



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



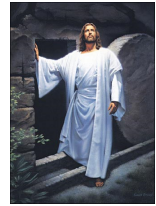
Live, Love, Lead Like Christ

Principal – G. Pizzoferrato
Assistant to the Principal – P. Moscato
Superintendent – T. Kovach

Cathedral Principal – M. Daly
Trustee – T. Perri



APRIL



"Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we forgive the wrongs others have done to us."
Matthew 6:12

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

He is Risen! Truly He is Risen!
 Happy Easter to all of you. With spring upon us, there is a renewed sense of joy in the school.
 The warmer weather is just about here and all evidence of snow, slush and ice have disappeared. We look forward to the quick pace of April, May and June and will ensure that even with all of the fun and exciting activities at St. Ann, that the main idea, student learning through the lens of faith, is always front and central. Though much has been accomplished this year, there remains much learning in front of us. I look forward to continuing to work with you and am available at your convenience to discuss any questions, suggestions or concerns that you might have.
 Together we can make your child's learning experience one that is rooted in our faith and academically challenging and supportive.

EASTER WEEKEND:
 Friday, March 30, 2018-GOOD FRIDAY
 Sunday, April 1, 2018-EASTER SUNDAY
 Monday, April 2, 2018-EASTER MONDAY

Please find time as a family to reflect on what it truly means to be Catholic during Easter season. Consider working with your child to strive for understanding and excellence with the following reflection questions:

1. The first step to achieving justice is to do what is right and stand up for what you know God wants.
2. Let your actions be guided by the idea that even in the face of injustice (death on the cross) Jesus always acted with Dignity. How can we act with dignity daily?
3. Everyone wants to be treated fairly: we need to remember to treat others fairly.
4. Remember that Jesus was always an instrument for justice in His work with People. How can we aspire to be instruments of justice and peace within our homes and in

our school community.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT UPDATES:

You will have noticed a greater presence of By-Law enforcement officers during arrival and dismissal at St. Ann school. Unfortunately, the issue has persisted during the winter months and into nicer weather. That issue is the continued disregard for the posted signage on St. Ann Street. As you know, we do share that street with other residents and the ongoing daily issue compromises both the safety of our students and our neighbors. This is just a gentle reminder that parking on the gravel lot next to the Polish hall may result in your vehicle being ticketed or towed. We do not own that gravel parking lot and so if you are using it, you do so at your own risk. We do however have a positive working relationship with St. Stanislaus parish and as such we are permitted to park in the asphalt parking lot less than half a block down the street within walking distance to our front doors. Please remember that parking in areas that are marked differently will result in a ticket from by-law. Finally, and most important of all, we all share the responsibility of ensuring that the safety of our students is the greatest priority at all times. Double parking places anyone crossing the street at risk so please put safety ahead of all of your decisions for the greater good of everyone.

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 center 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. I thank you for your cooperation with this to date and ask for your continued 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 with a member of staff, if they need to meet with one. Drop in visits are difficult to accommodate and we do not want to create situations that are not mutually beneficial in respect of everyone’s time. Teachers and administration 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 and prescheduled meetings which take priority over any impromptu meeting request. 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.

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.**

SPRING PICTURES

Spring photos will be taken on **Friday April 20, 2018** 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, "*Renewing the Promise*".

The 2018 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.

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: Remembering the Promise

Day 2: The Promise is within you

Day 3: Praying the Promise

Day 4: Living the Promise

Day 5: Proclaiming the Promise

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, March 30- Monday – Monday, April 2, 2018 - Easter Weekend

Monday, May 21st - Victoria Day

Thursday, June 7th - P.A. Day

Friday, June 22nd - P. A. Day

Friday, June 29th - Last Day of School

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation for Holy Communicants will be held on Monday April 23 at 7:00pm at the church.

COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

The date for our **Grade 7 students' Confirmation is Saturday, May 05, 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.

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. 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 2014.

Sr. Kindergarten Students - child must have been born in 2013.

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.

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

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on Friday, April 13th and orders will be taken until Friday, April 06th (\$1.75/slice) NO LATE ORDER WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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.

MATH FOR BREAKFAST:

St. Ann held it's third session of Math for Breakfast, for jk-grade 3. Parents and Caregivers on March 27th.

The focus was resources and measurement tasks for families to share in at home. Thank you to all who attended.

NURSING STUDENTS:

A huge thank you to our nursing students from McMaster University : Tian Wang, Abdiaziz Osman, Nicole Krzewski and Claudia Sniatala. Who have worked with a group of grade 7 students , along with Mrs. Moscato to launch our St. Ann Recess Squad. These students have been trained in Lead Recess and will be implementing fun , fair and safe games on the playground during recess, as well as mediating conflicts using Restorative Practices. Play Safe and Have Fun.

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.