Religion & Family Life, Language and Mathematics.**

Each teacher is responsible for placing their own assessment indicator and comments into each student progress report.

Please remember that it is not a requirement to fill the entire comment box and point form comments are acceptable.

Progress Reports – Kindergarten

A teacher's task for the Initial Observations is to reveal the thinking and learning (and not the activities) of the child as they relate to the overall expectations, based on their documentation (observations, conversations and demonstrations/products [photos, videos, work samples, etc.]). Teachers present examples from their documentation of key learning demonstrated by this particular child, at this particular time, growth in learning of this child, and frame a next step in learning. **Comments are not undertaken for individual frames.** Comments, for this Communication of Learning:

- present information in a conversational way that is easy to understand
- focus on the learning the child has demonstrated, rather than the activities the child has participated in
- focus on or refer to strengths and growth in learning in relation to the expectations and specific evidence
- describe what the child is doing rather than what the educators are doing
- may also include the child's interests and preferences in learning.

Please don't feel that you must fill the box! The character count for the Religion box is 600 characters, and the Key Learning box is 4000 characters.

Options for clear and precise learning comments may include:

- Comments created in collaboration by the educator team to capture a summative statement in concise, everyday language.
- The Prep teacher provides an electronic copy of evaluative comments of each child's learning for the classroom teacher to paste into Key Learning box.
- The Prep teacher provides evaluative comments and the classroom teacher integrates them into the body of the comment for Key Learning, including the name of the prep teacher at the start or conclusion of the comment he/she provides; for example:
 - as a stem at the start of the comment: "Mrs. MacDonald reports"
 - or at the conclusion of the comment: "(Mrs. MacDonald)"
- The Prep teacher, after discussion with the class teacher, enters their evaluative comment directly into the Key Learning box in Gradebook. This approach would require the appropriate setup by the Principal.

Comments may be written in full sentence form or in bullet form.

How to Safeguard Your Home Against Break-Ins

As the holiday season approaches so does an increased risk for home burglary.¹ While holiday shoppers hide presents in their homes, and homeowners leave town to celebrate the season with family and friends, home burglars are left with prime opportunities for break-ins and theft.

While there's no way to guarantee your home won't be the target of an attempted break-in, there are some actions that you can take to help defend your home against burglars.

To learn more, visit www.otipinsurance.com/article27

If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1 800 558 4815