

JUNE 2016 NEWSLETTER

Superintendent: I. Fortino

Trustees: M. Nardini & P. DiFrancesco

Pastor: Mariusz Durbajlo

Principal: C. Martino

Principal Assistant: A. Gris

Secretary: D. Simpson

Assoc. Pastor: Rev Mike Downey

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



June is such a busy month and has come so very quickly! We have had a very busy school year and it has really flown by. We have had many great experiences! We thank God for the many blessings that we have been given. First for the gift of Catholic Education, something we can never take for granted. We thank God for our students and families, our staff, our Catholic School Council and all we have done throughout this school year. We thank God for Father Mariusz and Father Mike and Wes. Their spiritual guidance and involvement is vital to the success of our school.

We say good bye to our Grade 8 students who leave to embark on their new journey at Cardinal Newman. We wish them success on their new journey and we will continue to pray for you.

The last day of school is **Thursday June 30th**.

Students still have expectations in regards to attitude, manners, work in class and at home and uniform.

Another newsletter will be coming home with important information for dismissal on the last day of school, classroom organization and information for September.

The quote from John's gospel reminds us, "**Happy are those who have not seen, yet still believe.**" John 20:29.

We will encourage our students to continue to put their faith into action by bringing the Gospel spirit into every aspect of their lives even in the summer months. This is how we become true witnesses to Christ, extend the kingdom of God and build a more humane world. Our Motto remains the same, "**To be the Face of Jesus and to see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet.**"

We thank God for the blessing of Father Mike. Father Mike is retiring from our Parish, St. Francis Xavier. He is such a kind, gentle and compassionate Pastor. He is very giving and a friend to all. Father Mike has touched our lives in a very special way and will always be in our prayers and hearts. We wish Father Mike the very best and all God's blessings as he retires and moves to his new home, Holy Rosary Parish in Burlington. Father Mike will be working with Father Martin once again. A very powerful and dynamic duo!

GOD, Creator of all, thank You for summer! Thank You for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation. Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence, and light my path with Your Word and Counsel. As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You. Amen.

As we send our students off for a summer of fun and relaxation, and our graduates off into a whole new world of High School, we wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer filled with God's blessings.

The June Calendar is packed with many things happening. Keep it handy and check daily. All trips are earned, **excellent student behavior is a must**, check trip forms for what is needed on the trip!

DRESS LOUD CASUAL DAY

On May 5th, we held our "Dress Loud" casual day. A donation of \$ 750 was collected to send to VOICE to help deaf and hard of hearing children. Thank you to everyone who supported this cause. It was a very colourful day and so nice to see the enthusiasm of our students.

MAY CROWNING

Mary was adorned with many beautiful flowers at our annual Mass, Thank you to all the families that sent in flowers or plants. Our annual Mass on the Grass was a beautiful celebration in honour of Mary, and the students who have received the graces of the Sacraments this school year. It is an honour to crown Mary and lay lillies at her feet, special thanks for being such wonderful role models: Michael R., Andrew S., Erika M and Carina M.. Special thanks to Mrs. Pagliari, Mrs. Colamartini, Mr. Machado, Mrs. Gris, Mr. Pizzuti, Mrs. Piro- Varasso, Mrs. Batt, Mrs. Staresina, Mme. Noce and Mrs. Malcolmson and all staff who helped set up, take down and prepare.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We are now beginning preparations for the RCIA 2016 - 2017. If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Catholic, completing their initiation into the Catholic Church or finding out more about the Catholic faith, then the RCIA is for you. We will begin meeting in September, one night a week for about two hours. For further information or to register please call the parish office at: 905-662-8593 or E-mail: saintfx@cogeco.net

PEANUT ALLERGY ALERT REMINDER

As always, thank you, to all families for their continued diligence with respect to the avoidance of peanut and nut products at school. Parents are reminded that treats coming to school **must be nut safe and that we continue to encourage label reading and to review** all ingredients present in the product. We must protect the safety of our anaphylactic children. To enable us to continue to enforce this very important protocol, we remind the parents of all of our anaphylactic children to ensure the allergy information is up-dated. In June, the anaphylactic protocol packages will be sent home in preparation for September.

STUDENTS ARE REMINDED NOT TO SHARE THEIR LUNCH OR SNACKS.

ASTHMA PROTOCOL

With the onset of humid weather and the likelihood of physical education and DPA activities being held outside, please ensure your child's asthma medications are on hand and are up-to-date, particularly if your child is affected by exercise-induced asthma. Please communicate your specific instructions through the Student Asthma Management Plan. It is important that school staff be aware of all students who have asthma. All medical concerns must be brought to the attention of the Main Office as soon as possible. Safety is first.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thank you to our Catholic School Council for contributing \$10.00 per student towards the end of the year trips. We are looking forward to the wonderful experiences and memories we will create. Thank you to all the CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL, for their hard work, their time and dedication to ensuring the best for your son or daughter over the school year. A special thank you to Mrs. Germana- Miller for chairing our CSC. Mrs. Miller has put in much time and effort and commitment in the value of home, parish and school. With the support of Council we were able to purchase two Smart Technology Centers for classrooms, gym equipment, provide fun opportunities and Agenda's for September. We are so grateful for your support. Thank you to Mrs. Sulug and the Nutrition team for providing all students with a different taste sensation! Thank you to Mrs. Habjan, Olivia H, Mrs. Iovio and Mrs. Paradisi for always being ready with the camera! We are very blessed to have so many parent volunteers that help us in many areas of the day to day running of school. Your time and energy is so very much appreciated. Think about joining Council in September and being a part of this incredible team. All parents are welcome to attend the meetings.

MEDICATION PICK UP

A reminder to all parents that medication, which is kept in the office, including epi-pens, should be picked up by a parent in the morning of the last day of school, **Thursday, June 30th**.

VOLUNTEER TEA



Volunteers, Thank You! We are very fortunate at St. Clare of Assisi to have a marvelous group of volunteers who do so much for our students and staff. We could not do what we do without you!

POLICE CHECKS

An **Offence Declaration** form will be sent home shortly to parents/volunteers who have a **current Police Check** on file. If you **do not** return this form to the school by **June 20th** and you still wish to volunteer, you will need to apply for a new Police Check at the Police Department on King William St. Please keep in mind new Police Checks can take up to 3 or 4 weeks to receive. If you need to apply for a Police Check for the **first time**, you may pick up a form and a letter from the office to receive a discount. Any parents who wish to go on school trips must have a Police Check on file.

P.A. DAY

Friday, June 10th and Friday, June 24th are P.A. Days. There will be no school for students on these days.

SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS



Many students are missing a textbook or two. Please check for the books at home. Without these books, students may be forced to proceed by sharing texts. A significant amount of school budget has gone in to updating textbooks and completing class sets. Let's work together to take care of what we as a school community own.

Mr. Mota is trying to complete his inventory of library books and has found that some books are outstanding. Please ensure that your child has returned all library books by **Monday, June 13th**. Working together we can ensure that we not only save parents and the school additional costs for replacement books, but also help our students to be more responsible as well.

OPERATION CLEAN UP!

Send in a large bag so all student work can be sent home. All desks must be cleaned out. We have many items in the lost and found. If they are not claimed they will be donated.

REPORT CARDS



It's hard to believe, but the school year is quickly coming to a close. The final term report cards will be going home on **Monday, June 27th**. Students are encouraged to continue to work hard and to set goals to achieve academic success. Students learn best when school and families work as a team. Please contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns about your child's progress. The parent and student comment page must be returned to school. **A reminder to parents to please sign and return Page 3 and 4 before June 26th**. Remember, the purpose of these pages is for you to respond to the recorded marks obtained by your child and to make positive suggestions for the improvement of your child next year. These sheets must be returned to be placed in your child's records.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Thank you to those parents who have submitted their requests to be considered when placing your children in classes for September. Changes can happen at any point **prior to October 31, 2016**. When building a class, many factors are considered in the decisions to develop heterogeneous groupings such as: balance of abilities, gender, learning style, and social blending. Combined classes continue to be a reality. Teachers are people and all people have different styles and strengths. Please be open and if any concerns arise, see the teacher first.

Agenda's will be sent home the first week in September. School Uniforms may be purchased through McCarthy on Nebo Road. Gym shorts are **not** part of the school uniform. Crests are sold in the main office for \$3.00 each.

Open house for September will be during the third week of September. More information will be sent home in September.

PARENT CONFERENCE 2016 - SAT., NOV. 5 TH - INVITING ALL PARENTS!

Mark your calendar now! The 24TH Annual Parent Conference is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, November 5, 2016, 7:45 am - 2:30 pm** at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School, 1824 Rymal Road East, Hamilton. Watch for more information and registration packages will be in all schools in September, or call 905-525-2930, ext. 2205.

CONGRATULATIONS

Alessia P and Larrisa R. won the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge at the Provincial level. We are very proud of their efforts and for supporting all of the wonderful activities the Knights of Columbus offer to our students.

Tommy S. and Dalton V. for attending the Kinball Tournament in Gatineau, Quebec with the students from St. Patrick School and Cathedral High School. Cathedral High School won the tournament.

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE OPPORTUNITY

Current educational research indicates that learning or maintaining a second or third language has a positive effect on all aspects of a child's educational development. The summer International Languages Program is designed for elementary school age children who will be attending Full Day Kindergarten to Grade 8 in the 2016-2017 school year. This program provides the opportunity for children to speak, listen, write and read an international language and at the same time learn about the culture and heritage associated with the language. During the month of July, St. Charles Adult and Continuing Education offers free language classes in many of the elementary schools of the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board. These take place from Monday to Friday for 2 ½ hours per day beginning at 9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. **No prior knowledge** of the language is necessary. This is a continuous-entry program; students can register any time during the month of July.

To see which schools are offering this program, the time and the languages being taught, please refer to the International Languages Program flyer at www.st.charles.ca

LEARNING ADVANTAGE CAMPAIGN

There is still time to get your "Learning Advantage" book. This 192 page, fully coloured, activity book is designed to maintain children's academic learning over the summer months. ***There is one activity book per grade level from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7.*** Each grade level book contains major units aligned with the Ontario curriculum expectations and 3 summer fun units.

The books have parent information pages, evaluation forms; follow up activities and a family focus. In addition to the summer the books can be used all year long from September to the following June. A full line up of French Immersion books is also available.

The cost of each book is \$19.05 plus GST (\$20.00 total). This is a savings of \$1-\$4 from the retail and online prices. You can visit www.learningadvantage.ca to download a free unit of the book you would like to order for further review. **If you did not receive the order form we sent home in late May, or if you have misplaced it and require another one, the forms are available at the office.** Please direct questions to Mary-Jo Montalban mmontalban@cogeco.ca **Please note: The order form does not state the due date for orders - ORDERS ARE DUE JUNE 7th.**

All books ordered will be delivered to the school before the last week of school.

RELIABLE LIFE INSURANCE

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board does not provide any accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during any school activities. You may purchase coverage for your child at www.insuremykids.com or by calling toll free at 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

PARENTING TIP 91

All children, especially young children, thrive when parents set boundaries and expectations. Knowing what is and is not acceptable, understanding the limits of what is tolerable and sensing their parents are in charge provides children with a sense of confidence and higher self-esteem. When parents take on a leadership role their children are calmer and the family flourishes.

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

MARRIAGE TIP 71

Before a couple begins to parent, they first have a relationship with each other. We know that the best gift parents can give their children is a strong and healthy relationship. Time together as a couple is an excellent way to strengthen your bond - it ensures that love continues to flourish, that you don't lose your connection to each other as husband and wife and shows your children that you love spending time together. Make spending time as a couple a priority and you will soon see the value it has in your lives.

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