



**St. Clair Catholic District School Board**  
 Walking together in Christ's light with parish and family, we are called to build a safe and inclusive Catholic learning community and to serve as partners in the formation of lifelong learners by:

- **Living our faith**
- **Promoting educational achievement and innovation**
- **Fostering stewardship, leadership and social**



Director: D. Crawford	Principal: C. Kehoe	Board Chair: J. Van Heck
Superintendent: S. Johnson	School Secretary: H. Barnes	Trustee: M. Roop

**ZONE 4** **June 2018**

**Important Dates**

- June 4<sup>th</sup> – EQAO
- June 6<sup>th</sup> – Track and Field SCCDSB
- June 8<sup>th</sup> – PD Day
- June 13<sup>th</sup> – Rain Date for Track and Field
- June 21<sup>st</sup> – Year End School Mass 9:45 am
- June 22 – Open House for New JK's 10:00 – 11:00 am
- June 25<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – Grade 8 Grad
- June 28<sup>th</sup> – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

**Principal's Message**

Thank you for a very rewarding time as Principal of St. Philip Catholic School. I am grateful to have met so many wonderful families, outstanding colleagues and the great people from St. Philip Church! I look forward to an exciting month here at St. Philip before moving on. This June we have a busy schedule which includes Mass, track and field, classroom excursions, and other classroom celebrations. I would like to remind students that though we have many exciting learning opportunities and excursions, it is also important that students are ready to work each and every day.

Please let the office know if you will be moving out of the St. Philip area during the summer. As well, registration is ongoing for any new students.

Also, our grade 8s will be moving forward to secondary school. I sincerely thank all of you for making this year a special one and look forward to seeing many of you next year and in the years to come!

Sincerely,  
  
Chris Kehoe

**School Council News**

Parents who are members of the School Council play a vital role in supporting many aspects of school life here at St. Philip. Their commitment of time and energy makes St. Philip Catholic School a better place for students and staff.

Please consider becoming a member of this year's council to help shape the future of St. Philip.

**OPEN HOUSE – School Council!**  
**June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the library all interested parents are welcome to come!**

**Pizza Day Is Coming: June 6<sup>th</sup>!!!**

Available for purchase through School Cash Online **ONLY**. This is our **LAST** pizza day!!

**Click on the following link to get started. If you need assistance, please see Mrs. Barnes at the office:**  
[School Cash Online](#)

**Our Catholic School Community**

**St. Philip Catholic School**  
 420 Queen St. Petrolia, N0N 1R0  
 519-882-1520

**St. Patrick's High School**  
 1001 Rapids Parkway, Sarnia, N7T 6X8  
 519-332-3976

### Classroom Placements

A great deal of time is spent considering each student's classroom placement as we want to offer the best possible learning environment to meet your child's learning needs. Classroom placements are made by a team that includes the school's resource teachers and input from classroom teachers presently teaching your child as well as the school administration.

As per board direction, class lists cannot be disclosed prior to the start-up of the new school year. Once again, students will be informed of their class placement on the first day of school.

### 2018 Fun Pass

Celebrate the summer with savings when you plan a trip to Ontario's attractions with the 2018 Fun Pass.

The 2018 Fun Pass coupons provide free admission for up to two elementary school-aged children at [18 popular attractions](#) when accompanied by a paying adult or senior. Parents can also save \$5 on a daily parking permit at selected [Ontario provincial parks](#). Simply bring a coupon to any participating attraction. Visit [Ontario.ca/funpass](http://Ontario.ca/funpass) for more information about the program and to download the coupons.

### You Still Have Time to Register for *Full Day Kindergarten* Classes Beginning September 2018

*For more information call the school office; or visit our website at*

[www.st-clair.net](http://www.st-clair.net)

### Footsteps of Faith

Every month, students from each class are recognized for living out a specific Catholic value.

**In May we were focusing on Modesty.**

This month's recipients were:

#### **Mrs. Vandenberg & Mrs. Soetemans**

✚ Bryson B

#### **Miss. Wall**

✚ Kylie C.C

✚ Harrison Mc

#### **Miss. Boyle**

✚ Kylie B

✚ Sadie J

#### **Miss Donald**

✚ Maxx M

#### **Mrs. Stanley**

✚ Sarah P

✚ Sophie W

#### **Mrs. Hammell**

✚ Hailey D

✚ Adam V

#### **Mr. Vandenberg**

✚ Kadence C

✚ Shane K

✚ Halle M

✚ Alex M

#### **Mrs. McGrail**

✚ Teagan C

✚ Luke D

### Sunscreen

With the arrival of summer weather, we strongly advise that you apply sunscreen to your son or daughter in the morning in order to protect their skin throughout the day. We also recommend a sun hat.

For a variety of reasons, school staff will not apply sunscreen to students. Thank you for your understanding.



## **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

## ***Focus on Faith***

The Church calls this season of the year Ordinary Time and defines it in this way.

“Besides the times of year that have their own distinctive character, [i.e. Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter seasons] there remain in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time.”\*

Ordinary Time does not focus on one beautiful mystery such as *Christ returning in Glory*, or *God coming to Earth as the Christ child*, or *Jesus loving us so much he was willing to suffer and die for us* or *Christ rising from the dead*. Instead Ordinary time invites us to honour **THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST ITSELF AND ALL ITS FULLNESS**. It invites us to consider the whole story of Christ becoming human, loving us, dying, rising from the dead, returning to God and eventually returning in glory. Looking at the whole mystery and seeing God’s hand in the unfolding of Salvation, we gain new insights into our own life stories. Honouring the whole mystery of Salvation helps us to trust that God watches over the unfolding of our own personal lives and salvation.

During the final month of the school year, there is so many ordinary things to do. Students are finishing assignments and preparing for tests/exams that will help them to complete the year. Teachers are assessing students, marking assignments and preparing final report cards. Parents are helping their children stay focused on schoolwork and sorting out the details for summer childcare and plans. The end of year field trips, fun days, track meets, assemblies and graduations provide glorious ways to celebrate this school year. All of this happens as the summer weather starts making everyone dream of summer vacation and fun. These activities are the ordinary tasks that make family and school life so meaningful. These weeks are unfolding as Ordinary Time.

If we are not careful, we might just live day to day and not even see the mystery of it. Our task is to pause long enough each day and week so we can actually sense God’s activity in our ordinary lives. I invite you to choose a form of prayer that helps you to sense the sacred in the ordinary. Some things to share with your children are bedtime prayer, grace before meals, praying the rosary and attending mass together. One tradition that I find helpful is to pray one *Our Father* to remind us we are all God’s family, pray one *Hail Mary* to remind us the Saints are always waiting to pray for us and pray one *Glory Be* to remind us that God is with us through all time.

God blesses us all the time, these prayers help us to notice. Have a glorious June and an even better summer everyone.

\* <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?id=10842#Ord>

***Ensure You Are Registered as a Separate School Supporter***

## ***Ensure You Are Registered as a Separate School Supporter For the October Municipal and School Board Elections***

Ontario's municipal and school board elections take place on October 22, 2018. If you are a resident, owner or tenant of property in Ontario, a Canadian citizen and 18 years of age you can vote in Ontario's municipal and school board elections.

It is the responsibility of every elector to make sure his or her information is up-to-date. By logging onto voterlookup.ca eligible electors can:

- Confirm or update your electoral information;
- Add an elector name to an address;
- Change school support.

You must be registered as an English Separate School Supporter in order to vote for trustees of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. Ensuring you are registered as an English Separate School Supporter also signals your support for Catholic education in Ontario.

Visit <https://www.voterlookup.ca/home.aspx>

