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A Proud Feeder School to Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

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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.



**ALL VALENTINE ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13TH THIS YEAR!
ASH WEDNESDAY IS ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14TH, WE WILL HAVE A LITURGY AND DISTRIBUTE ASHES**

Gracious God, today begins a period of inner reflection and examination. The day's stretch before me and invite me inward to that silent, holy space that holds your Spirit. This special time calls me to see my life through Christ's eyes and the truth and reality of your love incarnate. Give me the grace to enter the space of these days with anticipation of our meeting. And, when I open my soul to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over me and seep into the pockets of my heart. I ask this for the sake of your love. Amen
Lord be with us, during these Lenten days!

SNOW/INCLEMENT WEATHER

A reminder that the SNOW STAYS ON THE GROUND OR STUDENTS WILL BE SUSPENDED. Students are permitted to build and/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.

PARKING SAFETY

The flow of traffic must follow the proper direction at all times. Parents trying to leave through the school entrance to the parking area can hit a child or another car. Parents/Grandparents are asked to park in parking spots or go out to the road. Student safety is paramount! Follow the rules and slow down!

SAFETY FIRST

We are consistently reminding students of the hands off policy. All students are to keep their hands and feet to themselves. Unfortunately, at times, play can cause a serious injury. Please remind your son/daughter of the importance of not touching others at any time. We aim to live up to our school Motto, "TO BE THE FACE OF JESUS AND TO SEE THE FACE OF JESUS IN EVERYONE WE MEET." If we do this, we will learn the value of respecting ourselves and others at all times.

Toys are not permitted at school. Toys lead to a variety of problems. We hope children learn the value of play with others rather than things at recess.

CELLPHONES AND TECHNOLOGY

Students who have cellphones cannot use these devices at school during recess, lunch etc. They are only permitted to use technology under the direction and supervision of a teacher. This is written in the bring your own device policy.

SHROVE TUESDAY AND ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

SHROVE TUESDAY is **February 13th**. All students will receive pancakes for lunch. Thank you to all our great volunteers! Thank you to P and H Milling for donating the mix for our students. Ash Wednesday takes place on **Wednesday, February 14th**. We will have a Liturgy at school.

BULLDOG HOCKEY EVENT AND LITERACY DAY

On **Wednesday February 8th, 2017**, the students from grade 4 to 8 will be attending Literacy Day with the Hamilton Bulldogs. The cost is \$15.00 per student. Unfortunately, this is not a peanut free facility. Students with allergies are asked to bring their own snacks. Remember Cash On Line is the best way to pay for all trips!

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be sent home on **Tuesday February 13th**. 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 part of the teacher's evaluation. Participation, communication, input in class activities 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. Students should be responsible for their homework. This is part of the learning skills and work habits. We must teach our children to be accountable and to accept consequences if things are not done or are not at school. Students are encouraged to have open dialogue with the classroom teachers. Parents check the agenda to see if work is completed and sign off on the completed items. If you have any concerns, questions or positive feedback, make an appointment to meet with your son/daughters teacher.

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.

WORLD'S FINEST FUND RAISER



We will be selling chocolates, peanut and nut free, from **February 28th until March 23rd**. 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. There will be a prize for top seller and a prize for top selling family. The classes that have 75% of students who sell a full case will receive a free dress down day. Other prizes: movie passes, chocolate gift basket, gift certificates and more. All payment can be done on line for a full or half case or a monetary donation.

SCIENCE FAIR

This year we had a science fair club for students interested in participating in the science fair. The System Science Fair will take place on **Saturday March 3rd** at Bishop Ryan High School. Unfortunately, only 6 projects will be sent to the Science Fair. On February 12th, the students will display their backboards in the classrooms. Parents are invited to come and see the displays from 2:00 pm until 4:30 pm. The displays will be in each classroom.

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 reinforce 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. Students must sign in at the office. If you are taking a child out of school, the student must be signed out at the main 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 8:25 am**.

FAMILY DAY

Monday, February 19th 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. 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 support.

ECO TEAM: CONSERVING COUGARS 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 wasteless lunch helps reduce the amount of garbage at St. Clare and creates a better environment for our students.

NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL, WEAR YELLOW DAY!



On **Wednesday February 7th**, it is WALK TO SCHOOL DAY AND WEAR YELLOW, tops only, uniform bottoms. It is important to recognize the problems with emissions. Walking is a healthy choice!

PINK T-SHIRT DAY FEBRUARY 28TH

Kindness is one size fits all! Lets band together and put an end to Put downs, bullying and plain and simple being mean or nasty to others. **"A WARM SMILE IS THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE OF KINDNESS."** William Arthur Ward

As part of our efforts to keep peace, we have Restorative Practices as a means to resolve conflicts. On the school yard, we have a variety of students who are our Calm Keepers and Active Recess lead students. We are trying our best to maintain a safe environment, however input from the home environment will greatly benefit the students. Speak to your children about proper play, how to include and engage others and to always show respect to their peers. Incidents do happen, from them we learn, we grow and we aim to change our ways.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW!

On Saturday January 20th, the Knights of Columbus held the Annual Basketball Free Throw Competition. Congratulations to: Alessia P., Sabrina, P., Gennaro R and Katia R for representing our school. Congratulations to Alessia, Sabrina and Gennaro for receiving medals. The Knights of Columbus are very committed to helping connect the Parish and the schools. All students should aim to be involved in the activities that are offered.

