

Faith, Teamwork, Excellence

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JANUARY 2015



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back and Happy New Year. Prayers that your holiday season was filled with moments of peace, laughter and happy memories. We begin a new year and an end to a first term of studies. Our major school goals involve the following:

FAITH: introduction for Christian Meditation and Stewardship

NUMERACY: attention to skills to improve spatial awareness

LITERACY: making connections to text forms

PATHWAYS: learning skills focus on key areas

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, CULTURE & SERVICE: promote safety and health

You, your child(ren) and teacher(s) offered suggestions to celebrate successes and plan for next steps. Review these and support each other to promote success.

St. Margaret Mary School JK/SK Registration

Registration will take place this year on:
Tuesday February 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

Parents are asked to call the school at 905-383-8122 to make an appointment

To be eligible for Jr. Kindergarten a child must be four years of age before December 31, 2015 and for Sr. Kindergarten a child must be five (5) years old by December 31, 2014. We require the following information to be provided at the time of registration:

**Birth Certificate
Baptismal Certificate
Immunization Record
Emergency Contact Name and Number
Proof of Residence**

Please make sure you have all the documentation required prior to registration.

ONTARIO GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS FOR JANUARY A Collaborative Contributor

This month we invite you to help your child share and work with others. Truly value their input and opinions. Teach them to respect the opinions of others and accept constructive criticism. Provide opportunities for you and your family to discuss important matters that invite each one to stop, think and offer thoughts.

In your home, in our school community and our world we need to value those who promote respect, dignity and the welfare of all.

As you do so remember that St. Margaret Mary invites us to "Unite yourself with Jesus...in all that you do."

"Unite yourself with Jesus
... in all that you do"
St. Margaret Mary

Director of Education
Mrs. P. Amos

Superintendent
Mrs. I. Fortino

Trustee
Mr. R. Bartolotti

Principal
Mr. J. Coons

Principal Assistant
Miss J. Iacozza

St. Margaret Mary Parish Fr. Bergsma
(905) 388 - 2200

Weekend Masses
Sat. 7:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am /
10:15 am / 12:00 noon

St. Margaret, Mary Prayer

Eternal Father,

*You entrusted St. Margaret Mary
with the grace to spread devotion to
the sacred Heart of Jesus.*

*Help us embrace the love of Christ
by following Saint Margaret Mary's
loving example.*

*Guide us along the right path and
bless us as we seek to unite our-
selves to you in all our thoughts, our
words and our actions.*

*May we, like Saint Margaret Mary,
always find lasting strength, cour-
age and peace in you.*

*We ask this through the Sacred
Heart of Jesus, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
one God, forever and ever.*

Amen

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL 2014—2015

Your Catholic School Council continues to support the school in a number of ways. The CSC responds to survey requests by the Board and Ministry and is supporting our families in need through donations and promotion of our Christmas Tree of Hope. Please find a family you can support and drop off items to the Main Office.

We continue to be pleased at the turnout from our last meeting. Babysitting service is provided by students from St. Jean de Brebeuf catholic Secondary School.

The next meeting is Tuesday January 13, 2015 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons.

Anaphylaxis Awareness Caring For All

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Elementary School is a place where all children feel safe and have a sense of belonging. To ensure the safety and well-being of all children, please note below important information from Anaphylaxis Canada:

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death;

Signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction can occur within minutes of exposure to an allergen (a substance capable of causing an allergic reaction)

Very small amounts of certain foods can cause severe reactions when eaten. This may happen if a person at risk touches an allergenic substance and then subsequently touches the mouth. Even a very small amount 'hidden' in a food or transferred to a serving utensil has the potential to cause a severe allergic reaction. Direct ingestion of an allergy-causing food poses the greatest risk for people with food allergies.

Cooperation from parent and guardians in adhering to the guidelines below is most appreciated:

There are students at this school who are allergic to the following foods and items:

nuts, tree nuts, seeds., red dye, egg, shellfish (shrimp)

Parents will be advised of allergens specific to a classroom; please avoid bringing these allergen into the designated classroom.

Reinforce hand washing practices: wash hands before and after eating.

Remind children not to share or trade food, food utensils, or food containers.

PLEASE UPDATE THE SCHOOL ON ALL CURRENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS. We need to have on file, and available to your child, all medicine, puffers, epi-pens and recommended supports.

WINTER WEATHER

WEATHER

With the cold weather fast approaching, we ask that the children come dressed appropriately for the weather (hats, mittens, boots etc.). **Please send an indoor pair of shoes** with your child to avoid water from the boots being brought in to the classroom. Shoes are necessary in case of an emergency or fire drill. Please label your child(ren)'s clothing in case it is misplaced. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated with these matters.



INCLEMENT WEATHER - EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

All school closures and/or transportation cancellations will be announced on the following TV and radio stations:

Hamilton Area: 900 CHML/Y108 FM Oldies 1150 (CKOC) K-Lite 102.9 FM/820 CHAM WAVE 94.7 F

Updates are also provided on our Board website [Board Website](http://www.hwcdsb.ca) www.hwcdsb.ca

A Message from the St.MM ECO TEAM

To avoid having garbage in the school on the weekends, and the possibility of ants and rodents, we are promoting Boomerang Fridays. This means that all garbage including containers, food waste, wrappers, drinking boxes etc. with the exception of paper recycling, will be brought back home to be disposed of. Your family's participation will be greatly appreciated.

We continue to collect empty ink cartridges at school, as we have done in the past. The collection box is in the front foyer outside of the principal's office.

Please be aware that St. Margaret Mary has a clothes closet that offers gently used uniforms and outerwear. It is open to everyone. Donations of clean uniforms and outerwear are always welcome. Ask how you can help us become a GOLD ECO School.

Entrance and Exits

Thank you to all parents and guardians who are picking up their children from the proper exit doors. We are asking that all students use their proper doors to enter and exit the school building. **Please remember the front door is not to be used as a pick up area at the end of the day.** Please meet your child at their proper exit doors. If your child is late in the morning it is very important that they report to the office for a late slip. This goes for all the students in our building from JK to grade 8.

Snuggle Up and Read Jan.30, 2015

Once again we take time to celebrate reading by enjoying a Snuggle Up and Read Day at school on Friday Jan.30,2015. Highlights of the day include: No uniforms
Guest readers in classrooms
Quiet time for whole School
Play in gym for young ones
We are all reminded of the importance of setting a good example for our children. You find time to read. Find time read together. Ask about what they are choosing to read.

SCIENCE FAIR CLUB at SMM

SCIENCE CLUB

This year we will be having a Science Fair Club. The HWCDSB Science Fair will be held on **February 28th, 2015**. Students interested in joining must commit to meeting, showing the progression of their work, taking suggestions from the teachers and applying them to their completed project. Students chosen will move forward to the System Science Fair and present their project. Students may work with a partner or may work alone on the project.

More details to follow.

We thank Mr. Iason (Gr. 8) and Mr. Zivolak (Gr. 4/5) for supporting the Science Club this year.



PARKING LOT AND BUS AREAS

Please remember that the bus loading zone is to remain empty during school hours. When the buses are coming and going, it causes great congestion if vehicles are parked in this zone.

Please also remember that the parking lot is an area where everyone needs to be courteous. There are many alternatives to blocking everyone else out of the way. Many parents park on the street and walk in to meet their children. Older children can meet you on the street.

Parents and guardians need to be aware in the church parking lot there are many handicap spaces which you are asked not to use to drop off your children. We do have families that need those spots.

Please move your car along to the end of the parking lot, if you do not wish to avail yourself of the other suggested alternatives. When our staff is out there, they find it very difficult to deal with parents/guardians who refuse to move their vehicles.