

Sacred Heart of Jesus School

5 Hamilton Avenue

Hamilton, ON

Phone: (905) 383-6811 Fax (905)383-8520



Dr. M. Ssemanda, Principal

October 2019

✠ *A Message from Fr. Charlie*

Traditionally, we focus a little more on Mary, disciple of the Lord, in the month of October. October 7th is the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. We of course celebrate Thanksgiving Day this month – a time to join with family and friends in a spirit of gratitude. Mary is a model of gratitude to us – grateful for the gift of her son despite some of the challenges that went with that. Her spirit of gratitude began as a young girl - grateful for her faith in the Jewish tradition. It was in this spirit that she received her call to be the mother of Jesus, the Messiah. In this month, let us continue in a spirit of gratitude – recognizing how blessed we truly are!

Mrs. S. Pizzuti
Superintendent of
Education

Mr. P. Daly
Trustee

Fr. Charlie Jordan
Sacred Heart Church
19 Viewpoint Avenue
Hamilton, ON
L8V 2S4
(905)383-3280

Feeder School:

St. Jean de Brebeuf
Catholic School
200 Acadia Drive
Hamilton, ON
(905)388-7020

Happy
Thanksgiving

Message from the Principal

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, parents and students for contributing to a very successful beginning to the new school year. It is hard to believe how quickly September has passed by. It was great to see many parents and students at our Meet and Greet Teacher/Parent Evening. Our sincere gratitude goes to the members of the outgoing Catholic School Council and staff for organizing and helping to ensure that it was an enjoyable evening.

October is a busy month. We are looking forward to Thanksgiving celebrations and to our big fundraiser the Halloween Groove-a-thon. As a school community, we continue to create a welcoming, inclusive and safe learning environment which promotes the spiritual, academic, social, physical and emotional growth of all the students.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact the classroom teacher who can directly answer questions and concerns about your child. For concerns about the school, you are welcome to call me or to come and discuss them with me.

On behalf of the staff and students of Sacred Heart of Jesus School, I wish you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving weekend.

Thanksgiving Prayer

*O God, when I have food,
help to remember the
Hungry;*

*When I have work,
help me to remember
the jobless;*

*When I have a home,
Help me to remember those
Who have no home;*

*When I am without pain,
Help me to remember
those who suffer,*

*And by remembering, help
me to destroy my
Compliancy; bestir my
Compassion, and be
Concerned enough to help;
By word and deed, those
who cry out for what we
take for granted. Amen*



Parent Conference

The HWCDSB 26th Parent Conference 2018 - "Weaving the Catholic Partnership" will be held on Saturday, November 2, from 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Bishop Ryan High School. Mark your calendar now and join us for this great event! For registration information, please contact 905-525-2930 ext. 2141 or download Registration Forms online at www.hwcdsb.ca.



Honouring Mother Mary



The month of October is dedicated to the Rosary devotion. Every morning during our morning prayers we will be reciting a decade of the rosary to honour our dear Mother Mary. We encourage you to say the rest of the decades at home with your family

2019 HWCDSB Pilgrimage

Sunday, October 20th, HWCDSB students and staff will take part in the Annual Awareness of "the injustice of world hunger, and inadequate health care, shelter, and education".



"Walk with Christ: Justice for the Poor" Pilgrimage in support of third world charities. The pilgrimage serves to create awareness around world hunger, the need for health care, shelter and proper education. Students will start from Cathedral High School with mass, and then go on a 8 km walk along the Rail Trail to St. Daniel School to raise funds for humanitarian projects in Haiti, Uganda, Famine Relief in South Africa and the Dominican Republic. Please join us as we set Catholic Education into action to serve others.

Seasonal Flu Update



As the flu season approaches, please remind your child about proper hand washing and hygiene habits. If your child displays flu-like symptoms, it is strongly recommended to keep your child at home in order to prevent the spread of the virus. When reporting the absence to the office, please inform us if your child has flu-like symptoms which include fever, cough, sore throat, sore muscles, joint pain, weakness, fatigue, headache and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting. Students are reminded to wash

their hands frequently, to cough/sneeze into the elbow and to avoid sharing snacks and personal effects.

Pizza Days

Friday Pizza Days are back at Sacred Heart of Jesus School. Our first Pizza Day will be October 4th. The cost of one pizza slice is \$2. Money must be handed to the teacher before 10:00 am on the Wednesday or through School Cash Online. Parents please hand in EXACT CHANGE. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.



Lockdown Drill

Two lockdown drills will be held over the course of the year. One lockdown drill will be in the fall and the other one in the spring. Please do not hesitate to call the school if you have any questions and/or concerns. Also an Evacuation Drill will be practiced during the school year.

Fire Drills



Fire drills will be conducted over the course of the year: 3 in the fall and 3 in the spring. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Interim Reports & Parent-Teacher Interviews

The November Progress Report will be sent home on Tuesday November 12th, 2019. Parent Teacher interview will be held on Thursday, November 14th, 2019 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. Information to sign up for interview times will be sent home at the end of October.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Sacred Heart of Jesus School will be holding a Thanksgiving Non-perishable drive, e.g. boxes of cereal, pasta, and canned food items. The Drive will begin on Monday October 7th and end on Friday October 11th. All the donations collected will be given to the Wilma's Place. We thank everyone in advance for your contributions and generosity. Let us rally together to help families in need.



EQAO 2019 Results

In late September, parents and guardians received their child's Individual Student Report (ISR). This report contains their child's results from the Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions, administered in spring 2019. These results did not impact students' report cards last year.

EQAO results offer an independent snapshot that shows whether students are meeting literacy and math expectations from The Ontario Curriculum. In receiving the ISR, there is an opportunity for parents and guardians to have discussions about their child's achievement within their family or with a teacher (e.g., parent/guardian-teacher interview).

EQAO data should be considered alongside other information—such as in-class assessment results, report-card grades and teacher observations—so parents and guardians can build a fuller understanding of their child's learning.

Parents and guardians can learn more about assessment results through EQAO's website (www.eqao.com)

Our primary and junior assessment results have been released. Parents whose children wrote the assessment in May 2019 received their child's individual results during the last week of September. We are proud of our students and continue to work with them each day.

Students achieving level 3 and 4

Grade 3

Reading: 67%; Writing: 57%; Math: 48%

Grade 6

Reading: 80%; Writing: 85% Math: 45%;

Groove-a-thon

This year the school's major fundraiser will be a Halloween groove-a-thon with funds raised being used to continue to enhance our Numeracy programs, Improving technology and other school resources. Please see the information regarding the Fundraiser which will be going home shortly. If anyone has any question, or would like to help out please call the office.



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).

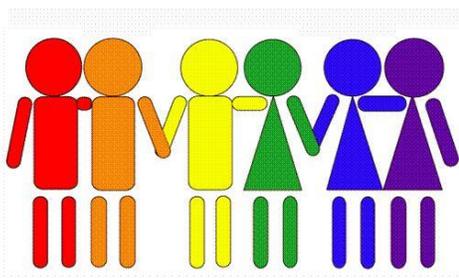
We do not want any of our parents/guardians to get ticketed. Therefore, your cooperation and understanding in this important matter is very much appreciated.

World Teachers' Day



“The integration of Religious truths and values with the rest of life is expressed above all in the lives of the teachers in Catholic schools whose daily witness to the meaning of mature faith and Christian living has a profound impact upon the education and formation of their pupils.” (Teach Them -1976. p. 3). Saturday, October 5th is world Teacher’s Day. Thank you to all staff for their continued dedication, care and Christian example.

Catholic School Council



We extend our deep gratitude to our Catholic School Council of 2018-2019. Your gift of time and commitment to the students of Sacred Heart of Jesus School was very much appreciated. Congratulations to the new members of the Catholic School Council. The following parents/guardians were acclaimed to the 2019-2020 Catholic School Council.

Mrs. H. Brittain-Giglia, Mrs. J. Desrochers, Ms. D. Eddy, Mrs. S. Ficher, Ms. L. Homulas-Howe, Mrs. K. Sciore, Mrs. L. Almonte, Mrs. L. McAllister Mrs. E. Munich, Mrs. K. Rozynski, and Mrs. D. Lamparski

The first meeting for only the executive members will be held on be held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 10, 2019 in the Learning Commons Room. In this meeting the roles of the council members will be voted on. The first official meeting for the Catholic School Council will be on Thursday October 17th which all parents and guardians are invited to attend at 6:00pm in the Learning Commons Room.

Terry Fox Run

Thank you to all students who participated in the Terry Fox Run. Our students and staff members raised \$800.00. A big thank you to all the students and staff members who donated money this year to the Terry Fox Foundation! Terry once said, “even if I don’t finish, we need others to continue. It’s got to keep going on without me.”



In honour of all those who have been touched by cancer, thank you for continuing to support this cause.

Lateness: School Arrival

Lateness has improved tremendously at Sacred Heart of Jesus School. However, some students continue to come in late and miss the initial part of their instructional school day. We encourage all students to arrive at school no later than 8:50 a.m.



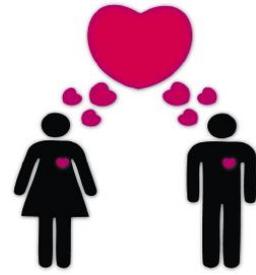
Parenting Tip Of The Month



In order to feel confident and connected, children need to feel that they belong. Their sense of belonging comes, in large part, from how they connect to their families - do they spend time together having fun, do they participate in chores and contribute to the household, do they have a sense of family values and traditions? As parents we need to be diligent in making sure our children feel a secure attachment within the family unit, so they can thrive when they venture away from us.

Marriage Tip of the Month

Marriages that are cared for reap rewards as the years pass: both people feel connected and in love; children feel secure in the love of their parents; they share times of joy and an ability to pull together when trials present themselves. Couple care includes spending time together, using good communication skills, and asking each other, "What are we doing well, what could we be doing better." The rewards for continuous care of your marriage are endless! (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)



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 caretakers 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.

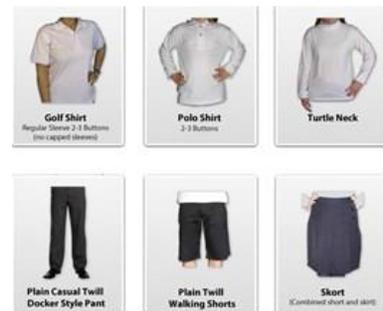
Playground Safety

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.



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, Dr. Ssemanda.

If your child has outgrown their uniform, please donate it back to the school so that another student can take advantage of wearing it. We like to keep a variety of sizes so that parents can share the uniforms instead of buying them. Please send any clean and gently used uniform to the school at any time throughout the year. If you would like to receive some used uniforms, please make an appointment with the office. Thank you for your help!

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 & cooked 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 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.



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 1-833-275-6703.
2. Parents can log into a website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
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.

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>.

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.schoolcashionline.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.

September Award Recipients

| Teacher | Academic | Christian Attitude | Welcoming |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Mrs. Caruso - FDKA | Jennifer | Alejandro | Nicolas |
| Mrs. Clannon - FDKB | Aubrey | Skender | Sofia |
| Mrs. DiGiancinto - Gr. 1/2 | Jericho | Kenneth | Julia |
| Mr. Donelson - Gr. 2/3 | Abigail | Jayda | Isla |
| Miss. Alessi - Gr. 3/4 | Gabriel | Maria | Ava |
| Mr. DiBenedetto - Gr. 4/5 | David | Eva | Celina |
| Mr. MacLeod - Gr. 5/6 | Chyra | Emmanuela | Kaitlynn |
| Mrs. Rogers - Gr. 7/8 | Madison | Andrea | Christian |



Curriculum Update

Mrs. Caruso, Mrs. Clannon & Mrs. Ianiero FDK

Our Kindergarten students have been working very hard to learn the new routines and safety procedures of the classroom and the school. They are making new friends and developing their social skills.

Literacy focus:

- Name recognition, printing and recognizing letters in name
- Letters and sounds of the week
- Connecting experiences to the seasons

Numeracy focus:

- Recognizing and printing numbers (1-3 for JK, 1-5 for SK)
- Comparing and sorting objects
- Identifying and extending patterns

Mrs. DiGiacinto - Gr. 1/2

We have had a great start to the new school year!

In Literacy, the Grade 1 & 2 students will be focusing on identifying text elements such as characters, setting, the problem and solution, that make up a great story. They will also be learning about making connections to self through stories while they read. In writing, we are learning about how to write sentences as well as recount writing events that happen in their lives.

Please continue to work with your child with the word study nightly.

In Math, we will wrap up Patterning and start our Number Sense and Numeration Unit. They will be given many opportunities to read, represent, compare and order numbers.

Mr. Donelson - Gr. 2/3

We are finishing up our Patterning unit and we will be moving onto Number Sense and Numeration. Grade 2's will be learning to read, represent, compare, and order whole numbers to 200. Grade 3's will be learning to read, represent, compare, and order whole numbers to 1000. In Literacy we will be continuing to learn about Story elements (i.e characters, setting, problem, and solution) as well as the 6 traits of writing (Ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions) then we will be moving on to writing Recounts.

Miss Alessi - Gr. 3/4

In literacy, the grade 3 and 4 students are learning to use descriptive language while writing rich paragraphs. We will then begin to focus on writing recounts of life events. In reading, the grade 3's and 4's will continue with their focus on visualizing while they read. Through visualization,

they will gain an understanding of how words paint pictures in our minds. We will then begin our focus on text elements and learn to retell what we have read using strong and concise detail.

In math, students are finishing up their work in our patterning unit. We have been exploring, extending, and creating a variety of numeric and geometric patterns. We will then begin our focus on number sense and numeration. The students will begin to learn how to represent larger numbers and explore place value through the use of base ten materials.

Mr. DiBenedetto - Gr. 4/5

In literacy, the grade 1 and 2's will continue to work on visualizing while reading. They will gain an understanding of how words paint pictures in our minds. Later in October we will explore text elements and learn to retell what we read using strong but concise detail. In writing, the students will learn to use descriptive language to create rich paragraphs. Following this writing form, we will move on to writing recounts of life events.

In math, we will finish our work with increasing and decreasing number and geometric Patterns. Then we will dive into the wonderful world of number sense. The class will learn how to represent larger numbers using appropriate place value.

Mr. MacLeod – Gr. 6/7

In Math, the Grade 6 and 7 class will be exploring Number Sense and Numeration, with a particular focus on whole numbers to 1 000 000 as well as ratios and rates. In writing, students will begin writing personal recounts, as they aim to bring one of their favourite funny memories to life through their writing. In reading, our classroom reading strategies will be visualizing and summarizing. October is an exciting month for literacy as our class will continue to focus our reading response questions in preparation for EQAO on the book “Projekt 1065” by Alan Gratz. In science, grade 6 students continue to learn about biodiversity, while the grade 7 students keep learning about Human Interactions with the Environment.

Mrs. Rogers – Gr. 7/8

The grade 7/8 class will continue to work on identifying novel elements in different literature they read (i.e. plot, setting, character, literary devices etc.). We will be focusing on descriptive and narrative writing. We will be moving on to Numeration in Math (Unit 1 and 2 in Math Makes Sense Textbook). In History, we will continue to investigate Canadian's early history (1713-1800 for Grade 7 and 1800-1890 for Grade 8). In science, we will continue to investigate “Ecosystems” in grade 7 and “Cells” in grade 8.

