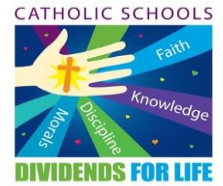


St. James the Apostle Catholic Elementary School



Superintendent: Mr. C. Ciapanna

Principal: Mr. M. De Angelis

School Secretary: Mrs. P. Ferrari

Trustees: Mr. P. DiFrancesco & Mrs. M. Nardini

Principal of Bishop Ryan: Mr. E. Picconi

Pastor of Our Lady of Assumption Parish: Father D. Wilhelm

Mass Times: Saturday @ 5:00 pm Sunday @ 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 am

We are a proud feeder school of Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

September 2016

Reflection: Psalm 66:1-3a, 5

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

Make a joyful noise God, all the earth;

Sing praise to the glory of his name;

Give to him glorious praise.

Sat to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

Make a joyful noise to God, all the truth.

Principal's Message

I would like to welcome back all the students and their families to the school year 2016-2017. I would also like to welcome all new students and their families to the St. James the Apostle Catholic school community.

The school, through the dedicated staff, promotes a high standard of academic excellence where the Gospel values and Jesus as our role model permeate through the curriculum and daily activities. I look very forward to working with the Catholic School Council who is very supportive of all school initiatives. We are blessed to have a very positive partnership with Our Lady of the Assumption Parish through our pastor, Father Dave Wilhelm and the parish staff who support and foster the spiritual development of the students.

The affirming partnership of Home/Parish/School is significant in the development of each child's spiritual growth and in the promotion of academic excellence, accountability and improved student achievement. Throughout the year the students will grow physically, academically and spiritually. They will have the opportunity to be involved in athletics and other daily activities.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or the office for clarification. Together we will develop a positive learning experience for the students and continue to make all those who comprise St. James the Apostle Catholic Elementary School a place of faith, teamwork and excellence.

Yours in Catholic Education

Mr. M. De Angelis

Principal

The September newsletter will go home in a hard copy paper form. The rest of the newsletters will be posted on our website. If you require a monthly hard copy of the newsletter, please inform the office and it will be sent home with your child

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE SCHOOL STAFF 2016-2017

Superintendent	-	Mr. C. Ciapanna
Principal	-	Mr. M. De Angelis
Principal Assistant	-	Mrs. Brown
Pastor of O.L.O.A.	-	Father Dave Wilhelm
School Secretary	-	Mrs. Ferrari
Custodian	-	Mrs. Bond
Assistant Custodian	-	Mr. Ferrari
FDK	-	Mrs. McFadden
DECE	-	Mrs. Umbrello
FDK	-	Mrs. Casado
DECE	-	Mrs. Salamone
Gr. 1	-	Mrs. Malatesta
Gr. 1/2	-	Mrs. Ezekiel
Gr. 2/3	-	Mrs. Roe
Gr. 3/4	-	Mrs. Caliri
Gr. 4/5	-	Mrs. McDonald-Dagenais
Gr. 6/7	-	Mrs. Brown
Gr. 7/8	-	Mr. Jovanovic
RRT / FDK (p.m.)	-	Mrs. Ermacora
French / JPT	-	Mr. Fragomeni
Librarian	-	Mr. Leighio
A.I.T.	-	Miss Kondo
PPT (p.m.)	-	Mrs. Ienco
Special Education	-	Mrs. Kremble
E.A.	-	Mrs. Buonamici
E.A.	-	Mrs. DeFreitas
E.A.	-	Mr. Ieluzzi
E.A.	-	Mrs. LaPierre
E.A.	-	Mr. Mandula
E.A.	-	Ms. Petis
E.A.	-	Mr. Poczynek
E.A.	-	Mrs. Power
E.A.	-	Mr. Sawin
E.A.	-	Mr. Speziale
E.A.	-	Mrs. Sutthery
PFLC	-	Mrs. Prpic

Our St. James Staff is entering the school year with tremendous enthusiasm and excitement. We look forward, along with you, to provide the best possible educational experience for your children.

"Together We Can Succeed"

SCHOOL HOURS

Entry:	8:35 a.m.
Morning Recess:	9:45 – 10:00 a.m.
Lunch:	11:20 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
Afternoon Recess:	1:20 - 1:35 p.m.
Dismissal:	2:55 p.m.

A reminder the students will go out for lunch recess at 11:20 - 11:45 a.m. They will be eating lunch from 11:45 a.m. until 12:10 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS

Friday, September 23, 2016
 Friday, November 4, 2016
 Friday, December 2, 2016
 Friday, January 27, 2017
 Friday, March 3, 2017
 Friday, June 9, 2017
 Friday, June 23, 2017

SCHOOL BREAKS

Christmas Break

Monday, December 26, 2016—
 Friday, January 6, 2017

March Break

Monday, March 13, 2017—
 Friday, March 17, 2017

School ends Friday, June 30, 2017



MEET AND GREET BBQ

Once again, St. James the Apostle School will be hosting an opportunity to meet all the teachers at our school and enjoy a night out at a BBQ. This year we have scheduled **Monday, September 19, 2016 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. as our date for our yearly "Meet & Greet BBQ"**. Harvey's will begin cooking at 4:30 p.m. There will also be an ice cream truck available. Please keep this date open as a family activity. Please complete the order form that is sent home.

SCHOOL AGENDAS

As has been the practice at St. James the Apostle, all our students from grades 1-8 will continue to use an agenda organizer. This has been an excellent tool for all our students, staff and parents. **There is no charge for the agenda books thanks to the fund raising efforts from the last year.**

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

At school we will continue to have all our students with crested tops. Our uniform supplier is JML Uniforms located at 95 Parkdale Ave. N., phone #905-544-1608. The school crest will be available in the office for \$4.00. Pant wear is Docker style, plain twill walking shorts and skorts (navy blue). **Fleece pants, track pants, Kobe and cargo pants are not allowed as uniform pieces.** Tops are golf shirts, polo shirts and turtle necks (white or navy blue). Please see the poster at the front of the school for clarification.

SCHOOL SECURITY: VISITORS AND APPOINTMENTS

To maintain a safe school, it is imperative that all visitors report to the school office using the front door including parents dropping off lunches and other items. **Please refrain from walking your child to their classroom. Please refrain from going to your child's classroom without permission from 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. Please obtain a visitor's badge after signing in. Anyone entering the school building without office identification will be redirected to do so.

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 them 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.

PHOTO/VIDEO PRIVACY REQUEST

During the course of the school year, the Staff is hoping to capture pictures (prints, videos) of our children as they participate in school activities. Some of these pictures will be displayed on bulletin boards throughout the school, yearbook etc... Please fill out the enclosed Privacy Request form. **There is a section on the form that indicates if you "Do Not" wish to have any posted or published.**

EMERGENCY CONTACT & VERIFICATION FORMS

It is vital for our school records be kept current and up-to-date. Information forms will be sent home with your child(ren) soon. Please complete the forms and return them to your child's teacher.

During the school year please keep the office informed of any changes, such as telephone numbers, emergency contacts, etc.

MILK PROGRAM



We will once again offer a milk program for our students beginning Monday, September 12th for all our students. Forms will be sent home Tuesday, Sept. 6th, 2016.

PIZZA DAYS



Our aim at St. James the Apostle is to minimize the amount of fundraising taking place throughout the year. Therefore, we will continue to designate each Friday throughout the year as pizza day. Pizza forms will be sent home September 12th, 2016.

We will continue to collect per term for milk & pizza orders which reduces the frequency of money collections. Please consider using School Cash Online, which is a convenient way of making payments.

PICTURE DAY

This year, our school picture day will take place on Thursday, September 29th for the whole school. Picture re-take day is scheduled for November 15, 2016.

LUNCH/RECESS

Our lunch period is from 11:20-12:10. The students will go out and play first and then eat their lunch at 11:45 a.m. If you are in walking distance, we encourage your child(ren) to go home for lunch. If they do go home for lunch, please have them arrive to school by 12:05 p.m. If they stay for lunch, they will not be allowed off school property without **written permission from a parent or guardian**. A reminder if you are dropping off a lunch for your child, please give it to the Mrs. Ferrari and the lunch will be given to your child. **Parents are not to drop lunches off at the classroom.**

MEDICATION



If your child requires medication, an epi-pen or puffer, medical forms must be completed each year and signed by a doctor. These are available in the main office and medication is kept in a secure place.

Anaphylaxis

St. James the Apostle 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: peanuts, all tree nuts and mangos.**
- Parents will be advised of allergens specific to a classroom; please avoid bringing these allergens 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 do NOT bring any home-made food products into the school;** with permission, non-food items are permitted for various celebrations and special events and activities.

Thank you for your help in keeping all our children safe.

HPV/HEP B SHOT

All Grade 7 Students:

Hep B, Menactra and HPV—Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016

Grade 8 Girls:

HPV—Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016

SCHOOL MASSES & SACRAMENTS

Dates for all school Masses, First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation will be announced at a later date.

POLICE CHECKS



Please submit your validated Police check to the office. **The school will only reimburse parents \$10.00.** Every year those that have completed a police check need only sign a declaration form to validate their status. To acquire your initial police check, a personalized letter from the front office is required and it needs to be taken into the police station to be validated. Police checks are required for volunteering in the school, coaching and volunteer on school trips.

TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES & CELL PHONES

Please refrain from having your child bring mobile digital devices to school such as laptops, personal electronic audio, video and photographic and telecommunication devices **unless the teacher deem the use of the devices appropriate for educational purposes. These devices are only to be used under teacher supervision.** As per Board Policy:

“Cell phones and other personal **mobile devices** must **not interfere with the instructional environment.** However, the **teacher may deem the use of mobile digital devices appropriate for educational purpose.**”

Cell phones must be turned off during the school day. If your child needs to use a phone for an emergency situation, the office phone is available. **The Board assumes no responsibility for the safety and security, loss recovery, repair or replacement of mobile digital devices. The storage of these devices is the sole responsibility of the owner/user.**

If mobile digital devices such as cell phones disrupt classroom instruction, they may be taken away and returned to the student or parent after the instructional day.



Catholic School Council Election & First General Meeting

The election of the St. James the Apostle Catholic School Council will be held on Monday, September 19, 2016 at 6:15 p.m. The election will be followed by a general meeting. The Catholic School Council is a vital part of the school community. Please plan to attend. Nomination forms are available in the main office, in this month's newsletter or from our web page under School Council Information.

Please return the form by Friday, September 16th to the main office. A police check is mandatory for all members of the elected council.

HWCDsb PARENT CONFERENCE 2016

This year's theme will be *“Weaving the Catholic Partnership”* at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School, on Saturday, November 5, 2016 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with the celebration of Mass. Registration forms will be available in our main office area or at www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca

TRAFFIC

We need your cooperation and continued support in ensuring that students remain safe during arrival and dismissal to and from school. We have a very limited amount of parking space within our school area. It is important not to block the bus from getting to its destination. Also, please respect the right of students and other pedestrian as they enter the school area.



New Lice Procedures



The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDsb) is committed to ensuring that all reasonable efforts are made to protect the health and well-being of our students by creating awareness of head lice and preventing and/or minimizing the spread of head lice in the schools.

Head lice are wingless insects that live only on the scalp of human beings. They cannot fly or jump, and they are not found on cats, dogs or any other household pets. The bites from head lice can cause itching and scratching. Scratching may cause sores which can get infected. When children play, their heads often touch. Lice crawl from head to head. Head lice are spread by direct head to head contact only. (*Facts of Lice, 2003*, Hamilton Public Health and Community Services Department)

Based on the current medical research, it is essential that head lice be treated with two applications of an approved treatment seven days apart.

Procedures for when Head Lice is identified:

- 1) Parents/guardians of students identified with head lice will be notified by the school and will be required to seek treatment for the child.
- 2) Parents/guardians are required to complete the first application of an approved treatment prior to the student returning to school.
- 3) Parents/guardians are required to complete the *Verification of Treatment* form and return it to the school when the student returns following the first application of an approved treatment.
- 4) If the Principal has concerns that an individual case of head lice is an indication of a larger concern, the Principal may consult with the school's designated social worker.
- 5) All parents/guardians of students in a class in which a student or students are found to have head lice will be notified.
- 6) A school may designate a specific day or days for screening all students for head lice, using trained resource persons.
- 7) Parents are reminded to take responsibility to check their child's hair frequently and to co-operate by administering an approved treatments recommended by a pharmacist or medical practitioner when needed.



HAMILTON WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

St. James the Apostle Catholic Elementary School
29 John Murray Street
Stoney Creek, Ontario
L8J 1C5

Phone: 905-560-2700 Fax: 905-560-6364

Principal: Mr. De Angelis Superintendent: Mr. C. Ciapanna Assistant to the Principal: Mrs. Brown

Dear Parents:

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (H.W.C.D.S.B.) collects personal information under the legal authority of:

**The Education Act, the Ontario Student Record (O.S.R.), 2000,
and Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.**

During the school year, students will be involved in a wide variety of events and activities consistent with the purpose of educating students in accordance with the Education Act. For such events and activities, the school may receive requests for personal information such as the names(s) of parent/guardian, address, telephone numbers, from either the local parish, Catholic School Council, etc.

Such groups would include:

Local Parish

The H.W.C.D.S.B. works in conjunction with parish priests in the spiritual development of the students, including the celebration of the sacraments. For this purpose, pertinent personal information may be released to the parish for the purpose of arranging receipt of the sacraments and other religious occasions.

Events/Activities

During the school year, it is the normal practice to publicize many of the positive things that occur at the school. This would include such things as:

- Student's work with the names, may be displayed in the classroom or school hallways, or may be shared with the public through science fairs, art projects, bulletin board displays, school newsletters, the school Web site, the Board's administration offices, board newsletters.
- From time to time, the press may come to the school and take photos of children and write articles about their achievements, graduation or special events. The information gathered is used as part of the school's communication plan in an effort to share newsworthy events that occur at the school.

Photographs and videos of students, collectively or individually, may be taken and may be used in the following manner:

- bulletin board displays in the classroom and in school hallways;
- school yearbooks or school newsletter
- in classroom activities, during open house, parents' night, etc;
- out-of-school learning experiences;
- may be shown to teachers for the purpose of planning activities;
- local newspapers and television stations;
- university based Faculties of Education – Internship Program;
- birthday congratulations to students (e.g. "Today is Ashley C's birthday") may be announced over the public address system and/or in the classrooms;
- Yearbooks may display names, grades and anecdotes about individual students.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you consent to your child being recognized as described above, please **complete, sign, and return the form below** to the school office as soon as possible.

If you have any objections to the sharing of your child's personal information in any or all of the above mentioned related activities and **you do not wish** your child to be identified in this way, please **complete, sign and return the form below** to the school principal as soon as possible.

-----**DETACH HERE**-----

By signing this form, your child's name will be recognized through any of the activities mentioned above for the remained of the school year. Consider this carefully before signing.

I have read the information pertaining to the use of student(s) personal information.

This is to inform the school that **I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS** to any information posted or published for the students(s) named below:

School: St. James the Apostle Catholic Elementary

Student(s) Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

-----**DETACH HERE**-----

By signing this form, your child's name will not be recognized through any of the activities mentioned above for the remainder of the school year. Consider this carefully before signing.

I have read the information pertaining to the use of student(s) personal information.

This is to inform the school that **I DO NOT** wish to have any information posted or published for the student(s) named below.

School: St. James the Apostle Catholic Elementary

Student(s) Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

St. James the Apostle Catholic
School Council Parent Nomination Form

Welcome Back!!!

As usual, the Catholic School Councils' year begins with elections. All parents are eligible for nomination, which must be 'seconded' if the parent is agreeable to standing for election. A nomination form is attached, and is also available in the school office. **Nomination deadline is Friday, September 16, 2016 by noon. Elections will take place Monday, September 19, 2016 @ 6:15 p.m.** Voting is done by secret ballot at the meeting.

Positions to be elected are:

Chair (or Co-Chairs)
Treasurer
Secretary
Councillors (6)

Other positions include Parish Rep., Community Rep., and Non-teaching Staff Rep.

**St. James the Apostle Catholic
SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENT NOMINATION FORM**

- I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the school council.
- I wish to nominate _____ for an elected position parent/guardian representative on the school council/

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME #: _____ BUSINESS #: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____ who is currently registered at this school.

The person I have nominated is an employee of the board. YES NO

I am an employee of this Board. YES NO

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

Believing, Achieving, Serving

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board does **not** provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Some injuries incur medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial healthcare or employer group plans. As a parent or guardian, you become responsible for these expenses.

We do make available the insuremykids® Protection Plan for students exclusively through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Participation in such a programme is voluntary and the costs are to be paid by the parent or guardian.

This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable prices. Benefits included are:

- Dental expenses (resulting from an accident)
- Total and permanent disability
- Paralysis/loss of use
- Special disability benefits
- Death benefits
- Eye glasses repair/replacement due to accident

Purchasing Student Accident Insurance is strongly recommended especially if your child participates in athletic or other co-curricular activities on or off school property. All rates are one-time annual premiums. Numerous plans are available to fit any family's budget. Family rates for 3 or more children are offered. Purchase online before September 30, 2013 and save further with the 3-Year and 5-Year plans.

The insurance agreement is between you and Reliable Life Insurance Company. To subscribe, apply 24/7 directly online at:

www.insuremykids.com

If you have any questions please visit the "Frequently Asked Questions" page at the above website or contact Reliable Life Insurance Company direct toll free at:

1-800-463-KIDS(5437).