

SAINT MARY SCHOOL

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A Prayer for Catholic Education

Loving God,
We thank you for our Catholic school community where we can journey in faith together. Help us to accompany each other in our learning as we grow, living as joyful disciples of Jesus and bringing good news to the world.
May your love speak to our hearts, helping us to bring hope to others and a commitment to justice in all we do.
We make this prayer through Jesus, our Lord and teacher.
Amen.

Catholic Education Week May 6-10, 2019

Every week is Catholic education week but this is a special week set aside to celebrate the gift of our publically funded Catholic education from K-12.
Our school community will celebrate Catholic Education Week in a variety of ways. Each morning our prayer and reflection will focus on one of the five sub-themes for the week.

- Monday – Rooted in Prayer
- Tuesday – Living in Community
- Wednesday – Doing Justice and Creating Hope
- Thursday – Journeying Together in Faith
- Friday – Sharing the Good News

Events during this week include...

Monday May 6: Rooted in Prayer



All parents, family and community members are invited to attend our opening Catholic Education week prayer service at 9:00 am on Monday May 6, 2019. Thank you to intermediate division for leading this.

Tuesday May 7: Living in Community

~ Catholic Education Week Spring BBQ & Scholastic Book Fair

You're Invited to a



On Tuesday May 7 Saint Mary's will be hosting our Spring BBQ from 4:30pm – 6:30pm. Also, on this evening you can browse through the Scholastic Book Fair and play Minute-to-It games to help offset our fall leadership events for our intermediate students. Thank you once again to our wonderful Knights of Columbus for your chef skills with cooking all the delicious food!



~ Race of the Readers

Also on Tuesday May 7, Mrs. Shisko will be leading a dedicated group of students who are voraciously reading books during the months of March and April. Our students will go head to head with students from some of the other schools in the Huntsville area to test their knowledge of the books they have read. Way to go Mustangs!

Wednesday May 8: Doing Justice and Creating Hope

~ Living Rosary and Crowning of Mary

Every month we are blessed with having the Rosary Team from St. Mary of the Assumption Church come to Saint Mary School to teach our students about this special devotion to Our Mother. On May 8 we will be having two celebrations in our gymnasium. Parents are welcome to join us! At 9:00 am our Grade 1- 3/4 students will gather for the Crowing of Mary. Our Gr. 4/5 – 7/8 classes will celebrate the Living Rosary. Thank you so much to our dedicated rosary team of Mrs. Laila Etherington, Mr. Al Cormier, Mr. Jan Sirek, and Mrs. Regina Sacheli.



Thursday May 9: Journeying Together in Faith

~ Provincial Mass

Today students in the 6/7 & 7/8 will participate in mass at St. Dominic CSS. As part of Catholic Education week, all schools will celebrate mass on this day. We are so fortunate that we can gather together in prayer with other Catholic schools as part of our school day. All parents are invited to join us at St. Dom's at 10:00 am.



Friday May 10: Sharing the Good News

~ Stewards of the Earth Community and School Yard Clean-Up

April didn't quite work out for our clean-up so, weather permitting, Saint Mary School will have our annual neighbourhood clean up on Friday May 10. Students will need to bring a pair of gloves to wear for the cleanup on this day. We are also planning to have our Walk for Social Justice on this day.



From Our Trustee...

"If you are joyful, do not worry about lukewarmness. Joy will shine in your eyes and in your look, in your conversation and in your countenance. You will not be able to hide it, because joy overflows."



Saint Mother Teresa

I am once again looking forward to celebrating Catholic Education Week in schools throughout Muskoka, Parry Sound and Simcoe. This year's theme is *Living as Joyful Disciples* and it is always inspiring to see how staff and students bring the theme to life each year; I'm sure this year will be no exception!

Each year the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association commissions a song to help celebrate the theme. At the AGM last month, we were treated to a presentation of the song by the teacher who wrote it and a secondary school choir from Dufferin-Peel. Once again it will be a beautiful part of Catholic Education Week. The chorus is:

Be bold, speak out
Have courage, leave your mark!
Do not be afraid,
Shine like a bright torch in the dark.
Point the way to Christ,
Follow where He leads,
Live as a joyful disciple,
On your mission, you will succeed!

In addition to Catholic Education Week, I look forward to seeing our "joyful disciples" as they receive the gifts of first communion and confirmation.

God Bless,
Carol Corriveau-Truchon

Family Place Restaurant CSCC Fundraiser

Join us at Family Place Restaurant on Wednesday May 1st, 2019 from 4:00 – 9:00 pm for our CSCC Fundraising Night! Family Place Restaurant has generously agreed to donate 14% of their food sales for this event back to the school. Parent Council will use this donation to put back into the school.



Bring your family and friends, share on social media, and be part of this tasty fundraiser! Be sure to write "Saint Mary's on the back of your bill. If you can't make it, consider ordering take out (705) 789-5602 and let them know you want to support our school!



Saint Mary's Drama Club Presents: "The Big Bad Musical"

A courtroom has never been more lively and fun than in *The Big Bad Musical!* This smart and wickedly funny musical is great for actors and audiences of any age. The jury — your audience — must decide the outcome of the biggest trial ever in the fairy-tale world! The notorious Big Bad Wolf is being slapped with a class-action lawsuit by storybooks of quirky characters who want to get even: Little Red Riding Hood, her Grandmother, the Three Little Pigs and the Shepherd in charge of the Boy Who Cried Wolf. With Sydney Grimm as the commentator on live Court TV, the two greatest legal minds in the Enchanted Forest — the Evil Stepmother and the Fairy Godmother — clash in a trial that will be remembered forever after. As our wronged fairy tale characters testify, the wolf seems deserving of all that's coming. Yet, even though the infamous Evil Stepmother resents doing pro-bono work on such an obviously futile defense, Mr. Wolf makes a good case for himself. Was he born a criminal, or made one? This musical will show us lessons about forgiveness, acceptance and giving chances.

Come join us Thursday, May 9, 2019 from 6:00 pm -7:30 pm at Saint Mary's Gym. Tickets are on sale for the low cost of \$5.00. Your ticket will include popcorn and a drink. Order forms have been sent home if you cannot find yours at home you can just send a note to the office with your child's name, the number of tickets and your payment.

Science North Family Science Night May 16, 2019

We are very excited to be once again hosting a Science North Science Night. It has been scheduled for May 16, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Our CSCC is planning a fun evening and we hope that you will mark this date on your calendars. More details will be sent home closer to the event.

If you are a high school student in need of community service hours, we would appreciate your help with our activities – please contact stmaryscouncil@hotmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

We hope to see everyone there!
Saint Mary's CSCC



Home To School Communication Reminder



Beginning this September 2019, our Board will be using a new notification system to help us communicate more effectively and efficiently with families - using email, voicemail

and text messages. An important letter will be sent home the second week of April, which will outline the instructions for families to update our information. **If you haven't updated your information, please do so by May 17, 2019.**

Introducing the School-Day System!

What is School-Day?

School-Day is an online cashless system for use by parents, school staff and office administrative staff. Our board is implementing School-Day to minimize the handling of cash at school, streamline/simplify payment options for parents, and reduce paper.



What's in it for parents?

School-Day can be accessed from any web browser and gives parents real-time secure access and up-to-date information. Once you register, you will be able to:

- Register your child and complete on-line payments for trips, events and or other activities
- Order and pay for products and activities online, including milk and pizza lunches
- View previously ordered items
- Approve permission forms instantly on-line
- Sign up for parent/teacher interviews (November)
- Minimize the risks associated with sending money to school with your child
- Reduce the environmental impact of photocopying

How do parents sign up?

A personalized letter will be sent home the second week of April. Each student is given a secure, unique **10 digit code** that allows access to the database. Please go online to set up your account which will allow you access to all of the screens as set up by the school. Some purchases and forms may be set up online in time to purchase for May, with **a plan to have milk and food orders for June to be purchased online**. Food Orders and Milk will only be available if you register and order on-line by the May 17th deadline for June. Please contact us if you need any assistance with this process after receiving your child's personalized letter.



P.A. Day Reminder

Friday May 3rd, 2019 is a scheduled P.A. Day for Saint Mary's. There are no classes for students on that day.

Forty Items in Forty Days

Thank you all for your generous donations to the Saint Mary School's Lenten Food Drive. Thank you to Mrs. Webster and her Gr. 2/3 class for charting our progress on the bulletin board in the foyer. Well done!



Jump Rope for Heart – May 14, 2019



Saint Mary School will once again be jumping rope to raise money for the Heart & Stroke Foundation. Each child will bring home their sponsorship collection envelope, which outlined the incentive prizes students can earn. Please consider registering for on-line donations - the directions are on the envelope. Our goal this year is to raise \$2800. Pledges are due back to the school on Tuesday May 14, 2019. *Please support this year's Jump Rope for Heart event by encouraging your child to skip, jump and get active on Jump Rope for Heart Day! Look for our running tally on our homepage at jumpropeforheart.ca.*

Bag2@School in May

This spring Saint Mary School will once again be collecting textiles for the Bag2School organization. The goal is to redirect gently used items so they do not end up in our landfill. Clean items such as sheets, blankets, shoes, belts, clothing, stuffed animals, curtains, and purses can be collected and brought to school in a sturdy garbage bag. In May these bags will be weighed, sorted and organized. Then, items will then be sent off to places where they are needed. We receive money based on the total weight of the bags that are collected. Please help us out again this year by collecting a bag or two (or more) of items. Bags can start arriving at school **Tuesday, May 21, 2019** until **Tuesday May 28, 2019**. **Our bags will be picked up by 8:30 am on Wednesday May 29, 2019.**



Please do not drop off bags prior to this time as we do not have any place to store them

EQAO Assessment Dates for 2019

The EQAO Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics for Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will take place during the weeks for May 22nd to June 2nd, 2019. We ask that you keep these dates free when making appointments, etc. for your child(ren). Parent Resources are available at the EQAO website: www.eqao.com



Hunger Meal Thank You

Thank you to Mrs. Martins and Mrs. MacDonald, our amazing parent volunteers who prepared the rice for our Hunger Meal on Holy Thursday.



Dress Code Reminder



As we enter the warmer months of the year, parents are reminded to check their children to ensure they are in compliance with the school dress code.

Parents are asked to send their children in play clothes in order to accommodate our many varied activities (e.g., painting, pasting, sitting on the floor). Children should also be able to manage their own clothing in the bathroom. All items of clothing should be labeled.

Our school is special because we model ourselves after Jesus Christ. How we present ourselves must reflect our commitment to promoting a safe, positive and respectful learning environment. Modesty should be the key for clothing choices.

Appropriate Dress Guidelines

Tops

- Straps on all tops must be at least **3 cm** wide at the narrowest point
- Tank tops, halter tops, racer back tops, strapless dresses or tops, shirts that do not cover the midsection or the upper back are not permitted
- Sheer overtops are permitted if there is another top underneath that conforms to the above standard

Bottoms

- Shorts / skirts / dresses must not be shorter than **mid thigh**

Footwear

- For safety reasons and to maintain cleanliness in the classrooms, students should have indoor shoes to wear inside their class. Outdoor footwear is not to be worn in teaching areas. Students must have running shoes for gym classes. Flip-flops are not considered to be safe as a footwear choice.

All Clothing Items (including hats)

- All undergarments must be fully covered by outer clothing
- Inappropriate slogans that do not support our Catholic values (including beer/alcohol/smoking logos, inappropriate language or innuendo) are not permitted

Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated.

Best Wishes Father Sercely

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Father Sercely all the best in his retirement.

A Prayer Father Sercely

*With gratitude,
We thank you for your
Many years of service
To your people
In faithful ministry as a priest.*

*May God continue to bless you
In your retirement*

*~The Staff and Students of
Saint Mary School*



Dates to Remember...

- May 1 Family Place CSCC Fundraiser
- May 2 Intermediate Badminton Tournament
- May 3 P.A. Day (no classes for students)
- May 5 First Holy Communion at church
- May 6-10 Catholic Education Week
- May 6 Leadership Spirit Day: Revenge of the Sixth
- May 7 Muskoka StageWorks Improv Day Gr. 3/4 – 7/8
Race of the Readers
BBQ & Scholastic Book Fair @ 4:30 – 6:30
- May 7 – 13 Scholastic Book Fair
- May 8 Crowning of Mary and Living Rosary Celebrations
- May 9 Province-wide Mass @ St. Dominic
- May 10 School Pitch In Clean Up (Bring Gloves)
Walk for Social Justice
- May 13 Junior Badminton Tournament
CSCC Meeting in Library @ 6:30 pm
- May 14 Jump Rope for Heart * Return Pledge Envelopes
- May 16 Health Unit: Gr. 7 Immunizations
Science North Family Science Night 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- May 20 Victoria Day Holiday (no classes for students)
- May 21 Bag2School Bags Drop Off Until May 29
- May 22 Gr. 3 & Gr. 6 EQAO Testing Begins
- May 24 Track & Field @ St. Dominic (*Rain Date May 27)
- May 29 Bag2School Pick Up @ 8:30 am
Health Unit: SK Vision Screening

Spring BBQ & Scholastic Book Fair

You're Invited to a



May 7, 2019
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Hot Dogs	\$2.00
Hamburgers	\$2.50
Cheeseburgers	\$3.00



Please support our Grade 7 Fundraising Efforts! We will have “Minute to Win It” games for \$1.00 each. Proceeds will be used to offset our fall leadership trip.

Just a reminder that there is a **Fire Hydrant** on Hunter’s Bay Drive that services the school and the houses on the street. As per town by-laws, vehicles cannot park or stop in front of it for school events, end of day pick-ups, etc. Parking is also strictly prohibited in our **Fire Lane**. Thank you for your cooperation and for keeping everyone safe!



This event will take place rain or shine!

*Many thanks once again to the
Knights of Columbus
for BBQing our dinner!*

Parents are asked to register as soon as possible and no later May 17, 2019. June Milk/Food Orders, and year-end trips will be processed using School-Day.

*****Refer to the personalized letter (10 digit family code) that was sent home with every student on April 8, 2019.**

OUR SCHOOL IS ONLINE WITH SCHOOL-DAY!



Our school is now using School-Day, an online portal that lets us instantly share school news & events.

This helps our school improve our communications and reduce the amount of paper we use.

School-Day can be accessed from any web browser and gives you real-time access to up-to-date information, and the ability to:

- Complete instant online payments
- View announcements, news, and class information
- Approve permission forms instantly online
- Register your child for extracurricular events, and sign up for parent/teacher interviews

JOINING SCHOOL-DAY IS SIMPLE!

Visit us at
SCHOOL-DAY.COM
to get started today.

school-day 



April 30, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Saint Mary's School is pleased to be holding a Heart and Stroke Foundation Jump Rope For Heart event on **Tuesday, May 14, 2019**. All money raised will support the Heart and Stroke Foundation in their mission to promote children's health and fund vital heart and stroke research.

Jump Rope for Heart encourages kids to get active by skipping rope while they collect pledges for heart disease and stroke research. They also learn the importance of living a healthy lifestyle and giving back to their community.

Participating schools can receive a portion of proceeds back from the Heart and Stroke Foundation to support the purchase of physical education equipment or to assist with other school needs.

We need your help to reach our **school fundraising goal of \$2800**. While we appreciate all of your support, parents are reminded that the safety of our students is a primary consideration for all of our fundraising activities. SMCDSB policy prohibits door-to-door canvassing.

Please help support your child's fundraising efforts by signing up online at www.jumpropeforheart.ca and sending out donation requests to friends, family and colleagues. Online fundraising is the most time efficient way to help support your child's fundraising goals – in addition, it is safe and secure, it saves paper and online donors receive an instant tax receipt. Plus, when students receive their first online donation, they will receive a free skipping rope so they can practice their skipping skills and stay active all year long!

On April 30, 2019, each student brought home a pledge envelope to collect cash and cheque donations. Please ensure that your child's **pledge envelope is returned to the school by May 14, 2019**.

Thank you in advance for your support,

Mrs. Heeneman & Saint Mary's Staff