



ST JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL APRIL 2015 NEWS



*On the Cross, Jesus died for each one of us.
The Cross, therefore, is the greatest and most
eloquent sign of his merciful love,
the one sign of salvation
for every generation and for all humanity.*

Homily by Pope John Paul II, April 4, 2004 (Palm Sunday)



600 Acadia Drive
Hamilton, Ontario
L8W 3A8
905-525-1300

- Mrs. I. Fortino, Superintendent of Education
- Mr. P. Daly, Trustee
- Mr. K MacIsaac, Principal
- Mrs. J. Shamon, Principal Intern

St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic
Secondary School
Mr. M. Daly, Principal
(905) 388-7020

Corpus Christi Church
1694 Upper James St.
Hamilton, Ontario
L9B 1K6

Father E. Mahoney
(905) 389-2472

Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday 5:15 p.m.

***Before and After
School Program
For information,
please contact
905 518-4694***

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Good Friday April 18
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LENTEN MESSAGES

Years ago, Pope John Paul II delivered his Lenten message and emphasized the theme of charity. From the Acts of the Apostles he quoted: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." He said that "Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of all who believe." He spoke about how many people in today's society become caught in selfishness; the media in particular exalt the ephemeral and the hedonistic and in general "it is difficult to build a culture of solidarity." He strongly denounced the thirst for gain, which is often at the price of exploitation of others, and the "quest for profit at any cost and the lack of effective, responsible concern for the common good." He said: "our goal should not be the benefit of a privileged few, but rather the improvement of the living conditions of all."

A Lenten Message, 2014 (an excerpt) from Jerry Creedon, Faith Animator of the HWCDSB
Pope Francis' Lenten Letter, like all his messages since his election to the See of Peter, is a call for solidarity with the poor: "In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it." Our Holy Father is clearly beckoning us to simple life-styles, to narrowing the gap between us, Catholic educators, and the many needy students whom we teach as well as the needy parents who depend on us to educate and take care of their children. He is urging us to use the power we necessarily have as teachers, supervisors, managers, coaches, **not over others but for them and with them.** He is directing us to "draw near" to the broken-hearted and to "our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness," to console them and offer them hope. He is reminding us that "God's wealth passes not through our wealth, but invariably and exclusively through our

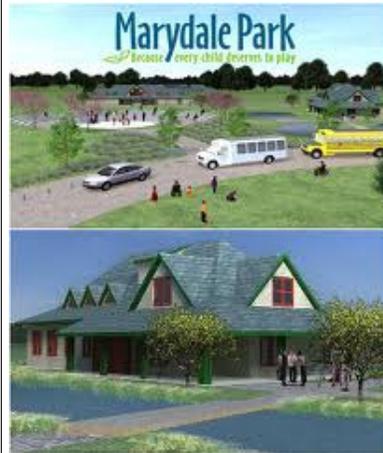
On behalf of the Staff of St John Paul II we wish you a Happy Easter.

Easter is a time of great sorrow and celebration. The story of the Passion of Our Lord reminds us the depths of our human frailty (false accusation, betrayal, denial, loss of faith, fear that God is not there for us, and brutality in the beating and crucifixion of Jesus). Yet, there is more to celebrate in the acts of compassion (of Jesus to the Women of Israel, of Veronica, of Simon), courage (of Jesus facing death, of Joseph of Arimathea asking to allow Jesus to be buried in his tomb, of Mary Magdalene) and Faith. Jesus died for our sins so that we can be saved. Jesus is the example of how our humanity will lead us to Heaven. In death we have Eternal life with God in heaven.



The Sacrament of First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday May 9, 2015 at 10:00 p.m. at Corpus Christi Church.
God Bless the children and their families on this special day in their Faith life.

C.Y.O. Marydale Park



Please help us reach our fundraising goal!

We are asking everyone to be a champion for Marydale Park. If you know any person, company and/or organization that might be able to help us reach our fundraising goal, please send them this

link to our web- site www.marydalepark.ca - or have them contact our office at 905 528-0011, ext 3608, info@marydalepark.ca.



JK Registration for September 2015

Children born in 2011 are eligible to attend JK in September 2015. Please phone the school at 905-525-1300 to make a registration appointment. The following information is required to register your child: **Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Immunization Card and proof of residency in our school boundaries** (i.e. utility bill).

FIRE DRILLS and LOCKDOWNS

During the course of the school year we practice both Fire Drills and Lockdown Drills. Rehearsals take place at various times but always involve alternate days to ensure that all staff and students are able to go through training, review and active practice. Safety for all is the priority.

Fire Drills involve us exiting the building while Lockdowns are used to secure the building within (or to not allow others to enter from outside).

Should both events occur the following direction is provided by our Board in co-operation with both the Fire and Police Departments. It is important to note that each response involves clear communication and best judgement of staff and students. Staff are updated on these procedures yearly.

I am always impressed with the manner in which our school conducts these drills.

Should you have any questions please speak with your child to ensure they understand their role.

Please contact Mr. MacIsaac should you have any questions or concerns.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Take a break from sandwiches at least once a week. Try cutting up pitas and serve it with their favourite dip or salsa! Cut bread into slices or pieces and then roll up the lunch meat and slice up some cheese.

**Catholic School Council Meeting
Tuesday April 12, 2015**

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Please come out and support.

WANTED Coaches for our School teams

Fielding sports teams in schools requires the whole community of Staff, Parents and Student Volunteers. Should you be interested in coaching (Flag Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country and track) please let us know in the Main Office. Games start soon.



Reporting Students Absent or Late

If your child is going to be absent or late for any reason (i.e. ill, appointment, slept in, vacation, sports tournament, dance recital, etc.) **please call the school at 905-525-1300**, and leave a message stating the student's name, teacher, grade and reason for the absence.

Also, students leaving school outside of regular dismissal times, must be picked up and signed out by a parent or guardian at the office.

School Uniforms

Uniforms can be purchased from R.J. McCarthy Ltd. Hamilton store located at 125 Nebo Road.

Store hours are Monday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Sundays and Statutory Holidays.

Parking Lot Safety Concerns



Parents/guardians who use our parking lot are reminded to make SAFETY their first priority. If you are bringing your vehicle to school, we ask that you park in the parking lot on the North side of the building closest to the playground. This is also an excellent site for a "Drop Off" area. Students can be dropped off on the sidewalk leading to the playground and parents can continue to follow the driveway as they exit. Do not double park beside the vehicles in the "Pick Up" lane. This lane is for moving vehicles only and must be kept clear at all times. Allowing your children to leave or enter your vehicle in this lane endangers their lives. Students need a safe exit out of the playground, so please do not block walkways. Be patient. We all need to set a good example by demonstrating that we are never too rushed to practise safety.



Electronic Equipment at School

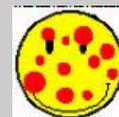


In 2013 we have more calls for use of technology in schools. Classes can invite students to "Bring Your Own Device" (ex. E-readers, laptops) for use in the class as part of class activities. The HWCDSB supports responsible use of technology. If a student is found using electronic equipment inappropriately, the item can be taken away, and their privileges reviewed. Only under special circumstances (notes signed by both parent and Principal) are exceptions made for cell phones. Privacy for all is the priority. Visit the HWCDSB website at the Board Policy link for more details.

School Volunteers

The HWCDSB requires that all school volunteers provide an **original Hamilton Police Record Check including a Vulnerable Sector Search** at their own expense. If you are interested in being a volunteer at the school, including accompanying your child on a class trip, please notify the School Office and a personalized letter which allows for a discounted rate on the Police Check will be provided.

Sick Children – Send to School or Stay at Home?



Deciding when a child is too sick to go to school can be a difficult decision for parents to make. Students with fever, colds, strep throat, vomiting, diarrhea, conjunctivitis (pink eye) and/or rashes should stay at home. Please consider the health of your child and the other children in the class before sending your child back to school. If children come to school, they will go outside for recesses.