



ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

15 St. Ann Street
Hamilton, ON
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905-547-5444



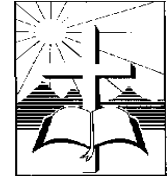
Principal – Mr. G. Pizzoferrato
Superintendent – Mr. T. Kovach
School Secretary- Mrs. C. Ragonetti

Cathedral School Principal – Mr. M. Daly
Assistant to the Principal –Mrs. J. Shamon
Trustee – T. Perri



JUNE UPDATE

*"Let God love you through others
and let God love others through you."*



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE:

We made it! After much hard work and dedication, we have arrived at the end of the year. This time of year is a time filled with mixed emotions. There is much reason for excitement to celebrate the successes from the year and an opportunity to identify areas where further growth is required. This goal setting process is one that both students and staff engage in so that the fall will mark our next starting point. I wish to express thanks on behalf of the staff for your ongoing collaboration with us during the year in an effort to challenge and support your child through their growth. Summer will be a wonderful time to rest, relax, enjoy the nice weather and re-energize.

The challenge for our staff is that this time of year often marks the end of certain staffing assignments and it comes with a new assignment in a different community in the fall. I wish, on behalf of the parent and staff community to express our thanks and well wishes to Mrs. Dwyer-Mitchell (Technology Learning Center Teacher), Mrs. Graziani (Teacher Librarian), Mrs. Burnette (K Planning Teacher), Mrs. Fernandopulle (Early Childhood Educator), Mrs. Okpere (EA), Mr. Giles (EA) and Mrs. Ellis (EA), Miss Halliday (EA), Ms. Descoteaux (EA) Mrs. Bucci (EA) . Your service to our community has been appreciated and we wish you continued success in your new assignments.

On behalf of our staff, I wish all of our families a safe, fun and enjoyable summer. To our staff, I wish you a well deserved rest and look forward to everyone's safe return in the fall. May summer hold for everyone a time for all things you desire, warm weather, and time to reflect on the successes from this year while considering the need for continued adjustments to bring forward future success going forward. May God continue to Bless the St. Ann Catholic School Community!

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION

Classroom placements will not be completely finalized until the last week of August. Each year there are some concerns about grade placement. Some of the concerns arise out of placement in a combined class. Combined classes are unavoidable in small schools and where possible, we try to ensure that students are not in a split classroom for consecutive years as a courtesy. The size of classes and averages of students per division are determined by the Board and Ministry. As a result of these averages, grades, at times, must be combined to maintain required numbers in classes. Every effort is made, working within Board requirements for class size, to organize the students in single grade classes. I can appreciate parental concern and preferences around placements for your child but at St. Ann we work to ensure that equity among children and quality in all classrooms is

maintained regardless of the overall grade organization. Please note that letters to the school making specific requests for teachers cannot be honored as they bring an imbalance to the careful work done at the school by all staff who contribute to the overall picture from year to year. Please note that staff professional judgement that takes into account the following factors is what drives the class creation process each year:

- a balance of academic ability/needs of the student
- the need to separate students to promote independence and a positive learning environment for all
- the need to promote, encourage and maintain positive social relationships
- the need to be exposed to a variety of teaching styles and build working relationships with staff and students
- the number of boys and girls

With all of these factors to consider, you can imagine the care and effort that goes into this task each year. I thank you as well for your understanding that staff professional judgement is the factor that drives this process.

Please make sure to follow us on Twitter @stahces. Communications will be sent out at the end of August notifying you of your child's placement for September.

FRIDAY JUNE 28th IS A PD DAY. There is no school for students.

Our final assembly will take place on Thursday June 27h, 2019 starting at 12:30 pm. At this time we will share our monthly awards celebration, a number of significant individual student achievements, our Catholic Graduate Expectation Divisional Medal winners, as well as staff farewells at that time. Parents are most welcome to join us for this celebration. Please note that the day will conclude with a gathering at the flag pole to sing the national anthem and lower the flag on this school year.

WEBPAGE & SCHOOL CASH SIGNUP

Please register at stah.hwcdsb.ca and receive emails and school information, also register for School Cash online by going to <https://hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.com> this will allow you to pay for school items online.

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PARENT CONFERENCE 2019

On Saturday, November 2, 2019 from 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., there will be a Parent Conference at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School. For more information, please visit the website at www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

During the summer when you are looking to purchase uniforms, ensure you are following the attached policy of the school uniform. When you are making your purchases, please adhere to the poster attached if purchasing from someplace other than our school supplier. Cargo pants are not allowed, along with skinny legged pants. Female students in grade 4 to 8 are only allowed to wear skorts. Skirts with shorts underneath the skirt are not acceptable. The Board's uniform policy requires that all students must wear NAVY BLUE bottoms (Dockers 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 your tops should now be crested so please purchase a crest from the school or JML Sportswear our 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.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 2019

On the first day of school the students will report to the gym and look for a sign that indicates their grade number. Students are to line up behind that number. Once we are all gathered in the gym (parents/caregivers are welcome to join us and sit on the bleachers). The morning will begin with an opening liturgy and our national anthem. Following some general introductions, students will be walked upstairs by the teachers of the grade your child is in and they will be separated into their classrooms from there. Mindful of the fact that we experience a number of registrations in the summer, it is not possible to provide your child's placement ahead of the first day of school. This is the best way to ensure that students are not disappointed if staffing changes should take place during the summer and the teacher we may assign now may not be the teacher in the fall. This summer, focus on supporting your child in celebrating their success from this year and build their confidence in being able to meet continued levels of success regardless of who teaches them next year.

Please make sure to follow us on Twitter @stahces. Communications will be sent out at the end of August notifying you of your child's placement for September.

FIRST RIDER PROGRAM

In order to introduce Kindergarten students and their parents to the school bus environment and rules, First Rider sessions are held at various locations around the Hamilton-Wentworth region. Please see the HWSTS transportation website at [hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca) for information for the First Rider Program for your bused students. This program is an orientation for the school bus for JK/SK students. Parents will be sent (via mail) this information over the summer but if they want to sign up sooner please direct them to the website for the sign up information. More information at: http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public_v2/first rider.aspx

MEET THE STAFF BARBECUE

The tentative day for our school Meet the Staff BBQ will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2019. The St. Ann Catholic School Council will be coordinating this event and more details will be available in the fall. The barbecue begins at 4:30 p.m. and the classrooms will be open from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. for you to visit with your children. You will have an opportunity to meet the school staff and see the curriculum that your child will be studying this year. Please be reminded that this is simply a "Meet and greet" not an interview. As always, families are encouraged to proactively arrange to meet with staff at any time to discuss your child's needs in advance of any reporting period. Remember, building a positive working relationship with staff early on is critical to your child's continued success. Your involvement is strongly encouraged early on.

BIG B COMICS on UPPER JAMES:

Comics for Grades is back! Bring in your report card from now until July 31st to receive free comics for all your hard work during this past term! For further questions or concerns just comment on the spot, shoot us a message or even call us in the shop!

Students who bring in their report cards will receive a free comics for every subject they received an A, A+, or A- in! For this term we're also extending it so that you get free comics for any subject you improved by a letter grade in (so going from a C+ to a B- in Math gets you free comics too!). Just remember the report card needs to be from THIS term that just ended.

That's it! No catch, no gimmicks! JUST FREE COMICS! Drop by from now until July 31st to score free comics!

RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN

Resiliency is commonly thought of as the ability to bounce back when faced with a challenge. It helps us to cope with our feelings so we can learn from an experience and move forward. For a child this could mean; having a disagreement with a friend, failing a test or not making a team.

A few tips for raising resilient children:

- Relationships: Children need to feel that they belong and to have people who support them
- Be a positive role model: Children learn by watching
- Teach optimistic thinking: Children with a positive outlook have more confidence and self-esteem
- Give children choices: To help build decision making skills
- Encourage creative problem solving: To help children think about alternate solutions
- Teach children how to be assertive: Show children how to confidently and respectfully communicate their thoughts, feelings and needs to others in a way that is not hurtful
- Help your child identify and develop strengths: Encourage them to try new things. Praise their Efforts
- Help your child identify and name their feelings: To effectively express their emotions.