

Good Shepherd Catholic School



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Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 2018 Griffin News

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Father Ray's homily really spoke to me at the Ash Wednesday mass for the school. He spoke about how Lent is a time of hope and love. We know how deeply we are loved by our God and he shared that Lent is a time to show God just how much we love him. As we begin our Lenten Journey, it is always good to stop and think about why we are doing this. Wanting to think more deeply about Father's words, I found a reflection that I would like to share with you from Loyola Press.

"Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance? Each year the Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart."

May each of you find peace and renewal in the journey to the cross! Many thanks to Fr. Ray for his inspirational words.

Sincerely,
Sherrie Daudlin



March Break

March 12th —16th

Whether you are travelling out of town or enjoying the time at home with family and friends during March break, I wish you a safe, restful and relaxing week.



Ash Wednesday

The holy season of Lent began on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Father Ray welcomed the school and community to a wonderful Mass at the church for the students, families and guests.

Safe School Arrival

Many thanks to all parents for letting the office know when your child will be absent or late to school! This helps to reduce the number of calls required in the morning and after lunch. Please remember that you will receive a call until we can reach someone if you haven't had a chance to call the office. Calls start at about 9:30 and 1:00. Again, thanks for your commitment in helping to keep your children safe!



Are you preparing for your grade 8 graduation, spring formal or prom? Do you need a dress, shoes and a purse for the event? If so...

You're Invited to the Annual UCC Boutique Dress Sale

The dress sale will be May 3rd. from 3:00 -7:00 pm in the dance studio at Ursuline College in Chatham. All dresses are \$20.00 and shoes and accessories are \$5.00. Mark it on your calendar and bring a friend! Dress donations for the sale will continue to be accepted at the UCC main office.

Any girls in the community—elementary or Secondary are invited to attend!



****ALL CHILDREN DROPPED OFF IN THE SCHOOL YARD.****

We kindly request that all children arrive at school before the bell which rings at 9:12 a.m. and that they come through the back door with their fellow classmates. This avoids any disruptions to class time and morning announcements. Of course this does not apply to those children returning from early morning appointments. Your assistance with this is most appreciated!

Council Corner

Highlight from Your School Council:

Chair - Sarah Gervais
Treasurer - Carla Ennett

Special Food Days— We have sponsored a number of food days, from our Christmas dinner to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake lunch. Many thanks to Sarah Gervais and her group of volunteers who made these possible!

Want to be involved? We are always looking for more parents/guardians to share their ideas and talents!

Next Council Meeting - the next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 27th at 6:15 p.m. All parents are welcome! Hope to see you there!

Good Shepherd Catholic School

SPRING AHEAD!

Just a reminder to move your clocks ahead by one hour on Sunday, March 11th.



On The Sports Scene

The Senior Basketball season has begun. Many thanks to Mr. Cannella and Mr. Haggerty for their time and dedication .

Girls Team

Libby M.
Sydney F.
Reese C.
Hailey B.
Leah G.
Lucy M.
Meredith S.
Katherine H.
Paige S.

Boys Team

Adam N.
Nick H.
Keegan C.
Jonathan B.
Tristan H.
Kelton C.
Adam G.
Kylan C.





Inclement Weather Reminder!

Please send your child with **labeled** hats, mitts, boots, scarf, etc. for the winter weather.

Please be advised that if buses in **Zone 6** are cancelled due to severe winter conditions, Good Shepherd School remains open and classes will carry on as usual. In the event that schools are closed, there are no classes, and no staff at the building.

If busses are cancelled in the morning only due to FOG, they will run in the afternoon to take our students home. Remember that if buses are cancelled, bus students will not be called for attendance, but all walkers must call.

Announcements regarding bussing are announced on the local radio stations as well as posted on the website: schoolbusinfo.com.

We would like to also remind all parents that should it be a bus day on Pizza Day, we will NOT order pizza. Please send your child with a lunch and we will make sure that this day is made up another day.

So, on bus cancellation days, please send your child with their regular lunch, snacks and drinks for the day.

Snack Program!



Through the snack program, all students in our school will have nutritious snacks available during this morning block. All snacks will meet the standards outlined in the Food and Beverage policy. Special thanks to Jenn Marsh, Jess Casier, Sheila Harper and the team of volunteers who assist with this program.

At this time we would like to thank the following who so generously sponsor this program: Breakfast for Learning and the Ontario Student Nutrition Program along with support from the Cheese Fundraiser.

GETTING FIT WITH MR. CANNELLA

February was a very entertaining and fitness filled month. The students really enjoyed the Gator Ball Games unit. March proves to be another exciting month. The emphasis will be on Fitness through a variety of disciplines. Each student is encouraged to develop and work on skills at their own level. Continue to send your child to school with appropriate attire on those Phys. Ed. Days. More emphasis will be given to students in Grade 5 and up to wear appropriate clothing for Phys. Ed. The March Break might be a good opportunity to check your child's shoes and physical education attire. Enjoy your March Break.

Frank Cannella,
Health and Physical Itinerant Teacher

LifeTouch

It is that time again!!

Graduation pictures, team pictures and spring pictures will be taken on:

Wednesday, March 28th.

Please come with those smiles!

Smile  **Please!**

REMINDERS / HOLD THE DATE

- ◆
- ◆ *Last Day of Class—March 10th*
- ◆ *CLOCKS GO AHEAD! March 11*
- ◆ *March Break—March 12th—16*
- ◆ *St. Patrick's Day—March 17*
- ◆ *Welcome back to class—March 19*
- ◆ *First day of Spring—March 20*
- ◆ *SAC mtg.—March 27*
- ◆ *Grad/Team & Spring Pictures—March 28*
- ◆ *Good Friday—March 30 - No School*
- ◆ *Easter Monday—April 2nd. No School*



Focus on Faith

“Pastoral Care of Our Catholic School.” Is a document, commissioned and endorsed by Bishop Fabbro, was written collaboratively by parents, students, representatives from the six Catholic school boards within our diocesan area, and representatives from the diocese and our deaneries. In addition to the new curriculum explained in the January Newsletter, this will be the topic discussed among principals, parents, parish personnel and partners in Catholic Education during our Annual Great Family of our Church gathering when we gather together in prayer and discussion about Catholic Education.

To access the document, please choose one of the links below

English

<http://www.forums.dionet.ca/parishbriefings/Shared%20Documents/2018-01-January/Pastoral%20Care%20of%20Catholic%20Schools%20October%202016.pdf>

French

<http://www.forums.dionet.ca/parishbriefings/Shared%20Documents/2018-01-January/La%20pastorales%20des%20%C3%A9coles%20catholiques%202017.pdf>

Blessings,

Margaret Palmer

System Chaplaincy Leader

P.S. Have you visited our website lately for help raising your children in the faith?

Check out Living Our Faith portion of our website here <http://www.st-clair.net/living-our-faith.aspx>

Check out the section of our website that aims to equip Catholic parents as the primary faith teachers of the children they entrust in our care for their educational needs.

<http://www.st-clair.net/parents-and-community-partners.aspx>

