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st-clair.net

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D. Crawford

Superintendent: L. Callaghan

Board Chair: John Van Heck

Trustee: David Argenti

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P.A. Day:

Friday, June 7th

**Last Day of School:
Thursday, June 27th**

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL



25 Raleigh Street

Chatham, Ontario N7M 2M6

Telephone Number: (519)354-4642



JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

Principal, Adrien Gagnier

Secretary, Morgan Brown

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

As the year comes to a close at St. Joseph's Catholic School, I am extremely pleased with the friendships I have made with our students, staff, and families in our school community. The support and involvement from our School Community Council and Parish Team has been tremendous. I have enjoyed the time spent here, however brief.

This school year, we participated in several terrific activities such as; School Masses, School Family Activities, Boat Races, Muskoka Woods Leadership Camp, Canada's Wonderland, and StoryBook Gardens, only to name a few. These experiences have certainly enhanced our friendships at St. Joseph Catholic School.

Each year we say goodbye to our friends in Grade 8, however this year we will be closing a chapter in our school community. After 118 long years, our school will be closing. This could be seen as a time of sadness or of new beginnings. I would like to see this time as a celebration to new beginnings as we journey to our temporary new home of St. Ursula's Catholic School. New friendships will be made and many new opportunities to look forward to.

Have a Faith-filled summer holiday. Recharge your minds and spirits. As I move on as Principal of St. Agnes Catholic School, I know that our paths will cross again. I look forward to journeying with you as I will be checking up on all of you throughout the coming years.

God Bless!

Mr. Adrien Gagnier

Principal

Catholic School Community Council Corner

Next School Council meeting is
Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Important Dates & Reminders

- ♦ St. Joseph Catholic School Open House - Sunday, June 9, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- ♦ The school wide photo that was taken on Thursday, May 23 outside the front of the school, will be distributed to each family (1 per family) thanks to the school's fundraising efforts. A copy of the photo from Lifetouch Photography will be distributed in the first two weeks of June.
- ♦ Two t-shirts will be distributed in June to each student. One representing our St. Joseph Catholic School family and one representing our newest family of St. Ursula Catholic School. These t-shirts are free of charge to the students, due to the generosity of our school fundraising efforts.
- ♦ Any child wanting to attend the St. Vincent dePaul Camp this summer, please call the school to inquire for further support & details; 519-354-4642.

2019 Operation Backpack Program – United Way Chatham-Kent

United Way Chatham-Kent gearing up for the **2019 OPERATION BACKPACKS Program**. This community-building initiative offers a brand new backpack filled with basic school supplies to help your child begin the new school year with a great start. **This program is intended for students who require assistance.** Please visit our website at OperationBackpacksCK.ca to access the on-line referral link. At this web-address you will also find links indicating supplies that are provided, by grade level, and important information regarding where and when you can pick up your requested backpacks. Questions can be forwarded to Mary Symons, the program coordinator at mary@uwock.ca

www.schoolbusinfo.com



**JK's, SK's and parents
please join us to learn all about
school bus safety!**



First Time Rider Program -
Learn about school bus safety,
practice safe bus evacuation,
take a short bus ride, watch a
safety video and receive a
gift.

**Join us anytime between the hours of
9:00-11:30am on Saturday, August 17 2019**
(There is no need to pre-register)

Choose one of two locations:
Lambton Kent District School Board, 200 Wellington St. Sarnia
or
Ursuline College, 85 Grand Avenue West, Chatham

**For more information please contact
CLASS @ 1-877-330-4287**





Virtue of the Month

Our virtue for the month of June is “gentleness”. Staff acknowledge students who display tenderness when dealing with others and creation.

May Monthly Award Winners - Modesty

Our Fruit of the Spirit for the month of May was “modesty”. Staff acknowledged students who take pride in one’s achievements and appearance using behaviour that is respectful and humble.

Aryana B-H.

Athena A.

Lexana L.

Sophia T.

Jayne-Lynne P.

Leah P.

Myklynn G.

Joshua C-N.

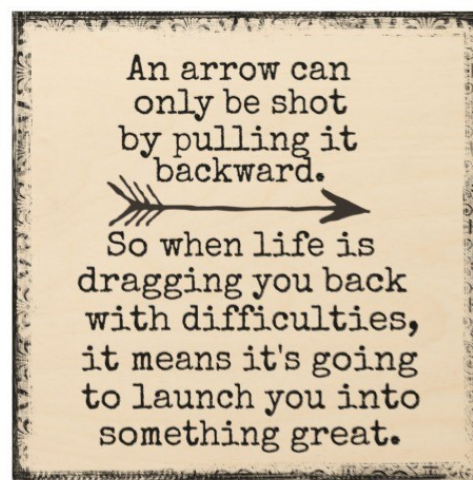
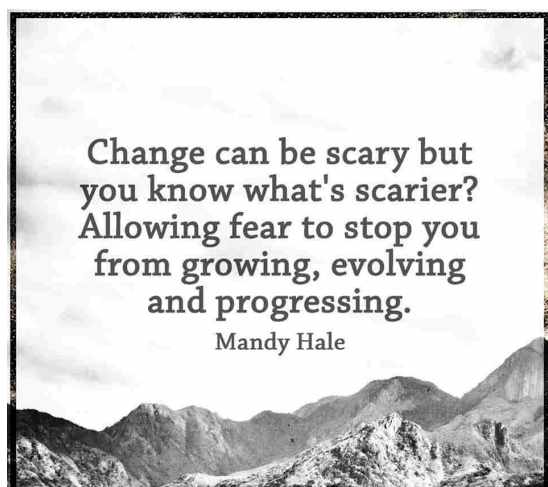
Brooklyn V.

Hailey N.



Chatham-Kent Block Parent Program

Regretfully, the Chatham-Kent Block Parent Program is closing, after 41 years of providing a network of police-screened safe homes and businesses for children during times of distress. All ‘Block Parent’ signs are to be removed from participating homes and businesses by **June 15, 2019**. After this date signs are no longer valid. Anyone who notices signage after June 15 is asked to report it at 519-354-0430 x267. We wish to thank everyone that has helped support the program over the last four decades.



OPEN HOUSE **St. Joseph** **Catholic School**

25 Raleigh Street Chatham

A Small School With a Big



JUNE 9, 2019

1:00-3:00 pm



Community members, alumni, current and former staff and students are invited to commemorate the closing of St. Joseph Catholic School. Please join our celebration on June 9th.

Classroom Organization

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the summer, staff at the Catholic Education Centre and in our schools will begin the work of organizing classrooms for September. As parents/guardians, it is important that you understand and support the role of the principal and Board staff as it relates to classroom organization in your school.

As you may be aware, the Ministry of Education regulates the number of students in classrooms. In elementary schools, class-size caps are set by provincial directive for individual grades; and for a system-wide average that must be maintained across the entire school board. Therefore, the number of classrooms, grades associated with each classroom and the number of students in each classroom in your school must always be viewed from a Board perspective, not just at the school level. It is also important to note that provincial funding is tied to compliance with this regulation. In other words, if we don't meet the Ministry requirements there is a financial penalty which will affect the support provided to our students.

The result of this directive is that combined grades are common in all schools across the province as a means of ensuring that boards are compliant with the provincial regulation. A common perception among parents is that combined grades are detrimental to learning; or, that they are a reflection of students' abilities – that is, in a Grade 2-3 split, the Grade 2s are above average learners and the Grade 3s are below average. The fact is all classrooms include students with a range of skills and abilities. Combined classes are neither better nor worse than single-grade classes. They are simply one of the many ways schools meet students' academic and social development needs.

Further, a great deal of time and effort goes into decisions at all of our schools, as our staff strives to create a classroom environment that supports the needs of all of all students. These decisions are ultimately made by the principal, in consultation with Board administration and student support staff.

Changes in classroom organization that are created when students move in or out of the school boundary, or by changing student needs from June to the first weeks in September, can create a domino effect that could result in changes to classrooms, which can sometimes impact every grade in the school. Even changes at another school can affect the classroom organization at your school.

It is the Board's goal to make every effort to accommodate these changes with as little disruption as possible. Students changing classrooms are always given a warm welcome by their new teacher and their new classmates.

Thank you again, for understanding and supporting the efforts of your principal and the school staff, in this important matter. It is our commitment to you that, although we must always strive to meet this provincial regulation, we will do so at all times having regard for the best interests of our students and our staff.

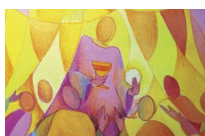
Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Deb Crawford

Director of Education

Renewing the Promise:



Celebration of the Eucharist

The Liturgy is the primary way the Church teaches. The Eucharist has the power to heal, unify and inspire our diverse school communities. We look to the future of Catholic education with great hope, supporting opportunities for faith formation for all members of the community in ways that are inviting, engaging and purposeful.

One of the earliest titles given to the Eucharist was “the breaking of the bread” and this speaks directly to the Emmaus experience. Every Sunday we are invited to gather as a worshipping community to experience this beautiful encounter. As we are fed with God’s Word and Body and Blood, we are strengthened and nourished and sent forth to serve the world with joy in our heart.

Jesus touches the hearts and minds of staff and students in our Catholic schools as they listen to Him and accompany Him on the road. His presence in the liturgy nourishes all who gather together (page 23).

Pope Francis reminds us:

“The Eucharist is simple food, like bread, yet it is the only food that satisfies, for there is no greater love,” he added. “There we encounter Jesus really; we share his life and we feel his love. Catholic schools are places where we encounter Jesus and feel His love so then we in turn can share this love with others.”

Reflection: Reflect on the words of Pope Francis

The Eucharist is essential for us: It is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace.

Think about how you can bring the love of Jesus to someone in need, someone who is hungry for food, love, care, friendship, prayers, and more.



Kindergarten Registration for Classes Beginning September 2019

If you missed our kinderSTART event ... don't worry! You still have plenty of time to register. And new this year, parents and guardians can submit the Kindergarten registration form directly online!

It's another option for you – choose the option that best suits you!

- Visit the Board website at <https://kreg.sccdsb.net/> to complete then submit the registration form online. You will be contacted by the school to confirm your registration.
- Or, you can download and print the registration form, fill it out and bring it to the school.
- Or, make an appointment or drop by the school and pick up a registration package.

We look forward to welcoming your child to Full Day Kindergarten next September!

JUNE/2019 ISSUE

**CHATHAM CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

PARISH OFFICES:

ST. AGNES PARISH OFFICE: 52 CROYDON ST. CHATHAM; 519-352-9483

ST. URSULA PARISH OFFICE: 205 TWEEDSMUIR AVE. CHATHAM; 519-352-8530

- June 3 Gr.1 and Gr. 7 registrations for First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation to be returned to the classroom teacher. If you've lost your form, please email achinnick@dol.ca
- June 9 Open House at St. Joseph Catholic School, 1-3 p.m.
All are welcome to share memories of their years at St. Joseph as the school will be closing at the end of June.
- June 8-9 There will be a special blessing at all the Sunday Masses at our Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes for any grade eight 2019 graduates. Please come with you family to celebrate with us.
- June 15/16 and June 22/23
There will be a special farewell after the weekend Masses to say good-bye to Fr. Don Pumputis, who becomes pastor of St. John the Devine in London on July 2.
- July 21 Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes Picnic
Free food, games, splash pad at Kingston Park in Chatham.
1-5 p.m.

Neighbourhood Challenge

We invite and challenge you to be intentional neighbours in our communities for the glory of God! See how many connections you can make in your neighbourhood this week. It may be a simple greeting, a smile, a conversation. Later you can give thanks in prayer to God for this opportunity and extend a prayer for one of your neighbours. "All it takes is a simple hello once in a while to foster a small connection, which can form a later sense of being part of a bigger "family". "