



Good Shepherd Catholic School

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<http://www.st-clair.net>

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January 2018 Griffin News

WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR!

Inside this Issue

- ◆ Calendar
- ◆ Principal's Message
- ◆ Bad Weather Reminder
- ◆ Special Thanks!
- ◆ Pizza Day Info
- ◆ FDK Registration
- ◆ Reminders
- ◆ UCC Open House
- ◆ Council Corner
- ◆ 50/50 Draw info

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back and I hope each of you were able to enjoy some quality time with family and friends over the holiday season. I definitely enjoyed this special time with my family! During December activities, our students demonstrated their commitment to putting the needs of others first by collecting can goods for the *Helping Sertoma Help the Needy*.

Of course December would not be complete without our Christmas Play. The play delivered a beautiful message about keeping Christ at the center of Christmas. Our students were amazing and I am very proud of all their hard work and am impressed with the talent of our young people! Many thanks to Mrs. Vanier for her work and our staff for their dedication and effort in making this such an excellent production. As well thanks to all families who donated food items for the post-show reception.

A special thanks to the School Advisory Council for the Christmas Luncheon which was held on December 15th Your generosity with your time and food donations is invaluable! On behalf of our staff, I also extend thanks to all of our parents. Your continued support of these types of events is most appreciated.

I wish all the best for you and your families in 2018!

*Sincerely yours,
Sherrie Daudlin*

LEAVE
A LITTLE
Sparkle
WHEREVER
YOU GO

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

The New Year: A time to bring from the past all that is right and good, to give to the future the best we have to offer. “

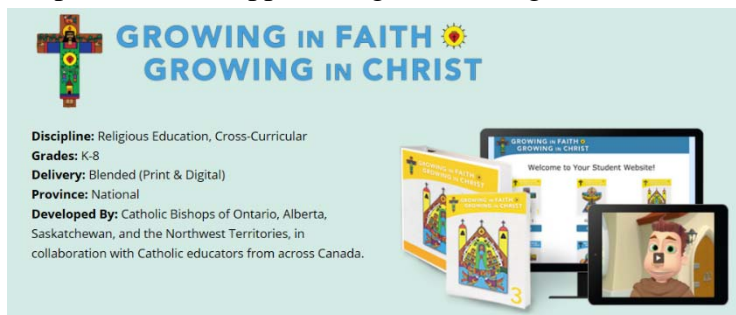
Happy New Year everyone. I trust the Christmas HOLYdays were good to you and I pray that this year will bring renewed faith, hope and love to your families. I am always strengthened by the Christmas season. Just knowing the story of Jesus' birth into a humble family bolsters my hope for my family. Knowing that Jesus came among the chaos -of unexpected pregnancy, last minute travel, birth in a manger and no room at the inn- helps me to trust that Christ is with me now no matter what circumstance the new year will bring.

It is my delight to keep you updated on the faith formation tools in our schools. The Elementary Curriculum Consultant at our board (currently Kim Fitzmorris) has been working hard to familiarize our system with new Religious Education resources.

Pearson Publishing is creating a new program. This resource is being developed with Canadian Catholic educators and the Bishops of Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. Our school board has been purchasing these yearly and will continue until we have all of them. We currently have purchased kindergarten – grade 4.

The benefits of this resource are immeasurable. This short-term target of the Board's Strategic Plan* will help to bring our Board's Mission alive.

- Implement and support the grade 4 Religious Education program and the digital resources for grades 1-3



<http://www.pearsoncanada.ca/school/growinginfaith/student-home/>

Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ has textbooks as well as separate online resources for teachers, parishes and students/parents (currently available up to grade 3). This resource is interactive and engaging. Together, we can teach our students about our faith; having a common resource, at our finger tips, will be quite helpful.

- Our Catholic faith, sacramental life, and commitment to social justice will be taught, learned and lived in partnership with parishes and homes. Not only do these resources help us to educate the children in our homes, parishes and schools, they also have faith formation modules to keep the teachers informed on the basics of our faith.
- We provide adult faith formation for our staff. We feature these resources in meetings with teachers, parents and parish workers. At the request of Bishop Fabbro, this resource will be one topic at our annual Great Family of our Church Gathering when we gather principals, parents, parish workers, high school students and community partners (i.e. Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus members and local politicians)
- The community will be well-informed about the Catholic programs, services and choices that we offer. Should you have any questions about how to access the online resource with your student, the classroom teacher will be your best contact. Our plan is to continue buying the resources each year; next year, we will purchase the grade 5 textbooks and grade 4 online resources (as Pearson makes them available).

Have a lovely year bearing witness to your children becoming the wonder-filled people God intends them to be. We are so blessed to partner with you as they grow in faith.

Margaret Palmer, System Chaplaincy Leader.

*The bullets listed above have come directly out of our Board's Strategic plan. For more info, click here. <https://www.st-clair.net/Data/Sites/1/media/public/Curriculum/BIPSA.pdf>

**Indigenous Committee Meeting
for the Parents and Community Partners of the
St. Clair Catholic District School Board**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Start Time: 5:00pm

Location: St. Elizabeth School, 1350 Bertha St. Wallaceburg

A light dinner will begin at 5:00pm

Please let us know if you are attending by Friday, December 22, 2017

For more information please contact Tracy Verstraeten:
tracy.verstraeten@sccdsb.net or 519-627-6762 ext. 10231



Image from:
<http://www.fisherstarcreations.com/teachings>

URSULINE COLLEGE CHATHAM
*Invites all Grade 8 students and their parents to our
OPEN HOUSE*

*on
Thursday, February 1, 2018
Presentation to begin at 7:00 p.m. in the
U.C.C. Theatre followed by guided tours.
(Theatre Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)*

- Find out about the many courses offered
- Guided tour to follow presentation
- See the excellent facilities available at your Catholic high school

**Ursuline College Chatham Catholic
Secondary School**
85 Grand Avenue West, Chatham, ON
N7L 1B6

Phone: 1-519-351-2987
Principal—Ray Power

Accommodations available ie. Lifts, interpreters etc.



**THANK YOU TO THE SAC FOR THE WONDERFUL
CHRISTMAS DINNER!**

On December 15th the SAC sponsored a wonderful Christmas Dinner for the students and staff of Good Shepherd. We would like to extend our sincere thanks for the awesome meal you provided us! What a great start to the holidays!



**Winter Wear and Inclement Weather
Reminder!**

We ask that students have indoor shoes to wear in school during the winter months. Also, please send your child with labeled hats, mitts, boots, scarf, etc. for the winter weather. It is important for your child to be comfortable and warm for his/her own well being.

Please be advised that if buses in **Zone 6** are cancelled due to severe winter conditions, Good Shepherd School remains open. Announcements regarding bussing are announced on the local radio stations as well as posted on the website:

www.schoolbusinfo.com

Any school closures will also be announced on CFCO or CKSY radio stations.



50/50 Draw and Update!

The Gr. 7/8 of Good Shepherd held a 50/50 draw the night of our Christmas concert! The winner was announced the night of the concert and the lucky person to win the 50/50 draw was Mr. George Prangle. She won a total of \$171.50! Special thanks is extended to all who supported this event. We are truly blessed by the support we receive from our community and families. Proceeds will go towards sending our grade 7 & 8 students to help support their year end trip.

Thank you to all!



Some important dates to Remember!

- ☉ UCC Councilor to visit Gr. 8's—Jan 11
- ☉ Curling—Gr. 7 & 8— January 10 & 17 — 10:00 a.m.—in Ridgetown
- ☉ School Mass —January 10th—1:00 p.m.—church
- ☉ K of C posters due—January, 23, 2018
- ☉ K of C—Free Throw—January 23th. 7—9
- ☉ SAC Meeting—January 25 @ 6:00 pm
- ☉ KinderSTART—Registration February 27th
- ☉ UCC Open House—February 1, 2018 -7 p.m.



Kindergarten Registration for September 2018

kinderSTART is a special one day event for parents to register their children for Kindergarten. It's also a great opportunity for parents and children to learn more about school together!

At Good Shepherd Catholic School, **kinderSTART** will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 by appointment.

The program is offered in partnership with the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and our Best Start community partners. Through **kinderSTART** children and parents have an early opportunity to visit the school, register for Kindergarten and meet staff in preparation for Full Day Kindergarten in the fall of 2018.

We also welcome all younger siblings (18 months to 3 years) to attend. Our community partners are there to offer lots of helpful information about getting ready for school, such as ages and stages growth development, good nutrition, healthy living tips and immunization. It's a fun and informative event for the whole family! We hope to see you then!



We would like to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Badder for his generous donation of ham for our Christmas Luncheon!

At this time we would also like to Thank the Thamesville, Knights of Columbus for their continued financial assistance which is always used towards the luncheon.

Through their assistance, the students and staff enjoyed yet again another wonderful Christmas luncheon!

PIZZA DAY INFO.

We have already had a couple of snow days, and one was on a Pizza Day.

Please keep in mind that even though the school is open, when buses are cancelled, our Pizza Days will be postponed to another day. Ms Daudlin will determine the appropriate day if and when this happens.

Please send your children with their lunches on days like this.

Again, this will only happen if buses are cancelled on a Pizza day and you have purchased pizza for your child/ren.

Your Child Feeling Ill??

As a school community we are doing our best to educate the children on ways to minimize the spread of flu viruses. Proper and often hand washing as well as coughing into your sleeve are two very important methods of limiting the spread. If your child is not feeling well, please keep them home, give them lots of TLC and fluids. Please remember to call the school to advise us of their absence and we will certainly be happy to see them when they return, feeling better and ready to learn!

Council Corner

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and were able to spend time with family and friends!

Children's Christmas Luncheon—Again this year we provided the students, staff and bus drivers with a delicious Christmas luncheon. The children must have been saving up for the meal because many of them came back for seconds! We would also like to express our thanks to all those who assisted with the preparation and serving of the meal.

Thank you to all the parents who donated and/or helped out in any way this year. A special thank you is extended to Mr. Jason Badder for donating the ham again for the Christmas meal.

We would also like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Cudney for their help with the float, as well as Ms. Daudlin!

Next Council Meeting—the next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25th @ 6:00 p.m.

All parents are welcome! Hope to see you there!

