



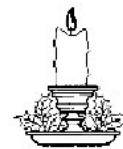
**ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**15 St. Ann St.**  
**Hamilton, Ont.**  
**L8L 0B8**  
**905-547-5444**



*Live, Love, Lead Like Christ*

**Principal – G. Pizzoferrato**  
**Assistant to the Principal – J. Shamon**  
**Superintendent – T. Kovach**

**Cathedral Principal – M. Daly**  
**Trustee – T. Perri**



*"Oh come divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day."*

**ADVENT PRAYER**

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen. (taken from Catholiconline)**

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:**

As the frenzy and commercialism of Christmas approach, Catholic communities around the world prepare during this season of Advent, a time to do something different from the usual preparations: pause, reflect, and get spiritually creative. Take time to reflect on Mary's hope and faith as she responds with a simple and loving "Yes" to God's plan for her as the mother of Jesus. The Holy Family models faith, hope, trust, patience and humility for all families.

During Advent look and listen for times when God speaks to you in many ways: the voice of a friend or loved one, the laughter of children, a quiet moment, a choir, the soft ringing of bells, or a wonderful scene from nature. Just as Mary and Joseph listened and trusted, we look to God during this Advent season to help us do the same. We ask God to quiet our minds and hearts at this time.

As we enter the advent season, let us remember that Jesus is the reason for the season and as such, we will begin our preparations with weekly advent wreath celebrations in our school gym.

Follow us on twitter: @stahces

Visit our Website!

We are continually updating our school website to provide information regarding our school. Each month we post our newsletter and other important calendar items. Please check our website for important information. Our school website is located at <https://stah.hwcdsb.ca/>

Wishing you and your families all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

G. Pizzoferrato

**SCHOOL MASSES & CONFESSIONS**

Our final mass before the Christmas Break is **Tuesday, December 11th @ 10:00 a.m.** everyone is welcome to join us! Confessions will be on **Thursday, December 13th at 1:00 p.m.** in the gym

## **CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASSES**

The schedule for Christmas at St. Ann Church is as follows:

**Christmas Eve Mass: 5:00 p.m.**

**Midnight Mass: 12 a.m.**

**Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.**

**New Year's Mass Schedule: 5:00 p.m.**

**New Year's Day Mass: 10:00 a.m.**

## **ANAPHYLAXIS/ALLERGY AWARENESS**

**Reminder-please ensure your child's lunch bag does NOT CONTAIN peanut/nut products. We would also kindly ask that parents avoid all food items/treats being brought into the school for any celebrations. The school will provide food items should they be made available to ensure they are appropriate for all students including those with known allergies. We thank you for your continued support and understanding. Please remember that St. Ann Catholic Elementary School is an Allergen Aware School.**

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY**

Friday December 7 is a Professional Activity Day. **No School on this Day**

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Monday, January 28th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the library. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend.**

## **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](http://www.hwcdsb.ca)) and Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services website ([www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public\\_v2/index.aspx](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public_v2/index.aspx)) 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](http://www.cbc.ca/hamilton)**

**The Hamilton Spectator [www.thespec.com](http://www.thespec.com)**

**Twitter <https://twitter.com/HWCDSB>**

**Facebook [www.facebook.com](http://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.

## **CHRISTMAS BREAK**

The school will be **closed**  
School will re-open on



from **Monday, December 24th to Friday, January 4th, 2018.**  
**Monday January 7th, 2019.**

## **CANDY CANE -O- GRAMS**



The Student Leadership Team is running a Christmas fundraiser again this year called “Candy Cane-O-Grams”. These candy cane-o-grams are computer generated Christmas cards that students in Grades 1-8 can purchase and send to another person within the school. Students who purchase these cards are to address them, write a personal note inside and return them to Student Leadership Team members. Student Leadership Team members will then place a candy cane on them and deliver them to students on Thursday, December 20th. Cards cost **\$0.25/each and will be sold from Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday December 14<sup>th</sup>**. Money raised will go to help local families in need.



## **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

On Saturday December 1st students at St. Ann school celebrated breakfast with Santa. Pancakes, fruit, coffee and juice were served and students got to visit with Santa himself. **A special THANK YOU to Mrs. Wong and all staff who helped out to make this day a great success!**

## **PIZZA/CASUAL DAY**

Pizza day is on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and orders will be accepted until Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> (\$1.75/slice) **NO LATE ORDER WILL BE ACCEPTED** forms must be returned to school to complete order.



## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

The annual St. Ann Catholic Elementary School Christmas Concert will take place on **Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 6:30pm in the school gym**. Parents/guardians are asked to have students arrive no earlier than 6:00pm. Children will gather in the designated areas while waiting for their performance and will return to the class until the end of the entire show. Staff will be supervising while families enjoy from their seats in the audience. A sincere thanks to Miss Rogerson and the staff members of St. Ann Catholic Elementary School for sacrificing their personal time so that our school community can enjoy a community gathering where the talents of our students are showcased. Parents Council will be leading an Advent liturgy at the start of the concert.

## **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.

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

### **MOVE-A-THON**

October's Move-a-Thon was a major success. There was much participation and co-operation by all. Thank you to all who helped to make that event a success. This year's school fundraiser raised over **\$5,300.00**. Many thanks are also extended to the students and staff that decorated the gym and organized the music and event.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP STOP BULLYING**

- Stand up for your friends who are targeted
- Be assertive but not aggressive. Using insults or fighting back will make the situation worse
- Always make sure you are safe. If it is not safe to intervene, report what you see or hear.
- Make sure you and your friends are using proper netiquette when using the internet. This means being kind, honest and polite when online.
- Don't forward hurtful e-mails to your friends
- Don't allow your friends to take cell phone photos or videos of the personal moments of others
- Always report cyberbullying to an adult
- Don't do or say anything online that you would not say in person
- Protect your password - Be sure you know who someone is before you add them to your friend list
- Block the sender's e-mail – right click on the address – click on block
- REMEMBER WHAT YOUR POST ONLINE STAYS ONLINE FOREVER

### **TIPS FOR PARENTS TO ADDRESS BULLYING and CYBERBULLYING**

- Teach your children that if they see someone being bullied, they should not watch, laugh or join in
- Pay attention to the relationships in your children's groups.
- Familiarize yourself with your child's online activities. Learn about the websites, blogs, chat rooms and cyber lingo that your children are using.
- Keep the computer in a common area so you can monitor activities. Keep an eye on your child when they are on their lap top if they are in their room.
- Recognize that online communication is a very important social aspect in kids' lives. Do not automatically remove their online privileges if you find out about a cyberbullying experience.
- Report any incident of online harassment and physical threats to your Internet Service Provider or if necessary, the local police

### **C.Y.O. NEWS**

Best of luck to the Junior and Senior Girls' Volleyball and Senior and Junior Boys' Basketball teams, as they have begun preparations for their up-coming seasons in January 2019.

## **L.E.A.D RECESS**

Creating a strong community on the playground takes a group of imaginative and keen leaders. The L.E.A.D. Recess program has been designed to develop emerging leadership skills, create awareness of the needs of fellow students, help create a strong community by fostering relationships between younger students and senior ones and most importantly, increase physical literacy during recess. St. Ann's LEADers have been trained to work with students in Grades 1-4, implementing active stations outside during recess. The goal is create an environment in which students are active, healthy and safe.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

As you are aware, the Board's uniform policy requires that all students must wear **NAVY BLUE** bottoms (Docker style casual pants, and/or walking shorts and/or skorts), and **NAVY BLUE** or **WHITE** tops (golf shirts, and/or polo shirts and/or turtlenecks). You are also reminded that you are encouraged to have the tops crested or purchase a crest from the school or JML Sportswear our uniform supplier

## **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**.

## **E.Q.A.O. NEWS**

Grade 3 and 6 students will be completing their Education Quality and Accountability Office (E.Q.A.O) assessment the last week of May/first week of June. You will be notified as soon as the final dates are decided. The assessment evaluates the reading, writing and math skills the students are expected to have learned by the end of their grade. Please visit <http://www.eqao.com> for more information or contact your child's teacher directly.

## **GROWTH MINDSET IN MATH**

### **Manipulatives**

Manipulatives are objects that help students learn math. They are integral to math as using manipulatives help students visualize, think, and reason their way through math concepts. Some examples of manipulatives are: counters, spinners, tangrams, geoboards, and algebra tiles. Manipulatives are readily available in your home, at the dollar store, and online.

a) McGraw Hill Online Manipulatives

[http://www.glencoe.com/sites/common\\_assets/mathematics/ebook\\_assets/vmf/VMF-Interface.html](http://www.glencoe.com/sites/common_assets/mathematics/ebook_assets/vmf/VMF-Interface.html)

b) National Library of Virtual Manipulatives: <http://nlvm.usu.edu/>

### **Some Online Math Resources:**

#### **1. Ontario Government:**

a) **A Parent Guide: Doing Mathematics with your child (K-6)**

<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideNumEn.pdf>

b) **The Ontario Curriculum Grade 1-8 Mathematics:**

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum.elementary.math18curr.pdf>

#### **2. The Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board:**

a) **Mathify:** Mathify is a free online math help resource for students in grade 7-10. It provides live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers. It runs on Sunday –Thursday, from 5:30 pm to 9:30pm  
<http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/>

b) **Prodigy: a self-paced math game used to practice math skill**

<https://www.prodigygame.com/Play/index.php>

3. **Math CLIPS/ePractice:** Critical Learning Instructional Paths Supports designed to support math concepts from grade 1 to 12.

<http://oame.on.ca/CLIPS>

4. **Mathies:** This site is designed for Ontario k-12 students and parents. It has games, learning tools, activities, and additional supports for parents

<http://oame.on.ca/mathies>.

### **NURSING STUDENTS: FINAL DAY**

A sincere appreciation is extended to the McMaster University Third Year Nursing students who shared their time and talents via the project: “Outdoor physical literacy and play” Their work at the school focused on the teaching of fair play, cooperation.

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS**



On behalf of all the staff at St. Ann Catholic Elementary School we would like to extend our very best wishes for a Joyous Christmas for all our families.

May this Christmas Season bring you much peace, love and happiness.

Wishing you a New Year filled with prosperity,  
good health and great joy.

Have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas.