



Live, Love, Lead like Christ

Principal – Mr. G. Pizzoferrato
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ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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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

This holy season of Easter is an opportunity for all Christians to reflect on the life of our Holy Father and work towards realizing his message of peace, love and care for the poor as we join together as one family in the risen Christ.

Holy Thursday recalls the Last Supper that Jesus experienced with his apostles, knowing that the Scriptures would be fulfilled. Easter is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. On this Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. For Catholics, Easter Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving known as Lent. Through spiritual struggle and self-denial, we have prepared ourselves to die spiritually with Christ on Good Friday, the day of His Crucifixion, so that we can rise again with him in new life on Easter.

We continue to ask God for his blessing upon the children, their parents and teachers of the St. Ann School community for helping them in their faith journey. May each of our families experience the joy of the Risen Christ at Easter!

EASTER REFLECTION

Jesus,
His shed blood means... We can live each day in His forgiveness.
His resurrection means... We can walk constantly in newness of life.
His presence means... We can know His victory in each situation.
His love means... We will never face anything alone!
His day of victory makes all our days complete!

SCHOOL MASSES

Our next school mass is Tuesday, April 11th @ 10:10

a.m. everyone is welcome to join us!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Tuesday, April 18th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Library, final Catholic School Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 30th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Library. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

SPRING PICTURES



Spring photos will be taken on **Friday April 21, 2017** students do not have to be in uniform this day and will have the opportunity to take pictures together with their siblings.

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.

ALLERGY AWARENESS UPDATE

ONLY PRODUCTS WITH NUT/PEANUT FREE LABELS ARE ALLOWED IN SCHOOL Just a reminder that unfortunately, due to various allergies, home-made items cannot be brought to school. Only those items in their original container marked nut/peanut free (will have one of these logos) can be brought to school. We ask parents to be vigilant with food products and their ingredients for the safety and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued cooperation in this regard.

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.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "*Walking Forward Together.*"

The 2017 CEW theme and its five sub-themes are drawn from three contemporary Catholic documents that address the need for reconciliation and renewal – in our lives, with our families,

in our relationships with others and in our relationship with our environment and our common global future.

The first is the 2016 response of the Canadian Catholic Bishops to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission that we need to heal past injustices by "*Walking Forward Together.*" The second is the 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* by Pope Francis, that emphasizes the cultural roots of our ecological problems and advocates an urgent world collaboration for the care of our common global home. The third document, *Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love* is a 2016 Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, which applauds our dedication and concern shown to children, families, migrants, the poor, the elderly, and to persons with special needs, as a sign of the Spirit. These supportive relationships are a test of our commitment to show mercy in welcoming others and to help the vulnerable, to be fully a part of our communities.

Our CEW biblical quote, "*Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God*" (Micah 6:8), acknowledges the important role of justice and solidarity with our Indigenous peoples, our environment, the poor and marginalized, and all those who work to protect our common global future.

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

- Day 1: Walking Forward Together with God
- Day 2: Walking Forward Together with Our Families
- Day 3: Walking Forward Together with Others
- Day 4: Walking Forward Together with Creation
- Day 5: Walking Forward Together in Hope

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 'Walking Forward Together.'

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 14 – Monday, April 17th - Easter Weekend

Monday, May 20th - Victoria Day

Friday, June 9th - P.A. Day

Friday, June 23rd - P. A. Day

Friday, June 30th - Last Day of School

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation for Holy Communicants will be held on Monday April 24 at 7:00pm at the church.

COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

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.

SEPTEMBER 2018 FULL DAY JR. & SR. KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Early registrations for September 2018 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 2013.

Sr. Kindergarten Students - child must have been born in 2012.

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 student recipients of the Director's Awards for 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:

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

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on Friday, April 28th and orders will be taken until Friday, April 21st (\$1.75/slice) NO LATE ORDER WILL BE ACCEPTED. This will also be a Casual Days.

CHESS TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to those who participated in the Catholic city wide chess tournament. A special congratulation to Alexito A.R. who came in third place over all amongst Grade 1 students.

HEALTH ACTION TEAM

"Take Notice" and "Connect" During the month of April, our Health Action Team will be focusing on two themes from "The Five Ways to Mental Health". The first theme is "Take Notice". Children are naturally curious and they see and interact with the world around them very differently than adults. Children should also

pay attention to their thoughts and feelings. Sometimes they need help expressing their feelings or need a quiet space to connect with their higher power and calm their soul. The Health Action Team will be promoting Christian Meditation and its benefits for the month of April.

Another theme that will be given attention during April and the beginning of May is "Connect". Strong, healthy relationships give children a sense of belonging, improve their self-esteem and lead to greater happiness. Children can build connections by participating in a variety of activities such as: having family meals, going for walks with a family member, playing games with family or friends, spending time with friends in real life (not online) and participating in after school clubs or sports to widen their circle of friends. Our Health Action Team will be working to build connections at school by preparing welcome packages for newcomers and by promoting inclusion in games on the playground.

ST. ANN PHOTO BOOTH

The students in Mrs. Rizzo's grade 4 class are participating in a program called Entrepreneur Adventure. This program encourages children to start their own business venture and donate the profits to a charity. The class has chosen to donate all profits to McMaster Children's Hospital. Their business venture is to run a student generated photo booth on Friday, April 28th. Students at St. Ann will have an opportunity to dress up with a variety of props and have their photos taken either individually or with their friends. Photos will be formatted in pic collage and printed. Each collage will cost \$2. Students will also have an opportunity to pre-order custom made frames if they wish. More information and order forms will be sent home.

GARAGE SALE – ST. LUKE

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE! - SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017

GARAGE SALE – ST. LUKE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, 2017 at St. Luke Catholic Elementary School, 345 Albright Road., Hamilton, Ontario. You can show your support by attending the event donating items (new or gently used) to your home school by Thursday, April 27, 2017. All proceeds will go to support the 'Equal Opportunities Fund'. Please be aware that the collected items will be picked up by the school board truck at your school on May 8, 9, 10, 2017. Thank you for your continued support.

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.

GROWTH MINDSET IN MATH

Ways to Bring Numeracy to Life at Home:

1. Talk to your child about the math they do (eg. Solving a puzzle, dividing up cookies among friends.) Some questions you could ask, "What did you do? Why did you do that? How did it help? When could you use it again? Is there another way to do it?"
2. Wonder how far something is or how high it is. Estimate the heights, widths, weights, and volumes of things, then compare with measurements.
3. Point out patterns everywhere.... In nature, shapes, floor tiles, numbers.....
4. Maintain contact with your child's teacher and make use of the resources provided by the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.

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.

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

The ninth annual World Autism Awareness Day will be recognized on April 2, 2017. In honour of this day, the CN Tower will "Light It Up Blue" on April 2, along with other buildings around the world, such as: the Empire State Building (United States), the Doha Tower (Qatar), and the London Eye (United Kingdom) to name a few.

To promote Autism awareness in our school community, we will share information from the book "Ten Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Knew" by Ellen Notbohm. In addition, we will pray together "A Prayer of St. Francis for Autism" by Tim Tucker. On Friday, March 31, we will have a school-wide Civics Day with the theme "Wear Blue to Support Autism Awareness." On this day, students are encouraged to wear blue tops (civics) and uniform bottoms.

Below is a prayer that you are encouraged to pray together with your family.

A Prayer of St. Francis for Autism

by Tim Tucker

Lord, let thy peace fill me up until I overflow;
that where people cannot speak, I may be their advocate;
that where anyone is rejected, I may extend my arms in welcome;
that where parents are heavy burdened, I may offer a word of comfort;
that where our children struggle, I may lift them up and cheer;
that where some see disability, I may reveal to them extraordinary gifts;
that where others judge, I may share with them my deep gladness;
and that where any are overlooked, I may help the lights of all to shine.
O Giver of These Gifts,
grant that I may not so much seek to be reassured as to reassure;
to be praised, as to praise;
to be accepted, as to accept;
for it is in all our uncertainty that we are inspired to hope;
it is in great challenges that we discover our greatest joys,
and it is in our community of wanderers that we find the way home.
Amen.