



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Elementary School

Working Together with Jesus We Succeed

Mr. A. De Tullio

Principal

Fr. L. Amaszka – St. John the Baptist Parish

Mr. M. Brennan

Principal Intern

Mr. C. Ciapanna

Superintendent of Education

Mr. A. Perri - Trustee

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## DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

### **PRINCIPAL INTERN'S MESSAGE (From Mr. Brennan)**

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection (see: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent/>).

Our monthly school Mass will take place on December, 12<sup>th</sup> and it will be led by Mr. Bolger's class. Four Advent liturgies will also be celebrated and dates for these liturgies can be located in our monthly calendar. Additionally, students in grades 3 to 8 will be receiving the sacrament of reconciliation at the beginning of December to help prepare their minds and hearts for the coming of our Lord.

Lastly, many students will be participating in the Knights of Columbus' "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest to help keep the true meaning of Christmas alive. Advent resources have been made available for families via Sacred Spaces found on students' LMS home pages.

The staff of St. John the Baptist School would like to extend our very best wishes for a joyous and peaceful Christmas to all families. May this Christmas Season bring you much peace, love, and happiness.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (CSC)**

Our CSC is hosting the **Family Advent Craft Night on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Please submit your survey to indicate if you intend to join us.

### **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BULLYING PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND FOLLOW-UP PLAN**

Anti-bullying week was celebrated well. To view the plan, select the following link or visit our website:

**[ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BULLYING PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND FOLLOW-UP PLAN](#)**

Our CSC will review the plan at our January meeting. We did not want to wait until then to share with everybody.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS**

Let's all have a green Christmas by reducing, reusing and recycling;

1. Reduce packaging
2. Buy locally
3. Make a gift
4. Use LED Christmas lights
5. Reuse wrapping paper and gift bags
6. Reuse old Christmas cards for crafts and gift tags
7. Recycle used batteries, cans, bottles, and paper

Focus on the birth of Jesus and the purity of His love that requires no reducing, makes no waste, and is endless.

### **SAFE DRINKING WATER**

Results from 2017 water testing for schools of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board are now available. We are happy to report that lead testing results for St. John the Baptist have met the Ontario drinking water quality lead standard of 10 micrograms per litre (10 µg/L) or below.

Since 2007, Ontario law has required child care centres and schools to flush their plumbing and test their drinking water for lead. As of July 1, 2017, an amendment to the Safe Drinking Act, 2002, of Ontario Regulation 243/07: Schools, Private Schools and Child Care Centres now requires schools housing children under the age of 18 to conduct annual standing and flushed water testing. The expectation is that all drinking fountains and water fixtures in schools used for drinking or in the preparation of food will be tested within a three-year period. Thereafter, schools and child care centres need only test one fixture per year. In the interests of the safety of our students and staff, the HWCDSB has opted to test 100% of its fixtures in the first year of the regulation. Testing for all fixtures in all schools was conducted in June 2017.

### **YWCA BEFORE AND AFTER PROGRAM**

We have had a few changes in staff over a short period of time, but I am happy to inform you that we now have a wonderful team in our Before and After School Program. Our new staff are Miss Marianne, Miss Karen, and Miss Marina. The staff will bring plenty of experience, new ideas and fun activities to the program. The staff and children have been busy planning for the Christmas Break. The children look forward to baking, science experiences, crafts, games, fun activities and outdoor play. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to build on relationships, engage in play and create new friendships. The staff look forward to interacting with your children. We wish all the children and their families a safe and happy Christmas! From Antonella (Supervisor, YWCA Hamilton Child Care) & Staff. Contact 905-547-5151 or email [azezza@ywcahamilton.org](mailto:azezza@ywcahamilton.org)

### **ROBOTICS NEWS & WE TEAM NEWS**

Our team has been busy preparing for our tournament at Cardinal Newman this Saturday. Please stayed tuned for a detailed summary in January's newsletter. In support of our Robotics team, the We Team will be co-leading an exciting initiative that will aim to bring safe drinking water to indigenous communities. Details will be sent home.

We are very grateful for the tremendous support of the owners of **The Water Store at Barton and Centennial**. They took the time to educate our students and donated all the supplies needed for our experiment.



### **SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Congratulations to the Senior Girls Basketball Team on a very successful season. The team showed they could compete with some of the best schools in the league and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Cathedral Invitational Tournament. They

played their hearts out every game, finishing with a 9-3 season record after being defeated 26-19 in quarter finals by the eventual Division 2 champions, St. Teresa of Avila. The team's only other losses came from Sts. Peter and Paul (Division 1 champions) in exhibition play. Best of luck to the team members moving onto high school next year.

The members of the team were Meadow D., Jocelyn P., Jesse S., Sam V., Sophie M., Jitka B., Natalie P., Aria V., Angela M., and Kaitlyn S.



### **JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM**

Congratulations to the Junior Girls Basketball Team for playing a great season! They played with great determination and super sportsmanship at every single game. They played their hearts out at the playoff game against St. Joseph's; however, they fell short. The coaches have seen a great improvement in their overall skills. We'll get them next year!

The members of the team were: Kayla S., Victoria C., Grace E., Claudia K., Ashley H., Ariana U., Elena M., Ava S., Talan N., Giulia T., and Mikayla S. (From the coaches: Mrs. Petrina-Mus & Mrs. Villabroza)

Grace recovers on the bench from an injury with ice and by enjoying a book. Relaxed and focused, she went back on to score. 😊

The spirit of our junior team was unprecedented, as they often cheered each other on, all game long. It was actually deafening!

### **STUDENT AWARDS: NOVEMBER**

|      | Class:                             | CHARITY      | ACADEMIC/LEARNING SKILL:<br>(e.g., Math or Self-Regulation)              |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| KA   | Miss Frank/Mrs. Viscoso            | Audrey C.    | Justin B. (Self-Regulation)                                              |
| KB   | Mrs. Riverson /Mrs. Bajus-Harrison | Josephine S. | Noah G. (Self-Regulation)                                                |
| 1A   | Miss Kollarich                     | Wesley H.    | Connor K. (Reading)                                                      |
| 1/2A | Mrs. Persaud                       | Jack M.      | Xavier F. (Overall Effort)                                               |
| 2A   | Miss Curciarello                   | River A.     | Julian D. (Determination)                                                |
| 3A   | Mrs. Petrina-Mus                   | Flynn H.-K.  | Eva C. (Organization)                                                    |
| 3B   | Mrs. Villabroza                    | Leah L.      | Olivia G. (Independent Work)                                             |
| 4A   | Mrs. De Tina                       | Vincenzo S.  | Nicholas F. (Collaboration)                                              |
| 4/5A | Mr. Docherty                       | Ariana U.    | Liam M. (Mathematics)                                                    |
| 5A   | Mr. Bolger                         | Victoria C.  | Alina P. (Effort & Responsibility)                                       |
| 6A   | Mrs. Innes                         | Mabel M.     | Sean B. (Independent Work, Collaboration, Positive Communication Skills) |
| 7/8A | Mr. Brennan                        | Dylan L.     | Zoey J. (Excellence in Writing)                                          |
| 8A   | Mr. Biagetti                       | Sierra M.    | Meadow D. (Math)                                                         |

**BOMBARDIERI UNIFORMS ROCCO BOMBARDIERI MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE (NOVEMBER 26TH – DECEMBER 21TH)**

Bring in 1 nonperishable food item and receive a 5% discount on your entire purchase. Bring in 2 nonperishable food items and receive a 10% discount on your entire purchase. All nonperishable food items will be donated to local food banks. Thank you in advance for all your help this holiday season. In store shopping only.

# December 2017

| Sun.  | Mon.                                                  | Tue.                                            | Wed.                                                                                   | Thu.                                                  | Fri.                                                                                        | Sat.                                              |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|       |                                                       |                                                 |                                                                                        |                                                       | 1<br>PA Day                                                                                 | 2                                                 |
| 3     | 4<br>Advent Liturgy and<br>AWARDS Assembly<br>at 9:25 | 5<br>Confessions<br>Grade 3 to Camp<br>Marydale | 6 Confessions<br>Grade 7 Shots<br>6:00 – 8:00<br>Christmas Concert<br>and Advent Night | 7<br>Grade 3 visits the<br>Rosslyn Retirement<br>Home | 8 Pizza Day<br>Civvies Day to<br>Promote Clean<br>Water Initiative for<br>Indigenous People | 9<br>Robotics<br>Tournament at<br>Cardinal Newman |
| 10    | 11<br>Advent Liturgy at<br>9:25                       | 12<br>School Mass at 9:25<br>a.m.               | 13                                                                                     | 14                                                    | 15 Pizza Day<br>Sprit Wear                                                                  | 16                                                |
| 17    | 18<br>Advent Liturgy at<br>9:25                       | 19                                              | 20<br>Grade 3 Theatre<br>Aquarius                                                      | 21                                                    | 22 Pizza Day<br>Sprit Wear<br>Advent Liturgy at<br>9:25                                     | 23                                                |
| 24/31 | 25<br>Christmas Day                                   | 26                                              | 27                                                                                     | 28                                                    | 29                                                                                          | 30                                                |

**January Dates:**

- Snack Program (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at morning recess)
- Daily Breakfast Program (8:35 – 8:50 a.m. for sit down) Also on the yard at 8:50 or after entry on indoor days)
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – Return to School. Happy New Year!
- January 10<sup>th</sup> - BR Option Sheet Presentation to grade 8s
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – School Mass at 9:25 a.m.
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> - Gr 8 Feeder School Visits
- January 24<sup>th</sup> - CSC Meeting: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- January 26<sup>th</sup> – PA Day