

St. Andrew

April 2017

Principal: Mrs. S. Balogh
Secretary: Mrs. P. Lloyd

Vice Principal: Mrs. K. Williams
Office Assistant: Mrs. D. Hayward

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM – A REMINDER TO PLEASE PHONE IN YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE (905) 257-7102

Messages will be retrieved between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by office staff. Provincial protocols require that schools exhaust all emergency contacts prior to calling the police in the event of a missing child. Please ensure that you notify the school and that your information is accurate.

Principal's Message

As a Catholic community we pray for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus during Lent and we would like to wish you a joyful Easter as we approach the rising of Christ! Thank you for supporting our Lenten initiatives, the Holy Childhood collection that is underway, and the upcoming Soap for Hope drive.

April is a month full of exciting times and events, including National Volunteer Week, when we recognize the volunteers that strengthen our community and help make our school a wonderful place to learn. At St. Andrew School, we are blessed to have volunteers including parents who support school events such as: class trips, Treat Lunch Days, Healthy Snack and Breakfast Programs, special events, and reading support. We are also fortunate to have strong community partners such as the Knights of Columbus who assist in supporting our breakfast program, as well as reading support, and the Big Brother/Big Sister organization volunteers that assist with our after-school homework club. We are also blessed to have our MMOG volunteers come monthly to lead the Rosary Apostolate with all our students from JK-Grade 8. We truly appreciate the time and effort of our volunteers and the impact on our students and school community.

We appreciate our community support for many successful family engagement events hosted to date. We hope you will consider joining us for our Family Movie Night on Thursday, April 20. The proceeds will support our Eco Club initiatives at St. Andrew school.

Blessings and gratitude,

S. Balogh
Principal

K. Williams
Vice-Principal





School Hours

Morning Bell - 8:45 a.m.

Recess

Lunch - 11:50-12:30 recess, 12:30-12:50 lunch

Recess

Dismissal - 3:20 p.m.

Please note that supervision outside begins at 8:30 a.m.
Students should not arrive at school before this time.

SUPERINTENDENT AND TRUSTEE INFORMATION

Ms. T. Pinelli is the Superintendent of Education for the Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School Family of Schools, which includes St. Andrew Catholic School. She can be reached at the Halton Catholic District School Board, 905-632-6300.

There are four Oakville Trustees who can be reached at the Board office: 905-632-6300

Anthony Danko: dankoa@hcdsb.org

Paul Marai: maraip@hcdsb.org

Helena Karabela: karabelah@hcdsb.org

Anthony Quinn: anthonyquinn@hcdsb.org

Halton Health: Bicycle Safety Reminders

Spring is around the corner and time to get active! Cycling is a fun and healthy activity, it's a low-cost way to get around, and it's good for the planet. Cyclists have to share the road with cars, pedestrians and other cyclists.

Before you head out on a bike, [learn the rules of the road, helmet information and safety tips for cyclists of all ages](#).

As recommended by [Parachute Canada](#):

Always wear a helmet. Properly worn, it can reduce the risk of serious head injury by up to 80%. Know and follow the [2V1 Rule](#).

Be prepared. Know the rules of the road.

Check your ride. A fun and safe cycling experience starts with a properly equipped bicycle.

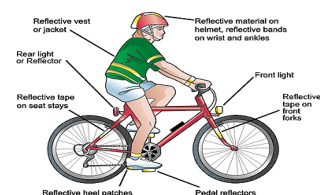
Be a role model. Set a good example and [practice safety together](#).

The Ministry of Transportation's [Young Cyclist Guide](#) has additional information on riding tips to keep you safe while cycling.

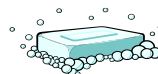
For more information, check out our [website](#), or to speak with a public health nurse, Dial 311 or 905-825-6000 or email: haltonparents@halton.ca

Visit us on:

[HaltonParents Twitter](#), [HaltonParents Facebook](#), [HaltonParents Blog](#)



Soap for Hope



In the past, St. Andrew Catholic School has generously responded to the SOAP FOR HOPE initiative organized by the Mary Mother of God Parish in support of Dr. Simone's Canadian Food for Children. Last year our school collected more than 1200 soap products that were sent to help families in Guatemala, South America.

We would like to invite each child and family of St. Andrew Catholic School to participate in this charitable and worthwhile project again this year. During the dates of **Wednesday, April 5 to Wednesday, April 19, 2017**, students are invited to bring a bar of soap to their classroom, or any other form of soap for example, laundry or liquid soap. All classroom donations will be collected on **Thursday, April 20, 2017** and presented to the organizing committee from Mary Mother of God Parish. When a bar of soap is given to a poor family, we give HOPE! We thank you in advance for your support of this worthwhile and humanitarian initiative.

Parent Speaking Engagement Invite

The Holy Trinity family of schools invites you to join a FREE presentation by **Dr. Susan Williams** entitled ***Reducing Stress and Increasing Resiliency in Children and Youth*** on **Tuesday April 11th at 7pm** at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School.

This presentation will:

- ▯ Provide an overview of stress and anxiety in children
- ▯ Offer strategies to help children deal with stress and anxiety
- ▯ Discuss self regulation and how to help children build resiliency for life



First Holy Communion

Our grade two students and staff are working hard to prepare themselves for the sacrament of First Holy Communion.



- ◆ First Holy Communion retreat for students will be Friday, May 5 at 9:30 am.
- ◆ First Holy Communion will be celebrated at Mary Mother of God Parish on Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 pm.



Public Speaking System Finals 2017



Congratulations to all our finalists for the school **English Public Speaking Contest**: Maren C., Sydney M., Christopher A., Ava G., Isabella R., Ethan C., Marissa B., Joshua K., Luke C. and Natalia L.

We congratulate Marissa B. for representing St. Andrew at the English Public Speaking Regional Competition Wednesday, March 29, 2017.

Congratulations to all the finalists for the school **French Public Speaking Contest**: Carol H., Valentina P., Jenedy K., Katarina V., Lynley M., Adam R., Natalia K., Ante C., and Ethan C.

We congratulate Natalia K., Ante C., and Ethan C. for representing St. Andrew at the French Public Speaking Regional Competition Wednesday, April 5, 2017.

29th Annual HCDSB Awards of



Excellence



One student from each Halton Catholic School will be recognized on Monday, April 24 2017 at the annual Student Awards of Excellence ceremony at Holy Trinity Secondary School in Oakville.

We are pleased to share that Bridget W., a grade eight student, will be recognized as this year's St. Andrew School recipient.

Congratulations Bridget W.!



ECO News for April 2017

Earth Hour Results



On Friday, March 24, St. Andrew School powered down for one hour and turned off all lights and electronics. The “Power Down Hour” initiative was a great success and part of our #GreenLent initiatives.

Family Movie Night



The Eco Team will be holding a **Family Movie Night on Thursday, April 20**. The doors will be open at 6:00 p.m. and the movie will start at 6:30 p.m. sharp. Students may wear their pajamas if they like and bring a blanket or sleeping bag. For only \$5.00 per person you will receive popcorn and a drink. Ice-cream will also be on sale for \$1.00 . Children must be accompanied by an adult. A letter with a ticket order slip attached has been sent home. This must be filled out and returned back to school if you are interested in attending. Ticket orders are due by Wednesday, April 12. Make it a fun family night out to raise funds and help us to create a better environment for our students at the same time!

PITCH-IN Week

St. Andrew School will be participating in the 50th annual PITCH-IN Canada Week. This program is the largest environmental improvement campaign in Canada. It is a partnership between governments, the media, industry and the public. From **April 24-27** we will be participating in a community clean up to demonstrate our commitment to creating a healthy and sustainable world. Classes will be outdoors picking up litter, using disposable gloves which will be provided. Participating in a community clean up will build environmental stewardship and teach the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling to decrease the amount of waste we produce. This is an excellent opportunity to create a significant positive impact on the environment by demonstrating the power of working together.

Thank you for your continued support with all of our environmental initiatives!



The St. Andrew Eco Team



Catholic School Council Corner

Family Community Nights

Thank you to the families who came out to the DrumFit Family Community Night on March 23. We hope you will join us at the school community events: Family Movie Night Thursday, April 20 and our School BBQ on Thursday, June 8, 2017.



Next School Council Meeting

Our next school council meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the school library. As always, everyone is welcome.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

This year's Volunteer Luncheon will be held on **Wednesday, April 26, 2017** from **11:50 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.** in the St. Andrew forum. Our super volunteers at St. Andrew school are invaluable members of our school community. They are our superheroes! They selflessly share their time and talent to provide an enriched school experience for all our students. The students and teachers rely greatly on all the volunteer support and truly look forward and appreciate all the effort it takes in planning special lunches and treat days. It truly helps build a sense of community here at St. Andrew school.



TREAT LUNCH/SNACK DAY

Pizza Treat Lunch days in April are:

Friday, April 7
Friday, April 21
Friday, May 5



PA DAY in April

Just a reminder that we have a PA Day in April and school will be closed for students:
Friday, April 28, 2017



Looking Ahead—Class Organization for September 2017

School staff will soon be meeting to establish class lists for September. There is a process that is designed to come up with the best placement for your child. Prior to making decisions around such placements, a number of factors as well as projected enrolment are considered. The following criteria are used to create balanced classes:

1. Overall academic achievement
2. Learning skills
3. Social grouping and friendships
4. Best match of students' learning style with the teaching style
5. Special learning considerations
6. Balanced number of boys & girls

The best social, spiritual and academic interests of your child are at the heart of our decisions, and with the input and guidance of teachers and administration, final decisions for placement are made. **Parents are invited to share specific information regarding their child's personal development to assist us in the placement process.** Any parent letters or communication regarding class placement should be directed to the Principal **by Friday, May 12 in writing, to Mrs. Balogh's attention.** Letters are reviewed, however, not all requests can be met.

Yearbook News for the 2016/2017 School Year



Yearbook order forms will be sent home soon for this year's yearbook. Please be aware that the final due date for payments and forms will be on **April 18, 2017**.

Follow us on
Twitter:
@St_Andrew145



DRILLS

Being prepared for an emergency situation is critical to keeping everyone safe at school. With Spring upon us, we are expected to have various drills including fire, lockdown and bomb threat. In general, our students do a great job following the direction of their teachers.

April is National Indigenous Education Awareness Month

The Halton Catholic District School Board is pleased to be partnering with various community organizations during **Indigenous Education Awareness Month** in April. The events and activities honour and recognize Indigenous perspectives, cultures, and the entwined histories of Indigenous peoples in Canada.



MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH UPDATES

Youth Led Family Mass:

Our Mary Mother of God Parish **Youth Led Family Mass** is held on the first Saturday of every month. We hope you can join us for the next one on **Saturday April 1st, 2017 at 5pm**. The youth band Ablaze will be playing, the song words will be on the screens, and there will be a wonderful welcome from the youth. Afterwards, Grade 9 to 12 students are invited to stay for the #Aftermass youth group. Food, fun and faith. Save the Date!



April Spring Clothing Drive - Society of Saint Vincent de Paul:

Our Ministry is currently serving 83 families in need (including 165 children) who live in our immediate neighbourhood. The families rely on the clothing drives to meet their clothing requirements and we will gratefully accept your donations of **gently used clothing, shoes, linens and towels before and after the 5pm, 9am and 11am Masses on April 22/23 at Mary Mother of God Church, 2745 Northridge Trail**. PLEASE SORT CLOTHING AND LABEL EACH BAG ACCORDING TO GENDER AND SIZE (Ladies M, Boys 4-6X, Girls 10-12, Men's L, etc.) as this will greatly help with the sorting efforts. We are **in special need of boy's clothing and Ladies XL**.

Our Mission: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is: To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Our Values: The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians we: see Christ in anyone who suffers come together as a family have personal contact with the poor help in all possible ways. We thank you in advance for your generous support.
Your SSVP Volunteer Team.

Rosary Apostolate:

The Rosary Apostolate is Growing Our Team! The Rosary Apostolate is looking for additional volunteers who have a great devotion to the Mother of God and love praying the Rosary. If you enjoy the children, and would like to join us in leading the Rosary once a month in St. Andrew's School, we invite you to join our team. All supplies, training and screening is provided. Please contact Erin Bell hankonthego@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more about the Rosary Apostolate Team.

Thank you,

Erin Bell, Rosary Apostolate MMOG Parish

**Grade 3 and 6 EQAO
Assessments of Reading, Writing
and Mathematics
Primary Division and Junior Division**

Similar to previous years, our Grade 3 and 6 students will participate in the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Primary and Junior Division assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics between:

Tuesday, May 23 and Monday, June 5, 2017.

These EQAO assessments will continue to be administered to all students in Grades 3 and 6. Students will be required to complete three test booklets: one mathematics booklet, one reading booklet and one writing booklet. The types of questions in the booklets will be familiar to your child as they are based on the kinds of work your child has been doing throughout the year. The total amount of time that the students will spend on the testing will be six hours that is generally spread over the course of three days. Sample questions can be viewed on the EQAO website at www.eqao.com.

We ask that you make every effort to avoid holidays during these days and to try to make sure your children are in attendance each day during the assessment. In advance, we appreciate your efforts in scheduling appointments around this block of time. The EQAO assessment results help us to continue to improve upon the quality Catholic education offered to your children.



Vision and Hearing



Vision and Hearing screening for students in JK-Grade 8, has been arranged for interested families by *School Screening Association*, a not for profit organization. The clinic dates at St. Andrew School are **Monday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 11, 2017.** An informational letter and permission form were sent home at the end of March. There is a fee of \$15, payable to the *School Screening Association*, to offset the cost of this clinic to the schools. The permission form and fee must be submitted prior to the clinic date to secure a screening visit for your child(ren).

Moving? Let Us Know!

Plans for the 2017/2018 school year are already underway. If you know that your child(ren) will not be attending St. Andrew School next school year; please write a note to the office informing us. Your efforts would be greatly appreciated.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

Graduation Day is scheduled for **Friday, June 23, 2107.**

The day is planned as follows:

Liturgy and Ceremony:

7:00 p.m.—School Gym

Dance to Follow: in the gym.

*Pick up at 10:30 p.m.



Graduation Luncheon and Bowling:

Thursday, June 22 with details to follow.

Note—Final school mass is scheduled for Thursday, June 15 at 10:00 a.m. @ MMOG.

As this mass is dedicated to our Gr. 8 graduates, it is very important for all students to attend. Families are invited to attend.

PARKING LOT REMINDERS!

We appreciate and respect the staff who do their best daily, to keep your children safe and who work to keep the traffic moving smoothly at the beginning and end of each day.

Please do your part, and abide by the following:

- Drive slowly and cautiously at all times,
- Do not park and leave your car in the "kiss 'n ride" area along the curb adjacent to the school,
- "Kiss 'n ride" is only to be used for quick drop off, is intended to only take a few moments, and to keep moving,
- If you need to accompany your child, please park your car in a parking space,
- Pull right up in the "kiss 'n ride" in order to avoid blocking the main road entrance/exit,
- Do not let your children out of the car into the lane with moving traffic.

Be kind to each other!

