



HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 25 Alma Street
 Dundas, Ontario
 L9H 2C9



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Schools
 150 years of 'Believing, Achieving, Serving'

Tel: 905-523-2338

PRINCIPAL: MR. M. TROTTA

Fax: 905-628-3271

TRUSTEE: MRS. C. CORNALE

SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. HUCAL

JANUARY 2017

NEWSLETTER



On behalf of the staff at St. Augustine 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 are all leaders in our own way. As Catholics, we are called to live a faith-filled, loved-filled life, willingly share gifts and talents for the good of the Kingdom of God.

Many thanks to the staff and the members of the Catholic School Council for organizing the Advent Night, Christmas Concert, raffle 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. A special thank you to all for the very generous donations of food, clothing and gifts to support Ronald McDonald House. May 2017 be a year of prosperity, peace and good health!

A Prayer for the New Year

Loving God, thank you for looking after our school. Thank you for loving each and every one of us here. This year help us to learn, play and share together, so that the wonderful world you have made becomes more beautiful every day. Amen

VIRTUE OF MONTH

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS ARE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR DEMONSTRATION OF



IN MONTH OF DECEMBER

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| MISS JACOBS/MISS MARFARLANE | NOAH R. |
| MRS. MACCABE-FREEMAN | SAMANTHA B. |
| MR. HEWITSON | WILLOW K. |
| MR. HAVERS | LIAM B. |
| MRS. BURY | MATTHEW E. |
| MRS. MACEACHERN | CRYSTAL C. |
| MS. CORNALE | JOSHUA B. |
| MRS. HAROLD | NOAH B. |
| MISS FILICE | LAURA H. |
| MRS. FERRARA | JULIA H. |
| MR. BURGIO | DOMINIC S. |

ADVENT NIGHT

Thank you to all of the families that participated in our Advent Celebration. It was wonderful to gather as a school community in prayer during Christmas Season. Thank you to Catholic School Council for the refreshments and raffle.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please join us for our next Catholic School Council Meeting on Monday, January 16, 2017 at 6:15pm.

Raffle Fundraiser Results:

We would like to thank everyone for supporting the Catholic School Council Fundraising Draw. A special thank-you to Mrs. Fortino, Mrs. Peche, Mrs. Sienna, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Helsby and the staff for collecting the tickets, counting the money and helping things run smoothly. Congratulations to all prize winners and to all who supported the raffle.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2017. NO SCHOOL

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registrations take place February 1 – February 12, 2017

Junior Kindergarten: Child must be 4 years of age by Dec 31, 2017.

Senior Kindergarten: Child must be 5 years of age by Dec. 31, 2017



It is not necessary to re-Register students who are presently attending JK Classes in our school.

Birth & Baptismal Certificates: For verification, we will require your child's Birth & Baptismal Certificate, which the school will copy and return to you immediately.

Tax Form: If you already have a child attending St. Augustine School, a new tax form is not necessary unless you have recently moved.

Separate School Lease: Necessary to accompany the tax forms if one parent is Non-Catholic. Both parents must sign this them.

Immunization Record: Re: Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1982: This act requires that records be maintained and immunization status of each school student under the age of 18 years.

Please call the school office (905 523-2338) to book an appointment.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Students must wear only uniform pieces of clothing to school on regular uniform days. Please ensure that your child is wearing only a white or blue t-shirt under any polo shirt or sweater. Also, students are to wear the navy uniform crested fleece, vest or sweater as indoor warm wear. The school crest should always be visible either on the warm wear pieces or, on a turtle neck. Unfortunately, some students continue to wear tights and brand name "hoodies" and jackets in class and around the school. In addition, students require indoor shoes for the winter months as they will need to remove boots before entering the classroom. Please ensure that your child leaves home in full uniform in the morning. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Information regarding First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation will be coming from the church. Information will also be posted on the school web page.

NEW YEAR JANUARY SCHOOL MASS

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m. at St. Augustine Church.

All parents and guardians are welcome to join us.

WEATHER

Please Ensure...

- That your child is dressed properly for outdoor play at recess. All students should come to school with a hat, gloves, winter boots, and a warm coat or jacket.
- That all personal items are labelled for easy identification.
- It is recommended that a pair of running shoes is left at school. For health and safety reasons, students will not be allowed to wear their boots or wet shoes in the classroom.
- Please do not send your child to school if he/she is not well enough to go outdoors for recess. Germs spread quickly and we want to keep everyone healthy.
- Snowballs may have particles of ice, grit or stones can be imbedded in the snow without the person's knowledge and could result in head or eye injuries. SNOW THROWING IS NOT PERMITTED. All students have been given verbal warnings about the dangers of throwing snow or snowballs.

Please listen to your local radio and T.V. station during the winter months for warnings about wind chill conditions and school closures. If our school is closed it will be announced on the radio by 7 am. If the school is open, as a parent it is your decision as to whether your child should brave the weather conditions. Unless schools have been officially closed early in the morning or the night before, there will be school staff on site. Please call the school if your child will stay home.

SCIENCE FAIR



St. Augustine is holding its annual Science Fair on Friday, February 17, 2017. All intermediate students and junior volunteer participants are encouraged to work hard on their projects both at home and school.

GRADE 8

St. Mary's will be here to help our students with their option sheets and register on Thursday, January 12th at 1:00 p.m. The St. Mary Feeder School Visit is scheduled for January 24th.



CASH ON LINE

If you have not registered, please go to the *School Cash Online* section of the school website page and select the "Get Started Today" option. Our school has 70% of our families registered. Thank you!

TRIPS

Please visit our school calendar on our website to view all trips as they are booked.

SPORTS

Many sports teams are underway - Junior & Senior boy's  basketball and Junior & Senior Girl's  Volleyball. We truly appreciate staff for generously volunteering their personal time at lunch hour or after school to be able to provide these extra curricular activities. Students and parents are reminded about a respectful Code of Conduct at all times. CYO Crusader sports schedules are available on the CYO website <http://cyo.on.ca/>

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

Tip # 1– Stop for a moment and ask yourself, “What do I want my child’s and my relationship to be?” If you want to be close to your children, there are ways to create a strong bond. Are you spending time each day talking, do you do fun things together, do you pray together? If you do these three things with your child, a solid bond will develop between you, no matter the age of your child.

Tip # 2 – Learn to Listen

Good communication is the essential ingredient in all healthy relationships. If we want to know our children and make them feel important, we need to listen to them attentively. During conversation be sure to look at your child and make eye contact, be aware of the power of your body language and listen with respect to their ideas and opinions. In conversation make the rule ‘dialogue, not lecture’ your motto!

(From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

Tip #3 – As Catholics we are called to an understanding of marriage that goes beyond the secular definition and is understood as Sacrament. Therefore, married couples are called to be a sign of God’s unconditional love for each of us, by the way they embody unconditional love for each other. Even when stress and conflict make their way into our lives, we are called to make sacred the ordinary. Stop and ask if your words and actions are reflecting Christ. If the answer is no, then change your response until you can honestly answer “yes”!.

(From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton Teresa Hartnett Director, Family Ministry Office
700 King Street West Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1C7 Tel 905-528-7988 ext. 2250
Fax 905-528-1088 thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com www.hamiltondiocese.com



NUTRITION PROGRAM

Thank you to our team of Educational Assistants and Teachers who help to make our Tastebuds nutrition program a success. As we look for ways to continually improve the program to fit our community we are looking for your input. Please continue to follow the program on the website; updates on nutritious choices and program information are available by clicking on Nutrition Program found in the School dropdown menu.

LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS

We are looking to hire paid lunch supervisors to work one hour per day 11:20 am to 12:10pm Monday to Friday. Applicants will need to have a Police Criminal Reference Vulnerable Screening dated within the year, a TB Test Result – dated within the year as well as a SIN number. Applicants please contact the Main Office.

Don't Hibernate ... Participate! **Winter Wear Yellow Day Wednesday, February 1st**

Calling all students, parents, and staff! Wear yellow and walk or wheel to and from school.

Let's show the world that Hamilton cares about the environment and our health!

Winter Walk Day 2017 – General Announcement

February 1st 2017 is #WinterWalkDay across Canada. It's the perfect opportunity for parents and kids to get outside together and stretch those legs! Walk to school or at school for daily physical activity, a healthier environment, safer streets, making friends and ... having fun! Walking is the simplest form of exercise and helps kids get those 60 minutes of daily physical activity they need. It's also a great cure for those winter blues and helps students concentrate better in class.

For tips on how to dress for winter walking and ideas for celebration events, visit [Active and Safe Routes to School](#) where you'll find a Winter Walk Day kit available for download, including posters, sample announcements and sticker templates!

Don't forget to share your experiences with the hashtag
#WinterWalkDay and #WalktoSchool



Wednesday February 1st is Winter Walk Day!

Keep active this winter and join schools across Canada to celebrate Winter Walk Day. Dressing warmly for a brisk winter walk can be exhilarating and fun – give it a try on February 1, here are some ideas:

- If you can walk safely to school, wrap up warm, leave the car at home and travel to school on foot with your friends.
- If you live too far to walk the whole way, try getting dropped off at a friend's house or a few blocks away from the school so you can walk the last leg
- If you take the school bus, have a winter walk in the school yard at break time so you can get active too!

Winter Walking Tips:

- Keep hands and head covered to prevent heat loss.
- On really cold days wear a scarf over your face and mouth.
 - Wear warm, waterproof boots.
 - Wear a warm coat that deflects the wind.
 - Woolen clothing helps to retain the heat.
- Wear clothing or carry knapsacks with reflective material – it's important to be seen.
- If possible, change wet clothes at school – tuck an extra pair of socks and mitts into knapsacks.
[Click here](#) for more information on Active & Safe Routes to School.

We currently
have openings for
**kindergarten &
school-age**
boys and girls.

Join us!



**It's the more the merrier when we're
all having fun learning at St. Augustine!**

For more information about our **Before and After School Program**,
be sure to enquire here, call 905 627-5335, email ccd@todaysfamily.ca
or visit us online at todaysfamily.ca

Today's Family 
Early Learning and Child Care

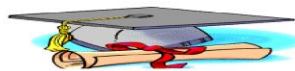
PRECIOUS MOMENTS BOUTIQUE



CLOTHING DRIVE



The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board is once again collecting new and gently experienced First Holy Communion and Prom Dresses/Suits appropriate for first Holy Communion and Grade Eight Graduation. These events are marked with much excitement but also can pose a significant financial burden for many families in our community. Please bring donations to your home school the week of **February 6, 2017** and thank you for your continued support. Attached please find dates of Open Houses for 2017.



For information Contact: Kelly Duffy-Kariam,
School Social Worker
905-525-2930 Ext. 2831

