



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

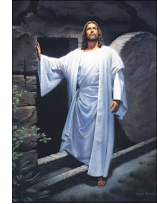


Hamilton-Wentworth  
 Catholic Schools  
*Believing. Achieving. Serving*

*Live, Love, Lead Like Christ*

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

*Cathedral Principal – S. Cannon*  
 Trustee – T. Perri



*"Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we forgive the wrongs others have done to us."*

*Matthew 6:12*

*As we begin the month of March, and continue in the Holy Season of Lent, we take this time to reflect, pray and offer sacrifices and works of mercy and charity as we prepare ourselves for the holiest of all feasts, Easter Sunday. During this season of joy, hope and new life, we look forward to our own renewal in all facets of our lives.*

**A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

*Loving and Merciful God,*

*we pray for many needs of families:*

*for abundant love, for forgiveness and reconciliation,  
 for a living faith to face the challenges of each day.*

*Jesus, You were born into a human family  
 and became our brother.*

*You know well what families need to nourish  
 both children and parents*

*in long-lasting bonds of love and respect.*

*Help families of all shapes  
 and sizes turn to you as their source of life.*

*May your Spirit encourage husbands and wives,  
 mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters.*

*Give us all the eyes to appreciate one another  
 and to be grateful for the gift of families. Amen.*

**BULLDOGS BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

The Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Club once again is sponsoring our Breakfast Program with a \$5000 donation. Three times a week, our community volunteers in collaboration with Mrs. Wong and Ms Cino are providing a variety of nutritious breakfast products to our students. We are looking for more volunteers to help with our breakfast program. If you have any questions or are interested in this leadership opportunity, please feel free to contact Mr. Kislinsky (905-561-5413).

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.** in the staff room. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

The final meeting of the CSC is as follows:

**Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

**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. 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 and other leadership initiatives. Please visit the link [www.facebook.com/stannahamilton](http://www.facebook.com/stannahamilton) and "like" the page.

**SCHOOL MASSES**

Our next school masses are **on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> @ 1 p.m.** at St. Ann Church and a second mass will be on **Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 10 a.m.** Everyone is invited.

**FIT ACTIVE BEAUTIFUL FOUNDATION**

Fit Active Beautiful Foundation runs a program called the FAB girls 5K Challenge. It is a running program for girls in Grades 6, 7 and 8 where students learn how to set goals and participate in running games to train for and cross the finish line at the FAB 5K Community Challenge. These female students from our school meet once a week for 90 minutes with FAB trainers for 12 weeks. On Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> the students received a presentation by a FAB representative, at lunch explaining the program.



St. Ann Hamilton CES has the opportunity to have a kids.now volunteer mentor give grade 6 and 7 girls the right tools to make the right choices. A kids.now Volunteer Mentor will facilitate the weekly sessions in our school with a group of 10 or more grade 6 and 7 female students.

The kids.now 12 week Program takes place in our school one weekday per week, after school, for 90 minutes. The day of the week to run the sessions is a day agreed upon between kids.now Volunteer Mentor and School Champion. Kids.now

does not assign the day. We do not run Friday sessions. The weekly sessions usually start approximately 5 minutes after the conclusion of the school day.

**Attendance: 91.4% (93.1)**

The kids.now Program is for grade 6 and grade 7 female students. We are looking for the students who truly want to participate and acquire the tools toward developing leadership skills. Mr. Kisilnsky will be showing the presentation during the first week of March to our grade 6 and 7 girls to determine which students are interested in committing to the Kids.now program.

### MONTHLY AWARDS

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

#### CATHOLICITY

Grade 1: Daniella T.  
Grade 2: Ayden M. and Nolan G  
Grade 3: Piper A. and Elizabeth M.  
Grade 4: Josi M.  
Grade 5: Oriana R.  
Grade 6: Mriana N.  
Grade 7: Macie K. and Mitchell M.  
Grade 8: Dylan P.

#### LEADERSHIP

Grade 1: Angelica D.  
Grade 2: Katia K. and Adaora J.  
Grade 3: Alexandra B. and Alyssa D.  
Grade 4: Jessica B.  
Grade 5: Stephen M.  
Grade 6: Alyzia A. and Jason P.  
Grade 8: Max J. and Cristiana D.

#### FRENCH AWARD

Jessica B, Theo K, Anna K, Luke S, Maria H, Emma 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)**

February - Students on time: **96.7% (98.2)**

### 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.

### MARCH 7 HABIT FOCUS

Our March focus of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is to **“Sharpen the Saw.”** Students will be learning about the importance of constantly renewing ourselves in the four basic areas of life: physical, social/emotional, mental and spiritual. It's the habit that increases our capacity to live all other habits of effectiveness. The habit of “Sharpening the Saw” keeps one's personal skills sharp so he/she can better deal with life.

### WINTER WEATHER

As we work through the winter weather, students are reminded that they must leave the snow on the ground. Students are not permitted to throw/kick snow/ice or run or play on top of the snow hills at or around the school. Students are allowed to dig and build forts using the snow and to learn to co-operate and collaborate with peers. These expectations will help to ensure the safety of the students.

Please ensure that your children dress warmly for school during the cold winter months. Hats, mitts, heavier coats, etc. are 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, **please listen to your local radio stations for any school closures due to bad weather.** Please remember to listen for **“The Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board”** for our school's closure announcement.

### ECO NEWS

The ECO Team Leaders have been working very hard. They held a school wide assemble about waste. The ECO Leaders demonstrated where waste goes in the recycling bins and weighed the garbage. They encouraged everyone to put waste in the right place and continue practicing good environmental habits. Room 207 was awarded the gold box for the month of March for being the best in the school at recycling. Please continue to use reusable containers for lunch, snacks, and

drinks. TD Friends of The Environment has given St. Ann a grant of \$1500.00. This is to help us build a raised vegetable bed. The student leaders have been busy calling various companies for quotes on how much it will cost to build. Every Friday here at St Ann is a litterless lunch. Remember to Think Green, Live Green, and Act Green!

#### **SCHOOL UNIFORM AND CLOTHING ROOM**

The room across from the Main Office has been set up since September. We have a large selection of uniform shirts and pants, along with a selection of other clothing, hats, gloves, coats, etc. We also have a number of adult winter coats. If you would like to visit the room to check out our stock please contact Mrs. Ragonetti our school secretary @ 905-547-5444. She will arrange a time for you to come and visit the clothing room.

#### **SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION**

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

**Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> - March Break**

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - Easter Weekend

Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – P.A. Day

Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> - Victoria Day

Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> – P.A. Day

Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> - P. A. Day

Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of School

#### **GRADUATION PICTURES**

Grade 8 students will have their graduation pictures taken on **Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** 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**

#### **PIZZA/CASUAL DAY /PASTA LUNCH**

Pizza day for March is cancelled and will be replaced by a free pasta lunch for all students. The free pasta lunch is sponsored by our Catholic School Council and will be on **Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**. This will also be a Casual Day. Please watch future

newsletters for the theme days of those Fridays.

#### **CYO SPORTS**

Congratulations to the **Junior and Senior Boys' Basketball Teams** on their seasons. Thanks to the boys for a great season, along with a special thank you to Mr. Clarke, Mrs. Mastromarco, Ms Polizzi, and Mrs. DiFeo's son Ian for coaching our teams. Thank you to Mr. Susi and our Grade 8 students, along with some grade 9 students from Cathedral who are our former students for supervising the gym, refereeing and scorekeeping. It was truly a community supported event.

The **Junior and Senior Girls' Volleyball Teams** had very exciting season. The girls demonstrated teamwork, co-operation, and leadership. Congratulations to all the girls for a fantastic season. Special thanks to Ms St. Aubin, Mrs. Wong and Mrs. DiFeo and Ms Gabriele for coaching the teams.

Thank you to Ms Gabriele and our Grade 8 students, along with some grade 9 students from Cathedral who are our former students for supervising the gym, refereeing and scorekeeping. It was truly a community supported event.

#### **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**.

#### **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.

#### **ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE:**

**The Early Learning Centre has moved back to Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Elementary School located at 181 Belmont Ave.** The Ontario Early Year Centre (Hamilton Best Start) offers a variety of programs for parents/guardians of preschool children from 0 to 6 years of age. Parents/guardians of children within that age group would greatly benefit from this program.

For more information, please contact the centre at 905-573-7905. You can also visit the website at [www.ontarioearlyyears.ca](http://www.ontarioearlyyears.ca) or [www.children.gov.on.ca](http://www.children.gov.on.ca) It simply updates parents/guardians on what the OEYC is and does.

## 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.

## PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

**Tip #84** – Lent is a time for us to focus on important practices of our faith: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. During Lent help your children see that prayer is both formal and informal and that God wants to hear from us in many ways; teach them that we can fast from a favourite food or drink, but also from a bad habit or mean spirited action; remind them that almsgiving provides support for those in need and can take the form of money, goods, or time and talent. Lent is about focussing in on how we can be better people and so it is a great teaching tool to help your children grow.

(From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

## MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

**Tip #64** – In marriage we can sometimes focus on the habits of our spouse that annoy us, rather than looking inward at ourselves and asking how we might be a better partner to the one we love. Ask yourself what one thing you can do today to be a better spouse and then do it; choose a new item to focus on each week. As we change how we connect with our spouse, their response to us will also change and suddenly, life is better. Adopt a new way of acting toward your spouse and watch your marriage thrive!

(From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

## 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.**