

Sacred Heart of Jesus School

5 Hamilton Avenue

Hamilton, ON

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Dr. M. Ssemanda, Principal

Mr. G. Frade, Principal Intern

April 2018

✠ *A Message From Fr. Charlie*

Alleluia! Well, it has been a while since we have been able to say this! The Easter Season is a time of great rejoicing in the Church – Jesus is indeed risen. We are all connected to this central event of our faith. The disciples were at first very shaky on their feet as they run around in the dark on that first Easter Morn. We become more and more firmly rooted in our faith as we share it with one another.

As we renew our baptismal promises this Easter Sunday, let us give thanks for being gifted with that resurrection faith – a faith that sees the light instead of darkness, a faith that continues to grow as we nourish it with the Bread of Life. Have a blessed Easter Season,

BLESSING AT THE EASTER MEAL

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
creator of the universe and our Father,
you have guided us in Lent through
prayer and fasting.
and now fill our hearts with joy
at the resurrection of Jesus
and our share in His life.

Remember that we are your holy people,
and bless this food for our rejoicing
Bless us too, and keep us in your love.

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
by all your people for ever and ever.

Amen!



Mrs. S. Pizzuti
Superintendent of
Education

Mr. P. Daly
Trustee

Fr. Charlie Jordan
Sacred Heart Church
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Message from the Principal

I stumbled upon this beautiful speech written by Shaham F., a student from Halton Catholic District School Board and wanted to share it with you. It captures the essence of all what we have been promoting here at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Elementary School in regards to acts of kindness. It is entitled:



The Virtue of Kindness

“Kindness is a range of acts and habits. They can be described as manners or heartfelt courtesy. These etiquettes not only apply to our relationship with people, but also to things like animals, plants and the earth. Kindness can be as simple as saying hello,

good morning, or good day or by just giving someone a smile. What kindness really means is being happy with others and helping one another by caring, sharing, being together, and loving each other like God’s children. God says that we should love as I loved you. We should be nice to each other. There are 8 ways to be kind: 1. Be kind to the water 2. Be kind to the air 3. Be kind to nature 4. Be kind to the children 5. Be kind to the elderly 6. Be kind to your family 7. Be kind to your friends and strangers 8. Be kind to your teachers.



Kindness offers people a sanctuary for peace in the world, no matter how large or small or where over 6 billion people live. Thousands of forests are logged each day and dozens of species become endangered or eliminated. The Earth’s climate is changing and there are increased natural disasters such as global warming. This is not being kind to nature. Jesus Christ preached the Golden Rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” This is being kind. Fear caused by social injustice, oppression, exploitation, violence or loss of dignity, are examples of not being kind to those around you. Mother Teresa says, “We cannot do great things. We can only do small things with a great amount of love.” If we practice Random Acts of Kindness, the world would be a better place. We could help those in pain. We can be thoughtful to one another and show we care. We should use our manners all the time. It is nice to give compliments to each other so they feel good. It is always great to volunteer your time just like our teachers do in helping us and coaching our school teams. We all show kindness when we help with charities in our schools. Now that I have given you many different ways that you can be or show kindness, I hope that everyone here will be kind to each other.” By: *Shaham F.*

When we are kind to others, we experience joy and peace in our hearts. God of love, peace, hope and joy, help us always to be kind to others.

I wish you all a very blessed and holy Easter!

CHRIST IS RISEN



Safety Concerns

It has been brought to our attention that some parents are parking illegally and this is causing a lot of confusion and traffic congestion problems. Please obey the parking signs by parking legally. Below is the information regarding the parking and fines:

"park" or "parking" when prohibited, means the standing of a vehicle whether occupied or not except when standing temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers;

Fine: Early Payment \$26.00 (payment within 7 days of the offence) Late Payment \$33.00 (payment within 15 days of the offence)



"stop" or "stopping" when prohibited, means the halting of a vehicle, even momentarily whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a constable or other police officer or of a traffic control sign or signal;

Fine: Early Payment \$60.00 (payment within 7 days of the offence) Late Payment \$75.00 (payment within 15 days of the offence).

We do not want any of our parents/guardians to get ticketed. Your cooperation and understanding in this important matter is very much appreciated.

First Communion



The grade two students are excited about celebrating the Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion) this year. The Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion) will be celebrated at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on Sunday, May 6th, 2018 at the 9:00 a.m. mass. If you have any questions and/or concerns at this time, please contact Mr. Dibenedetto and Mrs. Lovas.

Confessions

Reminder that open confessions are offered every Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 6:30 pm.

Confirmation

The grade 7 students will be receiving their confirmation. The sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at Blessed Sacrament Church at 5:00 pm.



Next Council Meeting

Our next Catholic School Council meeting will be on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons. All parents are welcome to attend.

Graduation



Congratulations to our grade 8 students who will be graduating this year. Graduation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20th, 2018. It will begin with a 9:15 a.m. Mass followed by Awards Ceremony and family dinner at Liuna Station beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Youth Rally: Be! Be Catholic! Be Young! Be Faithful!

The Hamilton Diocese is holding their 3rd Annual Youth Rally for young people in grades 7-12 on Saturday, May 26th at Camp Brebeuf. Join the 500+ young people that will be gathered for an opportunity for fellowship, prayer, music and an uplifting day. Information and forms can be found in the Narthex, or on Most Blessed Sacrament Parish's website blessedsacramenthamilton.com. The cost for this experience is \$15.00, which includes transportation, food, a pilgrim pack and much more! If cost is a factor, please speak to Fr. Charlie.

New Registrations

Registrations for students entering Junior Kindergarten or Kindergarten in September 2018 are now being taken in February. Please call Mrs. Conciatori at the school to book an appointment to register your child. Tell neighbours and friends! We need to know about all new students as soon as possible in order to begin planning for class organization and staffing for September. Please make sure you have the following documents with you upon registration:



- Original Birth Certificate (if Canadian Citizen)
- Landed Immigration or Refugee Status (if applicable)
- Original Catholic Baptismal Certificate
- Proof of Residency

Copies will be made at the school to initiate your child's file. Junior Kindergarten students must have been born in 2014 and

Kindergarten students must have been born in 2013. Please note that Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Elementary School will continue to offer the Full Day Kindergarten Program for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten children for September 2018. Parents may wish to read the information brochure which is available at the following website to become more familiar with the program being provided.

<http://www.hwcdsb.ca/programsandservices/kindergarten>

Before & After School



Parents/Guardians you are reminded that supervision is not provided before 8:30 a.m. and after 3:10 p.m. Students who are not directly being supervised by their parents, guardians or caregivers must go home right after the bell for their safety and due to liability reasons. Please remember that the school doors are locked after 3:15 p.m. We thank you all for your cooperation

INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES AND BOOTS

Please be reminded that ALL students need indoor and outdoor footwear for the cold and wet weather. Children spend a good portion of time outside and in addition to warm clothing, they require warm footwear. Also, we ask that children **not wear wet** footwear in the school.



NEW

REPORTING ABSENCES (Safe Arrival Program)

Our new Absence Reporting System has been implemented. Parents can report their child's absence quickly and conveniently in one of three ways:

1. Parents can call into an automated interactive telephone system via a toll free number 1-844-469-5486.
2. Parents can log into a website, hwc.schoolconnects.com to authenticate their Portal account.
3. Parents who have authenticated their accounts and have either an iOS or Android device can download an app.

The automated notification system will contact parents at multiple contact numbers until one of the designated contacts is reached. If the system is unable to reach a designated contact after 20 minutes, office staff will follow up. By reporting your child absent in advance using the Safe Arrival toll free number of the Safe Arrival Portal website/app, you will NOT receive a call. We would also like to remind parents to inform the office of any changes in phone numbers and/or addresses as it is essential that we be able to reach you in case of an emergency involving your child.

Student Attendance



Regular attendance is crucial to success at school. When students are habitually late or leave habitually early, they miss critical class time, feel disorganized and may miss important information. Punctuality is an important life skill that students learn and helps them establish good work habits for their future. Encourage your child(ren) to take responsibility for themselves to prepare and plan ahead in order to be ready and on time for school. Working together makes a difference for student learning.

Lateness: School Arrival

Lateness continues to be a concern at Sacred Heart of Jesus School. Many students miss the initial part of their instructional school day due to this late arrival. **Valuable learning time is lost.** This is tabulated and forwarded to the Hamilton - Wentworth Catholic District School Board for auditing purposes. Chronic lateness is reported to the school's social worker. Please ensure that these inappropriate patterns of behaviour are not established with your children. Students should arrive at school no later than 8:50 a.m.



Illness

During the winter months, children have the tendency to become sick often. We have had too many students come to the office with health complaints shortly after they arrive at school. **(Should your child show symptoms of illness in the morning, please keep him/her at home.)** Once at school, they are expected to be here for the entire day unless physical symptoms of high fever or vomiting are present. Also, please keep in mind that if a child is well enough to come to school, he/she is well enough to go outside to play.



Check It Out Clinics

Community Professionals are available at a variety of locations to meet with families and their children from newborn to 6 years of age to offer consultation, teaching and referral with respect to their child's development. Early Child Development Identification sessions are free and no appointment is necessary. Please note the hyperlink to a newspaper article highlighting the importance and benefit of Check It Out Clinics for children and families. <http://www.thespec.com/news/local/article/624994-checking-out-your-child's-development>



Safety



We need your cooperation to make sure the fence and gates to the playground remain closed to ensure the safety of our staff and students.

Playground Safety

For the safety of our children in the playground, we ask that only NERF (soft) balls be used. No other type of ball should be brought to school except for the basketballs being used at the basketball net. For the safety of all of our children **please do not bring any dogs on the school property.** Some children are not only allergic to them but others may be very frightened of dogs and even the best behaved dogs may react unexpectedly when confronted by large numbers of children. Thank you all for your cooperation.



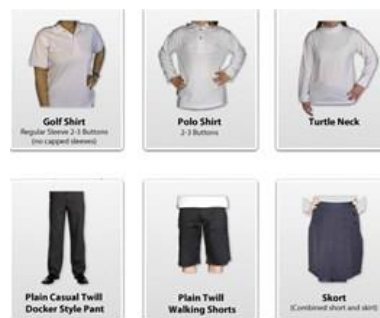
Communication

If you have any concerns or questions about the curriculum, work being sent home or your child's progress or well-being, your child's classroom teacher is a good contact. You may leave a message for your child's teacher at the office or by communicating in the agenda. Please be patient and the teacher will get back to you as soon as he or she is able to. If you have any concerns regarding the school, please do not hesitate to come and discuss the matter with the Principal.



School Uniforms

In conjunction with our Board of Trustees and the Catholic School Council, the expectation is that all students will be in complete and proper school uniform. Our colours are navy and white for tops and navy blue for bottoms. A reminder that all tops must have a collar. Cargo pants or kobe pants (pants with pockets along the leg), track/warm-up pants, skinny pants and corduroy pants are not permitted. Jackets and coats are non-uniform pieces; sweaters for inside must be navy blue or white. Hoodies are not permitted. Crests can be either embroidered or on a patch which is sewn to the garment, not screened-on (ink process). As well, crests can be purchased at the school office for \$3 if needed. In addition, spirit-wear (ie.: team/grad sweatshirts/hoodies, t-shirts) are not part of the school uniform. If you need assistance with the purchase of uniforms, please contact the school to speak with the Principal, Mrs. Ssemanda.



Mandatory School Uniform implies that all students arrive at school dressed appropriately and in adherence to the Board and school Uniform Policy. Failure to do so shall result in consequences as outlined in the Board Uniform Policy under the Dress Code/School Uniforms Policy Section 17.

Anaphylaxis



Sacred Heart of Jesus School 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 the 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 items: Peanuts, all nuts, tree nuts, raw eggs, sea food, and hazelnuts
- Please avoid bringing these allergens into the school.
- 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 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.

New Concussion Protocols"



The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) recognizes that children and adolescents are among those at greatest risk for concussions. The potential for a concussion is greatest during activities where collisions can occur, such as during physical education (PE) class, playground time, or school-based sports activities. However, concussions can happen any time a student's head comes into contact with a hard object, such as a floor, desk, or another student's head or body. Recent research has made it clear that a concussion can have a significant impact on a student's cognitive and physical abilities. Without identification and proper management, a concussion can result in permanent

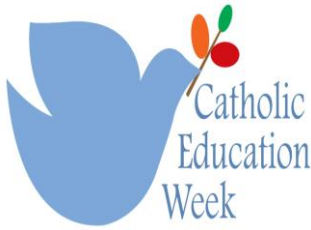
brain damage. Awareness of the signs and symptoms of concussion and knowledge of how to properly manage a diagnosed concussion is critical in a student's recovery and is essential in helping to prevent the student from returning to learning or physical activities too soon and risking further complications.

Please be advised that should your child be suspected of a concussion based on the signs and symptoms they are presenting, this new Concussion protocol will now come into effect.

For more information on this protocol, please visit the Board's website under the Board tab, Policies and Procedures at <http://www.hwcdsb.ca>.

Catholic Education Week Activities: Sunday, May 6 to 11, 2018

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 unique mission of Ontario Catholic education, the importance of its shared leadership by all those involved in Catholic education and the critical role of Catholic education in contemporary society. Catholic Education Week will begin on Sunday May 6 and run until Friday, May 11th. Sacred Heart will open the week with a school liturgy in the gym. The week will be filled with activities that promote Catholic Education and its values.



Making Math Fun In The Classroom & At Home!

E-math+, a new online tool for Grades 3-6 has been created in partnership with Nelson Mathematics to connect math learning in the classroom and at home. Your child in grades 3-6 has been registered and a package containing their login and information about the new tool has been sent home. E-math+ has features designed specifically to help you understand the math lessons your child is learning and help you assist your child to be successful: understand current math language and teaching strategies. Extra support and practice for your child can be obtained online as well as accessing the Nelson Mathematics textbooks. Be sure and take some time to view this tool with your child(ren) and to use it to reinforce math concepts!



Choose a Path that Includes Math

Grade 7 and 8 Students and Parents...What Math Do I Need?

I want to be a vet...what math do I need? I want to be a dental hygienist...what math do I need? I want to be a chef...what math do I need? I want to be a massage therapist...what math do I need? As you think about your future and the courses you'll be taking in high school check out the website "Choose a Path That Includes Math". This site, created by the Ministry of Education, allows students and parents to investigate careers and the appropriate math path through high school to take in order to be prepared for their future. Check it out at:

<http://www.mathpathontario.ca/home.php>

Precious Moments Boutique Open House

Wednesday, March 7, 2018
Wednesday, May 16, 2018
From 3:00 -6:00 p.m.



At St. Mary Catholic Resource Centre, 3rd Floor 203 McNab Street, North Hamilton
Gently new and experienced Graduation and First Holy Communion dresses and suits are available to students at no cost. Students & parents are welcome.
Contact Kelly Duffy-Kariuum, Social Worker, 905-525-2930 Ext. 2831.

Volunteer Police Checks

A reminder to all parents that a current Police Check is required for anyone wishing to attend class trips or to volunteer at the school. Please contact the office to obtain a reference letter which will reduce the cost of the police check.



EQAO Testing – Grades 3 & 6

Once again this year, our grade 3 and 6 students will participate in the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Primary and Junior Division assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Our grade 3 and Grade 6 students will write the EQAO test from May 22 to June 4, 2018. Students will be required to complete three test booklets: one reading, one, writing and one mathematics: The kind of questions in the booklets will be familiar to your child as they are based on the type of work which they have been doing throughout the year. Sample questions can be viewed on the EQAO website at www.eqao.com.



We ask that you make every effort to avoid holidays during these days and to ensure that your child is in attendance each during the assessment. We would also appreciate your efforts in scheduling appointments around this block of time. Additional information regarding the EQAO assessment will be sent home to our Grade 3 and Grade 6 parents in the month of April.

H.W.C.D.S.B. Community Garage Sale To Benefit Children In Our Equal Opportunity Schools

St. Luke School is hosting the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board Garage Sale on Saturday, May 13th, 8a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Luke Catholic Elementary School, 345 Albright Road, Hamilton, Ontario. This is a fundraiser organized by the Custodians and Assistant-Custodian of the Board in support of the Equal Opportunities Fund. This fund has been established by the Board to ensure that all students are provided with opportunities to achieve regardless of their social or economic status.



You can show your support by attending the event, donating items (new or gently used) to your home school by Thursday, April 27, 2017 or by purchasing raffle tickets. All proceeds will go to support the 'Equal Opportunities Fund'. Please be aware that the collected items will be picked up by the school board truck at your school on May 4, 5, 6 and 7, 2015. Thank you for your continued support

Are You Moving?



We ask any family who will be moving out of the area for the 2018-2019 school years to please notify the office in writing. We are in the process of projecting student enrolment for September 2018 and having this information assists us in being more accurate with our projections. Your assistance with this information is greatly appreciated as school organization changes with enrolment at each grade level.

Lost & Found

We have collected an overflowing box of clothing since Christmas. If your child is missing clothes, boots, shoes etc. please come and check our Lost & Found.

Keep Valuables at Home

Students should keep items of value at home. If items are brought to school and they go missing it is the student's responsibility. It is strongly recommended that anything of value remain home. Thanks for your continued support.



CURRICULUM UPDATES

Mrs. Giornofelice-Boyd, Mrs. Pagliari & Miss Martins FDK

Kindergarten news! During the month of April our class will be learning about the true meaning of Easter while exploring the changes that Spring's renewal brings. Our poems, stories and writing challenges will reflect the liturgical season and the season of Spring. The children will work on making meaningful connections to the stories and discussions held. Our math focus will be measuring length (shorter, longer), mass (lighter, heavier), capacity (empty, full), and area (larger, smaller). When at home the children may enjoy filling different containers in the tub to see which ones hold more, or playing with various items to see which are longer, bigger or even heavier.



Mrs. Marques Gr 1

Grade 1 Literacy - In Reading, students will focus on Making Connections. In Writing, we will begin our unit on Narrative Writing. Students learn about the elements of a story (characters, setting, problem and solution) and then they will write their own stories.



Grade 1 Numeracy - Students will continue to explore 3-D shapes and explore relative locations of objects (over, under, above, below etc...). Later in the month, students will learn about subtraction and the different strategies they can use to solve problems involving subtraction.

Mr. Dibenedetto Gr 2 & Mrs. Lovas 2/3

Grade 2 - In literacy students will begin to explore how to infer while reading using their own knowledge of topics and information from the text. In writing, the class will work on producing procedural writing pieces that describe how to complete a task.



Grade 2 - In numeracy, the student will continue to develop their understanding of a 2digit by 2-digit addition using various strategies and the addition of money amounts. We will also explore properties of 3rd shapes.

Grade 3 - In literacy we will continue to make deeper connections with how to be a good reader. We will be exploring text elements when reading a variety of texts: Short stories, poems and biographies. In writing, we will be looking the steps for procedural writing. The grade 3's will be writing their own procedural writing piece on how to make a bath bomb.

Grade 3 - In numeracy we will be discovering and investigating 3D shapes and Area. The grade 3's will be exploring the characteristics of cubes, pyramids, prisms and spheres. We will also explore shape transformations; identifying and describing how shapes

Mr. Frade Gr. 4/5/6 Mrs. Castiglione

In April, the juniors will be moving onto 3D geometry and measurement in math. The student will transition into using inferencing to help determine the main idea as a reading strategy, and will move into point-of-view writing. In social studies, the grade 4 students will be learning about the political and physical regions of Canada, while the grade 5s learn about the role of government and responsible government and the grade 6s learn about Canada's interaction with the global community.



Ms. Marino 7/8

In math, the students are focusing on learning about geometry and involving angles into spatial sense. In science, they are continuing to learn about positive and negative interactions with the environment while emphasizing on how heat is involved positively and negatively for all organisms. The students will finish up recount and moving on to evaluating texts.



March Award Recipients



Teacher	Academic	Christian Attitude	Forgiveness
Mrs. Giornofelice-Boyd FDKA	Benjamin	Milena	Audrey
Mrs. Pagliari - FDKB	Alani	Elsie	Brito
Mrs. Marques Gr 1	Keynan	Ava	Xander
Mr. Dibenedetto Gr 2	Joseph	Jamie	Tavio
Mrs. Lovas Gr 2/3	Maryam	Gozel	Joel
Mr. Frade Gr 4/5	Marianne	Juliya	Marko
Mrs. Castiglione Gr 5/6	Jackson	Louise	McKayla
Ms. Marino Gr 7/8	Joanna	Marianne	Summer
Mr. Czerniga-French	John Henry - Gr. 4/5, Anne - Gr 5/6, Benjamin - Gr. 7/8		

ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of Cash & Checks coming into our school. School related expenses are now available online for you to make payment.

Parents please register!



Here's how:

- Step 1:** Go to this website: <https://hwcdsb.schoolcashonline.com>
- Step 2:** Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps
- Step 3:** After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Any questions or concerns, please contact parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com or 1-866-961-180