

# SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



## JUNE NEWSLETTER

Nurturing faith, illuminating minds, inspiring hearts, and empowering hands - we are working together to transform our world.

JUNE 2016

### Principal's Message

Another year draws to a close at St. Mary's School. The summer ahead is filled with a new kind of promise, a different kind of learning. For some, it will be a time of leisure walks, strolls along the beach, sleep-ins, late nights, family BBQ's and visits from relatives and friends and a time to rejuvenate one's spirit and look at life from a different perspective. We consider ourselves lucky to have had the opportunity to share the year with each of our students. We are fortunate in having been able to watch them grow and mature over the past ten months. They have blessed our lives with their youthful enthusiasm and fresh new ways of looking at the world. We have every good reason to be proud of our students and to be hopeful and optimistic about our future.

We are truly blessed at St. Mary's. We are so fortunate to have such a fantastic Staff! I would like to thank the staff for the tremendous efforts and dedication they have put forth during the whole year. I wish each one of you God's Blessings as you continue in your vocation as teachers, educational assistants and support staff. I am also amazed by the commitment of our Catholic School Council!

Thanks to the parents and volunteers who have worked so hard for the betterment of all our students! I would also like to thank our parish partners whose presence in our school and at school Masses is so appreciated and important. June is a very busy month with trips, celebrations, hellos and good-byes and some work in there too! I hope everyone has a safe, peaceful, and enjoyable summer! At this time we also say farewell to two of our St. Mary's staff members Mrs. Melanson and Mrs. Bowen who will be moving to new schools in the fall. We wish you all the best in your new schools! Let us pray for a safe summer, and for the continued success of our staff and students. Have a safe and relaxing summer. May God's light continue to shine on you; may His spirit protect you; and may His love engulf you.

Mrs. K. Penrose

### Welcome Summer Prayer

God of rest and relaxation, we welcome summer with joy and excitement in our hearts. Be with us as we enjoy activities, such as sleep-ins, late nights, family BBQ's, cottaging, camping, swimming, boating, and fishing. Bless us and grant us time to relax and enjoy life together, as we rejoice in You. Amen



### Mr. Skillen Retiring!

On June 30, 2016 Mr. Skillen is retiring from teaching at St. Mary's Catholic School. Mr. Skillen's commitment, dedication and loyalty to the school and Catholic education has shone through in everything he has done. We are truly blessed to have had him as a teacher at St. Mary's.

### In Gratitude...

As you move on into the next amazing chapter of your life, Know that you will be missed, Know that our very best wishes and thoughts go with you, Come and visit us often — For this is farewell and not goodbye. May God's Grace shine upon you in your retirement.

### KINDERGARTEN

**STUDENTS** A reminder to parents that all of our **Senior Kindergarten** students will start their first day of school on September 6, 2016. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Fowler at the school office 726-1843.

### MOVING OVER THE SUMMER?

Are you moving over the summer? If you are, just a reminder to contact Mrs. Fowler at the school office. This information helps with class reorganization over the summer months.



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**It's Time to Register!!** We encourage parents who are looking to register their child for Kindergarten to drop by the office to pick up their copy of the package, which includes a parent booklet, child's activity book and DVD. You can also find all of the information on our board's website at [www.smcdsb.on.ca/parents/kindergarten](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca/parents/kindergarten)

# THANK YOU!

At this time, I would like to THANK the GREAT EFFORTS of Our School Council 2015-2016!

Mrs. E. Kemping  
Mrs. M. Borchert  
Mr. A. Zurawski  
Mrs. D. Sorrentino  
Mrs. S. Lopes  
Mrs. S. Fowler  
Mrs. C. Hanson  
Mrs. L. Blatna

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The next meeting of the parent council in September is TBA. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend and new members are needed.



## GRADUATION

Congratulations to our grade 8 class of 2016 who celebrated their graduation on June 27, 2016. We wish you much success in your future!

## BRADFORD GREENHOUSES GARDEN

**GALLERY HELPS SMB** Our school is happy to announce that we have again this year been chosen by Bradford Greenhouse Garden Gallery to participate in their community fundraising program. Starting April 15th, any purchases made can be directed to our school. In November, our school will receive a percentage of the sales in the form of a gift card that we can use to help improve our school gardens. We thank Bradford Greenhouse for this generous fundraising program. So if you are buying plants or shrubs, **remember to tell the cashier that you support St. Mary's School.** Spread the word to family and friends!

## FINAL REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be sent home on Tuesday, **June 28/16.** We ask that you return page three the next day.

## LIBRARY/TEXT BOOKS

Please remember to return all library/text books to the school before June 29/16. Please have your children go through their rooms and closets if you have received notice of an overdue book.

## EQAO PROVINCIAL TESTING 2015/16

Applause! Applause! For our Grade 3 and 6 students and their teachers: Mrs. Chater, Mr. Skillen & Mrs. Melanson for all their hard work during the EQAO testing weeks. A special thank you also to, Mr. McBride and Mr. Vieira for their support over the week. I know that our students did a marvelous job and we anticipate excellent results for their efforts!

## GARDEN CLUB

A BIG thank you to Mrs. Kenny and Mrs. Schelling's class for their help with the gardens. They look beautiful!!



## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION 2016/17

We are in the midst of organizing our classes for the new school year. Please be aware that many things change during the summer months... families moving into and out of the school area. Generally, our small school population is such that we are subject to both straight and combined classes. Class organization is always a tentative venture based on our present student numbers and preregistrations and could easily change before September. That is one of the main reasons why we do not inform students (or parents) ahead of time who their teacher will be in case they are disappointed when they arrive at school on the first day with their heart set on a particular teacher, or, we have had to re-organize the class lists during the summer and/or first week of school due to an increase or decrease in enrolment.

## STUDENT SUPPLIES FOR NEXT YEAR

We are asking that your child please bring some materials with them in September. These are essential materials that your child will use in the classroom. We also discourage any sharing of these materials. A list of needed supplies will be enclosed with the final report card. It is our hope that providing these lists to you prior to summer holidays will help you during your "back to school" shopping. Thank you for your support.

**Note:** A French/English dictionary is **highly recommended** for all students in Gr. 5-8 as well as a pocket folder for all students for French. **\*\* Please use only the St. Mary's supply list and not the department store created lists.\*\***

## STUDENT AGENDAS

Student agendas have been ordered for students in Grades 1 - 8 for the 2016-17 school year. These agendas are used as a daily tool to help students organize their school responsibilities and maintain ongoing communication between home and school. We will be asking each student in grades 1 - 8 for \$5.00 in September.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO...

June 29 - Last Day of classes  
Sept 22 - Meet the teacher – Pizza Que – 5:00pm-6:30pm  
Sept 30 - PA Day

## NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS

We would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to our wonderful and dedicated group of Noon Hour Supervisors. Mrs. McCutcheon, Mrs. Lopes, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Arsenault, Mrs. Spear, Mrs. Everett, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Freeman, & Ms. Kenny. We wish you a relaxing summer. In September we will require supervisors, please let us know if you think you might be interested.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. However, with today's hectic early morning routines, many children miss breakfast. This means they have nothing to help fuel their energy until lunch. Therefore they will be tired, disinterested, irritable or hyperactive in the classroom. St. Mary's Catholic School has a very active breakfast program. If you are able to donate a few hours a week to help, please contact Mrs. Penrose at 726-1843. Thank you for your continued support.

