

## SAINT MARY SCHOOL

36 Silverwood Drive  
Huntsville, ON P1H 1N1  
705-789-6481

**Happy  
Thanksgiving**



### Thanksgiving Prayer

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.

Adapted from *Celebrating Faith: Year-round Activities For Catholic Families*, by Mary Cronk

### School Photos - Monday October 16, 2017

Edge Imaging will be at Saint Mary School for our annual Photo Day on Monday October 16, 2017. A reminder notice will be sent home just prior to



the photo day. If your child is absent this day, re-take day is November 6, but that is for individual photos only, not class photos. So... if possible, please have your child at school on

October 16.

### Chocolate Fundraiser



Mmmmm.... Chocolate! Yes, it is back! World's Finest Chocolate is being gobbled up by families, co-

workers and neighbours of the Saint Mary's School community - have you got your box to sell yet? This is an amazingly easy (and yummy) opportunity to help out with our fundraising efforts. Please complete the order form that was sent home with all students in late September to get your box to sell. Thank you for your support and please send in your payments by October 13, 2017.

### Arrive on Time Please



A reminder that our school day begins at **8:45** and all children should be present at school at this time. The development of punctuality is an important lesson for children to learn. Please assist your child to this end by having him/her at school when the school day begins.

### Safe End of Day Pick-Up Routine - THANK YOU to parents who...

- Send a note with your child in the morning to notify Saint Mary's staff that you will be picking him/her up at the end of the day.
- Wait in the designated pick up area (not your car and not on the street beside the school) - students are not dismissed from class until 3:15 pm
- **Plan ahead...** while we recognize that in the case of an emergency you may have to call the school to notify us of a transportation change, a note is the standard method of communication that is to be used by all parents
- Walkers are reminded to cross safely using the parking lot exit and not the entrance where the buses enter our parking lot.



Saint Mary's School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
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**Saint Mary's School Mass**  
**Thursday November 2 - 10:45**  
**am**



All parents and community members are invited to attend our next school mass that will take place on Thursday November 2, 2017 in the school gymnasium. Thank you to Mrs. Shisko and her grade 3/4 class for organizing our October 4 mass.

**Sacramental Preparation Meeting -**  
**Tuesday October 10 @ 6:30 pm at St.**  
**Mary of the Assumption**  
**Church**



On Tuesday October 10, Father Sercely will be meeting in the church hall with all families of children who will be receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this year. While this is traditionally received in Gr. 2, students from all grades are also. It's not too late so please reach out to Father Sercely if you would like your child to receive these sacraments.

**Terry Fox**

Thank you to all staff and students who supported the Terry Fox Fundraising and Run! Together we exceeded our goal of \$1000 and collected almost approximately \$1289 for cancer research! Thank you to all staff who donated to the "Time and Talent" draw. We will be drawing the winners soon and the students will enjoy their time and fun with staff. A huge thank you to Ms. Payne and her amazing group of student helpers.



**Science North Family**  
**Science Night - Tentative Date - November**  
**13, 2017!**



We are very excited to be hosting a Science North Science Night. It has been tentatively scheduled for Monday November 13 from 6:00

- 7:30. It will be a fun evening and we hope that you will mark it on your calendars. Thank you to our CSCC for applying for the Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant through the Ministry of Education.

**Breakfast Program - Coordinator Needed!**



We are hoping to get our Breakfast program running the week of October 16. The funding is in place and we have a number of volunteers who are willing to help in the morning and pick up groceries but are still looking for a coordinator. The program is open to all students when they arrive at school. Please call the school 705-789-6481 if you can help out. Volunteers must have an OPP Vulnerable Sector Screening completed prior to helping out. If you need the forms to complete this, please come to the school office and we can help you out.

**Catholic Education in Muskoka Parry**  
**Sound- We're All In It Together!**



We are blessed to have Catholic education in Muskoka Parry Sound from JK-12! Over the course of the year, students will take part in a number of educational activities and events to promote relationships between the Catholic schools in Muskoka Parry Sound. The Gr. 7 & 8 classes have already had one visit from St. Dominic CSS student services and the next planned event for students from Saint Mary's, Monsignor O'Leary and St. Peter the Apostle is an overnight camping trip to Muskoka Woods October 23 - 25, 2017, followed with "Be a Gr. 9 for a Day" on November 1, 2017.

**Catholic School Community Council -**  
**Monday November 6, 2017 @ 6:30pm**

We have a very committed group of parents who spend countless hours



Saint Mary's School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
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working towards making Saint Mary's School the best place for your child to be! Please consider coming out to the meetings to provide your input, find out about family/school events and maybe lend a hand. This is a great way to meet other parents and contribute to your child's school community.

**From Our Trustee -**  
**Mrs. Carol Corriveau -Truchon**



*Remember that you are never alone, Christ is with you on your journey every day of your lives! St. John Paul II*

It was such a pleasure to welcome my fellow Trustees to St. Dominic's for the first Board Meeting of the year and the Commissioning of our new Student Trustee, DOM's Student McKenna McCoy. It was an honour to welcome her and I look forward to hearing the great ideas that she will bring to the Board table over the coming year!

At that meeting, Trustees were given an advance copy of "A History of the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board", by Robert Dixon. It is really interesting to read about how Catholic Education came to be in our area, and all of the passionate and committed people who have ensured that it continues to thrive.

Did you know that Our Lady of Mercy in Honey Harbour was the first Catholic School in Muskoka and Parry Sound, or that it was run for many years by the Sisters of Saint Joseph from Peterborough? Did you know that a committed group of parents in South Muskoka worked with the Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board (SCRCSB) to apply to the government for permission to expand their area in order to open Monsignor Michael O'Leary Catholic School in Bracebridge? Or that when Saint Mary's opened in Huntsville on Ravenscliff Rd where the Ontario Hydro building is now "the parents built playground equipment using concrete sewer pipes,

wooden cable spools from Ontario Hydro and fifty-five plastic barrels from Kimberly-Clark" (p 402)?

The Combined Parry Sound Roman Catholic Separate School Board (CPSRCSSB) has its own chapter describing the journey of families in the creation and growth of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School in Parry Sound from 1988 until they became part of the SMCDSB family in 2009.

The book describes the challenges of opening a Catholic Secondary School in Bracebridge. Did you know that the infamous Mr. Johnson has been teaching math to St. Dom's students since the doors first opened in 1995, and our Board's Director, Brian Beal became Principal there in October of that year?

We are planning a very special evening on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Holy Spirit Parish in Barrie to officially launch the book and celebrate Our Story ~ Our Journey. Please watch the Board website for your invitation. If you are unable to join us that evening, the books will be available in all of the schools and I hope that you will have a chance to learn from your child about how they see themselves fitting into the SMCDSB story this year.

God Bless,  
Carol Corriveau-Truchon

**Upcoming Dates**

- Oct 8 - 14 Fire Prevention Week
- Oct 10 Sacramental Preparation Meeting
- Oct 15 School Bus Safety Week
- Oct 16 School Photos in Gym (Re-takes Nov 6)
- Oct 16 7/8 Camping Parent Meeting @ 5:00
- Oct 23-25 Gr. 7 & 8 Camping
- Oct 25 SMCDSB Book Launch & Commissioning
- Oct 31 Halloween (Details to follow)
- Nov 1 7/8 at "Be a Grade 9 for a day"
- Nov 2 School Mass @ 10:45 in gym