

Faith, Teamwork, Excellence



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FIRST DAY Tuesday September 5, 2017

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. We have a new Pastor and fresh coats of paint inside the building. 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



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.
NAME TAGS to be worn with each visit to support safety.

September 2017

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. Jeffrey Oehring
(905) 388 - 2200

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

BEFORE AND AFTER

Contact Miss Davies 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,
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



WE NEED LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS.

This is A PAID position for 1 hour (11:20 am - 12:20pm)
Please contact the school for details and availability.



Hamilton-Wentworth
Catholic District School Board
Believing, Achieving, Serving

WE ALSO NEED VOLUNTEERS (for classes and for teams)

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.

UNIFORM 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.

Crests are available. These can be purchased at the office.



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!

On **Thursday, September 28, 2017 from 5:00—7:00 p.m.** we will have our meet the Staff . As we have for our Fun Fair, Food and Ice Cream Trucks are on site for you to enjoy. See you then.



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. Walton 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. without home and Principal permission. The safety of our students is our primary concern. 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

SEEKERS FALL HOUSE LEAGUE VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM 2017

Registration for the Fall Co-Ed Instructional House League Volleyball Program is now available at seekersregistration@rogers.com .

The 4 session, 12 week program is open to boys and girls from ages 4 to 16.

BEGINNER program JK-Gr 3.

BANTAM Gr 4-5.

JUNIOR Gr 6-7 and

OLDSTER grouping will be for those in Grades 8 to 10.

The program is Co-instructional development with fun, learning and friendly competition will run on Saturdays beginning September 16 at St. John Paul II Catholic School, 600 Acadia Drive, Hamilton ON.

For details, please call or text 905 870 9568 or

email rbbluciani@quickclic.net.

In person registration will take place at the gym on Saturday September 9th, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Each session is limited to 32 participants.

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 Wednesday Sept. 27, 2017)

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 2016-17 Financial Report soon to be posted on the school web-site.



St. Margaret Mary Church News

We welcome Father Jeffery Oehring to our Catholic School community and look forward to sharing our Faith Journey together. He can be reached via e-mail at pastor@stmargaretmaryparish.ca

The Parish reminds families that the Church offers a Children's Liturgy at the 10:15 a.m. Sunday Mass starting September 24, 2017.

"Let the Little Children Come to Me" (A note from Margaret Blair, Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator)

What greater gift to give your child than passing down and teaching the traditions of The Catholic Church, helping them to receive God's Word in their hearts and respond to it in their family life and elsewhere. During the first 20 minutes of the Mass, children from JK to Grade 2 are invited to go with 2 volunteer ministers to hear the Sunday readings from a children's lectionary. An age-appropriate reflection on the Word is shared through stories, discussion or pictures and are invited to share their own thoughts and ideas.



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 Friday Feb. 9th 2018 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 22nd, 2017**

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 10, 17, 24, & October 1, 2017
B	9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mass 12:00 noon	October 22, 29 & November 5, & 12, 2017