



Holy Family Catholic School

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APRIL 2017

AN EASTER PRAYER

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

May this declaration
resound not only in these walls
but touch the lives
of all we meet
and forever be
the truth of which we speak.
Your love,
once sown within a garden,
tended for your own people,
neglected and rejected,
now spreads its sweet perfume
in this place
and wherever it is shown.

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

DISCOVERING JESUS IN EASTER

The many secular Easter traditions we have were once meaningful ways to celebrate the good news that Jesus rose from the dead. Here are a few:

Easter Lilies

Using white lilies as Easter decorations in homes and churches came in to practice in the 1800s. The white flower is a symbol of purity. The lily's trumpet-like shape heralds the triumph of Jesus over death.

The Easter Bunny

The Pennsylvania Dutch introduced the tradition of an Oschter Haws, or Easter Hare, who brought colored eggs to good children on Easter morning. Like the decorated eggs, the bunny was a symbol of celebration and new life in Christ.

Colored Eggs

Eggs were a pagan symbol of rebirth at springtime. Christians adopted the egg as a symbol of the new life that comes with the Resurrection. Dying eggs in bright colors became popular during the middle Ages. Use a crayon to draw a cross or another symbol of God's love.

Easter Baskets

This tradition began in Eastern Europe where people brought food that would be eaten on Easter Sunday to church in a basket for a special blessing on Holy Saturday.

The Easter Candle

The candle represents the light of Christ, which has overcome the darkness. Start your own family tradition by using a white pillar candle as your family's Easter candle. Encourage your children to decorate the candle with stickers or markers.
Light the candle before dinner every evening during the Easter season.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It's Registration Time
Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting and special time for parents and children. Our entire Catholic school community looks forward to welcoming our youngest students as they begin a lifelong journey of faith-filled learning. We believe there is something truly unique and special about learning that is rooted in faith and spiritual growth. By choosing a faith-filled education, we know you will share that belief with us.

We encourage parents who are looking to register their child for Kindergarten to please contact Mrs. Smith at (705) 435-3989 to get a Kindergarten package. The package includes a parent booklet, child's activity book and DVD. You can also find all of the information on our board's website at www.smcdsb.on.ca/parents/kindergarten.

"First Rider Program"

Riding a school bus is a new experience for many children. To help your child get ready, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium offers a First Rider program for Kindergarten students who will be taking the school bus. Students and parents will be able to participate in a one-hour session, which includes a short school bus ride to practice safe boarding and exiting as well as bus riding procedures. The sessions will take place on Wednesday August 17th at Ernest Cumberland Elementary School (9am, 10 am, 11 am) and September 2nd St. Paul's Catholic School (9am, 10am, 11 am) and details can be found at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca

PRIMARY ELECTIVES

Our primary electives started on March 30, 2017, with students participating in the McLaren Art Centre program. The students will also be participating in Drumfit and the Groove Experience.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "Walking Forward Together."

The 2017 CEW theme and its five sub-themes are drawn from three contemporary Catholic documents that address the need for reconciliation and renewal – in our lives, with our families, in our relationships with others and in our relationship with our environment and our common global future.

The first is the 2016 response of the Canadian Catholic Bishops to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission that we need to heal past injustices by "Walking Forward Together." The second is the 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* by Pope Francis, that emphasizes the cultural roots of our ecological problems and advocates an urgent world collaboration for the care of our common global home. The third document, *Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love* is a 2016 Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, which applauds our dedication and concern shown to children, families, migrants, the poor, the elderly, and to persons with special needs, as a sign of the Spirit. These supportive relationships are a test of our commitment to show mercy in welcoming others and to help the vulnerable, to be fully a part of our communities.

Our CEW biblical quote, "Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8), acknowledges the important role of justice and solidarity with our Indigenous peoples, our environment, the poor and marginalized, and all those who work to protect our common global future.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

- Day 1: Walking Forward Together with God
Aller de l'avant avec Dieu
- Day 2: Walking Forward Together with Our Families
Aller de l'avant avec nos familles
- Day 3: Walking Forward Together with Others
Aller de l'avant avec les autres
- Day 4: Walking Forward Together with Creation
Aller de l'avant avec la Création
- Day 5: Walking Forward Together in Hope
Aller de l'avant dans l'espérance

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources as well as our own developed activities, we have prepared a series of activities which will highlight how our school is 'Walking Forward Together.'

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK (CBC)

With the school trips starting soon, please see information below regarding CBCs.

It is SMCDSD policy that parent volunteer must secure a satisfactory CBC with vulnerable screening prior to commencing any volunteer work. Once a CBC with vulnerable sector screening has been submitted it is the volunteer's responsibility to update their CBC

data on an annual basis by completing an Annual Declaration.

If you are thinking about volunteering at Holy Family for 2016/2017 school year and have not submitted a satisfactory CBC or have not been updating your CBC on an annual basis you are encouraged to complete your CBC check as soon as possible as the process does take some time. Please note that you will not be able to volunteer at the school or attend field trips unless this documentation has been submitted to the office. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the main office.

ARRIVE ON TIME

Being on time is so important for academic success! When children arrive at school on time, in calm and positive manner, instead of rushed and stressed from the journey, they will be more receptive to learning while building positive habits for their future. In addition, arriving on time will also avoid interruptions to the learning of their classmates.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING

Warmer Weather

With the warm weather approaching, we would like to take this opportunity to review our dress code expectations. Students are to observe the guidelines which follow:

*Wear shorts of appropriate length (e.g. a walking short length or longer)

*Wear pants/jeans/capris/shorts at appropriate waist level

*Sleeveless blouses are permitted, but no tank tops/muscle shirts. T-Shirts are a good idea for protection from the sun

*Blouses/shirts should be of a length that they could be tucked in. (e.g. no midriff exposed)

*Caps and visors are recommended to protect from the sun.

EQAO ASSESSMENT

Every student in Grade 3 and 6 in the province of Ontario will participate in the provincial assessment in reading, writing, and mathematics. It will take place between May 23rd and June 5th, for all students in Grade 3 and Grade 6. Could you please avoid booking dental, doctor appointments or vacations during this time. Please also discuss with your child the importance of these assessments and encourage them to do their very best.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 2016/2017 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Holy Family School. On Saturday, May 6 we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary with a mass at 1:00 pm at St. Paul the Apostle Church, followed by an open house and reception at the school. Please mark this date on your calendar and encourage family and friends to attend. More details will follow.

ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Are you home with little people and looking for something fun to do? Drop by the Ontario Early Years Centre in Alliston! The OEYC is a **free** service for all adults with children 0 to 6 years of age. Adults and children participate in activities together. Children have the opportunity to play with other children and participate in many different types of programs and activities, which promote early learning and school readiness, and they are **FUN** for children and adults alike.

Do you have a child starting school in 2017? Participating in activities at the OEYC is a great way to help prepare your child for this exciting transition. OEYC staff have resources for kindergarten preparation. Just drop by and ask!

Check out our website, www.e3.ca or call 705 435-4308 for hours, directions and more information.

HURRICANE UPDATE

Mrs. Hardy and Mrs. Daly would like to congratulate the Junior Boys Basketball team on a wonderful mini season. The boys grew in their own skills, helped each other learn and played beautifully to win both season games. These boys represented their team and Holy Family School as winners and gentlemen.

Congratulations to:

Luca M., Lochlin H., Jonathan W., Braxtyn S., Justin B., Gabe I., Ryan H., Alek R., Holden P., Jeshua I., Aaron M., Andrew F., Josh P., Germaine H., and Kyle P.

SCHOOL PLAY DETAILS

This year the Holy Family Drama Club will be presenting "The Bigger They Are", a musical about the famous David and Goliath Bible story. The students will be performing on Thursday, April 27th at 7:00pm in our Holy Family School gymnasium. There will be an open seating arrangement and donations to help cover production costs will be collected at the door. Our school will have the opportunity to attend the play at one of the dress rehearsals during the day on Wednesday, April 26th or Thursday, April 27th. Any visitors unable to come to the evening performance on Thursday, April 27th, will be provided with seating at the back of the gym for the dress rehearsals. Thank you for your support of the Holy Family School Drama Club.

SPRING FLING -FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH

Join us for the 2017

SPRING FLING

*In Support of creating Outdoor Learning Environments beginning
in the Kindergarten Yard.*



Friday, April 28th, 2017
Holy Family Gymnasium
5:30-7:00pm

We need your help:

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 22nd | Silent Auction donations now being accepted for your child's class Theme basket to be auctioned off Friday April 28th. |
| April 10th | Raffle Ticket Sales Begin. |
| April 24th | Please return all Raffle tickets (sold & unsold) and money. |
| April 28th | Spring Fling, Silent Auction Baskets, Raffle Draw & Family Fun! |

Make a difference at Holy Family Catholic School

April 2017 - Holy Family Catholic School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy	29 1:00pm Easter Tenebrae at St. Paul the Apostle Church	30 Hot Lunch-Pizza	31	1
2	3	4 Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy	5 Grade 8 Graduation retakes Bus Evacuation Drill completed by bus drivers at Holy Family in the am Bus Evacuation Drills (am)	6 Hot Lunch-Pizza Squire Presentation to grade 6,7,8 (nine-fifteen)	7	8
9 Palm Sunday Palm Sunday (Christian - Western)	10	11 Pesach (Passover) 1st Day (Jewish) Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy	12 Chess Tournament @ Monsignor Ronan (am)	13 Maundy Thursday Hot Lunch-Pizza Stations of the Cross presentations (eleven am and one pm)	14 Good Friday Good Friday (Christian - Western)	15 Holy Saturday
16 Easter Sunday Easter Day (Christian - Western)	17 Easter Monday	18 Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy Drumfit primary electives	19	20 Hot Lunch-Pizza	21	22
23 First Communion one thirty pm @ St. Paul the Apostle Church	24	25 Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy	26 School Play day Presentation @one fifteen pm	27 Hot Lunch-Pizza School Play Day (one fifteen pm and Night Presentation Seven pm)	28 Spring Fling Evening five thirty pm to seven pm	29
30 Catholic Education Week	1 Catholic Education Week	2 Hot Lunch-Lunches Made Easy Catholic Education Week	3 Philip and James, Ap. Catholic Education Week	4 Hot Lunch-Pizza French Presentation grades 4-8 (ten am) Catholic Education Week	5 Catholic Education Week	6 Holy Family School 25th Anniversary Celebration-Mass at one pm at St. Paul the Apostle Church. Open house and reception to follow at the school.

