

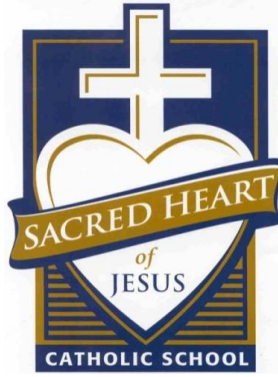
Principal: Mrs. M. Pasceri

Vice-Principal: Mr. C. Tilley

Secretaries: Mrs. C. French
Mrs. G. Van Hooydonk

Website address:
<http://schools.hcdsb.org/shoj>

Twitter Account: @SHOJ_HCDSB



**“Anchored in
Faith and
Excellence”**

**December 2016
January 2017**

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM - Please remember to phone in your child's absence (905)331-4656 (Press 1)
The answering machine is on 24 hours – Messages are picked up on a regular basis.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we begin to celebrate the new church calendar with the start of Advent, it is our hope that you and your family will draw strength and renewal from the preparation and anticipation of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is important that we remind our children that we need to prepare for the coming of our Saviour before we celebrate His birth. Allow this season to be a time to bring you, your family and friends closer to Jesus.

Our Advent Prayer:



O God, as light comes from this candle
May the blessing of
Jesus Christ come to us,
Warming our hearts and
Brightening our way.

May Christ our Saviour bring life
Into the darkness of this world,
And to us, as we wait for His coming.
Amen.

*The staff of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School
would like to extend our best wishes for a happy,
Holy and safe Christmas season.*

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Early Dismissal: Friday, Dec. 23rd @ 2:10pm
Buses will arrive at this time to pick up students

Return from Christmas Holidays: Monday, Jan. 9/17

P.A. Day: Friday, Feb. 3rd, 2017

School Council Meeting:
Tuesday, Jan. 17th, 2017 @ 6:30pm
in Library – All are Welcome!

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE NEWS

In the season of Advent we prepare ourselves for the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ. Our focus on prayer helps us to remember what the true spirit of Christmas is, as we balance this with our excitement and anticipation of the holidays. Please check the parish website and weekly bulletin for Advent and Christmas schedules, as there are many additional celebrations and activities at this time.
www.stpaultheapostleburlington.com/

Did you know that our parish has a subscription to FORMED? This Catholic website offers a variety of resources including audio & video programs as well as booklists that enhance your faith knowledge and deepen ones understanding of our history, our traditions and the teachings of our faith. As a member of our parish community access to FORMED is free. Simply log on to www.formed.org and click on *Register* using our parish access code (2Z9YDJ). Once signed on you can explore the site and see what might be of interest. Advent is an excellent time to become familiar with this website and we encourage you to take advantage of these resources.



Family Christmas Sing-a-long! No better way to escape a cold, snowy night during this Advent season then to join musician Anthony Cheam and his friends, as they lead us in a Contemporary Christmas Carol Sing-Along

Date: Wednesday December 14th from 7:15-8:30 pm.
We are welcoming Free Will donations in support of Shifra Home for this event. The parish team, Fr. Ed Henhoeffler, Fr. Phil Sherlock (retired) and Mrs. Arden Ouellette wish your families a blessed and Merry Christmas and a joyous and Happy New Year.

ADVENT SCHOOL MASS



Our School Advent Mass will be held here in our school gym on **Wednesday December 14th at 1:30 pm.** Fr. Ed will lead us in Eucharist as we prepare for the coming of our Savior.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

GRADE 2'S:

First Reconciliation: **Thursday, Dec. 1st @ 6:30pm**

First Communion Practice: **Wednesday, Apr. 26th**

First Communion: **Saturday, Apr. 29th @ 10:30 am**

GRADE 7's:

Confirmation Net Retreat: **Thurs. Jan. 26th** at Church

Enrollment Masses: You may attend any one of the Masses during the weekends of **Jan 28-29** or **Feb 4-5**

****DON'T FORGET YOUR RED CERTIFICATE****

Confirmation Practice: **Fri. March 3rd** at Church

Confirmation: **Sat. March 4th @ 10:30am**

GRADE 8's:

Grad Photos: **Wednesday, January 25th**

All students to wear a white collared shirt and boys need a tie.

Graduation Rehearsal: **Thursday, June 22nd**

Graduation: **Friday, June 23rd**

"SHARE THE WARMTH" PROGRAM



Once again this year, our school was involved with preparing for Advent by thinking of others and collecting warm winter wear for adults and children in our local community and through the Good Shepherd. Donations were taken for "Share the Warmth" during the week of November 28th - December 2nd. Our appreciation goes out to Mrs. Biggs, Mrs. Ivancak and all of our Grade 6 students for their help in organizing this worthwhile event for our community. Thank you to the SHOJ community for all of your generous donations during this season of giving. www.goodshepherdcenters.ca.

SHOJ CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thank you to our parents, students and staff for your generous donations and helping to sponsor a family this Christmas. Our overwhelming response will help 50 different families through the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton. Thank you for making Christmas a little brighter; filled with hope, love, joy and peace.



"CHRISTMAS REFLECTION" PRESENTATION

On **Friday, December 2nd** we are very fortunate to have Mr. LaChapelle, Notre Dame Chaplain, who will be speaking to our students about the meaning of Christmas

and how each of us can be a disciple of Jesus in our every day interactions with each other.

MORNING SUPERVISION STARTS AT 8:55 A.M.

We have noticed that some children are arriving at school before supervision begins in the morning which is a safety concern. We would ask that you **not send or drop off your children before 8:55 a.m.** This applies to both our Kindergarten yard and the Grades 1 - 8 yards. It is very important that you adhere to these times for your child's safety.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS & JOY DAY

On **Wednesday, Dec. 21st** our **Gr. 1 - 3** classes along with the Choir will be performing at 9:30a.m. and our **FDK** classes will be performing at 2:45 p.m. in the gymnasium. Parents are invited to join us for these performances.



Joy Day activities will be scheduled during the day in each of the children's classrooms on **Monday, Dec. 19th** in the morning and will be run by their teachers. Children are encouraged to wear RED and GREEN on this day.

Our Gr. 4 - 6 Christmas Concert, Play and Grade 8 Band performances will be held on **Thursday, Dec. 22nd**. There will be a morning and afternoon performance of which the following grades will attend.

Morning Performance @ 9:30 a.m. -

FDK, Gr. 2, 2/3, 4/5, 6 and 8 will be in attendance

Afternoon Performance @ 1:20 p.m. -

Gr. 1, 3, 3/4, 4, 5 and 7 will be in attendance

Parents are most welcome to join us as well for some Christmas Joy!

GIRLS AND BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to our Girls Volleyball Team on winning a Silver Medal in the Burlington Championship against St. Timothy. The Girls went on to be victorious in the HCDSB System, earning the right to play for the Bronze medal. The team was victorious over St. John Paul II and finished the season as the 3rd best team in all of HCDSB! Thanks to our coaches Mr. Nurse and Miss McCallum for their tireless efforts.



Miss Cornacchia would like to send a big thank you to our Boys Volleyball Team. We as a school are very proud of the progress that they made as a team. The boys finished their season strong with Burlington Bronze Medal, and a trip to the HCDSB System Quarter-Finals. Congratulations on a solid season boys! GO PRIDE GO!



COLD WEATHER / THE FLU SEASON

Being parents ourselves, we are only too aware of the work and pressure you experience when providing care at home for a child who is ill. Nevertheless, aside from being the best course of action for your child, keeping your sick child home may also serve to limit the spread of influenza amongst the school community.



Children should stay at home until they are able to participate fully in all school activities including going out for the recesses. Out of interest for the health of our students and staff, we cannot reiterate this message enough. Parents may acquire additional information about influenza by visiting the Halton Region Health Department web site at www.region.halton.on.ca/health.

HELPFUL HINT: We have noticed that some parents have included a moist towelette in their child's lunch to enable them to clean their hands before eating. We encourage all of our students to wash their hands before sitting down to eat their lunch and snacks. Clean hands help prevent the spread of flu and colds.

We will monitor the wind chill factor prior to recesses. When the temperature, with or without the wind chill factor, is between -15° and -20° , students will go out for no longer than 20 minutes. We will remain indoors entirely if the temperature falls below the acceptable range of -20 degrees.



PAJAMA DAY

Tuesday December 13th will be Pajama Day at Sacred Heart of Jesus. All students are welcome to wear their pajamas to participate in this school spirit day. Separate divisions will come together throughout the day to enjoy a festive movie in the gym.



UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

On behalf of all of us here at Sacred Heart, we would like to thank our wonderful community for their generosity during our United Way "Paint the Town Red" Day. With great participation from both staff and students, we raised just over \$1200.00 to support local organizations which are funded by United Way in our community. It is through these works of charity that we exemplify care and concern for others as Jesus taught us during His lifetime.



SACRED HEART OF JESUS PASTA NIGHT Thursday, Feb. 2nd



Come join us for our annual Pasta Night being held once again in the gym on **Thursday February 2nd from 5:30 - 8:00pm**. Please watch for the flyer for further information and order forms in the coming weeks.

PARKING LOT

**"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."
--Matthew 7.12**



Parents are reminded to exercise patience and courtesy when entering and exiting our parking lot. Please be kind to one another and keep your cool. Please keep the kiss 'n' ride moving smoothly by having your children exit your car on the sidewalk side with backpacks ready to go. Also, please do not block driveways of the nearby residents on Country Club Drive. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

SHOJ FUNDRAISING FUNDS

Thank you for your donations to our very successful Dance-a-thon Fundraiser. On November 15th our Catholic School Council met and allocated School Generated Funds. Here are some of the items that will be purchased this year: Smartboards, laptops, I-pads, outdoor balls/equipment, girls basketball uniforms, program supports, clubs and sports teams.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all who participated in the Scholastic Book Fair. Our sales from the fair totaled \$8252.70. With your support we were able to surpass our goal and raise money for the school library. Thank you for supporting the library, literacy, and reading programs. Thank you to Ms. Pope in making this fair a tremendous success!



DRUM FIT AT SHOJ!!!

In accordance with our Healthy School initiative, we will be hosting DrumFIT classes on **Thursday, January 19th** for all our Grades FDK-Gr. 8's. We are also very excited to announce that there will be an opportunity for parents to become involved with their children that evening. SHOJ will be hosting two family DrumFIT sessions where both students and parents can attend with the entire family! Stay tuned for more details in early January as an Eventbrite invitation will be sent out to all families. Thank you to the Halton Kids Community Challenge Program for fully funding this wonderful event.



REGISTRATION FOR JK – Gr. 8 STARTING SEPTEMBER 2017

If you are new to the area, fall within the catchment area for Sacred Heart of Jesus School and wish to have your children attend our school, you may register on **Tuesday, January 24th and Wednesday, January 25th from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon & 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** You must have all of the required documentation with you so please verify the list below. If not, you can register at any time after the scheduled dates. **If you are not within our catchment**

area, you must register at your home school and request a Cross Boundary Approval Form.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

PROOF OF AGE – Birth Certificate and/or Passport.

IF BORN OUTSIDE OF CANADA – Passport, any supporting immigration paperwork and/or Residence Card

ROMAN or EASTERN RITE Catholic Baptismal Certificate

If the child has not been baptized, then you must provide the Baptismal Certificate of one of the parents

IMMUNIZATION RECORD for Diphtheria, Rheubella, MMR, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

PROOF OF ADDRESS - i.e. Driver's license, Offer of Purchase.

IS THERE SCHOOL TODAY?

Now that days of inclement weather are with us, may we suggest that you check the Board's website at <http://www.hcdsb.org> where information will be posted. You will be told if schools are open or closed and whether buses are running. You can also check the Halton Transportation Services at www.haltonbus.ca to see if buses have been cancelled due to inclement weather. As always, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to decide if conditions are safe for their own child to go to and from school on these days. Also, if your child is a bus student, we strongly encourage you to sign up on the Transportation website

BEAVER COMPUTING CONTEST

We have received the final results from The Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing "Beaver Computing Contest", sponsored by the University of Waterloo. We are proud to say that 21 of our Grade 8 students and 3 of our Grade 7 students participated in the contest. The following students received Distinction for placing in the top 25% of all participants:

Matthew G.	Josh C.
Ethan R.	Aidan F.
Jamie F.	Kyle Ann B.

SEAC SOUNDBYTES - *Raising awareness of the Special Education process at HCDSB (Dec 2016)*

Students with Special Needs and the Holidays

Christmas and winter break can be fun, busy, and exciting – and the excitement and change in routine can also be chaotic for many students, especially those with special needs. As much as educators do their best to maintain structure for students, the excitement of the holidays, the many special events and activities, and the time off school can be overwhelming. Here are some tips to help parents, caregivers and educators get through these challenging times.

School Events:

- ✓ Prepare your child in advance for changes in the typical school schedule and special events.
- ✓ If possible, have pictures or social stories about what your child can expect.
- ✓ Practice and rehearse what is going to happen, especially if your child will be part of a presentation.
- ✓ Talk to staff about how your child is going to participate; confirm that supports are in place to help them succeed.
- ✓ Plan for a quieter evening after the event, so your child has a chance to decompress.

Social interactions:

- ✓ Use visuals to help your child understand what is going to happen
- ✓ Count down the days before school ends and then starts back up again. This makes your child aware that there will be a change in schedules.
- ✓ A daily calendar can be very helpful during the break, especially to help your child anticipate parties or family gatherings.
- ✓ Start adjusting back to your regular routine (bedtimes, naptimes, and the overall schedule) a few days before school starts back up in January, to facilitate a smoother transition.
- ✓ Consider hosting friends and family rather than visiting in a place that is unfamiliar to the child.

Holidays can be a wonderful and memorable time for children, and it is important that they feel included and excited about the experiences during this time. Hopefully some of these ideas will provide ways to create special memories for everyone.

Community and Parent Partners for Kids

Understanding Mental Health Issues and Nurturing Positive Mental Health in Our Youth

Guest speaker: Dr. Jane Storie

Dr. Jane Storie is a Burlington-based psychologist and founding partner of Storie, Veikorja and Associates, a full-service psychology practice. She also offers three multi-disciplinary specialty clinics providing assessment and treatment of child and youth mental health issues, concussion and dementia.

In this fast-paced and plugged-in world, our children seem to be increasingly struggling with mental health issues. This presentation will:

- provide information about how to promote positive mental health in youth;
- introduce common mental health issues affecting youth;
- help parents understand when they should be concerned, and
- explain how to find professional support and services.



Date: **Tuesday, November 15, 2016**

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m., community displays are from 6:45 to 7 p.m.
Location: Gary Allan High School/New St. Education Centre

3250 New Street, Burlington

Admission is free, but, donations toward future speakers will be gratefully accepted.

For more information visit halton.ca/care or dial 311

English-speaking American Sign Language interpreters are available upon request. If you wish to use this service at this event, please contact Halton Region by Tuesday November 1, 2016.

In the event of poor weather conditions, please dial 311 for cancellation information.

