



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 – J. Shamon
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.

A Prayer for the New Year

*Come, Holy Spirit,
Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with today and always. Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter. Be our Strength, our Courage and our Sanctifier.
May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us, a time of welcoming Your graces and gifts, a time for forgiving freely and unconditionally, and a time for growing in virtue and goodness.
Come, Holy Spirit,
Be with us today and always,
Amen.*

Source: <http://www.appleseeds.org/index.htm>

On behalf of the staff at St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and a great start to the New Year. A new year offers the opportunity to set goals and work hard to do our best remembering that we can achieve what we set our minds to if we work towards our goals.

Many thanks to everyone involved in our Christmas Concert and the numerous other activities that took place during the month of December. The events were enjoyed by all and served as great community building opportunities. I wish also to thank our Catholic School Council for their hard work behind the scenes and the beautiful way they lead our Christmas concert with prayer. Wishing Everyone a Happy New Year and I look forward to our continued work together.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

The following students are recognized for their demonstration of **HOPE** as the focus virtue and being **A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker** as the Catholic Graduate Focus for the month of December:

Class	Catholic Graduate Expectation Winners
Mrs. Mastromarco – Gr 1	Logan V. and Tina N.
Mrs. Santucci – Gr 1/2	Zackarai M. and Christopher C.
Miss. Kostyk - Gr 2	Fisayo A. and Ella C.
Miss. Monachino –Gr 2/3	Rachel D. and Diana M.
Ms. Polizzi – Gr 3	Sarena L.
Ms. Gillow – Gr 3/4	Isabella D. and Brandon N.
Mrs. Rizzo – Gr 4	Viktor M. Makayla M. and Summer R.
Mr. Toffolon – Gr 4/5	Sofia Z.
Mrs. Monachino – Gr 5/6	Erikk B. Maria M.O and Rachael E.
Mr. Cefeloni – Gr 6/7	Dalton T. and Cristiano C.
Mrs. Shamon – Gr 7	Yinka A. Kristina C. and Piper A.C.
Mr. Ciapanna – Gr 8	Theo K and Nathalie C.

THANK YOU MOHAWK COLLEGE!

On Friday, December 21st, 2018 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 Catholic School community is very grateful for this wonderful partnership that has been developed over the past six 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. At the school, we continue to look for new ways to impart this learning onto our students. Thank you for your continued support!

SCHOOL MASS

Our next school mass will be Wednesday March 6th at 10:00 a.m. Please come out and join us for our community celebration at St. Ann Church.

SNUGGLE UP AND READ DAY

Reading opens up a world of adventure, knowledge and excitement! Studies show that children who are strong readers are also strong writers and have a wealth of information that benefits them in their other subject areas. National Family Literacy Day in Canada is on January 27th, 2019, a day where you are encouraged to read together as a family. Knowing the importance of reading, each year the City of Hamilton celebrates Snuggle Up and Read Day. They hope to encourage all families– moms, dads, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents and caregivers to pick up a book, magazine, a graphic novel or whatever genre of literature their child enjoys and read to them.

St. Ann School will also be participating in the Snuggle Up and Read program by inviting parents/guardians who have children in our FDK, grade 1, grade 2 or grade 3 classes to come to our school gym and share in the excitement of reading stories of their choice to their child. This wonderful opportunity will take place on Monday, January 28th from 10:15 am to 11:15 a.m. The gathering will be initiated by a community read-a-loud hosted by a guest reader from our staff. Families will then be invited to read a story of their choice to your own child/ren. To add to the festivities, we are organizing a spirit day where staff and students are invited to come to school dressed in their comfy clothes on Monday January 28th to encourage comfort while promoting the enjoyment of reading.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Graziani, Teacher Librarian, or your child's teacher.

STUDENT ABSENCES-SCHOOL MESSENGER

It is important that all student absences are reported parents/guardians are asked to report their child's absence **before 8:45** by calling **1-833-275-6703** or parents can also do this on their IOS or Android devices by downloading the app School messenger. 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.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Monday, January 28th @ 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 25, 2019.**

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

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

Monday, February 18th – Family Day

Friday, March 1st – P.A. Day

Monday, March 11th - 15th - March Break

Monday, March 25th – 6:30pm Catholic School Council Meeting

Friday, April 19th – Monday, April 22nd - Easter Weekend

Monday, May 20th- Victoria Day

Friday, June 7th – P.A. Day

Thursday June 27th - 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 4, 2019 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church. The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 11, 2019 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.

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 another surface that was in contact with a contaminant.

CATHEDRAL SECONDARY SCHOOL ORIENTATION

On Tuesday, **January 22nd**, 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.

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on **Friday, January 18th** and orders will be taken on **Tuesday, January 15th** (\$1.75/slice) **No late orders will be accepted**. 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 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Parents wishing to register their child in Junior Kindergarten for September 2019 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, 2019

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.