

Hello St. Margaret Mary Community,

It is the First Week of Advent. This week we light the candle that symbolizes hope. Purple is the primary colour associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation. Each Monday during Advent our school will be participating in a liturgy via MS Teams.

As the Christmas season starts to ramp up I want to provide everyone with an overview of the month of December as I know it gets very hectic between school and family commitments. I have prepared a calendar for the month of December, please note that this calendar is not inclusive of everything happening, but provides a good snapshot of the big events for the month. [December 2022 Calendar.pdf](#)

RAFFLE: This week we are holding a Raffle Draw to help raise money to purchase gift cards to support families in our community for the Christmas Season. Tickets are \$1.00 each and can be purchased via School Cash Online or with cash. The student council will be visiting classes daily until Thursday to sell tickets. Online ticket sales end Thursday evening. The draw for the Nintendo Switch, 2 Playstation Gift Cards, 2 baskets donated by one of our Grade 7 students, and a gift certificate donated by one of our parents will take place on Friday, December 2 @ 8:45 a.m. during Live Announcements. For anyone who purchases tickets online, we will add your raffle tickets to the draw for you. ALL money raised will go directly to purchasing gift cards. Thank you kindly for your support!

FAMILY ADVENT NIGHT: Please join us on Wednesday, December 14 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in our school gym for our Family Advent Night. All classes will have art displays for you to enjoy, along with festive music and light refreshments provided by our Catholic School Council. Our liturgy begins at 6:00 pm in the gym. The event runs until 7:30 p.m. Please join us!

SCHOOL MASS: All are welcome to join us on Wednesday, December 21 @ 10:00 a.m. for our Christmas Mass at the church.

HOLIDAY SPIRIT DRESS-DOWN DAYS: Our student council has planned 4 dress days for the month of December! Each Friday will have a different theme:

- Friday, December 2 - Red, white and green day for JOY DAY!
- Friday, December 9 - Christmas PJ Day - any holiday pjs or cozy comfy wear! (If students decide to bring slippers with them for this day, they are only to be worn in the classroom. Students need to have running shoes for DPA, gym, and recess)
- Friday, December 16 - Holiday Hair, Don't Care Day! It's a festive hair day! Christmas-themed hair/hats are welcome! Students can dress down.
- Friday, December 23 - Tacky (or fancy) Christmas Sweater Day! Have a favourite Christmas sweater? Today is your day to sport it!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: School is closed from Monday, December 26 until Friday, January 6, 2023. School begins on Monday, January 9th, 2023.

Wishing everyone a blessed start to the season of Advent, it is a time of joy, hope and anticipation. We are looking forward to all the wonderful activities and time for prayer that our school is hosting this month.

Mrs. Coletto