



**St. Peter the Apostle School**  
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Principal: Mrs. Pender

Office Administrator: Mrs. Hill

## February Newsletter 2018



### OUR STORY ~ OUR JOURNEY

#### Principal's Message

Pope Saint John Paul II, in his 1994 Letter to Families wrote, "Among the many paths that we walk on earth, the family is the first and most important."

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Family Day. Although this is a secular holiday, our Catholic faith tradition affirms the absolute importance of families.

'Family' is one of the nine virtues and values our Board has chosen to help shape our identity as a Catholic school board. Our Christian family is a community of faith, and the love that family members show one another reflects the self-giving love Christ has for each one of us. Family Day is not only a day to play together, but it is also an opportunity to give thanks and show appreciation for those we love. Let us always take time to pray for and to give thanks for our family.

On Ash Wednesday (February 14) we will begin the season of Lent: a time of reflection. Pope Francis provided a beautiful quote that is a great place to begin reflecting: "How beautiful it would be if each of you, every evening could say: Today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards one of my friends, my parents, an older person!" I wish everyone a wonderful month of love, friendship and reflection! May your family always grow in love, compassion and forgiveness.

May God Bless us all,  
Mrs. J. Pender

#### Trustee's Message:

A Catholic school is a place where students live a shared experience of faith in God and where they learn the riches of Catholic culture...Catholic schools must help students to

deepen their relationship with God and to discover that all things human have their deepest meaning in the person and teaching of Jesus Christ.

Pope Saint John Paul II

Are you a Catholic School Supporter? Would you like to add your name to the thousands of other advocates across the province?

Together in Faith is an initiative of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association in partnership with the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association and the Association of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. We are asking people to register their support for publicly-funded Catholic Schools by visiting [www.togetherinfaith.ca](http://www.togetherinfaith.ca) and providing their name, email address and postal code (with assurances that this information will not be shared). You are also invited to like the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association page on Facebook and follow them on Twitter for stories about the great work being done in Catholic Schools across the province.

The following is taken from the Together in Faith website:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides the provincial voice for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education. As the central source of information on Catholic education, OCSTA works hard to safeguard and promote the interests of over 600,000 students and 34,000 teachers. Ontario's Catholic schools are a vibrant and vital part of the province's education system.

Ontario's education system is considered among the best in the world and Catholic education offers a unique opportunity for students to experience academic excellence in an inclusive, faith-based environment.

Join us and strengthen our community of support for Catholic education in Ontario Thank you for your help in promoting and protecting the gift of publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario!

God Bless,  
Carol Corriveau-Truchon



## 2018-2019 Kindergarten Registration

It's getting close to Kindergarten Registration Time again!

(Packages will be available February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018)

### Welcome to 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.

### All the Information You Need

To help parents and students get ready for this important milestone, our board has developed an award-winning package. We encourage parents who are looking to register their child for Kindergarten to drop by the office to pick up their copy of the package, which includes a parent booklet, child's activity book. You can also find all of the information on our board's website at

[www.smcdsb.on.ca/families/kindergarten](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca/families/kindergarten)

### English as a Second Language (ESL)

We have resources and information available for families whose first language is not English. Please inquire about the ESL version of our Kindergarten package. We are here to answer questions and help you prepare. Please contact the office for more information (705) 746-7196.



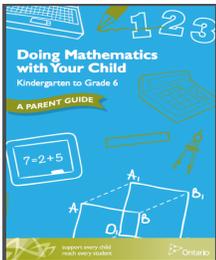
### St. Dominic Registration (Open-access)

St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School has sent home Grade 8 Registration packages. Extra packages will be available in the

office should they be required. Please help to spread the word that **all** publicly funded secondary schools are considered to be "open-access" in Ontario. This means that students from **both the Catholic and public boards can register at St. Dominic.**

### Math tips to help at Home:

Doing Mathematics with your Child (K-6) - Parent booklet. Many [translations available](#)



### Health News

Help stop the spread of sickness. If your child/ren are experiencing any of the following symptoms, fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, or flu, it is recommended that the child should be 24 hours free of symptoms before returning to school. Sending your child back too soon only infects others in the school. Thank you!



### Warm Clothing

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions throughout the day. Hat, mitts or gloves, snow pants and boots are necessary everyday. Putting an extra set of mittens and socks in school bags is highly recommended. Please label all clothing items so that we can easily identify to whom the items belong. If you need assistance to attain these items, please contact the school. We have graciously had a **donation from the Knights of Columbus of girls and boys winter jackets**. If any family is in need, please contact the office, we are here to help! We would also appreciate any donations of hats, mitts and scarves for our school "borrow and bring back program" for students who may be in need of these items.



### Catholic School Community Council (CSCC):

Welcome to the Parent Council

The Catholic School Community Council meets to discuss school issues. Our objective is to provide a caring, nurturing, educational environment steeped in the Catholic tradition. All parents are welcome to attend. Our next CSCC meeting is Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00 pm, Weather permitting. For more information, please email Karina Lapping at [karinalaping@hotmail.com](mailto:karinalaping@hotmail.com) or call Mrs. Hill in the office. New Parents are always welcome! Children are also welcome to come and go on the computers while parents meet and discuss various items.

### Pancake Tuesday:

Students in Grades JK-8 will be enjoying pancakes on Pancake Tuesday that is taking place on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> in the gymnasium at 11:30 am. If your child has a food allergy, please send in food that they are able to eat during the pancake lunch while sitting with their class.





**School Mass:**

Our next school Mass will be an Ash Wednesday held on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at **9:30 am** in the gymnasium. Everyone is welcome to celebrate with us!

**Chess Club:**

Students in Grades 4-8 are invited to join the Chess Club. Practices will take place on Thursdays in the library. Please remind your students that commitment and practice is important!



The Chess tournament will take place on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the BOCC. More information will come out closer to the date.



**Robotics Coding Club:**

Students in Mr. Skinner's Grade 5/6 are invited to join the Coding Club and learn how to Code with Dash & Dots. The Coding Club

meets every Wednesday in the library for the month of January and February. The next class will be Mrs. Madden's Grade 6/7, for March & April, followed by Mrs. Bunker's Grade 8 class for May & June!

**Curling Bonspiel**

Students in Grade 4-8 are invited to join the Curling Club that we have going on at the Parry Sound Curling Club. A big thank you to Mrs. Forder for helping run this! Students that are interested in joining the Curling Club are asked to contact the office. Our students will be participating in the Curling Bonspiel that is happening on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.



CURLING BONSPIEL

**School Skating:**

Our next school skating session will be held on Thursday, February 8th, 2018 at the Bobby Orr Community Centre. Parents are always welcome to come and enjoy the fun! We appreciate your help with tying skates too!



JK/SK – Grade 3 1:30 pm - 2:10 pm  
Grades 4 –8 2:10 pm - 2:50 pm



**Inclement Weather**

Bus cancellation announcements can be heard on 103.3 Moose FM or viewed on our

board website at [www.smcdsb.on.ca](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca). We are in the West Parry Sound Region. When buses are cancelled in other regions of our Board because of inclement weather, they may not be cancelled for us! In the coming months, please remember to listen for weather zones, when buses are cancelled. Please note that the school will not be phoning home to advise you of any bus cancellations. In the event that the buses are cancelled, the school is open for learning. Drop off time is 8:35 a.m. and pick up time is 3:10 pm. If the inclement weather day is a pizza or hot dog day, **the food is cancelled and will be delivered the following day.** Milk will continue as usual but your child will need to bring a lunch.



**IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION**

We have students who have life-threatening allergies. We are asking that lunches and snacks be allergy free in those classrooms affected.

Grade 8 Room# 130 Shellfish Allergy  
JK/SK Room# 111 Egg Allergy