



Live, Love, Lead like Christ

Principal – Mr. G. Pizzoferrato
Principal Intern – Mrs. P. Moscato
Superintendent - Mrs. T. Kovach

ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
15 St. Ann St
Hamilton, Ont.

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Hamilton-Wentworth
Catholic Schools
Believing, Achieving, Serving

Cathedral Principal – Mr. M. Daly
Trustee - Mr. A. Perri



And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him."

PRINCIPAL NEWS

In our Easter joy, we realize that we have followed Christ and are born again in the resurrection. Let us live as Christ lived, serving our brothers and sisters in our daily actions with all the people we come in contact with. We hope you and your family had an enjoyable and Holy Easter.

As principal, I am committed to working as a team, with staff, parents and students. The relationship with the school, home and parish is key to our success. We will continue to build a solid foundation based on the teachings of our faith and are committed to creating life-long learners. In our pursuit of excellence, in a tradition of celebrating the uniqueness of each student, we recognize the philosophy of Each Belongs which speaks to the opportunity of each child to reach their full potential in which Jesus Christ is our role model.

Always remember that no matter what comes our way, when we sit at the same table and work through the challenges together, there is nothing that we can't overcome.

SCHOOL MASSES

Our next school mass is Thursday, April 7th @ 10:15 a.m. everyone is welcome to join us!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Thursday, April 14th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Library. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

The final meeting of the CSC is as follows:
Tuesday, May 9th

SPRING PICTURES



Spring photos will be taken on **April 22, 2016**

students do not have to be in uniform this day and will have the opportunity to take pictures together with their siblings.

YES I CAN AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to **Gabriel A.** as he will be receiving a Council for Exceptional Children, Yes I Can Award on Thursday, May 12th at the President's Dinner. Our school community is proud of each of our student winners! Way to go!

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. All Family members are encouraged to keep up-to-date with all the happenings in our school community.

APRIL 7 HABIT FOCUS

This month our 7 Habit is: **THINK WIN-WIN**
Having a Win-Win Attitude means:

1. Seeing life as a cooperative arena, not a competitive one.
2. Balancing courage for getting what you want with consideration for what others want.
3. Seeking successful, productive interactions by "filling others' buckets/making deposits on others' emotional bank accounts".

The Win/Win process has four steps:

- 1 See the problem from the other point of view
- 2 Identify the key issues and concerns (not positions) involved.
- 3 Determine what results would make a fully acceptable solution for all involved.
- 4 Identify new options to achieve those results.

Think Win Win, we are ALL winners!!!

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.

Letters have been prepared and sent home to keep you informed of problematic attendance patterns. These letters are being tracked and will continue to be provided on a monthly basis. There has been some improvements however there continues to be room for further improvement. The services of the school's attendance officer will be engaged as we continue to highlight the importance of timely attendance.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

During the week of **May 1 – May 6, 2016**, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board will be celebrating what Catholic Education means to our students, our community and the province.

The theme – “**Opening Doors of Mercy**“. Pope Francis has declared 2016 a “Holy Year of Mercy” as a way for the Catholic church to “make more evident, its mission to be a witness of mercy”. The Holy Year began on December 8, 2015 and will be celebrated until November 20, 2016. Throughout the year, there will be a series of jubilee celebrations on the theme of mercy for teenagers, deacons, the sick and disabled, prisoners, catechists and clergy.

As well, Pope Francis opened the Vatican's Holy Door on December 8th. The Holy Door is opened to evoke the concept of forgiveness which is the main focus of a Holy Year. The theme God's mercy is illustrated in fifteen of the sixteen bronze panels that make up the Vatican Door. There are seven such Holy Doors in the world, including one in Quebec City.

Catholic Education Week 2016 combines both the theme of mercy and the act of opening doors of reconciliation, mercy and forgiveness to all around us.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

The subthemes for Catholic Education Week 2016 are as follows:

Monday: Mercy that Welcomes (Jesus and the Woman at the Well: John 4: 1-42)

Tuesday: Mercy that Loves (The Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-37)

Wednesday: Mercy that Forgives (The Prodigal Son: Luke 15:11-32)

Thursday: Mercy that Lives the Gospel (Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1-10)

Friday: Mercy that Rejoices (Healing of the Paralytic: Luke 5: 17-26)

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to

help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources as well as our own developed activities we have prepared a series of activities which will highlight how our school is ‘Opening Doors of Mercy’.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations.

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

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

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

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.

SEPTEMBER 2017 FULL DAY JR. & SR. KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Early registrations for September 2017 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.

DIRECTOR AWARDS

We will be announcing our Grade 7/8 student recipients of the Director's Catholic Student Excellence Awards in mid-April. The awards' presentation will be sometime in May. Students are recognized for their achievements in

the following areas:

Catholic School Mission/Vision Award
Excellent Effort in the Pursuit of Learning
Religion & Family Life
Stewardship of Creation
Language
Science/Technology
Mathematics
Social Studies/History/Geography
Arts
French as a Second Language
Health & Physical Education
General Proficiency

The presentation to the awards' recipients is at the Catholic Education Centre on Mulberry Street.

PITA DAY/CASUAL DAY



Pita day is on Thursday, April 28th cost for a 6" pita will be \$5.00 from Pita Pit all orders will be taken until Monday, April 25th at school and on line until Friday April 22nd NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE EXCEPTED all order slips must be returned to the school even if paid on line. This will also be a Casual Day.

MONTHLY AWARDS



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

CATHOLICITY

Grade 1: Gabriel S.
Grade 2: Kyleigh L., Mary Grace M.
Grade 3: Dalton T., Gregory M.
Grade 4: Piper A.C., Connor L.B.
Grade 6: Nolan K., Joseph T.
Grade 7: Zachary D., Deanna K.

LEADERSHIP

Grade 1: Viktor M. Samuel H.
Grade 2: Daniella T., Sarha T.
Grade 3: Julie T.
Grade 4: Dontae T., Jason N.
Grade 5: Toby L.
Grade 6: Maxim P.
Grade 7: Lucas S.
Grade 8: Alexandra M., Anna K.

VIRTUE – Courage

Grade 1: Nha Tam D. Makayla M.
Grade 2: Dietrich P.
Grade 3: Stephan T., Cristiano C.
Grade 4: DeKhante G., Angelina G.
Grade 5: Nevin W.
Grade 7: Seth M.
Grade 8: Aleksander H., Kayla D.

FRENCH AWARD

Jason N., Yuliya O., Julia T. Jessica B., Vince T., Aldred A.

CYO SPORTS

The **Senior and Junior Boys' Volleyball Teams** seasons are in full swing. Good luck to the team and their coaches!

ST. ANN ART FAIR

As part of their Entrepreneurial Adventure project, Mrs. Rizzo's grade 4/5 class will be organizing an art fair for our school community. The art fair will take place on Wednesday, May 4th. Parents are invited to attend from 10:10 to 11:30 am. Each class will also have an opportunity to view and buy items from the art fair. We are asking for donations of works of art or crafts that we can sell during our art fair. Students of all ages can create and donate their masterpieces! In honor of Catholic Education Week, a donation from the proceeds will be made to charity.

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 or www.children.gov.on.ca It simply updates parents/guardians on what the OEYC is and does.

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.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION



Do you know how to help your child manage their fears, worries, stress and sadness?

Do you know when you should be concerned about the feelings they are experiencing?

As parents and caregivers we want to ensure our children achieve in school, have healthy self-esteem, manage their feelings and enjoy their life journey.

This presentation will describe some reasons why children are stressed, distressed and anxious. You will also be provided with tips on how to help your child reduce these worries and improve his/her overall well-being. The City of Hamilton Sexual Health Network is sponsoring this workshop which will be presented by Dr. Susan Williams, Psychologist and Director of the Halton Centre for Cognitive Therapy and Stress. Dr. Williams has worked at CAMH, the anxiety and research centre at St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton as well as McMaster University Medical Centre and Chedoke Child and Family Centre. There is no charge to attend.

Date: Tuesday April 5, 2016

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

**Location: Michelangelo Banquet Centre
1555 Upper Ottawa**

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

A Family Carnival has been organized to celebrate the World Autism Awareness Day on Saturday, April 2, 2016.

Location: Hamilton Wentworth District School Board, 20 Education Ct, Hamilton

Time: 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

More information regarding this event will be sent home shortly.

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.

Parenting Tip 90

Pope Francis, in his book, *The Name of God is Mercy*, writes that "the family is the first school for children, it is the unwavering reference point for the young it is there that we have been loved and learn to love, have been forgiven and learn to forgive." As parents our role is to teach with love, to raise children of faith and to teach the ways of mercy. Parents allow, elicit, or maintain behaviours by their response to their children's actions. A child's future ability to thrive depends on parents taking the time to create habits and behaviours that will lead to success. Schools of love provide support, love and discipline to help their children grow.

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

Marriage Tip 70

In this Year of Mercy, the Pope calls each of us to engage in works of mercy. In marriages we can do this by striving to have a conciliatory spirit. This can be done by comforting our spouse when they are having difficult days, forgiving our spouse when they offend us in word or deed and by patiently bearing wrongs, while expressing what we need instead. Marriage is a place of intimacy and love - both are strengthened when we purposely practice a conciliatory spirit.

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

