



ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
15 St. Ann St.
Hamilton, Ont.
L8L 0B8
905-547-5444



Live, Love, Lead Like Christ

Principal – P. Kislinsky
 Principal Assistant – L. St. Aubin
 Superintendent - C. Ciapanna

Cathedral Principal – S. Cannon
Trustee – T. Perri



I have called you by name: you are mine....I will be with you....Because you are precious in my eyes and glorious, and because I love you.



Is. 43:1, 2, 4

As we begin the month of February, let's ask ourselves this question: How does God send us Valentines? Lots of ways! One is through the sacred Scriptures, the holy Word of the Lord, so full of examples of God's goodness and mercy, love and compassion. What Scriptural Valentines have been treasured over the years? Here are a few to consider:

With age-old love I have loved you; so I have kept my mercy toward you. Jer. 31:3

His banner over me is love. Song 2:4

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Wednesday, February 26, 2014**

at 6:30 p.m. in the staff room at our new school site on St. Ann Street. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.** Our future meeting dates of the CSC are as follows:

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

FAMILY DAY

Family Day is Monday, February 16th. There is no school for students and staff. Enjoy the day as a family!

ST. ANN (HAMILTON) 7 HABITS LEADER IN ME FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Catholic School Council is supporting a Facebook page designed by one of its members Mrs. Livingston and input from members of our Catholic School Council Executive. You are encouraged to visit it as our hope is to keep our parents/guardians informed with what is happening at the school with regards to the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, other leadership initiatives and Catholic School Council news. Please visit the link www.facebook.com/stannahamilton and "like" the page.

REPORT CARDS

First term report cards will be sent home on **Friday, February 10, 2015.** If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher for a meeting.

FEBRUARY 7 HABIT FOCUS

Our February focus of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is to "Synergize". Students will be learning about the importance of valuing other people's strengths and learning from them. The key is that as individuals, we are able to get along well with others, even people whom are different than ourselves. It is important that individuals realize that by teaming with others, we can create better solutions than any one person alone.

PANCAKE TUESDAY/FRIDAY

Please note our **Pancake Tuesday will be on Friday, February 13th.** The date change is a result of the opportunity to have a guest dance instructor come in and provide dance lessons for all the students on Tuesday, February 17th.

COFFEE WITH THE PRINCAL

On **Tuesday, February 24th** our Community Police Officer will be presenting on the topic: "**The Safe Use of the Internet.**" All parents/guardians and community members are welcome to attend. Bring a friend. The session will be at 8:45 a.m. in the library. Refreshments and snacks will be served!

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on **Friday, February 27th** and orders will be taken on **Wednesday, February 25th** in the morning (\$1.75/slice). This will also be a **theme day** and students are **encouraged to dress for the theme of a Red and White Day.** Future Pizza and Casual Day's will be the **last Friday of each month.** Please watch future newsletters for the theme days of those Fridays.

PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice) CONTROL

This year, we will again be using public health nurses to screen the students at school. A screening of our whole student population is presently being arranged and hopefully will be conducted at least once per school term. **The health department suggests that one good preventative measure to control head lice is for parents/guardians to perform regular head checks on their children at home.** Head lice is not a health problem, but it does create a nuisance for all. You can also visit a web site which gives information on Head Lice. The web site is:

www.webspawner.com/users/licefree/index.html
<http://www.inform.hamilton.ca/record/HAM2652>

BUG BUSTER CLINICS

- Screening (head checks);
- Treatment demonstrations;
- Low cost medicated shampoo and comb;
- Information provided by a public health nurse;
- Time to talk to other parents/guardians;

Bug Buster Clinic Two Locations

Cathy Wever School:

160 Wentworth Ave. North (Between Cannon and Barton) every **Wednesday 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

Hamilton East Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club

45 Ellis Avenue (south of Barton near Center Mall) **Every Thursday 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.**

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is important that all student absences be reported. The school has an answering machine in operation daily from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. where a recorded message may be left about a student's upcoming absence. It is the school's safe entry policy to contact parents of absent students unless we have prior notification about their absence. Parents/Guardians will be phoned at work if we cannot reach them at home.

Each month in the newsletter we will publish our data regarding student absenteeism and lates. **Last year (2013-2014) we noted that 4 months had improved attendance out of the 10 school months. Reducing the number of lates improved 5 out of the 10 months students were in school. This year, our goal is to improve on our previous year's attendance and late numbers. Please help us to achieve our goals for improvement in each category. Each month the newsletter will share our attendance and late numbers from the past months and from last year (*Number in Brackets and Italics.*)! Let's try to improve the numbers in each month this coming school year!**

September – Students on time: 99% (99.3)

Attendance: 95.6% (95.3)

October – Students on time: 98.8% (99)

Attendance: 94.5% (93.5)

November – Students on time: 98.9 (98.6)

Attendance: 92.5 (93)

December - Students on time: 96.1% (98.7%)

Attendance: 93.7% (92%)

January - Students on time: 96.5 (98.7)

Attendance: 90.3 (83.9)

SEPTEMBER 2015 FULL DAY JR. & SR. KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Early registrations for September 2015 **Full Day Junior Kindergarten** and **new Full Day Senior Kindergarten** students will be held at the school in February. **Please call the school office to book an appointment (905-547-5444).** Registration should take approx. 20 minutes. Please note the following age requirements:

Jr. Kindergarten Students - child must have been born in 2011.

Sr. Kindergarten Students - child must have been born in 2010.

Please be prepared with these documents:

- **Birth Certificate**
- **Baptism Certificate**
- **Immunization Record**

Please pass on this information to friends in the community who have young children who meet the age requirements.

GROWING SUCCESS: ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING IN ONTARIO SCHOOLS

Progress Report Cards went home in November and Interviews also took place during this month. The Learning Skills along with Academic progress was reported on during this time. The following areas of the learning skills:

- i. Responsibility
- ii. Organization
- iii. Independent Work
- iv. Collaboration
- v. Initiative
- vi. Self-regulation

These areas were evaluated and reported on as:

E – Excellent

G – Good

S – Satisfactory

N – Needs Improvement

The first report card went home on **Tuesday, February 10, 2015.** If you have any questions regarding your child's report card, please contact the teacher/staff for an interview. The June report card **Tuesday, June 23, 2015.** Grades for academic achievement will be reported at these times.

C.Y.O. NEWS

Senior Girls' Volleyball and Senior and Junior Boys' Basketball Teams seasons are in full swing. All the students are demonstrating tremendous teamwork,

sportsmanship and skill development. Best of luck in the upcoming playoffs! Please refer to the team schedules provided by each coach for game date, times and locations.

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

The following is a list of dates when school is not in session:

Monday, February 16th – Family Day

Monday, March 16th – 20th - March Break

Friday, April 3rd – Monday, April 6th - Easter Weekend

Friday, April 24th – P.A. Day

Monday, May 18th - Victoria Day

Friday, June 5th – P.A. Day

Friday, June 19th - P. A. Day

Friday, June 26th - Last Day of School

GRADUATION PICTURES

Grade 8 students will have their graduation pictures taken on **Tuesday, April 7th** in the a.m.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

The date for our **Grade 7 students' Confirmation is Saturday, May 2, 2015 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church. The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 5 p.m. at St. Ann Church.** Please keep our Grade 2 and 7 students in your prayers as they prepare for these sacraments.

ST. ANN CHILD CARE CENTRE

We offer a full day **Toddler program** for children aged 18 months – 2.5 years, a **Preschool Program** for children 2.5 years – 5 years of age, and a **Before and After School Program** for ages 3.5 – 12 years of age. We are currently accepting registrations for all programs.

Fees are as follows:

Toddlers **\$42.00**

Pre School **\$35.00**

Before & After **\$17.00**

Before school only **\$10.00**

After school only **\$14.00**

Please pass this information to parents who have children who would benefit from this program.

For more information or to register call:

St. Ann Early Learning and Care Centre

Contact: Joanne Genovese (supervisor)

(905) 523-2304

FREE EYEGLASSES

If you do not have coverage for your child's eye exam and/or glasses, Lenscrafters will provide these for you free of charge. Please pick up the letter at the office.

DID YOU KNOW?

The ILC Homework Help website located at <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> is designed to enhance students' learning skills and contribute to academic success in math. This project focuses on providing free on-line math assistance to students in Grades 7, 8 and 9. The key features of the website contain interactive tutorials, examples, exercises and EQAO test preparation. The site also includes the *Ask a Teacher* one-on-one tutoring, available only after school from 5:30- 9:30 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday, and is designed to help students with their homework. Parents can also register as guests but cannot participate in the chat sessions. This is a fully monitored site with several protective measures where students remain safe and anonymous and can return to the site as often as they need. All grade 7, 8 and grade 9 students can access these supports, by logging into Homework help at <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> using the Username and Password they generated during the o-line registration process facilitated by the school. The Homework Help website is fully monitored with several protective measures in place to ensure student safety.

FALL/WINTER WEATHER

Please ensure that your children dress warmly for school during the upcoming cold months. Hats, mitts, heavier coats, etc. will be in order. You should expect that students will be outside for recess except for excessively cold days. During this season students will **not** be permitted to wear their **outside footwear** into the classrooms. Students should bring an extra pair of runners or slippers to wear around the classroom and school.

Also, during the upcoming winter months when schools are closed or buses cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, details will be announced on the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board website (www.hwcdsb.ca) and Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services website (www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public_v2/index.aspx) as well as the following Hamilton and area media outlets: 900 CHML / VINYL 95.3 / Y108 FM CKOC 1150 / K-Lite 102.9 FM / CHAM 820 CHCH TV Morning Live (Channel 11) CBC Hamilton www.cbc.ca/hamilton The Hamilton Spectator www.thespec.com Twitter <https://twitter.com/HWCDSB> Facebook www.facebook.com

Schools closures and bus cancellations will be posted on the HWCDSB and HWSTS websites and communicated to the local media by 7:00 a.m., whenever possible. If schools close early, the information will be posted on the HWCDSB and HWSTS websites and sent to the media for dissemination.

DROPPING CHILDREN OFF

Parents/Guardians are reminded that children should not be dropped off at any time of the day on St. Ann Street as this is a Fire Zone. Please use the "Kiss and Ride" off of Sherman Avenue. Please note: there is no parking on the school property for parents/guardians to walk their children to the playground. Please use the Church Parking lot across the street or the Holy Spirit Parking Lot.

At the end of the day, all students that walk to school or are to be picked up will be dismissed by way of the front doors. Only those students that take the bus will exit from the back doors. Please note: the "kiss and ride" area is not available at the end of the day.

MONTHLY AWARDS

Congratulations to **January's** award winners.

CATHOLICITY

Grade 1: Emmanuel N.

Grade 2: Martiena N.

Grade 3: Cambria T. and Malachi M.

Grade 4: Nathalie C.

Grade 5: Mason B.

Grade 6: Katherine K. and Anna S.

Grade 8: Charlene R. and Carson B.

LEADERSHIP

Grade 1: Andy N.

Grade 2: Grace Y.

Grade 3: Jason N. and Olivia P.

Grade 4: Azaliah A. and Angel B.

Grade 6: Phuong V.P. and Vanessa C.M.

Grade 7: Madison H.

Grade 8: Alissa T.

FRENCH AWARD

Matteo G., Makayla B., Maria F., Jason B., Nicolas H. and Remiel A.

JML SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER

The school's uniform supplier is JML Sportswear and is located on 95 Parkdale Ave. North. They can be contacted at **905-544-1608**.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please take the time to visit our school website at <http://stah.hwcdsb.ca/>. Please note: our school monthly newsletter, calendar, up-dates, etc. are located here. Parents/Guardian and family members are encouraged to keep up-to-date with all the happenings in our school community.

BEREAVED FAMILIES OF ONTARIO WORKSHOP FOR GR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS

The Social Work department of the HWCDsb is partnering with Bereaved Families of Ontario (Hamilton/Burlington) to offer a one-day workshop for grade 7 and 8 students who have experienced the death of a family member or close friend. The workshop will

offer students the opportunity to meet with other students who have also experienced a significant loss.

The workshop will be held on:

Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Chancery Office, located at 700 King Street West, beside the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King.

Should you be interested in having your son/daughter participate in this workshop, please contact your child's school as soon as possible for referral information.

NUT FREE ENVIRONMENT

Please be reminded that St. Ann School is a **NUT FREE ENVIRONMENT**. **This year, we have a student and staff member that have such a severe allergy that any food with nuts in it that is airborne will cause a reaction that could be life threatening.** Please ensure that your child does not bring food items that contain any nuts or nut byproducts. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

St. Ann Hamilton is a place where all children feel safe and have a sense of belonging. To ensure the safety and well-being of all children, please note below important information from Anaphylaxis Canada:

- Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death;
- Signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction can occur within minutes of exposure to an allergen (a substance capable of causing an allergic reaction)
- Very small amounts of certain foods can cause severe reactions when eaten. This may happen if a person at risk touches an allergenic substance and then subsequently touches the mouth. Even a very small amount 'hidden' in a food or transferred to a serving utensil has the potential to cause a severe allergic reaction. Direct ingestion of an allergy-causing food poses the greatest risk for people with food allergies.

Cooperation from parent and guardians in adhering to the guidelines below is most appreciated:

- There are students at this school who are allergic to the following foods and items: **any food with nuts.**
- Parents will be advised of allergens specific to a classroom, and are asked to adhere to the accommodation(s) requested.
- Reinforce hand washing practices: wash hands before and after eating.
- Remind children not to share or trade food, food utensils, or food containers.
- Please do NOT bring any home-made food products into the school; with permission, non-food items are permitted for various celebrations and special events and activities.

Thank you for your help in keeping all our children safe.

