



St. Peter the Apostle School

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Principal: Mrs. Janis Pender

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"Live Christ Every Minute Every Day"

January 2017 Newsletter



Principal's Message

January tends to be a time for goals, resolutions, renewed commitments and self-improvement. Some might even say fresh starts, but really, experiences and choices from our past serve to shape us into what we are today and what we can become moving forward. Taking the best of our many past successes, and learning from the odd bump in the road from days gone by, is the age-old progression of human growth and development.



Gaining from our experiences, whether fantastically successful, or dreadfully disastrous is the true hallmark of learning. Students will return to class January 9, 2017 and will begin the journey toward June.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas concert performance. We deeply appreciate families making the time and commitment to celebrate both the season, and our students' efforts.

On a far more personal note, we want to thank everyone for their remarkable generosity during the holiday season, and we hope that 2017 sees your dreams become reality and the New Year brings you and your family peace, happiness, prosperity and good health. We look forward to seeing everyone on the 9th!

May God Bless,
Mrs. J. Pender

Trustee's Message

Even the littlest and weakest person has a gift for the community, and that gift must be honored. Each one of us is very different one from the other. But all together we are like a symphony, an orchestra; all together we make a beautiful bouquet of flowers. That means, however, that we must learn to live difference, to see it as a treasure and not as a threat.

Jean Vanier

Welcome back! I hope that all of you enjoyed time with those you love most over the Christmas Break. It is truly a "Winter Wonderland" outside now.

At the December meeting of the Board of Trustees, I was honoured to be elected Chair of the Board. This means that in addition to my responsibilities as a Trustee, I will preside over

the Board Meetings, act as spokesperson for the Board of Trustees and represent the Board at public functions. I will still look forward to attending school functions, like masses, fundraisers and Catholic School and Community Council Meetings so that I have the chance to interact with the students and families that I have been blessed to meet over the years. As Chair, I will also attend functions in communities outside of Muskoka and Parry Sound.

I hope to see many of you at **St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School on Thursday January 12th for the Parent Information Night**. As a parent I can tell you that my children thrived at St. Dom's. They formed lasting friendships and bonds with staff and students that have helped them to find success at university and in the careers they followed after post-secondary. The amazing staff, small class sizes, leadership opportunities and Catholic curriculum helped them develop into caring adults. Come and learn about what St. Dom's can offer your children!

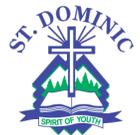
God Bless,
Carol Corriveau-Truchon

School Mass

Our school Mass will be held on Wednesday January 11th, at 9:30 am in our School gymnasium. Come celebrate with us!

St. Dominic Registration (Open-access)

St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School will be sending home Grade 8 Registration packages soon. 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.**



Warm Clothing

Winter officially arrived in December! 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. 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 to.** 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 would also appreciate any donations of hats, mitts and scarves for our school "Warm heads and Warm hands Program". Students who may be in need of these items can borrow them for the day.

School Skating

Our next school skating session will be held on Thursday January 12th, at the BOCC. It is wonderful to see so many parents/guardians at the rink. We appreciate your help with tying skates.
JK – Grade 2 @1 pm and Grades 3 – 8 @1:50 pm



Catholic School Community Council (CSCC)



Our next CSCC meeting will take place on Tuesday January 17,th @ 6pm in our staff room. We look forward to seeing you there! New members are always welcome to join!

Health News

Help stop the spread of sickness. If your child/ren are experiencing any of the following symptoms, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, 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.



Inclement Weather

Bus cancellation announcements can be heard on 103.3 Moose FM or viewed on our board website at 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 when buses are cancelled. 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 sub day, **the food is cancelled and delivered the following day.** Milk will continue as usual but your child will need to bring a lunch. If you have the app below all you need to do is click on the bus tab and touch Parry Sound - all busing information will be listed letting parents know of any cancellations and or delays. This app also takes you to our web site for St. Peter The Apostle and lists all events on our calendar. A quick and easy app that will give you the information you need.



2017-2018 Kindergarten Registration

It's Registration Time (packages will be available February 1st 2017). We will be holding our JK Information night sometime in April 2017.

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



Communication of School Events

Keeping parents informed is of the utmost importance to us at St. Peter The Apostle. Our website has our calendar listed with all the activities that happen during the month and can be found at spe.schools.smcdsb.on.ca. If you would like to follow us on Twitter, please follow us at [@SMCDSB_SPE](https://twitter.com/SMCDSB_SPE)



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.