



HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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DECEMBER 2014

"Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us. Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives."

REFLECTION ON ADVENT

During the Season of Advent, we pray that this holy time will help us to come closer to God and recognize His existence and purpose in our lives. It is a time of joyful preparation to receive the gifts of faith, hope, love and peace. It is true that at this time of year most of us happily prepare to give and to receive gifts. Furthermore, we should prepare ourselves to receive God's most abiding gift, that of the birth of Jesus. During Advent and Christmas we need to relearn how to accept each other with full hearts. We strive to welcome the outsider, heal family divisions and spend quality time with family and friends.

ADVENT – PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Our Family Advent evening was a wonderful event with over 300 people attending. Sincere gratitude to Mrs. Glavic for leading this and to Mrs. Harold, Miss Novak and Miss Woloszyn for their assistance in helping to organize this to be a success.



School Advent Celebrations will be held on the following days in the school gym.

Monday, December 1, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

Monday, December 8, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

Monday, December 15, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

Friday, December 19, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

Our monthly school Mass will be held on December 5, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the parish.

All parents and guardians are welcome to join us.



JOY DAY

On Monday, December 1, 2014, our school will be celebrating Joy Day. Students will be decorating their classroom and making special crafts. Thank you to the Catholic School Council who sponsored each class \$50 for the purchase of materials. Students are encouraged to wear red and green tops with uniform bottoms. We sincerely welcome our dear *Mrs. Amos*, retired Director of Education for our board, who will be visiting our school that afternoon. She has been a role model and leader of Catholic Education for 43 years. We wish her a blessed retirement.

ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 24th: 5 pm and 7 pm and Midnight Mass

December 25th: 9 am and 10:30 am

December 31st: 5 pm

January 1st: 9 am and 10:30 am

VIRTUE OF CONSCIENCE



For the month of November the following students are recognized for their demonstration of Conscience:

Mrs. Woloszyn – Anthony L.
Mrs. MacCabe-Freeman – William T.
Mr. Havers – Sadie G.
Mr. Hewitson – Mylana C.
Mrs. MacEachern – Avery H.
Mrs. Bury – Jackson F.
Ms. Cornale – Josh M.
Mrs. Harold – Nick S.
Miss Filice – Lachlan P.
Mrs. Grant – Juan C.
Mrs. Glavic – Hannah M.
Mr. Burgio – Connor F.
Miss Novak – Ella T.

LEARNING COMMONS



St. Augustine, we did it!!!! Not only did we reach our goal of \$3000 but we ended up surpassing it by \$1100. That's right, St. Augustine, the Scholastic Book Fair had sales of almost \$4200!!

That means that we are able to take \$2300 worth of free product from the Fair. Ms. Byrne was able to acquire over a hundred books for the Learning Commons! The rest of the commission will be used to purchase curriculum resources for the teachers in the school as well as library books to support our school improvement goal in numeracy. Thanks to students, parents, friends and family who contributed to the Book Fair. A special thank you to Mrs. Sienna who helped set up and took down the Book Fair and Mrs. Medeiros, Mrs. Castelli and Mr. Joe for their help throughout the week. The Grade eight girls from Mr. Burgio's class made our preview day run smoothly and Laura S. did a sensational job not only selling books but also keeping the Fair neat and tidy. Congratulations to Justine and Miss Novak for winning the Family Event Contest. Both were able to take \$25 worth of merchandise from the Fair. Great job, St. Augustine!!



SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Pay for Student Items Online

Starting December 1, 2014 parents now have the convenience of paying for school trips, spirit wear and other items online. After registering for School Cash Online, you will receive emails notifying you of school trips, events, activities, and other items available for purchase online. More information to follow!

ECO NEWS

Stay tuned for Christmas ECO awareness ideas that will be posted to our school website soon.

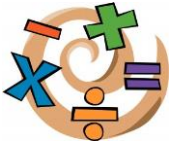
SPORTS NEWS

Senior Boys and Junior Boys Basketball tryouts will occur during the month of December. The season will start in January. Thank you to Mrs. Carter, parent volunteer coach and Mrs. Medeiros staff representative for the seniors boys team. Thank you to Miss Filice and Miss DeFazio for coaching the junior team.

Senior Girls Basketball...The team had a very successful season this year making it to the Semi-Final round of the play-offs. We are very proud of their excellent effort and sportsmanship! Many thanks to Miss Filice and Catharine Bowman, our student volunteer for your many hours of dedication throughout the season.

Senior Girls Football...The team had a fantastic season this year. The girls worked hard each game through every type of weather and made it to the Semi-Final round of the play-offs! Well done girls! Gratitude goes to Miss Filice for her commitment to the team throughout the season.

MATH PARENT SURVEY



Parents or Guardians are invited to complete an online survey about their children's math learning needs and how the school and board can support those needs. Please go to the following link

<http://goo.gl/forms/eduTG1yHwj>

Parents are asked to complete the survey by December 15, 2014.



SPELLING BEE CONTEST

On Saturday, November 29, 2014 at Mohawk College, from 9am – 12 pm, two of our Grade 4 students Evan C. & Ava B from Mrs. Cornale's class and one Grade 8 student, James M. from Mr. Burgio's class will be participating in the Spelling Bee Competition @ Mohawk College. Best of luck!!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

In the month of December, the Student Council will be busy selling and delivering Candy Cane-O-Grams. Sales will take place from Thursday, December 3rd through to Tuesday, December 12th. They will be delivered to each class on Thursday, December 18, 2014. Thank you to a special parent for the donation. And thanks to staff and students for their continued support.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Friday, December 19, 2014 is our last day with dismissal at the regular time. School will resume again on Monday, January 5, 2015.

