

Principal's Message

The season of Christmas is in the school. This season of Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus Advent celebrations. The Advent Wreath is a way of truly getting ready. As part of your preparations you might wish to make an Advent Wreath and display it in your home. Perhaps you might choose a time this week and light the first candle which signifies Hope. I have included a sheet called The Advent Wreath should you wish to make this part of you home preparations for Christmas. The Staff at Scared Heart Catholic School wishes all our families the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of this Christmas Season.

Father Gates

Father Gates will be in the school to prepare the children for Christmas with and will be having the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Father Gates was pleased with the effort of our Children at Blessed Sacrament Church.

Please remember to pray for the continued health of our clergy

When we need a priest the most they are always there for us.

Scared Heart Choir

Sister Jane along with a number of our girls sang for the first time at Blessed Sacrament Church. The feast of Christ the King was the occasion and I must say our children added so much to the celebration. Sister is busy preparing the children for the Christmas Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church. More details will follow. Keep up you fine efforts.

Thank you Sister for all your efforts.

Food Drive

We are planning a food drive as well as a collection of money for the less fortunate in our Community. Part of this collection of money will be given to Our Lady's Missionaries. Sister MaeJanet was in the school and made a presentation to the Grade 8 Class. Our Lady's Missionaries celebrated its 50th Anniversary last year. This order of Sisters was founded in Lancaster. The Sisters who are helping the needy of the world are from this area. Our Grade 8 students will be visiting all the classes to forward their message to the school. Much thanks to Mr Mcdonell and the Grade 8 students for their participation. Both visitors who came to the school had high praise for the efforts of the children and the warm welcoming efforts of our school.

Report Cards

Once again our parents turned out in great numbers to pick up the Report Cards. Report Cards were not sent home with the children as we

are making every attempt to meet with the parents at least once in the year. Thank you for your patience in waiting for interviews. Remember there is a third sheet of the Report Card in which you are able to respond. These responses are filed in the OSR file. (Ontario Student Record)

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year

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A Message from Claire our Secretary

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Claire has asked we send a big vote of appreciation to all our parents who take the time to call the school when their child is absent. You cannot imagine the time saved daily. She has also asked me to remind you not to show up at the office with money and expecting change. Please consider a number of parents dropping off money throughout the day needing change may appear small but the frequency does not allow her to get her work done. A Reminder there is Becker's around the corner.

Parent Council News- Lise Cooper

The Meal Program is now in operation. Thanks to the parents who have volunteered to assist our Lunch Bunch. We are still in need of parents at the end of each month to assist in putting the order together and getting the money to the bank. Should you wish to volunteer please contact Mrs. Nancy MacGillivray or call Claire at the school and she will forward a message and you will get a call.

No Refund Policy

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We have asked that all meals be pre paid. Last year we lost hundreds of dollars as we had to return money and had to pay for the meals which were delivered to the school. Once we make an order the food is purchased and we cannot return it. Following a lengthy discussion at our Parent Council Meeting, it was decided we would adopt this no refund policy. Students who do not attend school because they have been suspended cannot arrive at the school expecting to be fed. They are not allowed on school Property. Parents of students who are absent and wish to pick up their meal may do so at the office before we deliver the food to the class. The parent volunteer will get you the meal. Pickup times are 11:35 and 11:55. Our Parent Volunteers are to be commended for efforts. Parents are asked to direct any difficulties to the school through the agenda. You might also direct any positive feedback through the agenda's as well. It has to be remembered we are offering this service as we believe in the value for both our parents and children. If you consider we are serving on average 200 meals a day, this translates into 1000 meals a week. There will be mistakes, but remember we as a team working together can eliminate errors if we all follow the routines we have set out. All profits from this program remain in the school to support the various activities in our school.

Fundraising

This year's fundraising was in part a success; however, not all funds have been received. The money continues to trickle into the school. We need to put closure on this activity so that we can forward the names to the School Board in order for them to prepare Income Tax Receipts. We had about 20 % participation in this activity. Parents who wish to contribute to the school may do so directly by sending money to school. In June we will send a list of names to the Board for receipts. To all our parents thank you for your efforts now and in the future. More information about the Fundraising will follow.

Remember we have our Parent Council Meetings of the first Wednesday of each month. All parents are welcome to attend.

Reminders

- The City of Cornwall has passed a by-law which will improve the traffic problem after school. They have a no stopping zone between Aubin Street and Gallanger Street. I have been informed that the By-law enforcement officer will be reviewing the area. Your cooperation is needed to insure the safety of our children.
- A safety concern we have is the practice of dropping off the children in the Bus loading area. We would appreciate it if you would wait until the busses leave the area as children cannot walk between busses. The busses unload at 8:45 AM.
- Please note the school does not start until 9:00 AM. We see more and more children arriving at the school much too early. Some children are around the school at 8:00AM. This is too early as the yard is supervised from 8:45 AM. We will allow children in the school at that time in extremely cold or wet weather. For the walkers they should time their arrival between 8:45 and 9:00AM.
- Please insure your child has the necessary clothing to wear outside.
- Each year we have bags of mittens and clothes which are sent to the Salvation Army or Agape Centre. These clothes are worn to school and then forgotten or misplaced They end up in our lost and found. **Should your child come home with an item which is not theirs then someone in the school is missing it.** Items which are found are to be brought into the school. Children cannot trade their clothing with one another. We need your help. With the cost of kids clothing I strongly urge you to identify the clothing so as it can be returned. Many time students loose their things and claim they were stolen. Identification might solve this problem.
- This is the season of Christmas but also the season of extra pants as the yard is muddy and in spite of our attempts to keep kids out of the water children will get wet and need a change. You might send extra clothes.
- Reminder of our Dress code policy. Some of the tops in the school are too short and expose the tummy.
- Parents are encouraged to read the information given to them at the Parent Interview. You are also asked to "Make the Call." The more people who call the Ministry of Education the better chance we have of getting the additional funds for Programming. Parents can affect a change.
- **If you are shopping at M&M Meats, the school receives a percentage of the purchases you make. Please remember our number is 49, when you get to the cash, or you might tell them you are shopping for Sacred Heart Catholic School. Two times a year we receive a cheque from**

them.

National Child Day

Thanks to the efforts of Cindy Seguin and Lise Cooper along with their moms National Child was celebrated with each child receiving a Muffin. These Muffins were made in the home of these parents. On behalf of the children we want to thank you for this effort. The muffins were Grrrrreat ! Thanks also to Your Independent Grocer for their donation of Muffin Mix.

Another Thank you goes to Mr. Woodbeck who came to the school and spoke to the children of the military in preparation for Remembrance Day. As our Vets are getting old the younger men and women have taken up the torch to keep this valued tradition alive.

Volunteer Need Read on

Each day we receive Lunches free of charge from the General Hospital. We need a person who can pick up these lunches and deliver them to the school. Presently I have to pay a delivery service \$3.00 a day to get these lunched. This is a small amount but over the year is costs \$600.00 for our school alone. If you can assist us please contact the school and we will give you the details.

Sacred Heart Flag Football

Sacred Heart School Hornets Football teams played extremely well seeing both the boys and girls going to their respective final games and coming second. Our school is extremely proud of the great sportsmanship and effort. There were also several student volunteers who worked to make our tournament a success. Special thanks to all the cheering parents and to Mrs. Shayne and Mrs. Levac for helping out in the canteen. These fine efforts demonstrate to all that Sacred Heart Catholic School has the best school spirit in the city. Thanks also to Mr. MacDonald for organizing the tournament for the city and Mr MacDonell for coaching the teams. I am proud of the teachers in our school who have taken on a leadership Role in organizing these events. Miss Francis Spagnolo successfully organized the Soccer Tournament and now Mr. MacDonald organized the Football tournament. The efforts of the coaching staff may not translate into winning the Championship but we are extremely proud to say we are part of Sacred Heart Catholic School.

School Improvement Plan

A committee has been formed to develop a plan for the next couple of years. In two meeting we basically set out our Goals for the future which encompasses all aspects of our school for the next three years. The results of the EQAO Grade 3 and Grade 6 testing will guide us in developing a plan which addresses the academic needs of our children. Target setting specific behaviours and their reduction will enhance to our school. The single most important part of this plan is our connection to our church Blessed Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 18/02 at 6:30-8:00.

St Joe's Secondary School