

## MARCH 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

January, February and now it is March! We have had some very cold days and have aimed to make the best out of our indoor recess days!! Hopefully the sun and the warmth of spring will be upon us soon.

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the very important season of Lent. Lent is a time for "Spring Cleaning", cleaning our hearts, our minds, and our spiritual journey. We aim to become closer to God and to ask for His forgiveness for our human weaknesses. During these days of Lent, we aim to be "The Face of Jesus" to all we meet.

O Jesus, you place on my forehead  
the sign of your saving Cross:  
"Turn from sin and be faithful  
to the gospel."  
How can I turn from sin  
unless I turn to you?  
You speak, you raise your hand,  
you touch my mind and call my name,  
"Turn to the Lord your God again."  
These days of your favor  
leave a blessing as you pass  
on me and all your people.  
Turn to us, Lord God,  
and we shall turn to you. Amen

### DOFASCO SKATING TRIP



On **Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>**, students will be participating in a Skating/Gym trip to Dofasco/Arcellor Mittal Recreation Center. We will be leaving at 11:50 am and returning at 2:20 pm. The students will have the opportunity to skate or play activities in the gym. All skaters must wear a helmet and have skates. All students in the gym must wear running shoes. All parents with Police Checks are welcome to join us and to skate.

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



Our grade two students received this important Sacrament on Thursday Feb. 26th. Congratulations Grade Two students! This is the first of two Sacraments that this group of students will receive. The students are working to understand and prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion which takes place on **Saturday, April 11th at 1:30 pm @ St. Francis Xavier Parish**. Thank you to Mrs. Batt, Mr. Machado, Miss. Laskowski and Miss Scozzari, for all the preparation work with our students. A big thank you to Father Martin and Father Mike for their continued spiritual devotion and dedication!

## CATHOLIC COUNCIL SCHOOL NEWS

All parents are invited and welcome to attend our meetings. Our next meeting will take place on **Monday April 13th at 6:00 pm** in the library. We will not have a March meeting. Check the school website and calendar for dates and times. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about activities that are going on in our school.



## TIP OF THE MONTH FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCHES

Children experience food using taste, touch and sight. Keep them interested with lunches that include a variety of shapes, colours and textures.

- Switch up the veggies and fruit. Give your kids something different to experience with each bite. Group foods according to: Type (citrus, tropical.); color (green, red, orange, yellow, purple); shape (balls, strips, chunks, whole); or texture (soft, juicy, crunchy)
- Kids love to dip. Use cottage cheese, hummus, yogurt, or guacamole as healthy dips.

For more ideas check out: [www.eatrightontario.ca](http://www.eatrightontario.ca)

## 2015/2016 BUDGET PRIORITIES SURVEY

The board has posted the 2015/16 Budget Priorities Survey on our website. You are invited to complete the survey, as your input is valued. The last day for submitting the survey is **March 13th**. All responses remain confidential.

## WORLD'S FINEST CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER



Thank you to all families supporting our "World's Finest Chocolate" fundraiser. The chocolates are going well.

There will be an early bird draw for all students who sell and return their money for a complete case by the morning of **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**. Final money is due on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> and other prizes will be raffled off then. Please

remember that you can also pay the full \$ 90.00 for your chocolates online at [hwcdsb.schoolcashonline.com](http://hwcdsb.schoolcashonline.com). We are aiming to equip all our classrooms with a SMARTBOARD and increase technology in our school.

## STUDENT ARRIVAL

Parents are reminded to drop their children off in the morning early enough that they can enter the school with their classes from the playground doors. The main door is not intended for student entry unless the student is arriving late and must sign in at the office. All students are expected to arrive before 8:35. The bell rings at 8:35, students line up and enter with their classmates.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY CONCERNS

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who make a sincere effort to help us keep our students safe. Please continue to:

1. Park only in designated parking areas.
2. Not leave your vehicle in the "kiss & ride" lane. This is a 30 second Drop off Zone in the morning only.
3. Not leave your car idling.
4. Drive carefully and slowly on the school site and in the neighbourhood.
5. **Do not park blocking the Handicap Parking Spots. You can be ticketed for this.**

Remember that the front entrance lane in front of the school is a Fire Access Route. Cars that stop/park there are subject to a \$80.00 fine enforced by the City By-Law Officers. By-law Officers will continue to monitor the parking lot and driveway. Please be patient and courteous when dropping off or picking up your children.

**The safety of our students is everyone's responsibility. DO NOT BLOCK OUR NEIGHBOURS DRIVE WAYS!! SOME OF THE RESIDENTS ON GLENASHTON ARE COMING HOME FROM WORK AND MUST ENTER THEIR DRIVE WAY. BE COURTEOUS!**

### **WASTE WIZARDS NEWS**



Thank you for all families sending in batteries. Please continue to send the batteries in to the school. Also please note that we no longer accept used toner.

### **LITTERLESS LUNCH**

We will be having "BOOMERANG" LUNCHES, every Wednesday. Please continue to bring litterless lunches. Thank you for keeping it green. - your Waste Wizards.

### **LENT**



During Lent, the Gr. 3 students in Mrs. Staresina's room will be participating in Share Lent. The students will work at every opportunity to share some of their money (be it a little or be it a lot!) with those who are less fortunate. After Easter, they will present Father Martin with a cheque towards the parish Share Lent goal for this year.

Also during Lent the Gr. 3 students will work on "good deeds". Every time that a good deed is done, the students will put a popcorn kernel in their "Good Deeds" jar. After Easter, they will enjoy their good deeds by "popping" them.

### **GRADE 3 STUDENTS—MASS**

Once again this year, the students in Mrs. Staresina's Grade 3 class are invited to attend **7:30 am** mass at St. Francis Xavier Parish on Wednesday mornings (in groups of 3) which started on Wed., Feb 20<sup>th</sup>. This is a powerful preparation during Lent and testimony to following Christ. After mass, the students enjoy some bonding by sharing breakfast together in the classroom before school begins.

### **REGISTER NOW..... SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

Please remember to register for Easy-To-Use Online online payment of school items and trips at [hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.com](http://hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.com) . After registering for School Cash Online, you will receive emails notifying you of school trips, events, activities and other items available for purchase online.

### **JK REGISTRATION**

Children starting Junior Kindergarten in September should be registered with their completed package returned to the office as **soon as possible**. If you know of any child who is planning to come to Junior Kindergarten, please ask them to call the school.

### **NUT & PEANUT SENSITIVE REMINDER**

This is a reminder that St. Clare of Assisi school is a peanut and nut sensitive environment to ensure the safety of our students. We are reminding you to please refrain from sending these products to school with your child.

## ARE YOU MOVING?



We ask any family who will be moving out of the area for the 2015-2016 school year to please call the school office. We will be projecting student enrolment for September 2015 and having this information assists us in being a little more accurate with our projection. Your assistance with this information is greatly appreciated as school organization changes with enrolment at each grade level.

## LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items have been collected and are available for your review through the main office. We encourage students to pick up any items that belong to them and take them home. Unclaimed items will be packed up and donated to a local charity on **Thursday, March 12th**. Please feel free to check the lost and found before that time!

## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

For the safety of our children, we ask that you follow the school protocol for visitors to the school. **ALL VISITORS must report to the office first**. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

## SPORTS NEWS

This year, we have had excellent team commitment by our coaches and students. We won three Championships, Flag Football, Junior and Senior, and Senior Girls Basketball. Our Junior Boys Basketball lost in the semi-final game during a weekend tournament at Cathedral High School. Our Senior and Junior Girls Volleyball Team lost during the Championship Game at a weekend tournament at Cardinal Newman. Our Junior Volleyball Season is just beginning. We have also had a wonderful season of Intramural Soccer lead by Mr. Pizzuti and the Intermediate Division. A special thank you to all parents and staff who coach our students and give our students the opportunity to play CYO sports. A shout out to all the parents who come to the games and support their son and daughter. Congratulations to our students for their great sportsmanship attitude and making it a pleasure to be at the games.

## C.C.A.S. ADOPTION AND FOSTER PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

The Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton is presenting an **Adoption Information Night** on **Wednesday, March 25th** at **7:00 p.m.** at the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, 735 King Street East, Hamilton.

## MARCH BREAK

We wish all our families a very wonderful and safe March Break. Enjoy the time with family and friends. School resumes on **Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

