

The Crusader

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Leonard Fera

Secretary: Cynthia Cullis



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

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

Director:

D. Parr

Superintendent:

L. Callaghan

Board Chair:

J. Van Heck

St. Michael School

Trustees:

M. Parks, L. Ward

School Hours

8:10 am. School Begins
8:10 - 9:50 Classes
9:50 - 10:05 Recess
10:05 - 10:55 Classes
10:55 - 11:50 Lunch
11:50 - 1:30 Classes
1:30 - 1:45 Recess
1:45 - 2:35 Classes
2:35 pm. Dismissal

ALLERGY ALERT!

We have students at our school with severe, life-threatening allergies to peanuts and/or nuts. Please keep this in mind when sending snacks and lunches to school with your child(ren).

November 2017 Newsletter

As we move quickly into the progress reporting period of our school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in our efforts to provide a Catholic education for your children.

We would like to thank Mrs. Rocca for continuing to lead the school in our efforts to maintain the importance of the rosary within our school community. The Grade 2 and Grade 6 students worked together to create 25 rosaries to donate to the St. Joseph Hospice. Their Kindness was greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank all members of our school community who supported our Halloween Cake Walk fundraiser. The money was raised in efforts to fund the donated rosaries. We would also like to thank Fabien Jagoo in his efforts to support our school through the provision of music for our Halloween divisional dances. Always appreciated!

During the month of November, we encourage the students to remember and think about the many sacrifices that our Canadian soldiers have made to ensure our freedom. We all need to be reminded about how blessed we are to have our freedom and how we can help those throughout the world who have limited freedom. Please feel free to join us as the Grade 7/8 class leads our school community with a Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 9th.

Later this month we will be hosting our Celebration of Learning through Student Led Conferences. During the interviews on Wednesday, November 22nd, students will be able to highlight their accomplishments and discuss their next learning goals. It is important to acknowledge and celebrate accomplishments as well as focus on areas of challenge to map out or define next steps with your children. Interview times will be out in the next few weeks. Progress Reports will be sent home on Monday, November 20th.

Respectfully,

Leonard Fera

Principal

Terry Fox Run/Walk Update

We are pleased to announce that the students were successful in their pledge efforts for the Terry Fox Foundation. We would like to thank Mrs. Huyben, Ms. Whates and Mrs. Sanders for organizing this fundraiser and making sure that we were truly successful within our community.

Progress Reports

The November Progress Report:

- Encourages early and ongoing communication between you and your child's teacher
- Tells you how well your child is developing learning skills and work habits, which we know are critical for success. These essential learning skills and work habits are emphasized from grade 1 to 12
- Continues to report on academic subject areas, with the main focus on language and mathematics. Instead of a grade or mark, it will tell you how well your child is progressing, i.e. "very well", "well" or "with difficulty"
- Includes comments that describe key learning or strengths, specific examples, and next steps for student learning. This information will be helpful to you as a partner in your child's learning.

Adapted from *Supporting your Child's Learning through Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting* (2010). Queen's Printer for Ontario.

For more information about Growing Success, please visit http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/ReportCard_En.pdf

On Monday, November 20th the progress report for Grades 1-8 will be sent home. The focus is on reporting learning skill strengths and next steps. No marks or letter grades will be given on this report. These reports are intended to provide an update on your child's progress to date and to develop next steps and goals for each student to focus on for the remainder of the term. Listed below is a brief description of each of the "Subject Progress Check Boxes" that you will find on the Progress Report.

Progressing Well (PW)

Demonstrates on-going consistent improvement towards meeting the provincial standard by the end of the term/year. Evidence that the student is meeting or will meet the provincial standard.

Progressing Very Well (PVW)

Demonstrates ongoing, consistent improvement towards meeting or exceeding the provincial standard by the end of the term/year.

Very consistent evidence that the student is meeting or will meet, or is exceeding or will exceed, the provincial standard.

Progressing with Difficulty (PWD)

Demonstrates that the student will require improvement and/or assistance to meet the provincial standard at the end of the term/year.

Evidence that the student is not meeting or will not meet the provincial standard.

The focus for this assessment is for students to self reflect and develop goals or next steps in their learning. Students are to utilize their work and the input from their teacher and parents to develop a learning goal or goals.

Student led interviews will follow on Wednesday, November 22nd. If you are concerned at anytime about your child's progress, please contact the classroom teacher. Preference will be given to families that have returned their Interview Night Information Sheets during the first week of November.

The first report card will be sent home in early February. This report will address your child's achievement as well as learning skills. The second report card will be sent home the end of June.

Safe Arrival

Parents are to notify the office, before school begins, on days when their child is going to be away. We have a 24 hour answering service; please feel free to leave a message at a time that is convenient for you. Attendance is taken daily - at the beginning of the school day and after lunch.

St. Michael School is in Zone 2 for bus transportation. If the buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they **will** run in the afternoon. If the buses are cancelled in the morning due to winter inclement weather, they **will not** run in the afternoon. Transportation updates can be found at schoolbusinfo.com. On days that buses are cancelled, parents of students who do not take the bus must notify the school if their child is absent. Parents of students who take the bus do not need to notify the school on bus cancellation days of their child's absence.

Mabel's Labels Fundraiser

Don't forget that St Michael has an ongoing Mabel's Labels campaign. If you or any of your friends or family are ordering Mabel's Labels just make sure you contribute the sale to our fundraising campaign.

Visit mabelslabels.com and click on SUPPORT A FUNDRAISER. you can also share the link in Facebook.

Shop QSP online!

If you happened to miss the magazine fundraiser held in October, don't worry!

You can still order magazines online at www.QSP.ca until the end of the year!

our school ID is 3709003

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Parent Council

Kindness Week is November 20th to November 26th. Student parliament, with the support from Mrs. Rocca will inform students about plans for the week.

SCHOOL SPORTS

Cross Country Meet

Congratulations to all cross country runners who participated in the cross country meet on Saturday, October 15th. Our school was extremely well represented and can be proud of their results. Thank you to our coaches, Mrs. Keys and Mrs. Medeiros

Volleyball

On behalf of the school community we would like to thank Mr. Cardy and Mr. Nead for coaching our senior volleyball teams and providing our students with a successful team experience. We would like to congratulate both of our teams for productive seasons.

Both our junior teams are just beginning their respective seasons.

“St Michael Church, Bright’s Grove Christmas Bazaar, **Sat Nov 18th** from 900am-1:00pm. Tourtieres, baking, unique gift baskets, quilting, sewing, crafts, books and more. 1920 Wildwood, Bright’s Grove. Everyone welcome.”

Junior Girls VB Team (Mrs. Kingston)

Junior Boys VB Team (Mr. Cardy)

School Advisory Council News

The next SAC meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. Our meetings are held in the computer lab at the school. New members are always welcome to attend.

Focus on Faith By Margaret Palmer, System Chaplaincy Leader

I am delighted to say that I am in my third year as System Chaplaincy Leader. There is also one High School Chaplaincy Leader in each of our secondary schools. Unique to Catholic schools, chaplaincy leaders are given the privilege of collaborating with support staff, teachers, administrators, parents, parish staff and students alike. We aim to be *responsive to the needs of students within a caring Catholic culture* and are *committed to achieve high levels of achievement and well-being for all students*.

How does this happen day to day?

Providing morning prayers for the start of the school day, creating resources for the schools to teach the Fruits of the Spirit, the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross help to teach our students and remind the adults in our homes and schools that faith is key to success and well-being.

Working with teachers and parish staff to help our students to prepare and celebrate the Sacraments, we are giving our students a chance to know Jesus.

Helping our students to see their efforts to help others as Works of Mercy, we teach them that these kind acts are Acts of Faith.

Using the values and stories from the Gospels when teaching the curriculum, helps our students to see life through the eyes of faith.

These are examples of the many ways we work with parents and parishes to create a Catholic culture in which our students grow and mature. I pray that they will continue to receive the gift of faith that God bestows when we create hearts, minds and lives that are open to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. I am excited to see how each of our schools will be LIVING OUR FAITH throughout this school year.

PASTOR'S SUNDAY SCRIPTURE TIDBITS.

Oct 8 My beloved, you are my vineyard *Is 5:1*, ravaged by the boar of the forest. I will restore you, and let my face shine on you. *Ps 80* In your misery turn to the Lord with prayer and thanksgiving, and the peace of the Lord will guard your hearts. *Phil 4:6* So, let the Lord produce the good fruits of the Kingdom in you. *Mt 21:33*

Oct 15 A table feast of rich food and fine wines *Is 25:6* are given us every day in the Eucharist. Rejoice and be glad for it is the food of heaven, the Lord's body and blood. We receive the strength of God in this food of heaven *Phil 4:12 ff.* It is the Wedding Banquet of heaven, and we must be dressed in Baptismal faith to share in this great feast. *Mt 22:1 ff*

Oct 22 I call you by name so that all may know me, THE LORD, from the rising of the sun to its setting. *Is 45:1 ff* Give the Lord the glory due His Name. Worship, tremble, say, 'the Lord is King'. *Ps 96* You are beloved by God for he has chosen you. *1 Thes 1:1 ff* Give therefore to God what belongs to God. *Mt 22:15 ff*

Oct 29 You shall not oppress your neighbor or stranger, for I, your God, will hear his voice *Ex 22:21 ff.* Call upon the Lord to be your strength for he shows steadfast love to his beloved *Ps 18*. Be imitators, then, of the Lord, as the Holy Spirit inspires you *1 Thes 1:5 ff* and love the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul *Mt 22:34 ff.*

Nov 5 I am your great King, says the Lord. I bring you blessing in your goodness, and curses in your evil *Mal 1:14 ff.* O, Israel, hope in the Lord for-ever-more *Ps 131*. We give thanks to God for your goodness. This is the word of God at work in you *1 Thes 2:7 ff* Listen to your leaders out of love for me, your God. Be humble so that I, your Lord, may exalt you *Mt 23:1 ff.*

Nov 12 Wisdom is radiant; love her, seek her, hasten to listen to her, and you will find her *Wis 6:12 ff.* Thirst for Wisdom like a desert without water *Ps 63*. Wisdom informs you of the resurrection of Christ and your own bodies too *1 Thes 4:13 ff.* Therefore, be like faithful bridesmaids awaiting the Bridegroom to come to take you into the Heavenly Wedding Banquet *Mt 25:1 ff.*

Nov 19 Each of us is the capable spouse for whom the Lord seeks *Prov 31:10 ff.* We must always be diligent at our work to care for our families: both at home and in the church. Blessed are those who walk in the ways of the Lord *Ps 128* awaiting the Lord's coming *1*

St. Michael Spirit wear is now available for ordering online.



Order your child a T-shirt, Hoodie or Hat and show your Crusader Pride.

You can personalize your purchase with the addition of a name to the item for the low price of \$5.

Orders are to be available in time for Christmas. If you would like this to be a gift – please indicate to the office on personalized form sent home with the students last week or a quick email to Cynthia.

Sample Sizes are available in the school if you would like to verify what size you would like to order for your child.

School Yearbook (new from D. Suglio)

Order your yearbook now - don't be disappointed in June when they come in.

All orders need to be done online by Nov. 24, 2017.

Hardcover yearbook will be completed and delivered before the end of the school year.

Cost: \$26.00

A Candlelight Memorial Service will take place on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 7p.m. Sacred Heart Church. Come & remember loved ones from this past year or years gone by.



Come Celebrate a “Joy Filled Faith” with Chris Bray

All are invited to join in an afternoon &/or evening of engaging music and a dynamic talk to inspire your faith with Catholic speaker and worship leader Chris Bray on Sunday, November 19 at Sacred Heart Church. At 2:00 in the afternoon, Chris promises to deliver a “down to earth” approach for families - exploring practical tips for sharing their faith with others through living out their baptismal call. At 7:00p.m. Chris’ talk will cast a broader net to all parishioners at large as he brings his own brand of storytelling sure to light your faith on fire!

Christine Bresette

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

St. Michael & Sacred Heart Catholic Parishes

Called – Nurtured – Sent

To carry on the Mission of Christ
