



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



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

Matthew 6:12

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE:

While it is difficult to imagine spring is just around the corner, we are hopeful and look forward to slightly warmer days ahead.

Our Lenten Journey continues this month as we move toward Easter. We take time to focus on the Gospel messages of almsgiving, prayer and self-discipline. Thank you for helping instil in our children the Christian response to those in need and the need for us to take care of ourselves as well, through prayer, time spent with family, and reflection.

Our students are working on reviewing, refining and re-establishing their goals as determined by the feedback generated in the First Term Report Card. This is a good time for you as parents and caregivers to do frequent “check ins” with your child to encourage, reinforce and continue planning for their academic success. The most successful students are those whose parents are informed about their progress and whose families support their learning by working with the teacher and supporting school initiatives. For those working on goals, keep up the effort – it will be worthwhile!

For those families travelling during the month of March, have a safe journey. For those staying closer to home during the break, have a wonderful week!

Either way, enjoy family, friends and time spent together!
 God Bless

WHEN VISITING SCHOOL

Parents/Guardians are reminded that they **MUST** report to the office when entering the school. There is a security system in front of the main entrance, which is similar to the one that has been placed at the day-care centre near the FDELK doors in the playground. For security reasons, the main doors will be kept locked. Visitors to the school must press the security buzzer near the right door at the main entrance of the school. We thank you for your understanding and patience. We appreciate your cooperation in making this a successful

security measure for the school.

No one is to go directly to a classroom **OR ONTO THE PLAYGROUNDS AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY.** There are signs posted at the entrance of the school reminding parents/guardians and visitors of this. This includes dismissal times at the end of the day. For the safety of your children, please wait for staff to dismiss children and account for their departure accurately. This is done most effectively when the school yard is comprised of students only. At all times, parents should wait outside of the fenced in areas for direction from school staff. The only parents permitted in the fenced in area are those bringing their child to the FDK area. I ask for your patience and understanding of this request as we work to enhance the levels of student safety at our school. Your input is always welcome!

Parents/Guardians are also reminded to first call the office for an appointment, if they need to meet with the teacher. Teachers require time to prepare for interviews and showing up at the school unannounced makes for a difficult situation when staff members have supervision and teaching responsibilities during the day which take priority over any impromptu meeting requests. A mutually agreeable meeting time will be requested by staff moving forward.

In addition, please make every possible effort to make sure that your children arrive to school on time. This will greatly assist in the smooth flow of the day by eliminating disruptions to instructional time caused by students who are consistently late in the morning. Your child’s successful learning depends on regular and punctual attendance.

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.

HEAD LICE UPDATE:

As we continue to deal with incidents of head lice, it has come to my attention that there continues to be concern expressed by some families in our community about the persistence of this inconvenient pest. I feel at this time it is necessary to write to the community in an effort to assure you that the school continues to do everything it can, with the full support of our area Superintendent – Mrs. Kovach, to provide a level of service and care that assists in the screening made available at the school. Screening at the school is intended to support all families in identifying the presence of lice but the treatment options and the ongoing application of both treatment and visual inspection and removal of lice from an affected child’s head is the ultimate responsibility of the parent or caregiver. There are many supports available in the community to assist you with carrying out the necessary cleaning of your child’s hair but also the most necessary steps that need to be taken within the home to conduct a thorough home clean when lice has been confirmed in your child’s hair. To best address the presence of lice, a very focused and intentional cleaning effort of both your home and the affected child’s head is required. Persistence and diligence on the part of the home in following through on the cleaning will assist with eradicating the presence of lice at St. Ann. Having said that, please note that the presence of lice in a community is not uncommon so I ask for your continued support and patience as we all persist. Finally, I would like to dispel the belief by some that students who are affected with lice should remain at home. Please note that this is not a practice that has been or is supported by Public Health, nor is it something that is even an option to address head lice in a community. I provide you with the following chart to assist you in better understanding the limits of a school when it comes to head lice:

Non-Reportable Diseases	Signs & Symptoms	Transmission	Infectious Period	Exclude?
Head Lice also known as Pediculosis capitis (Pediculus humanus capitis is the head louse)	Itchy scalp (worse at night). Nits (whitish-gray, tan or yellow egg shells) attached to hair shafts, often behind the ears or the back or neck. Nymphs – young lice, only smaller Adult lice – size of a sesame seed. Can live up to 30 days on a person’s head.	Contact: Direct hair to hair contact. Indirect contact by sharing hats, hair brushes, headphones, helmets etc.	While lice are present, may pass these onto others until treated.	No exclusion – Children with head lice can attend school. Children should avoid close head-to-head contact and avoid sharing hats, hair brushes etc.

SCHOOL MASSES

Our next school masses are on **Thursday, March 3rd @ 1 p.m.** at St. Ann Church everyone is invited.



MONTHLY AWARDS

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

CATHOLICITY

- Grade 1: Liam C., Aliyah P.
- Grade 2: Olivia H., Emma L.P.
- Grade 3: Nolan G.
- Grade 4: Tirell T.E.
- Grade 5: Oriana R., Theo K.
- Grade 7: Alyzia A., Joshua B., Rafael C.M.

LEADERSHIP

- Grade 1: Olanna J., Jeremy F.
- Grade 2: Tyler M.,
- Grade 3: William P., Katia K.
- Grade 4: Cambria T., Olivia P.
- Grade 5: Josephine M.
- Grade 6: Matthew A.
- Grade 8: Anna S., Anna K.

VIRTUE – Compassion

- Grade 1: Fady K., Connor E.
- Grade 2: Grace S.
- Grade 3: Jamie H., Lucas N.
- Grade 4: Alexander H., Malachi M.
- Grade 5: Nolan K.
- Grade 6: Abbey S.
- Grade 7: Dante B.
- Grade 8: Macie K.

FRENCH AWARD

Adelaide G., Keana M., Noah D., Edison Y., Matthew B., Hope W.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Tuesday, March 22nd @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Library **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

Future meeting dates of the CSC are as follows:

Thursday, April 26th @6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 31st @ 6:30 p.m.

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.

MARCH 7 HABIT FOCUS

March our focus is Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind (Have a plan). To begin with the end in mind means that we start

with a clear understanding of our destination. Setting goals provides a roadmap for all of us. If we aim at nothing we will hit it every time.

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

February was a busy month for the ECO Team! Thank you to Officer McKnight for supporting St. Ann on our Winter Walk to School day on February 3rd. It was a huge success! February was all about air, something we all share and need. The ECO challenge was met by many of our students. The winners will be announced over the next few days. Thank you to everyone who made a poster about "how to clean the air".

March is all about soil. We will be planting fruit and vegetable seeds during this month. The plants will be then planted in our garden. As a school we will be exploring how to not pollute the soil we all need. March 11th is an ECO dress down day for a \$1.00. Wear your green and show your support for our Environment! Remember every Friday is litter less lunch.

Are you part of the pollution or part of the solution?

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

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

Monday, March 14th – 18th - March Break

Friday, March 25th – Monday, March 28th - Easter Weekend

Friday, April 29th – P.A. Day

Monday, May 23rd - Victoria Day

Friday, June 10th – P.A. Day

Friday, June 24th - P. A. Day

Thursday, June 30th - Last Day of School

GRADUATION PICTURES

Grade 8 students will have their graduation pictures taken on **Thursday, March 10th** in the a.m.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

The date for our **Grade 7 students' Confirmation** is **Saturday, May 14, 2016 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church. The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 7, 2016 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.

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on Thursday, March 24th and orders will be taken on Tuesday, March 22th in the morning (\$1.75/slice) **NO LATE ORDER WILL BE ACCEPTED.** This will also be a Casual Day's.

BULLDOGS BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Club once again is sponsoring our Breakfast Program with a \$3300 donation. Two times a week, our community volunteers in collaboration with Mrs. Wong are providing a variety of nutritious breakfast products to our students.

COOKING CLUB

We are very pleased to announce that we started our Cooking Club this month. We create delicious three course meals with our grade 7&8's every week. We are sure that a budding TOP CHEF is among our group.

Ms. Cino

Ms. Forsyth

Ms. Miles

Mrs. Sicoli

Mrs. Wong

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, Mr. Borsellino and Mr. Losak for coaching our teams. Thank you to Mr. Susi and our Grade 8 students for supervising the gym, refereeing and scorekeeping. It was truly a community supported event.

The **Junior 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 Miss Smith, Miss Back for coaching the team.

Thank you to Ms Gabriele and our Grade 8 students, along with some students from Cathedral who were 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.**

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.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We ask parents to please take 5 minutes to register, by following the steps below. Once you are registered online, you will begin receiving emails about upcoming events. This Board initiative is designed to support parents in moving to a cashless school system for most school based initiatives.

The link below will take you to a one minute video clip that will give you a brief overview of the registration and online shopping experience.

<http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies>

Register Online:

Step 1: Please click on this link:

<https://hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.co>

Step 2: Register by selecting the “Get Started Now” icon and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the ‘click here’ option, login and add each of your children to your household account.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please select the GET HELP option in the top right hand area of the screen.

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

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.