



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



Live, Love, Lead like Christ

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

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



Good and gracious God, This time of year we think of all the things we should be thankful for. We take a moment today to give thanks for the blessings you have given us. Thank you for our friends, our families, for laughter, for sunshine, for the gentle rains, and the beautiful skies. May we always see the blessings in our lives and take time to appreciate them. Amen

PRINCIPAL UP-DATE

I would like to extend my thank you to parents, students and staff for your contribution to the very successful start to the new school year. Everyone is settled into the routines and learning activities of our school community and we are now working through transitioning into a new school organization with the addition of a teacher which will see smaller class sizes as a result. By all accounts, we are off to a wonderful start to the 2016-2017 school year!

The first month has passed very quickly. It was terrific to see so many parents at our Welcome Back Porchetta evening. The support and partnership that you show the staff at St. Ann Catholic School is very much appreciated. This collaborative approach will be what ensures the ongoing success of our students and please remember, the more involved you are with your child’s education, the more successful your children will be!

We continue to work toward our school objectives in the areas of Catholicity, Curriculum (Literacy & Numeracy), Community Building, Safety and Home-School Communication initiatives. October is a busy month with Thanksgiving celebrations, our Food Drive donations and preparation for our Spook-A-Thon just to mention a few items. Our Cross Country team is excited to participate in their meet and our girls and boys football teams have begun their new season. We have an active breakfast and snack program that is underway and this month will mark the launch of a new program – our Running and Reading Club that will cater to 60 students as they develop their reading skills and train to run a 5 km race in May of 2017. I would like to thank our many coaches, mentors and volunteers who work to ensure that extracurricular activities are made available to all of our students.

The staff at St. Ann School will continue to promote the spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth of all students in an environment that fosters success, self-worth and respect for others as we engage in lifelong learning. Student success and improvement is highly dependent on effective home/school communication. At any time should you have any questions or concerns pertaining to your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to contact the classroom teacher who can directly answer questions and concerns about your child. If the problem is not resolved in a timely manner, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Pizzoferrato for further assistance.

On behalf of the Staff at St. Ann Catholic School, I wish you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving weekend.

G. Pizzoferrato, Principal

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

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.

SCHOOL MASS

Our next school mass will be Friday, October 7th at St. Ann Parish at 10:10 a.m. Please take the time to join us with our Pastor, Fr. Joe and celebrating the Eucharist.

PA DAY

The next Professional Activity Day is Friday, November 4, 2016. There is no school for the students.

PARKING/KISS 'N' RIDE/GATE AREA REMINDERS

Just a reminder that our Kiss 'n' Ride lane is for DROP OFF only. If you need to walk your child to the yard, please park your car in an available space at the front of the school or at St. Stan's Parish. There should be no stopping for any reason other than to permit your child to exit your vehicle and make their way into the playground. I am pleased to report that we have made much progress and I do appreciate your ongoing support in this critical area of our morning arrival routine. Your courtesy to others ensures that safety remains our priority at all times. Please also remember for those of you who are walkers to please leave SPACE at the Gate for our students to enter/exit. Thank you for your ongoing support and patience as we ensure student safety!

THANKSGIVING DAY

Monday, October 10th, 2016 is Thanksgiving Day and there will be **no school** for students and staff. Please take time to enjoy the day with family and friends.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY



School Pictures for all students will be on Monday, October 24th. Order forms will be sent home.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

October 5 is World Teachers Day/EA and October 7 is World Child Care Worker/Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. Thanks to these professionals for providing the best opportunities possible for all learners.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

This year, our St. Ann's Student Leadership Team is organizing a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Good Shepherd. The food drive begins **Wednesday, September 27th and ends on Friday, October 7th**. All non-perishable food donations are welcomed. This event is a further example of our responsibility and commitment to social justice and supporting those in need found in our greater community. Thank you for your support of this event!

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

School Cash Online is now available for all families. The system is designed for a seamless payment process without cash transactions through the school. To register: <https://hwcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

SCHOOL SAFETY – FIRE DRILLS and LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Throughout the year, the school must conduct 6 fire-drills (3 in each of the fall and spring terms), and 2 lockdown procedure drills (Ontario fire Code – 0. Reg. 33/97, cl.2.8.3.2 (1)(b)). Please review these drills through discussion with your children. Staff will be speaking with

them to prepare for the drills. Please review with your children the value to these drills and the need for their safe and rapid response in the interest of their safety.

ANAPHYLAXIS AND LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

Several children in our school live with a severe life threatening food allergy to peanuts, nuts and other allergens (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we request that you send your child with nut-free lunches and snacks. Products that contain or "may contain" peanuts and tree nuts are not to be brought onto the school site. Home baked products also present problems as a result of the potential for cross contamination of allergens depending on the baking utensils used. We continue to promote food-free celebrations at school. Please do not send snacks or treats for your child's birthday or Holidays. If snacks are provided in the classroom, they will be provided by the school in the interest of everyone's safety. Also, please remind your child that they should never share their food with other students to avoid any potential problem due to allergens that out of your child's innocence could be introduced to another child. During Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's and Easter we need to be extra diligent so again, I ask that you not send food snacks for class sharing to the school. Thank you for helping to keep students safe!

HAMILTON PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:

October 28, 2016, Public Health Services will be at the school to conduct the Oral Health Survey Assessment (dental screening) for our JK, SK, Gr. 2 and G. 8 students. Children in other grades who were previously identified with dental needs may be re-screened.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Congratulation to the following parent volunteers who will serve as our Catholic School Council for the 2016-2017 School Year. Formal positions of council were identified by Catholic School Council Members who were present for our Tuesday September 27th 2016 meeting at 6:30pm in our Library. I would like to extend to these parents and staff members my appreciation for their service to our community: N. Bulhuis –Chair, N. Day – Vice-Chair, K. Knowles, M. Tapp, M. Gomes-Mero.

Please remember that the Catholic School Council meeting dates will be communicated to you monthly. Look for the monthly agenda and consider joining us at these meetings. We wish them success as they represent the parents/guardians of St. Ann community. October's meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 26 @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Learning Commons. Additional dates will be set by council members present for the October meeting.

THANKSGIVING LUNCH



Students and staff will participate in a Thanksgiving Turkey Lunch on Friday, October 7th. All students are asked to stay for lunch on Friday. If you do not wish for your child to participate in this luncheon, please notify your child's teacher immediately so the necessary accommodations can be made.

FALL CROSS COUNTRY MEET

The C.Y.O fall cross country meet date is **Wednesday, October 12th** at **Marydale Park (Mount Hope/Binbrook Area)**. Approximately 80 students and staff will be making the yearly trek to represent our school. Best of luck to all our competitors! We will be in need of volunteers that have a police check.

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PARENT CONFERENCE 2015

On **Saturday, November 5th, 2016 from 7:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.**, there will be a **Parent Conference** at Bishop Ryan Secondary School. For more information, please visit the website at www.hwcdsb.ca

LOONIE TUESDAY - - - LET'S SUPPORT THE PILGRIMAGE

Students, families and staff from all of our H.W.C.D.S.B. schools will participate in the 8K Pilgrimage walk from Cathedral Catholic Secondary School to St. Anthony Daniel Catholic Elementary School on **Sunday, October 16th**. The Pilgrimage is in support of the H.W.C.D.S.B. initiatives that help developing nations. On **Tuesday, October 18th (Jersey Day)** students and staff are invited to **bring in a loonie** or a toonie (and/or any other donation amount) to sponsor all of our pilgrimage participants. The monies collected will be donated to the Pilgrimage effort on behalf of our school community. We wish our participants well on this journey!

THE ONE CALLED JESUS TRAVELLING ART EXHIBIT COMING TO ST. ANN SCHOOL

Mark October 26, 27 and 28 on your calendars for a unique opportunity that is sure to be moving for your children and for yourselves. You are most welcome to join us on a tour of the exhibit when it arrives. The Religious Art Exhibit has been touring various Catholic School Boards of Ontario since 2002. The stories of Jesus come alive through the impressive and evocative coloured clay sculptures of Canadian artist Maurice Gaudreault. It is a historical, reverent treatment of the life of Jesus. This unique Jesus Moment is possible with the help of distinctive displays.

1st display: Jesus of Nazareth: 30 years of the family life of Jesus from Annunciation to the Baptism of Jesus

2nd display: Jesus, Son of God: 3 years of the public life of Jesus from the Wedding at Cana to Jesus Before Caiaphas

3rd display: The Passion of Christ: The 3 days of the passion of Jesus from Jesus Before Pilate to Pentecost

The Content of Presentations is intended for:

J-K and S-K Childhood of Jesus

Gr 1-2- 3

Gr 4 -5-6

Gr 7-8

Gr 9-12 Scenes of Trust in Jesus (miracles); Scenes of Compassion; Jesus-Man and Jesus, Son of God; Jewish Traditions

The exhibit is a dynamic approach to storytelling in religious education. It is a moving experience.

GROWING SUCCESS:

ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING IN ONTARIO SCHOOLS

In May 2010 the Ministry of Education released the new initiative *Growing Success; Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools* for implementation during the 2010-2011 school year.

The **Progress Report** will go home to parents/guardians in **November**. There will be an evening for interviews. The date will be sent out in the November Newsletter. However, staff will inform you of alternative ways to assist in communicating with families on an individual basis where necessary.

The new reporting system emphasizes the learning skills and work habits and recognizes them as an integral part of a student's learning. The six revised Learning Skills and Work Habits will be consistent from K - Gr. 12.

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

These areas are evaluated and reported on as:

E – Excellent

G – Good

S – Satisfactory

N – Needs Improvement

PIZZA DAY

Pizza day is on **Friday, October 28th** and orders will be taken on **Monday, October 24th (\$1.75/slice)**. This will also be a dress down day.

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**. *****Please note: a directive has been sent out by the H.W.C.S.B. regarding Kobe Pants. No longer are Kobe pants allowed as an option in our Uniform Policy. This was allowed in error and we are asked to phase the Kobe Pants out. We are asking families to not purchase Kobe Pants in the future. As we are in the process of phasing them out this year,**

students will be allowed to wear them if the product has been purchased. As of September 2015 Kobe Pants will not be allowed. The Uniform Policy has been changed on our website.

SPOOK-A-THON

The school will once again be holding its MOVE-A-THON Fundraiser at St. Ann School in the gym. **It is scheduled for Monday, October 31st.** Funds raised from this activity will be used to offset the cost of field trips and to support the continued enhancement of school technology resources for student use. More detailed information about the move-a-thon will be sent home.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND COMMUNION

The date for our **Grade 7 students' Confirmation is Saturday, May 13, 2017 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church.** **The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 6, 2017 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. Father Joe will be meeting with parents/guardians of students in Grade 2 making their First Communion and Reconciliation and our Grade 7 students making their Confirmation on **Monday, October 17th at 7 p.m. at St. Ann Church.** All parents/guardians are expected to attend this meetings.

ST. ANN EARLY LEARNING AND 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

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 on-line registration process facilitated by the school. The Homework Help website is fully monitored with several protective measures in place to ensure student safety.

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 request your letter at the office.

BUS POLICIES

In May 2008 the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board and the Hamilton Wentworth School Board partnered together and formed the Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) Consortium. The mandate for the Consortium includes the provision of safe, effective and efficient transportation services for students for both Partner Boards. If you have any inquiries, changes or complaints regarding the bussing please call **1-800-691-6402** and your call will be directed to the appropriate staff. We thank you for your patience during this transition.

In order to make sure our children get home safely, it is the Board's policy that every child will go home on their assigned bus. **No exceptions will be made.**

BARTON LIBRARY

The Barton Branch Library have available a Homework Help Club that is free for students in **Grade 1 to Grade 6.**

Wed. 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

<http://www.hpl.ca/articles/homework-help-clubs>

It begins every year just after Thanksgiving – please check with the library for more specifics.

Central Library, downtown, offers **Teen Homework help for Grades 6 to 12.**

<http://www.hpl.ca/programs/teen-homework-help>

ST. ANN'S PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

St. Ann's Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held at St. Ann's School gym (Barton St. E. & Sherman Ave.N)

Sat. Nov. 26th 2pm to 7pm &

Sun. Nov. 27th 10am to 1pm.

Capital Cash Prizes, Penny Sale, Baked Goods, Café Special Raffles. All are welcome. We are a fully wheelchair accessible facility.

For more information call 905-544-0488

We will be looking for student volunteers to help set up and clean up for the bazaar.

ST. ANN'S PARISH is looking for Altar Servers. They would like young parishioners/students in grade 4 & higher (male or female) to assist as Altar Servers at their weekend Masses.

Training will be provided. You can choose the Mass time that suits your family's schedule.

Contact the parish at 905-544-0488 or email stannparish@cogeco.ca

ECO LEADERS

The St. Ann ECO leaders have a challenge for all students and staff for October. We challenge you to bring only reusable water bottles to school. We hope to reduce our dependence on single use water bottles.

CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS:

Please continue to save your Campbell's Soup Labels. They can be placed in the envelopes outside the office at any time. We appreciate your support of this community initiative.

REMINDER AS WE APPROACH COLD AND FLU SEASON

The best way to prevent or reduce the spread of influenza and many other illnesses is through personal protection:

- Wash hands well and often with soap and water for at least 15 seconds.
- Cough and sneeze into your upper sleeve or a tissue, not your hand. Dispose of tissues immediately.
- Clean commonly touched surfaces like door knobs, light switches, phones and computer equipment often.
- If you have a fever and influenza-like symptoms, stay at home until you no longer have a fever and are well.

If your child is sick and not able to go to school, report your child's absence to the school and let them know if your child has flu symptoms. Flu symptoms include a fever and any of the following symptoms:

- Cough
- Fatigue
- Muscle aches
- Chills
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting and diarrhea which are common in children.

If you require information about the flu, visit www.hamilton.ca/flu or call 905-546-CITY (2489)

HEALTH ACTION TEAMS

A MESSAGE FROM THE "HEALTH ACTION TEAM"

The "Health Action Team" or HAT, is composed of students who will be leaders in school health and well-being. Alongside staff, the HAT is joined by four McMaster nursing students over the next few months. We are focusing on the "Five ways of well-being" which are: connecting, learning, physical activity, taking notice and being creative. During the month of October, the HAT will be focusing on activities and initiatives related to connecting. The connecting theme will focus on building friendships, acts of kindness and promoting self-worth. Activities include fair play at recess, reaching out to others and discussion of implementing a "buddy bench" at St. Ann's. We are also planning on doing a small art project (TBA) about friendship and kindness."

We are excited to share more with you next month, as well as our plans for November!

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" --
Philippians 4:13

MCMMASTER UNIVERSITY THIRD YEAR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

This year, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School will benefit from the presence of four McMaster University Third Year Nursing Students. Their project is related to empowering students to making active and healthy choices regarding playground activities to ensure a safe and active recess at all times. A variety of student leadership opportunities will be nurtured. The student nurses will work closely with the school's Health Action Team.

EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS ON SCHOOL WEBSITE

A reminder to parents and guardians to subscribe to the school email list. Once you 'subscribe' with your email address, you will receive each email messages regarding school life and important notices. This function can be accessed directly from the St. Ann school website. Look for the 'Follow Us' and 'Subscribe' section and the envelope icon. Registration is a one step process that will take no more than two minutes. I look forward to communicating with you in this manner during the course of this year.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION TO HONOUR FAMILIES!

Throughout this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has encouraged Dioceses to host Jubilee celebrations to honour the faithful. On Saturday, Oct. 15th the Hamilton Diocese will celebrate a Jubilee for Families! Are you part of a family? Then there is something for you on this exciting day. Beginning with a keynote address by Dr. Deanna Behnke-Cook, who will remind us of the absolute importance of family, followed by a wonderful session working with the Saint John's Bible (check it out further at <http://hamiltondiocese.com/stjohnsbible/>) the day will be a chance to come together for faith, fellowship and fun. After lunch, participants 14 and older will take part in two workshops/sessions of their choice, while children (between 3 - 13) will engage in a special hands on activity with the Saint John's Bible, facilitated by Mrs. Mary Tessari (Parish Minister at St. Patrick Parish Burlington) and the Catholic Youth Organization staff.

At the conclusion of the afternoon sessions we will enter the Cathedral Basilica as a group through the Year of Mercy Holy Doors, at which time, for those who are able to stay on, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration will take place. We will conclude with the Lord's Day Eucharist at 5 PM, with Bishop Daniel Miehm both celebrating the Mass and preaching. To register on line, or for more information, go to <http://hamiltondiocese.com/events/jubilee-for-families> .

This is a great chance for families to come together for a day of celebration: parents, grandparents, single individuals and children are all welcome and encouraged to attend! Let's celebrate the goodness of families as a Diocese.

We look forward to seeing you there,

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board is most pleased to support the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Various events and activities during the month of October serve to increase "awareness of the tragedy of child abuse and neglect," and the importance of "breaking the silence that surrounds child abuse."

To mark the significance of this issue, St. Ann School will participate in a "Go Purple Day", taking place on October 19. The entire school community may participate by wearing purple. Participation is voluntary and there is no donation required. "Go Purple Day" is our communities opportunity to bring awareness, to remind everyone of their obligation to report suspected cases of child abuse, and to encourage everyone to use their voice to help vulnerable children.

Please know "Go Purple Day" is not a fundraiser: there is no cost to any student or staff or school community member for their participation.

