



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



*Live, Love, Lead Like Christ*

Principal – G. Pizzoferrato  
 Principal Intern – P. Moscato  
 Superintendent – T. Kovach

**Cathedral Principal – M. Daly**  
**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*

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

February always proves to be a busy month that will see much activity in school. Attendance is extremely important; teachers continue to assess students and students are engaged actively in their work tasks as report card time draws near. Report cards will be sent home on February 17, 2016.

This month will see our students involved in a Yellow Day, letter less lunches on scheduled days, a Pancake Tuesday treat as we enter into the Lenten season, school mass on February 10 at 9am, a cake raffle to be held on February 12, Pink Day to show our support of Anti-Bullying and two extra days of time at home for Family Day on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> and an newly introduced Professional Development Day scheduled for Friday February 26, 2016. While all of these wonderful activities are taking place, students will continue with their studies in the classroom and your support with their homework is appreciated as always! Have a fabulous month of February!

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Please note the date of the next School Council Meeting has changed to Thursday, February 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

We are always happy to see new faces and would encourage parents to attend one of our meetings! Parent involvement is key to our students success and there are many ways that you can be involved in your child's learning.

Council: Come out to meetings or consider joining council

Volunteer: There are many opportunities for parents to volunteer as St. Ann

E-Resources/Support: Learn about all of the e-resources and supports available to assist

If you have questions about how you can be involved send us an email, we are happy to assist!

stah.hwcdsb.ca

Future meeting dates of the CSC are as follows:

Tuesday, March 22th @ 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 28th @ 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.

**FAMILY DAY**

**Family Day is Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.** 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. Allen-Cillis 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/stannhamilton](http://www.facebook.com/stannhamilton) and "like" the page.

## REPORT CARDS

First term report cards will be sent home on **Wednesday, February 17, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher for a meeting.**

## SCHOOL MASSES

Our next school mass is Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> @ **9:00 a.m.** Ash Wednesday mass everyone is welcome to join us!

## FEBRUARY 7 HABIT FOCUS

Our February focus of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is "To Begin with End in Mind". Students will be learning to plan ahead and set personal and academic goals.

## PANCAKE TUESDAY/FRIDAY

Please note our **Pancake Tuesday will be on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.** Students will enjoy pancakes with their classmates and teacher.

## PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on **Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** and orders will be taken on **Tuesday, February 23<sup>th</sup>** in the morning (\$1.75/slice) **NO LATE ORDER WILL BE ACCEPTED.** 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.

## VALENTINE CAKE RAFFLE

The student Leadership committee will be holding a Valentine Cake Raffle. Tickets will be .25 cent each and will be sold February 8<sup>th</sup> to February 12<sup>th</sup>. Support this fun event to win a Valentine cake or treat!

## PINK SHIRT DAY

**On Wednesday, February 24, 2016** each and every child should feel safe, secure, and accepted at school. Did you know bullying happens once every 25 minutes in the classroom? We know despite best efforts, it's a startling statistic. To promote a united stance against bullying, St. Ann will have **Pink Shirt Day** on **Wednesday, February 24, 2016.** Staff and students are encouraged to wear PINK on that day in support of bullying prevention.

## ECO NEWS

The Eco Team has been working very hard to inform everyone about water conservation. We have made daily

morning announcements on how to keep our water clean and safe for all of us. We made the morning announcements interactive by asking question. We have also not used Forty Thousand single use water bottles by bringing in reuse able water bottles! Keep up the fantastic work everyone!

February is all about air. Just like clean, safe water, we all need clean, safe air to breathe. We have put up new signs in the "kiss and drop" area to remind everyone that the school is an idle free zone. The Eco challenge for February goes out to everyone. Everyone needs to submit and answer to this Eco question: How can you clean the air? All entries must be into the Eco Team by Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup>. Be creative! Make sure that any pictures have a description. All winning entries will be placed on our Eco board. There are great prizes to be won!!

**\*\* Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> is Winter Walk to School day.** We have been challenged by other schools across Ontario. I know St. Ann is up for this challenge. Just simply walk to school\*\*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

Our Catholic Virtue for February is  
**COMPASSION**

Every person has basic human rights to have food, clean water, and education. We have responsibilities to each other to make sure that this right are provided and protected. St. Ann's Faith Based Initiative (F.B.I) team will be running a food drive in February and is encouraging everyone to show compassion and help those in need.

## GRADE 7 DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

On **Thursday, February 25, 2016,** our Grade 7 students will be taking part in a **Diversity Conference** at the school. Throughout the day, students will be engaged in activities that will focus on developing an understanding of multicultural, multiracial, diversity, equity, and social issues. The aim of the Diversity Conference is to empower students to apply strategies to counteract the negative influences of bias, inequity, stereotyping, prejudice, discrimination, and injustice that are so prevalent in our society.

## CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S AID and THE DUTY TO REPORT

The Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) recognizes that each of us has a responsibility for the welfare of children. We all share a responsibility to protect children from harm. This includes situations where children are abused or neglected in their own homes. Ontario's Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) provides for protection for these children.

Section 72 of the Act states that the public, including professionals who work with children, must promptly report any suspicions that a child is or may be in need of protection

to a children's aid society (CAS). The Act defines the phrase "child in need of protection" and explains what must be reported to a CAS. It includes physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect, and risk of harm.

Professionals and officials have the same duty as the rest of the public to report their suspicion that a child is or may be in need of protection. However, the Act recognizes that people working closely with children have a special awareness of the signs of child abuse and neglect, and a particular responsibility to report their suspicions. Any professional or official who fails to report a suspicion is liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$1,000, if they obtained the information in the course of their professional or official duties. [CFSA s.72 (4), (6.2)]

## 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.

## SEPTEMBER 2016 FULL DAY JR. & SR. KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Early registrations for September 2016 **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 2012.**

**Sr. Kindergarten Students - child must have been born in 2011.**

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.

## C.Y.O. NEWS

Junior Girls' Volleyball and Senior and Junior Boys' Basketball Teams will play in the playoffs in February. All the students continue to demonstrate tremendous teamwork, sportsmanship and skill development. Best of luck in the 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 15<sup>th</sup> – Family Day**

Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> - P.A. Day

Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> - March Break

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>– Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> - Easter Weekend

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

Monday, May 23<sup>th</sup> - Victoria Day

Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> – P.A. Day

Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> - P. A. Day

Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of School

## GRADUATION PICTURES

Grade 8 students will have their graduation pictures taken on **Thursday, Mar 10<sup>th</sup>** in the a.m.

## 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 \$43.00

Pre School \$37.00

Before & After \$20.00(J/K, S/K) \$17.00 (Gr 1-7)

Before school only \$11.00(J/K, S/K) \$10.00 (Gr 1-7)

After school only \$15.00(J/K, S/K) \$14.00 (Gr 1-7)

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, Lens crafters will provide these for you free of charge. Please request your 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](http://www.hwcdsb.ca)) and Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services website ([www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public\\_v2/index.aspx](http://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](http://www.cbc.ca/hamilton)  
The Hamilton Spectator [www.thespec.com](http://www.thespec.com)  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/HWCDSB>  
Facebook [www.facebook.com](http://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: Landen P.  
Grade 2: Rosalia M, David A.  
Grade 3: Joshua P. Jessica T.  
Grade 4: Keira P., Kristina C.  
Grade 5: Domenic C., Tiera P.  
Grade 6: Emily U.  
Grade 7: Francis S.  
Grade 8: Margaret F.

### LEADERSHIP

Grade 1: Natasha P.C.  
Grade 2: Makayla N., D'Avonte R., Luca G.  
Grade 3: Sydney L.  
Grade 5: Kaiden P.  
Grade 7: Jason P.  
Grade 8: Harley M.

### VIRTUE/CHRISTIAN – Compassion

Grade 1: Summer R., Michael G.  
Grade 2: Ayden M., Gulia S.  
Grade 3: Cristiano C.  
Grade 4: Amy N.  
Grade 5: Jamal D.  
Grade 6: Patrick T., Allison R.  
Grade 8: Ben G., Laurie H.

## FRENCH AWARD

Grade 4/5: Malina G.  
Grade 4/5: David P.  
Grade 5/6: Maria F.  
Grade 6/7: Parice B.  
Grade 7/8: Emily N.  
Grade 7/8: Victoria T.

## 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.

## NUT SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Please be reminded that St. Ann School is a **NUT SENSITIVE 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.**