

MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

Superintendent: I. Fortino

Trustees: M. Nardini & P. DiFrancesco

Pastor: Mariusz Durbajlo

Principal: C. Martino

Principal Assistant: J. Shamon

Secretary: D. Simpson

Assoc. Pastor: Rev. Francesco Cucchi

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We have had a lot of cold and a lot of snow, a real Canadian winter. Even though we do not know what March will bring, we do know that spring is around the corner. This is the time to clean house, to clean up the gardens and to clean up our heart and mind. Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the very important season of Lent. Lent is a time for "Spring Cleaning". We are already a few weeks into Lent and we should be trying to be closer to God in all we do. Our school motto, "Be the face of Jesus, See the face of Jesus", is a great way to improve ourselves on a daily basis.

Loving Father,

So many times I turn away from you and always you welcome me back.

Your mercy and love gives me confidence.

Thank you for the invitation to share, fast and pray so that you can form a new heart within me.

*Your powerful compassion for my weaknesses leads me to ask for mercy
and await with great hope the Easter joy you share with us.*

*May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. AMEN
Amen.*

REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registration for FDK. Your child must be 4 years old by December 2018. If you know of any new families in the neighbourhood let them know about our school and have them contact us for registration FDK to grade 8 are being accepted. Packages are available at the office.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



Our grade 2 students will receive this Sacrament on **April 12th** at the Church at **6:30**. The students are working to understand and prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion which takes place on **Saturday, May 12th at 2:00 pm @ St. Francis Xavier Parish. Pray for our students and their devotion to our faith.**

PARKING

A reminder that the parking lot is a safe zone. All vehicles must slow down and remember children are present and we are in a safe zone. **DO NOT BLOCK OUR NEIGHBOUR'S DRIVEWAYS.** Allow for our neighbours to enter or exit their driveways during school arrival and dismissal times. Do not park in the front area, you must park in a designated parking spot. The flow of traffic only goes in **one direction at all times.** If possible, walk to school. This is the safest and best way to get to school.

CATHOLIC COUNCIL SCHOOL NEWS

All parents are invited and welcome to attend our meetings. Our next meeting will take place on **Monday April 9th 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. Our CSC is working hard to support the school. Our World's Finest Chocolate Drive is on for March. Aim to support our school community. All money raised goes towards the students and their benefit of having things such as iPad's, more gym equipment, books for the reading room, team jerseys etc. If you have any suggestions, please contact one of the CSC members to suggest how money raised could be put to good use for our school.

Our CSC is planning a wonderful family event night: **CREATIVE MATH FAMILY NIGHT.** More information will be coming home soon.

CELL PHONES

Cellphones are really not needed at school and can cause many problems. Students are not permitted to use them during the day unless under teacher supervision. Cellphones cause many problems due to postings on social media and inappropriate remarks. Talk to your child about the dangers of posting and inappropriate use of cellphones and social media.

SCIENCE FAIR

This year, all students from grade 4 to 8 participated in our school science fair. A lot of great information was learned, as well as learning about the entire scientific process and how to run through it completely. We are permitted to send 6 projects to the System Science Fair. Congratulations to: Enzo C. - Taylormade Temperature, Evan C. and Francesco D. - What is in a Bounce?, Lucy D. and Christina P. - Exercise Your Brain, Larissa R. and Alessia P. - Does Your Plate Colour Matter?, Genevieve G. and Eva D. Have Your Cake and Save Energy too! Alissa G. and Daniella I. - Insulin in Pills? These students will represent our school at the System Science Fair on March 3rd at Bishop Ryan High School. We are proud of all the students for their hard work on the science projects.



TIP OF THE MONTH FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCHES

Getting Children to Love Fruits and Vegetables. Many children don't get the amount of vegetables and fruit recommended by Canada's Food Guide. Most children need to be introduced to a new food 8 to 10 times before they will try it. Don't give up and try these tips.

1. Lead by example. When you make healthy food choices for yourself, you are teaching your children about healthy eating. Children are more likely to try new fruits and vegetables when they see others at the table eating them.
2. Take your children grocery shopping. Make eating vegetables and fruit a game of colours. Ask your children to find different coloured vegetables or fruit to have for snacks during the week.
3. Try experimenting with one new vegetable or fruit a month. For recipe ideas, check out www.eatrightontario.ca

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH ACTION TEAM

We bid a sad farewell to Nurse Katharine Muis. Katharine was with us every Tuesday and worked with our HAT team. She is an inspiration and taught us all so much about the Wellness Mindset. Nurse Katharine has accepted a full time position with Public Health and is expecting her first baby. We wish her and her family the very best!!

March is Nutrition Month - a time to take a look at what we are eating to keep our bodies healthy and strong. That is exactly what the Health Action Team did and noticed that so many of us are bringing juice boxes, pop or other sugary drinks to school. Did you know that according to Canada's Food Guide we should only have 4 ounces of juice per day? Instead of juice, just eat the whole fruit and bring a water bottle to school to refill during the day.

Remember ... water first to quench your thirst.



WE ARE A PEANUT FREE AND NUT SENSITIVE SCHOOL. Being aware of allergies saves lives and keeps children safe. We have hydration stations for re-fillable water bottles.

2018/2019 BUDGET PRIORITIES SURVEY

The board has posted the 2018/19 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 9th @ 4 pm**. 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, but we can always use sellers! 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 9th**. Final money is due on **Wednesday, March 21st** 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.schoolcashionline.com. Physical Education equipment is constantly in need of being replaced. Equipment is expensive and is a school expense. New technology is purchased by the school and not the board. This is also very expensive. A set of 10 iPads cost \$6500.00. Try your best to help us raise funds for 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 8:40 - this is the first bell. Students should be in line at this time. The bell rings at **8:40** and students should be making their way to their classrooms at this time. Punctuality is a lifelong skill. The value of this skill should be instilled in all students when they are in elementary school. Students must not re-enter the school after dismissal. This is a safety concern.

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 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!

DOGS are not permitted on school property. We are having problems with people during the after hours walking their dogs on the playground and not cleaning up after them.

CONSERVING COUGARS

Our ECO team is working diligently at keeping our school in the green! We aim to re-use as much as we can, paper, plates, litterless lunches etc. A reminder to turn off lights when you are not in the room and turn off all electronics. Wednesday's are litterless lunch days and walk to school. We are aiming to have no plastic water bottles in our school.



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. After registering for School Cash Online, you will receive emails notifying you of school trips, events, activities and other items available for purchase online.

ARE YOU MOVING?



We ask any family who will be moving out of the area for the 2018-2019 school year to please call the school office. We will be projecting student enrolment for September 2018 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.

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. We ask that all parents respectfully do not walk down the hallways and into the classrooms. This is for student and staff safety.

SPORTS NEWS

Junior and Senior Girl's Volleyball season is now done. Both teams had a terrific season. Junior and Senior Boy's Basketball is also completed. The boy's had a great season. Boy's Volleyball is beginning soon. Our Senior Volleyball and Senior Basketball teams will be participating in the Cardinal Newman Feeder School Tournament on March 8th at Cardinal Newman. Thank you to all of our coaches for their time and dedication.

MARCH BREAK

We wish all our families a very wonderful and safe March Break. Enjoy the time with family and friends. The break is from **March 12th to 16th**. School will resume on **Monday, March 19th**.

With open hearts and an open road, let's share the love of Christ to all those whom we encounter March Break, not forgetting to include our family among them.

Dear Lord,

Please bless this time of vacation. Help my family to get along, to enjoy one another. Maybe toss a couple of those idyllic imagined scenes into our path? May we be able to see the wonder You instill within the chaos of our days – whether we vacation near or far away from home.

On this every day, normal day that's somehow still outside of our regular routine, help me to embrace my family, this time of vacation, and the ordinary yet extraordinary gifts You've given. Open my eyes to see that vacation will end but the memories of it will remain, and give me the strength to make them sweet. Pour some of that strength into my very being and bring me through to the end of vacation with a thankful heart and unceasing praise.

Amen.

HAPPY MARCH BREAK!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY! MAY THE LUCK OF THE IRISH BE WITH YOU!

