

JUNE 2017 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 Luc Samba

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



June is such a busy month and has come so very quickly! We have had a very busy school year. Time has gone by so very quickly, sometimes it is difficult to slow down and appreciate all we have been so richly blessed with. 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 Luc and Wes. Sadly, Father Luc will be leaving St. Francis Xavier Parish and moving to Annunciation of Our Lord. We wish Father Luc the very best. We will miss his lively spirit and kind, gentle heart. Father Luc is such a talented musician and we will miss the opportunity to hear him play the piano and sing. 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 in high school. We wish them success in their new experiences and we will continue to pray for them.

The last day of school is **Friday June 30th**. The school bus will arrive at noon for pick up of any bus students. Students may leave at our regular lunch dismissal if parents are here to pick up or with a note, otherwise dismissal will take place at noon.

Report Cards will be sent home on **Tuesday June 27th**. A gentle reminder, that expectations, attitude, school uniform and behaviour are part of being a student and must be in check throughout the remainder of the school year.

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 Micah, **"Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God"**. This ties in perfectly with our school Motto, **"To be the Face of Jesus and to see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet."** We hope that during the summer months we all aim to reflect on our school year and keep the quote from Micah close to our heart and thoughts.

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do wherever you go.

Walking with God means... walking with honesty and with courage. Walking with love and respect and concern for the feelings of others.

May you talk to God this summer on every day and in every situation.

Talking with God means... praying words of praise for the beauty of creation. Saying prayers of thanks for friends and good times.

Asking God's help in all your decisions. Expressing sorrow when you have failed. May you talk with God every day.

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 \$ 465.00 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.

DRESS DOWN DAYS

On Dress Down days, students are reminded to dress appropriately for school. No strapless, spaghetti straps or muscle tops are permitted. All sayings on T-shirts must be appropriate for school. Running shoes should be worn at all times. Flip-flops are very dangerous and do not protect the foot from injury.

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 We are truly blessed to have a such a generous community, the flowers and plants were so very beautiful and vibrant. 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: Simona M., Isacc M., Lucy D and Evan C. Special thanks to Mrs. Staresina Mr. Pizzuti, Mrs. Varasso-Piro and all staff who helped set up, take down and prepare. The staff worked extremely hard. We set up outside hoping for good weather, soon after, a big grey cloud filled the school yard with strong winds. We had to take it all down and set up in the gym. A very big thank you to everyone for all the work during the lunch hour and to take down. Thank you to Father Mariusz for celebrarting with us and always being so inspirational.

BOMB THREAT

We will be having our first Bomb Threat Evacuation Practice in June. I will announce over the PA, "There has been a BOMB THREAT, We must evacuate." Students and all staff will leave the building at this time. This is a Board mandate.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PENCIL CASE DRIVE

We are collecting new or gently used school pencil case items for St. Vincent de Paul Society. Things such as pencils, pens, markers, notebooks, pencil cases, crayons etc. are very much appreciated. No glue will be accepted.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We are now beginning preparations for the RCIA 2017 - 2018. 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. Our Catholic School Council team: Mrs. Miller - Chair, Mrs. DeBellis - Co Chair, Mrs. Iannuzzi - Treasurer, Mrs. Medic, Mrs. Sorgini, Mrs. Hrvatin, Mrs. Sulug, Mrs. Guigliamo, Mrs. Roarke and Mrs. Cipriani. Staff representatives: Mrs. Staresina, Mme Noce and Mrs. Gris, 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, Mrs. Fargo, Mrs. Gibilaro and Mrs. Iovio for providing all students with a different taste sensation! Thank you to Mrs. Habjan and Olivia H, 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, **Friday, 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! " *May your Spirit strengthen us; so that we will be: strong in faith, discerning in proclamation, courageous in witness, persistent in good deeds.* " *May God Bless all our Volunteers!*

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 **Friday, June 16th** 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 9th and **Friday, June 23th** 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 12th**. 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 **Tuesday, 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 28th**. 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, 2017**. 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.

Agendas 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 2017 - SAT., NOV. 4 TH - INVITING ALL PARENTS!

Mark your calendar now! The 25TH Annual Parent Conference is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, November 4, 2017**, Watch for more information and registration packages will be in all schools in September.

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

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Alessia P., for being nominated for the Jim Hansen Award. Alessia strives daily to build community and to show concern for all God's people. She is an active member on school teams and clubs, she is an altar server and involved in the Knights of Columbus activities. We are very proud of her accomplishments.

Congratulations to Daniela M. and Jordan H., for receiving the Kiwanis, Salt of the Earth Award. They will be honoured on June 7th. Jordan and Daniela have worked hard and set a good example for others. Well Done!

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 6th.**

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).

TELLING TALES 2017 FESTIVAL

This Annual, FREE, festival happens on **Sunday, September 27, 2017** at the beautiful and picturesque Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton, Ontario. Featuring over 25 of Canada's leading children's writers, illustrators, musicians and storytellers. Activity Centre, Book Swap & Shop, Historic Characters, Contests, Prizes & More! Be sure to mark your calendars. Visit tellingtales.org for more information.

PARENTING TIP 98

Children thrive on routine and schedules, as do most adults. As summer approaches and the days grow longer, it can be difficult to keep established timetables in check. Helping your children flourish in mind, body and spirit this summer is possible, but as parents you must take control. Keep track of the nutritional value of the food your children consume each day; work hard to be sure they get the proper amount of sleep since it will provide benefits both now and into the future; remember to celebrate God's beauty in nature, to say prayers at meals & before bed and to attend Mass as a family. Children's growth doesn't take a break during the summer months, so be vigilant and they will blossom.

MARRIAGE TIP 78

We live in a time of digital distractions: have you set boundaries around how you will prevent smartphones, tablets and other devices from impacting your life? Their interference has become so prevalent that researchers now have a term to describe it, "technoference," and it is real. How can you take control and decrease the negative impact: limit the amount of time you spend on and checking devices; make rules about digital use during time together; agree on when devices will be prohibited (at meals, on a date, in bed) and stick to it. Disconnect from your devices, not your relationship, and you'll both be happier!

CCAS ADOPTION NIGHT

The Catholic Children's Aid Society (C.C.A.S.) of Hamilton is presenting an Adoption Information Night at the C.C.A.S., 735 King St. East on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

RECYCLE, REPEAT, REWARD!

If you have any old trophies or medals that you no longer want, Repeat Champions will pick them up and bring them back to life by giving them to children in our community and abroad. Please visit www.repeatchampions.ca for details. To donate and arrange a pick up please email sgenovese@bell.net To donate and drop off items in person, please go to the warehouse sponsor's, Gerry's Roofing & Morley Windows at 49 Morley Street, Hamilton. Thank you!