

Good Morning St. Margaret Mary Community,

Welcome back to a number of students who have returned to face-to-face learning and to those who have switched to virtual we look forward to seeing you again soon!

**PINK SHIRT DAY:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 is Pink Shirt Day in the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007, when two students, David Shepherd and Travis Price and their teenage friends, took a stand against bullying after a new grade 9 student was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. David and Travis bought 50 pink shirts to give to the boys in their school to show their support for the boy who was being bullied.

On Pink Shirt Day, students and staff are encouraged to wear pink and stand up against bullying behaviour.

“May our wearing of pink be a symbol of our commitment to humanity and demonstrate our collective expression of love, hope, and peace.” For more information please

visit: <https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/> Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions we will not be ordering pink shirts this year for the school.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5** is a PA Day. There is no school for students on this day.

**STUDENT SCREENING TOOL:** The Ministry of Education along with Public Health have made a number of changes to the screening tool. This tool should be utilized each morning to screen your child(ren) before sending them to school. Please note that there are changes to the tool that will have a large impact on families such as a runny nose being a single symptom that requires the child and all siblings and adults in the house to remain at home and follow the steps listed on the screening tool. More information including updated flow charts will be sent out shortly from the school board and Hamilton Public Health. We recognize the stresses and pressures that will be placed on families that have a child with one or more symptoms, however, it is to protect all students, staff and our families. We greatly appreciate your understanding and adherence to Public Health measures.

From the main page of the screening tool:

- Everyone in your household should stay home if anyone has COVID-19 symptoms or is waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms.
- Stay home until the person with symptoms gets a negative COVID-19 test result, is cleared by public health, or is diagnosed with another illness.

**DAILY SCREENING TOOL FOR STUDENTS:** <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

**LENTEN PRAYER:** *"Lord, this Lenten season let me be transfigured. Take my life and make me your disciple. Let me learn from you by following your ways. Teach me humility, faith, and compassion. And should I fall short of your expectation Lord, please forgive me for in my heart I promise to try my best. I promise to forgive those who wrong me, just as you forgive me for my sins." (catholic.org)*

Keep well,

Mrs. A. Coletto