

Faith, Teamwork, Excellence



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<http://stmm.hwcdsb.ca>

FIRST DAY Tuesday September 6, 2016

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Welcome back to another school year

I am happy to begin another new school year here at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Elementary School. This community is known for its Faith, community involvement and success in and outside of the classroom. As our namesake , St. Margaret Mary, said, "Our hearts are made for God." We live that out everyday here in what we say and do as we come together as a catholic school community.

A new year brings together some new staff and new students. We are looking forward to coming together to a great school and community. As has been noted before, assigning students is a difficult task and we will not be able to change the classroom placements of your child.

We will once again begin the year in the Church,
as we should, and Staff will bring students only
back to the school to announce their class
assignments.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

As we come together this year, we can do as
St. Margaret Mary did, and
"Unite yourself with Jesus...in all that you do."

Mr. J. Coons,
Principal



NEW SCHOOL HOURS & ENTRY PROCEDURES

8:35 Morning Entry Bell

9:45am – 10:00am – Recess

11:20am – 12:10pm – Lunch

12:10 pm – Lunch Entry

11:45 pm (EAT/Play Transition)

1:30pm – 1:45pm – Recess

2:55 - Dismissal

PARENTING AND FAMILY LITERACY CENTRES

Please feel free to visit our Parenting and Family Literacy Centre. Our Centre is open from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm every school day. Should you have any questions contact Mrs. Begon.

New for this year; NAME TAGS to be worn with each visit to support safety.

September 2016

Director of Education
Mr. D. Hansen

Superintendent
Mrs. S. Pizzuti

Trustee
Mr. J. Baiardo

Principal
Mr. J. Coons

Principal Intern
Mrs. L. Piro-Cinelli

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

BEFORE AND AFTER

Contact Mrs. Butera at
(c) 289 776 7690 for any
questions you may have.

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
ourselves 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

VOLUNTEERS

The Board has provided schools with a data base of all recorded Police Checks. We welcome and encourage parent volunteers in our school. Parents are a very valuable support and your involvement strengthens home-school co-operation and communication. Anyone wishing to volunteer is asked to contact the Main Office.

A criminal check is required to volunteer in the school or attend any school trips.

We will confirm records kept on file at the Board should there be questions.

Volunteer Renewal Forms are now to be completed each year. Ask for one or pick one up.

SCHOOL SECURITY: VISITORS AND APPOINTMENTS

To maintain a safe school, it is imperative **all** visitors report to the school office, including parents dropping off lunches and other items. The students will be notified of the items by the office. If you are picking up your child for an appointment please report to the office. Contact by a written note or phone call must be made to the school informing of the necessary arrangements. The classroom teacher will send the student to the office at the appropriate time and the parent/guardian will meet the child at the office. If you are volunteering please sign in at the office. If you are having a scheduled interview with a teacher, please sign in and notify the office.

Visitor stickers required for in school visits.

UNIIFORM POLICY

A reminder that our school board policy mandates that every student be in uniform. Please remember that all tops must have a school crest on them. As well, many students wear t-shirts/under shirts under their uniform tops. In keeping with the spirit of the uniform policy, the t-shirts/under shirts shall be either white or navy blue. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in this matter. We are on the same team. Policy posted on our web site.

The McCarthy Store is located at 125 Nebo Road.

Also, gym uniforms are mandatory for the grades 4-8 students.



Uniform

PEANUT & NUT ALLERGIES

We are a NUT SENSITIVE School. Please help us keep EVERYONE safe.

We request the co-operation of parents in not sending foods with peanut products to school. Several of our students are highly allergic and we ask for your help in ensuring that risk of a life-threatening illness is kept to a minimum.

BUSSED STUDENTS

Students may not request to be dropped off at stops other than their regular drop-off point. Bussed students are to ride on their assigned bus. Bussed students are not to walk home unless they are picked up on that day by their parent/guardian. Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated!



How Our Yard has Changed

In the few years I have been here we have created a Depave Project in the Recess yard, added and Outdoor classroom to our front and added new games to the FDK and Main Yard. All have added to make our grounds more attractive, relaxing, interactive and ECO friendly. Thank you to all who made this happen.



On **Wednesday, September 26, 2016 from 5:00—7:00 p.m.** we will have our meet the Staff with a BBQ hosted by Harvey's. **PRE-ORDERS ONLY** We hope to see everyone out to meet the staff and see the school. Order forms to come home with your children.

ABSENCES

In the event that your child(ren) will be absent or late from school, we would appreciate a telephone call before 8:00 a.m. The answering machine is on from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. for your convenience. Upon returning to school please present a note to the teacher explaining the reason for the absence.

Students who are late must report to Mrs. Magliaro and obtain a Late Slip before going to class.

COUNT YOURSELF IN

Did you know that every time you move to a new home, you must re-designate your Catholic school support? Otherwise the education portion of your property taxes will automatically default to the public school system.

The number of Catholic ratepayers is also a strong indicator of support for the Catholic school system.

To vote for Catholic Trustees you must be registered as a separate school rate-payer.

We urge you to check your property tax bill to ensure that your support is directed to the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. We also encourage you to share this information with family and friends who are Catholic but do not have children in the school system.

If you need help checking or changing your school support designation, please call the Assessment Department at 905-525-2930, Ext. 2188, or email webmaster@hwcdsb.ca

LUNCH PROGRAM

Elementary schools are not physically structured to accommodate pupils for lunch. Also a lunch break at home can be very beneficial for students. We encourage as many students as possible to go home for lunch. Those students eating lunch at school must comply with the behaviour expectations by demonstrating courtesy, proper etiquette and respect.



Students can not leave the school property during the lunch hour to go to the store, a restaurant, or a friend's house, etc. The safety of our students is our primary concern and the principal is responsible for students during the lunch period. If you personally are taking your child out for lunch, please inform the school with a call or a note. Otherwise all students who normally eat lunch at school are considered lunch students and must abide by the lunch program expectations.

SMCH Fall Co-Instructional Volleyball

Boys and Girls aged 5-15 interested in participating in the co-instructional house league program can get registration forms by emailing seekersregistration@rogers.com. The Saturday program will take place at St. John Paul School beginning September 17 and continuing for 12 weeks. The participants are grouped into grade clusters (1-3, 4-6 and 7-9). Registration can be started on line. In person registration will take place September 10 or 17 at the gym between 9 and Noon. All sessions will be limited to 32 participants. For more details please call 905 870-9568 or email rbbluciani@quickelic.net

LOCATION ST. JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL 600 ACADIA DR. 905.870.9568

SESSION 1 8:30- 9:30 GRADES 1-3 (MAX of 32)

SESSION 2 9:30- 10:45 GRADES 4-6 (MAX 32)

SESSION 3 10:45- 12:00 GRADES 7-9 (Max 32)

(NOTE- Dates may be altered due to School needs)

SEPT.- 17, 24, OCT.- 1, 15, 22, 29 NOV.- 5, 12, 19, 26, DEC.- 3, 10

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



AGENDA BOOKS FREE

Thank you to our St. Margaret Mary Catholic School Council for purchasing Agenda Books (for every child in Grades 1-8) and event magnets (for every family). Thank you CSC.

CSC ELECTIONS (Tentative date Tuesday Sept. 27, 2016)

Elections for CSC will be held on in our Learning Commons (Library) @ 6:00 p.m. Please feel free to attend and be part of this great group of parents.

More details to follow.

Nomination forms available in the Main Office.

Look for our CSC 2015-16 Financial Report soon to be posted on the school web-site.



St. Margaret Mary Church News

The St. Margaret Mary 50th Anniversary Mass and Dinner/Dance is on September 18th. We would love for you to join us at this celebration. Tickets are \$40 a person (\$20 for children 4-12) and can be purchased after Mass or on our website smm50.ca

Dear Parents/Guardians and Children

As we begin the new school year many activities for adults as well as children begin to start up. It is a wonderful opportunity to get active again; hopefully we all had a wonderful restful summer. We at the Parish look forward to renewing our wonderful relationship with the schools, as myself and our seminarian-intern will be visiting the classes of our three schools throughout the year. We are also fortunate to have Fr. Paul Boucher, a retired Priest of Hamilton Diocese with us, he will be helping with the school confessions. Marissa Kaufman will be working with the youth of our parish, she has many wonderful activities planned for the upcoming year. I also wish to invite you to continue/renew your relationship with Jesus in prayer and coming to Sunday Mass. Mass gives us the opportunity to be strengthened by God to live our life in a positive, holy manner; as well as give us the opportunity to find rest and peace in our busy lives. I look forward to seeing your child(ren) in the schools and look forward to seeing you at Sunday Mass as a family.

Our Mass times are Sat. 7pm, Sun: 8:30am, 10:15am and 12 noon.

May God bless you in the upcoming school year.



Confirmation News from the Parish Team

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

All students in Grade 7 or higher who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 9th 2017 are Invited to complete the Parish based Confirmation preparation Programme Registration.

Registration packages were distributed to Grade 6 students in May.

Those who have not submitted their Registration form need to return it to the Parish office, with a copy of the student's Baptismal certificate by **Friday Sep 23rd, 2016**.

Those who need a Registration package can pick one up at the Parish office during office hours.

Letters with the details of the Sessions will be sent home to those who have registered.

GROUP	TIMES	DATES
A	9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mass 12:00 noon	September 11, 18, 25, & October 2, 2016
B	9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mass 12:00 noon	October 23, 30 & November 6, & 13, 2016