



Live, Love, Lead Like Christ

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



Principal – G. Pizzoferrato
Assistant to the Principal – P. Moscato
School Secretary – C. Ragonetti

Cathedral Principal – M. Daly
Trustee – T. Perri
Superintendent – T. Kovach



“Where is the new-born king of the Jews? We saw His star and its rising and have come to do Him homage.”



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful Christmas Break with family and friends.

*O God, you sent your Son, Jesus,
to be the light of the world.
He is the light that no darkness can extinguish.
By his life, He shows us the way to joy and peace,
To justice and righteousness.
Help us to follow his light.
Amen*

As we begin 2018, we look forward to those promises made and reflect on commitments kept. Students are reminded to recall the goals they have set for themselves following November’s progress reports and interviews. Parents are kindly asked to rekindle the discussion with their children about how they can best succeed in school. At this time, St. Ann School Staff offers its best wishes and sincere thanks to all members of our community for your ongoing support, partnership and commitment to continuing to maintain high expectations for your children’s achievement and experience here at the school. We are very fortunate at St. Ann school to share a tradition of excellence in a Faith filled school community. As we return to our routines, I invite each of you to continue to welcome God’s unfailing presence into your lives and homes and walk with hope into this New Year!

Best wishes for a rewarding 2018
G. Pizzoferrato,
Principal

THANK YOU!

On Friday, December 23rd, Wayne Aubert a Mohawk College professor along with students from Mohawk's McKeil School of Business dropped by and handed out backpacks and toys to 340 students from our school. The St. Ann Hamilton community is very grateful for this wonderful partnership that has been developed over the past five years and the generous support of all members of the Mohawk College community. Following the example set by Mohawk College, we have been challenged to pay the generosity forward. Speak with your children about how they might be able to do something special for a friend or a sibling that would have an impact and make a difference for them. Thank you!

SCHOOL MASS

Our next school mass will be Wednesday February 14th at 10:00 a.m. Please come out and join us for our community celebration at St. Ann Church. Father Joe will be February.

STUDENT ABSENCES-SAFE ARRIVAL

It is important that all student absences are

reported. As part of the NEW Safe Arrival Program parents/guardians are asked to report their child's absence **before 8:45** by calling **1-844-469-5486** or logging into the website hwc.schoolconnects.com. To authenticate their Portal account, parents can also do this on their IOS or Android devices by downloading the app. You are asked to please not call the school to report your child's absence. Please call the office if you have any question thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Thank you again for everyone's patience as we continue to perfect the cash online system. Our continued efforts will ensure a seamless and accountable way to track payments and maintain financial integrity. If you have not already registered for this service, please contact Mrs. Ragonetti at 905-547-5444 to arrange for a quick walk through the easy registration process. Shortly, we will be moving school trip payment methods as well as special lunch orders to take place using this tool more thoroughly.

ST. ANN READING CLUB

We are starting a St. Ann Reading Club and we need your help! The reading program is intended to encourage children to become more self-directed and to take responsibility for using reading strategies that work for them.

The program is designed for students in Grades 1-3. Each child in the program will receive a fifteen to twenty-minute session, once or twice a week depending on the number of volunteers.

We need parent/guardian reading coaches to read with the children on a one-to-one basis. As a coach, you would need to spend approximately one hour a week at the school. If you are available and would like to volunteer your time, please contact the school. A training session will be provided. Thank you for sharing your time with the children!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Wednesday, January 24th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Learning Commons at St. Ann School. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

In January, there will be a Professional Activity Day on **Friday, January 26, 2018.**

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

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

Monday, February 19th – Family Day

Friday, March 2nd – P.A. Day

Monday, March 12th – 16th - March Break

Friday, March 30 – Monday, April 2nd - Easter Weekend

Monday, May 21st - Victoria Day

Friday, June 7th – P.A. Day

Friday, June 22nd - P. A. Day

Friday, June 29th - Last Day of School

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. Parents/Guardians turning into the lane way off Sherman Ave. in the mornings are asked to be aware of pedestrians on the sidewalk. Please note: there is no parking on the school property for parents/guardians to walk their children to the playground. Please use the St. Stan's 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. ******Please obey the no parking and stopping signs on St. Ann Street at the front of the school. The City of Hamilton Bi-law Officers will be enforcing the no stopping and parking signs. Parking in these zones is a safety concern. Your co-operation regarding these signs is expected!****** 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.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

The date for our Grade 7 students' Confirmation is Saturday, May 5, 2018 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church. The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 12, 2018 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.

CATHEDRAL SECONDARY SCHOOL ORIENTATION

On Tuesday, **January 23rd**, the Grade 8 students

will be going to Cathedral High School so that they can familiarize themselves with the school and staff. All grade 8 students are invited to attend to gain the experience of being in high school.

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.

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on **Friday, January 19th** and orders will be taken on **Monday, January 15th** (\$1.75/slice) **No late orders will be excepted.** This will also be a Casual Day's.

C.Y.O. NEWS

Best of luck to the Junior and Senior Girls' Volleyball and Senior and Junior Boys' Basketball Teams, as they begin their seasons during the next few weeks. Please refer to the team schedules provided by each coach. Remember all of our teams play in our school gym. Please come out and support our teams!

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Parents wishing to register their child in Junior Kindergarten for September 2018 you are asked to contact Mrs. Ragonetti in February to make an appointment (905)547-5444. Mrs. Ragonetti will schedule an appointment in February for you to visit the school, complete the necessary forms and submit the required documentation.

If your child is currently in Junior Kindergarten (FDK Year One), you do not need to register him/her again.

Kindergarten Registration for New Students however will require Parents/Guardians to provide:

- Baptismal Certificate
 - Birth Certificate
 - Proof of Residency
 - Proof of up-to-date Immunization
 - Immigration papers, if applicable
- Age of Admission: Children are required to be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2018

GROWTH MINDSET IN MATH

An excellent site to visit is Youcubed.org
This website has great resources and information to support the understanding of math and growth mindset of both students and parents.

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.

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 student 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) 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 The Hamilton Spectator www.thespec.com Twitter <https://twitter.com/HWCDSB> Facebook 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.

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.