

FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

Superintendent: S. Pizzuti

Trustees: M. Nardini & P. DiFrancesco

Pastor: Rev Martin Vallely

Principal: C. Martino

Principal Assistant: A. D'Ascenzo

Secretary: D. Simpson

Assoc. Pastor: Rev Mike Downey

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February is here! We wait for the groundhog to show his shadow. We wait for the end of the cold weather. We wait for our report cards and tips' on how to set goals and strive for the best.

The Virtue of this month is love. Love is a human essential. We show our love to God daily, to our family and friends. We aim to follow the two greatest commandments in all we do. This means we endeavor to develop in ourselves the habit of thinking, speaking and acting with an attitude of care and positivity to all people we meet and in all circumstances. We search for ways to be helpful to God, to our families, to our friends in our school, in our social activities and extra -curricular events. We continue to be the Face of Christ to all we meet.



I said a Valentine prayer for you
and asked the Lord above
to fill your heart and bless your soul
With the precious gift of love.
I prayed for love from family
And from every cherished friend
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end.



SNOW/INCLEMENT WEATHER

A reminder that the SNOW STAYS ON THE GROUND OR STUDENTS WILL BE SUSPENDED. Students are permitted to build or make angels, or create sculptures if they have boots, mitts and snow pants. All boots are to be lined up neatly in the hallway and indoor shoes are a must for safety! It is cold and we do live in Canada, so please dress properly for the winter weather. Stay tuned to the board website, or the Board supported media for inclement weather days or bus cancellations.

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be sent home on **Tues. Feb. 10th**. All students from SK - Gr. 8 will receive a report on that day. If you wish to have an interview with your child's teacher before or after that time, please call the school and contact the teacher who will schedule an interview for you at a mutually agreed upon time.

For **Gr. 1-8**, the stapled, 4 page original is yours to keep for your records. On the single, double sided page, we ask that your child complete the bottom of page 3 and that you complete the bottom of page 4. Please **do not cut off** the bottom portion. Please return the whole single sheet in the envelope provided to the child's teacher for our records. **SK reports** have remained in the original 3 page format. Please sign and return page 3.

This is a very important time to reflect on your goals, strengths and weaknesses. Second Term has already begun and it is very important to strive to give your very best to maintain achievements or to improve in certain areas. Tasks that are sent home are only part of the teacher's evaluation. Participation, communication, input in class activities etc are all very important for the end result. Encourage the completion of daily homework or review of work taught routines, the use of the agenda and daily reading. All students should read every night. Parents check the agenda to see if work is completed and sign off on the completed items.

ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT

As we approach another "chocolate season", we would like to remind you to continue to ensure that Valentine chocolates and candy that contain nuts or nut products are not brought to school. Thank you for your continued support. It is very crucial that all staff, students and parents follow the important and necessary protocols for allergies. No peanut butter or treats with nuts are allowed at school

VALENTINE'S DAY - FRI., FEB. 13TH



Valentine's Day will be a Red / White / Pink casual day. The grade 8 students will be selling **Kernal's buttersalt popcorn for \$2.00** at recesses from **Feb. 11th - 13th** or until we run out.

PITA LUNCH

If your child would like to order a pita, **please return the form by Feb. 13TH** or you may order and pay on line at **hwcdb.schoolcashionline.com**

WORLD'S FINEST FUND RAISER



This year our Catholic School Council used the money from the Move-A-thon to purchase one SMART board for the grade 6 classroom, books for book room and supported things such as the Sacraments, Scholastic Book Fair, nutrition etc. We would still like to purchase more books, support school trips, Play Day and possibly another SMART Board for the primary division. We will be selling chocolates, peanut and nut free from **February 27th until March 25th**. Your support is very much appreciated. Each student that sells a case of the chocolates will receive a 1 LB solid Easter Bunny. We will have an early bird draw. Their will be a prize for top seller and a prize for top family selling. We will also have draws for all students who sell.

SCIENCE FAIR

All classes from grade 4 to 8 participated in a school based science fair. Students were given the opportunity to work with their teachers and present the projects to their peers. Parents are welcome to come in and see the backboards and projects on display in the gym on **Tuesday February 10th from 2:00 until 6:00 pm.**

Congratulations to the following students for joining and completing a project: Lucy D, grade 5, Daniel Y, grade 6 Alex F. grade 6, Andrew S, grade 6, Marcus C. and Alex Z., grade 7, Aliya S., grade 8 and Joshua D., grade 8

PICK UP & DROP OFF OF STUDENTS

All parents and guardians are requested to follow the safety guidelines for drop off and pick up of students. **The kiss and drop off area** at the east side of the school is **not intended for parking at any time.** This area **MUST** remain clear for school buses and emergency vehicles and to allow for the smooth flow of traffic for parents/guardians to leave the designated parking areas. The two designated handicapped parking spots must remain available to those with official signage in their vehicles. All too frequently other parents are parking in these spots or blocking the access to these spots. Please be considerate to others.

Be aware that the City of Hamilton, not just the HWCDSB, has a **No Idling Policy**. Vehicles should not be idling while on school property. The reality is, there are not enough designated parking spots for all the parents to pick up and drop off their children.

Thank you to the parents/guardians that respect the guidelines that have been established. Your support is greatly appreciated. It is very disappointing that there are other parents/guardians that continue to need to be supervised to ensure the safety of all.

STUDENT ENTRY

Students are requested to use their designated door from the playground when entering the school in the morning regardless of the weather. This is to re-enforce the fact that the front entrance of the school is not a drop off area. This area must stay free of cars at all times. The front door is only for students who have arrived late at school and need to sign in at the office. Students entering the front door prior to the entry bell will be re-directed to the playground door. Please remember that there is NO supervision in the yard **until 8:20 am.**

FAMILY DAY

Monday, February 16th is Family Day. There will be no school.



STONEY CREEK FOODBANK



We will be collecting non-perishable goods for the Stoney Creek Food Bank for Easter. In order to ensure that the recipients receive the food prior to Easter, we will collect the food during the month of February, with delivery to the food bank **prior to the March Break.** Most needed items include: canned ham, large containers of juice (especially apple & orange), large cans of soup & stew, canned potatoes & large cans of beans. Thank you for your anticipated support.

ECO TEAM: WASTE WIZARDS NEWS!!

The Waste Wizards have some exciting news to share. We are starting up Boomerang Lunch every Wednesday for the remainder of the school year. That means that **every Wednesday** please provide your child with re-useable items in their lunch bag that can be brought back home. Providing your child with a waste less lunch helps reduce the amount of garbage at St. Clare and creating a better environment for our students.

NATIONAL SWEATER DAY: FEBRUARY 5TH



On **Thursday February 5th**, it is National Sweater Day. National Sweater Day is a fun way to learn about the importance of saving energy, and inspire students to use less heat all winter. If all classrooms lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our environment.

Students will be allowed to come dressed in a warm non- uniform sweater that day. If students come dressed in civies, a donation of \$2.00 will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Thank you to all those families who have sent in their used ink cartridges and cell phones. Please let your family, friends and neighbours know that we will **no longer** be accepting used ink cartridges. Thank you.

ECO TEAM - BATTERIES

St. Clare School is participating in the "Orange Drop" battery recycling program to help keep hazardous waste out of our landfills by responsibly recycling used rechargeable and single use batteries. Used batteries can be brought to the school and dropped off into one of our battery recycling pails. The Waste Wizards thank you for your continued support in making our world a greener, better place for us to grow up in.



TIP OF THE MONTH FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCHES

Think outside the sandwich! Get creative when choosing items for your child's lunch. Sometimes changing something as simple as the type of grain, For example, using pita, flatbread, tortilla, or cereal instead of bread can make lunch more interesting for your little eater. You may even want to write up a simple chart to brainstorm different options.

For more ideas check out: www.eatrightontario.ca

RUN 4 CHANGE

On May 13th, your child will join his/her peers in the 2015 Run4Change at Bayfront Park, in Hamilton, as they run to end the cycle of child obesity in Canada. The event is an opportunity for schools to raise awareness and teach philanthropy to their students through this "kids helping kids approach."

- What:** 8th Annual National Run4Change
- When:** May 13, 2015
- Where:** Bay Front Park in Hamilton
- How:** Using the innovative **Run4Change 20/20 Challenge training program** that trains and prepares students to **run 5km** to help eradicate child poverty in Canada
- Why:** Engage in a **social justice initiative** that also **improves your own fitness** by training and running alongside friends and classmates.

The Start2Finish [Run4Change](http://run4change.net) is a national initiative that addresses the two most critical issues facing Canadian children and youth today - obesity/physical inactivity and child poverty. Run4Change has been endorsed by running retailers and businesses across the country, as well as by a number of school boards.

For more information please visit the website. <http://run4change.net>

