

Faith, Teamwork, Excellence

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FAITH

On behalf of the staff at St. Margaret Mary School we wish you a Happy Easter. Easter is a time of great sorrow and celebration. The story of the Passion of Our Lord reminds us the depths of our human frailty (false accusation, betrayal, denial, loss of faith, fear that God is not there for us, and brutality in the beating and crucifixion of Jesus). Yet, there is more to celebrate in the acts of compassion (of Jesus to the Women of Israel, of Veronica, of Simon), courage (of Jesus facing death, of Joseph of Arimathea asking to allow Jesus to be buried in his tomb, of Mary Magdalene) and Faith. Jesus died for our sins so that we can be saved. Jesus is the example of how our humanity will lead us to Heaven. In death we have Eternal life with God in Heaven.



On Sunday April 26, 2015 at 2:00 pm our Grade Two Students will be making their First Holy Communion. The students have received fine instruction from their teachers at our school and from Fr. Bergsma and the Parish team at the Church. We look forward to celebrating this sacrament with our students, staff and families.

WORLD AUTISM DAY APRIL 2, 2015 (Wear Blue, Red, Yellow)

April 2 is World Autism Awareness Day. As we practice the philosophy of "Each Belongs," we are reminded of the words of Mr. James Hansen:

1. Each child, able or disabled, has the right to be educated in the neighbourhood school
2. A good education depends upon the skills of heart and head of those who serve children
3. Schools that welcome, honour, and value each child... will ensure that all children receive a good and complete education

A Prayer of St. Francis for Autism by Tim Tucker

Lord, let thy peace fill me up until I overflow; that where people cannot speak,
I may be their advocate; that where anyone is rejected,
I may extend my arms in welcome; that where parents are heavy burdened,
I may offer a word of comfort; that where our children struggle,
I may lift them up and cheer; that where some see disability,
I may reveal to them extraordinary gifts; that where others judge,
I may share with them my deep gladness; and that where any are overlooked,
I may help the lights of all to shine.

O Giver of These Gifts,
grant that I may not so much seek to be reassured as to reassure; to be praised,
as to praise; to be accepted,
as to accept; for it is in all our uncertainty that we are inspired to hope;
it is in great challenges that we discover our greatest joys,
and it is in our community of wanderers that we find the way home.

Amen.

April 2015

Director of Education
Mr. D Hansen

Superintendent
Mrs. I. Fortino

Trustee
Mr. J. Baiardo

Principal
Mr. J. Coons

Principal Intern

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,
courage 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

TEAMWORK



School Cash Online

Dear Parents!

Did you know that our school will be one of the first in the province to offer the convenience of online payments to parents? **WE BEGIN** this process of registering starting March 2, 2015.

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. We are asking parents to please take 5 minutes to register, by following the steps below. Once you are registered online, you will begin receiving emails about upcoming events.

Here is a one minute movie clip that will give you a brief overview of the registration and online shopping experience.

<http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/>

Register Online: JOIN A LARGE NUMBER OF FAMILIES IN HWCDSB SCHOOLS who do

Step 1: Please click on this link:

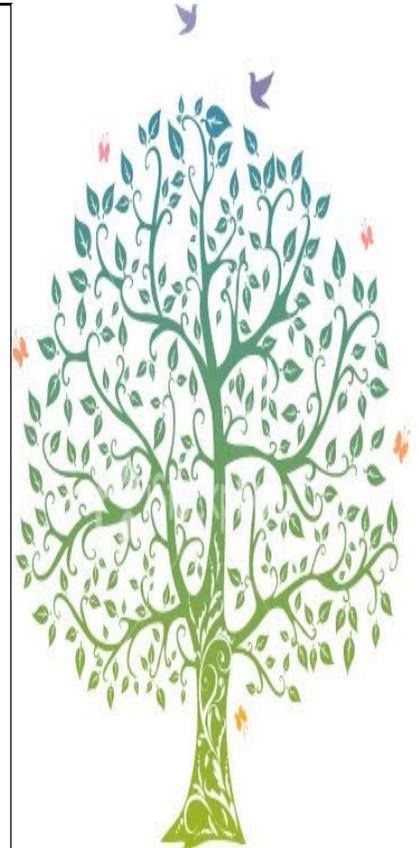
<https://hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, login and add each of your children to your household account.

✓**Convenient** ✓**Safe** ✓**Secure**

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand area of the screen.



FAMILIES CAN STILL ORDER FROM THE LUNCH LADY for APRIL.
(Phone the office for details)

Call to parents! We're building an NEW outdoor classroom!

St. Margaret Mary school has received a grant from TD Friends of the Environment to build an outdoor classroom for our children and teachers. This will be planned in the area under the large tree in front of the library window at the front of the school. The children and teachers are in the process of developing a design for the outdoor classroom. Our time line is to break ground in May and have the project completed in June for the classes to start using. I am sending out a request to our families to help with locating a local landscaper to help us with this project. If you are a landscaper or know someone who is, please send your contact information to me at gambalet@gmail.com.

A committee has been formed to help select the final design and landscaper. We are working again with Green Ventures who helped with our Depaving project in the playground. We will keep you posted on our progress.

Thank you.
Teresa Gambale of your SMM CSC

CHES CLUB

Our C.Y.O. teams continue to represent our school well in volleyball. Go Marauders.

A system Chess Tournament will be happening at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Elementary School on Thursday, April 16th, 2015 from 4:30 - 9:00 p.m. Thank you to Mrs. McKenna and Mr. Iason for coaching the students. Good luck to the team.



EXCELLENCE



Student Attendance : Excellence Requires that you are here.

As noted last month a concern is the number of students who are **arriving to school late in the mornings.**

Any student who arrives to school following the bell which is rung at 8:30 a.m. will be marked late.

We understand that mornings are hectic and running late may happen because of unforeseen circumstances, however, it's very important that good routines be set and maintained with students. There are some students who are late on a consistent basis. Instructional time begins immediately. Arriving late causes disruptions for the other students in the class and the teacher who needs to get the day's activities underway. It also leads to unnecessary calls having to be made home as students are marked initially absent.

Please make every effort to get your child to school on time in the morning.

Punctuality and responsibility are key skills that we need to instill in our children in all aspects of life.

ONTARIO GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS FOR APRIL

We celebrate the first words of our School Motto

FAITH

This month we invite you to help your child truly live out their Faith in all their thoughts, words and actions. Pray together. Talk about their classes at school and how they are blessed to be able to attend a Catholic School. We thank you for making the choice to send your children to a Catholic School.

As you do so remember that St. Margaret Mary invites us to

“Unite yourself with Jesus...in all that you do.”



CONTINUE TO BE EXCELLENT STEWARDS OF GODS'S CREATION

On Friday, March 27, St. Margaret Mary staff and students participated in Earth Hour from 1:45pm – 2:45pm. We turned off our lights and unessential electronic devices to show our support in addressing climate change issues.

This year, Earth Week is April 21-25 and Earth Day is April 22. During this week, classes will be doing various activities related to stewardship of the earth. We will also be participating in our annual community/school yard clean up as part of the Tim Horton's "Team Up to Clean Up" campaign.

April is shaping up to be a busy month for Eco activities. We are continuing with Boomerang Lunches every Friday and we are still accepting donations of gently used uniform items and recycling ink cartridges.