

June 23, 2013

To Parents/Guardians:

I can't believe that nine months have gone by already. I have certainly enjoyed my time as school council chairperson. It has been an honour to represent the school and be a part of our school community. We had a busy and very productive school year. I am very happy that the school councils have been collaborating well in preparing for our school amalgamation with St. Columba and Holy Spirit School this coming September 2013. I have met a lot of amazing people, learned a lot from everyone and even have developed lifelong friendships.

I would like to thank the school council members for all their support and for not only volunteering their time, talents and sharing their ideas but also for helping enrich our school community. Everyone contributed in working together to support our service and leadership teams. We have all set a great example on how important it is to be involved with our kids' school and on giving back to the community. We never lost our focus on what the council is all about... our kids.

I would like to thank St. Ann staff for keeping a friendly learning environment for our kids. At St. Ann's the kids are courteous, respectful and friendly. The kids always greet one another in the hallways, open doors for everyone especially during school events and behave well during school trips. A HUGE thank you to all the teachers for continuing to inspire them and for pushing them to their full potential.

I would like to thank Mr. Kislinsky for the constant guidance and keeping an open line of communication to all three councils and parents/guardians. Thank you for leading by example our school mission statement and vision, "To Live, Love and Lead like Christ". The schools integration of the 7 Habits with our kids academic curriculum has made a great impact in our kids academic and everyday life. Our children have learned to be proactive, to have empathy, to listen before judging, to own up to their actions and help them become better problem solvers, "To Think Win- Win". These are all lifelong principles that we all struggle within our daily lives. To teach and incorporate as part of the school curriculum what we as parents teach at home, is a great idea! The schools leadership and service team programs help prepare our kids to grow up to be good citizens that give back to the community. Then there is the health and nutrition program, green team, eco team... thank you for utilizing your networks in supporting all these initiatives, lessening the burden on us parents. Learning more about the 7 Habits has made me realized that great leaders are made through the service of others. As someone once said "Leaders aren't born, they are made". We are very proud to have you as our leader.

I would like to thank all our community supporters especially the Barton and Sherman Group and Hamilton Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club for all the help in making these programs possible for our kids. For supporting Mr. Kislinsky's vision for our school. Thank you Father Joe for helping us guide our children in their catholic faith. We are looking forward to your continued help and support in future years.

Hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer! Relax and energize yourselves as we have a busy school year ahead of us. I hope that we can count on you all again with all the exciting activities and clubs we have planned for September.

Sincerely,

Ms Laresa Khamphoomee  
Catholic School Council Chairperson  
St. Ann School (Hamilton)