

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

SCHOOL	BOARD	PARISH
Principal: N. Stevens Administrative Assistant: B. Dillon	Director: D. Crawford Superintendent: L. Callaghan Board Chair: Mr. J Van Heck	Administrator—Father Higgins Parochial Vicar—Deacon Steve Administrative Assistant—C. Zimmer

JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Wow time flies by. I cannot believe it is already June. Although curriculum expectations are still part of June it is also a month when we reflect on a great school year and celebrate with yearend celebrations and field trips. Our year-end Mass is Wednesday, June 27th at 9:45. It is a beautiful time to come together as we start our summer. Please mark your calendars to join us. Awards will be Thursday, June 28th at 10:00 in our gym.

As well at this time, I would like to THANK YOU for entrusting your children with us. Seeing their smiles, their learning opportunities, their challenges and their energy make our jobs a tremendous joy. Thank you to an OUTSTANDING STAFF as their efforts create the smiles and opportunities. Thank you to YOU – our parents for your continued support. Have a great summer.
 N. Stevens

Virtue of the Month—

Gentleness: Tenderness when dealing with others and creation. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. Philippians 4:5a (NRSV)

Subject of the Month- Year End Awards

School Council

School council members have selected the following fundraisers for the 2018-2019 school year. Please keep them in mind. Harvest fest before Thanksgiving, our annual Hallowe'en Dance-athon on Hallowe'en and Bingos.

Thank you goes out to the following parents who supported council this year. Parents include T. VanRoboys, J. Phelan, B. DeVito, J. Rogers, D. Furlan, B. Johnston, C. Bondy and school representatives J. Caron- Gore, L. Williams and S. Lucier. This year conversation continued around the New North School and how we can make it a great transition. Next year all three North schools will be holding Transition Parent events so we can come together as one in the fall of 2019.



Each School Year we say good bye to staff and we say hello new staff. This year we will be saying GOOD BYE to INCREDIBLE STAFF. Best wishes to the following staff. Lisa Williams will be off to the Board office to support Board Wide Initiatives as a System Librarian. Wendy Clarke will be off to teach at Our Lady of Fatima, and Sue Lucier will also be off to Our Lady of Fatima. We wish the Best of WISHES, Health and Happiness to Laurie DeHaw who is retiring. We will be welcoming Cleo Cooper, Kim Zondervan, Karri Vermeulen and Adam Jones to St. Vincent for the Fall of 2018.

SUMMER JUNE SUN TIPS:



- Slip on a shirt * Slope on a sunscreen
- Slap on a hat * Slide on sunglasses
 - Seek the shade!

BICYCLE SAFETY: Please take a few minutes to review the following safety rules with your children.

- **Bike helmets are mandatory and students must wear a properly fitted helmet for their safety.**
- Make sure your bike is in good operating condition.
- Use light and reflective clothing if you just ride at night
- Always ride in single file.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Learn your hand signals.
- Ride as near to the right hand curb as possible in the same direction as traffic
- Keep hands on the handlebars unless signaling, and both feet on the pedals
- Lock up your bike when it is unattended.



FIELD DAY:

Thank you to ALL the PARENT VOLUNTEERS we had for Field Day! Although the weather was not very co-operative, it was a successful day. It was successful due to the outstanding volunteers we had. Including R. Devolder, R. Leclair, B. Arnold, D. Arnold, K. Heyink, A. Knotek, T. VanRoboys, H. Kennedy, T. Speers, T. Cable, J. Phelan, J. McKeon, L. Jackson and C. Lewis. And THREE AWESOME GRANDFATHERS!

Students attending the County Track meet include:

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Bailey H. | Isabella R. | Addison A. | Bryson F. | |
| Cameron S. | Chloe V. | Georgia B. | Owen H. | |
| Logan H. | Skylar M. | Alyssa M. | Livia K. | |
| Kylie B. | Kate H. | Campbell P. | Weston C. | |
| Charlotte H. | Julia H. | Jonah K. | Braden T | |
| Carter P. | Brendan M. | Gabe H. | Jake L. | Zachary P. |



HEALTH NEWS:

Packing a safe lunch: At school, lunch bags are stored in backpacks until it is time to eat. Here are 2 ways to keep sandwiches made from luncheon meat, chicken or egg salad cold until lunchtime:

1. Make the sandwiches ahead and freeze them. Put frozen sandwiches in the lunch bag. They will be thawed but still cold by lunchtime.
2. Place fresh sandwiches into an insulated lunch bag with a frozen juice box. At lunchtime, your child will have a cold sandwich and an ice-cold juice, too.

Lunch foods that don't need to be kept cold:

- ✓ Fresh whole fruit
- ✓ Muffins & bagels
- ✓ Granola

Water Bottles: A study showed that 65% of the water samples taken from children's water bottles did not meet acceptable drinking water standards (Canadian Journal of Public Health, 2002). Experts say that kids often:

- *Refill their water bottles without washing them
- *Do not wash their hands properly after using the bathroom.

Multiple-use containers should be washed with hot, soapy water, rinsed and refilled daily. Do not re-use single-use pop or water bottles. Frequent washing of this type of plastic may lead to chemicals leaching into the drink.



Congratulations to the girls and boys soccer teams who played successfully and had fun on Tuesday, May 16th!

Liam H.	Owen H.	Logan H.	Weston C.
Carmen B.	Tanner R.	Coulter H.	Finn R.
Xavier M.	Anthony P.	Ethan N.	Jonathan C.
Alyssa M	Chloe H.	Trinity G.	Addison A.
Emma V.	Addison A.	Emma Z.	Irah O.
Ava G.	Amanda H.	Danielle L.	Kaiya R.

Coaching by Mrs. Rylett, Madame Gore and Mrs. McGregor was also truly appreciated.



Canadian Food For Children is a registered charity with a warehouse located in Chatham at 270 Inshes Ave, Chatham, ON N7M 2Z6.

At this time they are proceeding with their annual 'End of the Year' School Supplies Collection. We are asking schools to please help us in any way to collect:

NEW OR USED:

ANY notebooks (full or partial), binders, pencils, erasers, math sets, rulers, markers, crayons, pencil crayons, paper (even if there is writing on one side), construction paper, gym equipment (balls, skipping ropes), Lost and Found clothing. Also a special request for pencil cases and back packs.

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 for more information about the program and to download the coupons.

BE THE REASON

SOMEONE

SMILES TODAY



See You Sept. 4th! Enjoy your summer!

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>

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 our 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

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>

