



St. Agnes Catholic School



Director of Education: Mrs. D. Crawford
Superintendent : Mrs. L. Callaghan

55 Croydon St.
Chatham, Ontario N7L 1L5

Ph: (519) 354-0530 Fax: (519) 354-8249

Mr. M. Bernard, Acting Principal
Mrs. V. Moynihan, Secretary

Board Chair: J. Van Heck

The Gator Gazette



IMPORTANT DATES to Remember

- December 1**
Camp Christmas In Muskoka Primary Classes
9:30 AM
- December 1**
Christmas in Muskoka Community Evening
Chatham Armoury
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Free Event
- December 11**
Grade 8 Vaccinations
- December 13**
UCC Christmas Concert
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
FDK– Grade 8
- December 14**
Christmas Carnival
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
(more information to come)
Scholastic Book Fair
8:30 AM—7:00 PM
- December 20**
Rosary Team Visit
9:00 AM
- December 23 - January 7**
Christmas Holidays

Acting Principal's Message

I am very pleased to have been appointed Acting Principal at St. Agnes Catholic School. I am looking forward to working with everyone to continue the wonderful work that is happening in our school community. I am very excited to meet everyone and learn more about our school. I thought it might be best to introduce myself and share some of my background.

It truly is great to return to St. Agnes Catholic School where I started my career in education 20 years ago as a Long Term Occasional Teacher in the Grade 7 classroom. I have been involved in a number of teaching roles including classroom experience within the Primary, Junior and Intermediate Divisions and spent 12 years working as a Program Resource Teacher. Most recently, I have been an Acting Vice Principal at Sacred Heart Catholic School Sarnia and St. Matthew Catholic School Sarnia. I live in Wallaceburg and am married to Christine and we have two children, Sarah 14 and Trent 12.

I believe it is our mission and challenge to educate and foster stewardship and justice with all of our students. I feel very honoured to serve in a Catholic School System where we can enhance the student experience with our strong faith beliefs and I look forward to sharing this experience with all of you.

I would like to invite you to contact me at any time with any concerns. I will do my best to assist and will work with you to ensure that your children have a wonderful student experience.

As we enter into the amazement of the Advent Season, may God Bless you and your families. Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season filled with abundant joy.

Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Fruits of the Holy Spirit



In November our students worked on Faithfulness: "Behaviour that is trustworthy and loyal; and the ability to believe."

"Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you... write them on the tablet of your heart." Proverbs 3:3(NRSV)

Congratulations to our Award Winners

- FDK Ayla Hopper
Hazle Baker
- Gr. 1/2 Weston Marek
Melody Miller
- Gr. 3/4 Seamus Feng
Aliyah De Vos-Hall
- Gr. 5/6 Angelica Burnett
Rabeca Bertram
- Gr. 7/8 Desiree DeVos
Patrick Pearson

The Month of December

JOY

"Deep and abiding happiness."



'Christmas in Muskoka' at the Chatham Armoury



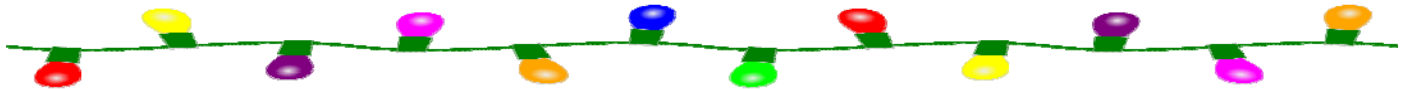
Friday, Dec. 1,

6:00 to 9:00 pm

'Tepperman's Family & Community Night'

FREE FAMILY PASS

Our Catholic Principals & Vice Principals welcome you to Community Night, sponsored by Tepperman's! Join us for Christmas activities & crafts, live children's theatre (at 7:30 am) and face painting. Children may visit Santa and raffle tickets will be for sale for 35 designer Christmas trees. Be sure to purchase your raffle tickets!



Confirmation Classes

Dec. 3/5; Dec. 10/12; Dec 17/18

Note Changes:

Sundays: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Tuesdays: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

No meals will be served but snacks provided

Email Mike for info: mmcpherson@dol.ca

First Reconciliation Dates:

Blessed Sacrament: Dec. 2,6

St. Joseph: Dec. 9 and 13

First Annual Family Advent Hayride and Caroling

All families are invited to an old fashioned hayride and Christmas Caroling Advent Party

at Blessed Sacrament Church

on Friday, Dec. 15th, 2017 from 6:00-8:00.

Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater and come enjoy warm refreshments and cookies, a visit from St. Nicholas and special guest musicians for all to enjoy!

Please bring one canned good for Outreach for Hunger.

Communal Penance

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church

Several priests will be available for confession.

Christmas and New Year Mass Schedules:

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

Parents – Apply today for the Canada Learning Bond (CLB)

You may receive up to \$2,000 for each child born on or after Jan 1, 2004.

Eligibility is based on the family income – but if you have received the NCBS (National Child Benefit Supplement) in the past or have income under \$45,917 starting in July 2017, your child may qualify for some or all of the money.

Open an RESP (Registered Education Savings Plan) and apply for the Canada Learning Bond at the same time.

You will need the following information...

Adult:

2 pieces of Government ID (one photo/not health card)
Social Insurance Number

Children:

Birth Certificate
Social Insurance Number

If you have any questions, call your financial institution or visit www.learnck.ca