



# ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL

September 2018

Principal: Mrs. M. Braid  
Vice Principal: Mr. P. Deoni

Secretary: Ms S. Talbot  
Office Assistant: Mrs. N. Smith

Phone: (905) 827 - 4401  
School Website: <http://elem.hcdsb.org/stdominic/>

**SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM:** Please be sure to call the safe arrival line at 905-827-3275 or email [stdominic.attendance@hcdsb.org](mailto:stdominic.attendance@hcdsb.org) every time your child will late or absent.

## PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

It is my pleasure on behalf of the staff of St. Dominic School to welcome everyone to the 2018-2019 school year. We extend a special welcome to all of our returning families and those who are new to our community. This year, we will continue to build on the many wonderful programs and traditions that staff, students and parents have worked hard to establish. By continuing to work together as partners, we can establish new goals and open new doors that will further enrich the lives and learning of all students. As a community, we can take pride in the accomplishments of all of our students and in the many ways we share our Catholic faith and values.

The Halton Catholic District School Board and the staff at St. Dominic School, in partnership with home and Church, is dedicated to providing excellence in Catholic education by developing **Christ-centred** individuals enabled to transform society. We are committed to providing your child with the best opportunities to promote their spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth throughout the school year. It is our hope, to work together – home, school and parish – to help all students achieve their potential in an environment that is safe and caring.

St. Dominic Catholic School is blessed to have the support of Father D'Sa and the St. Dominic Parish staff. We extend warm wishes to all for a successful school year and invite you to our school BBQ on September 27th, followed by Curriculum Night (details to follow).

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. M. Braid, Principal

Mr. P. Deoni, Vice Principal

## SCHOOL HOURS

Our school hours are:

8:05 a.m.

8:15 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

11:20 – 12:20 p.m.

12:20 p.m.

1:40 p.m.

2:50 p.m.

### Supervision Begins

Opening bell

Recess Grades 1-8

Lunch hour

Afternoon session

Recess Gr. 1-8

Dismissal

Monday, September 17, 2018 PA Day for School Improvement Planning. No school for students.

## COMMUNITY BBQ AND CURRICULUM NIGHT

On Thursday, September 27, please join us for a community BBQ and an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, learn about the grade curriculum and expectations. If you have specific concerns regarding your child, please make a separate appointment to speak to the teacher prior to or after this evening. We look forward to seeing you! Further information will be coming soon.

BBQ—5 to 6:30 p.m.

Class Visits: 6:45—7:15/7:20-7:50 p.m.

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time each day. Late students must report to the office to check in with our office staff. Students will be marked late on our daily attendance tracking.

## SCHOOL AND STAFF UPDATES

We currently have a population of 655 students. We welcome students who are new to the St. Dominic School community as well as all of the students who will be attending our Full Day Kindergarten Program. We also welcome new staff to our team of professionals. Please see the 2018-2019 staff list on the final page of the newsletter.

Please see page 4 for information regarding running for St. Dominic's 2018/2019 School Council

## SCHOOL SECURITY/ VISITOR INFORMATION



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To gain entry to the school at anytime during the regular school day, **all parents, visitors and volunteers must enter through the front doors of the school.** Press the door buzzer (once only please, its very loud, we hear it but are not always right there to open it immediately) to be let in. You will hear a click indicating the door has been opened. Visitors must proceed to the office, sign in and collect a visitor's badge. Please be aware that all doors are locked during the instructional day. If your child is late, he/she must use the front door to gain entry to the building. With this protocol in place, please make every effort to be punctual. If you have something to drop off to your child, please leave it at the front office where we will be happy to assist. These are safety precautions which also minimize classroom interruptions.

**Please do not enter the yard or visit the playground areas during the school day without signing in at the office. As well, do not walk your child to their class. Office staff will sign them in and get them safely to class.** Remember that you are a stranger to other children, so always sign in at the office. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the safety of our children.

## SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

The Child & Family Services Act requires by law that "members of the public" including professionals who work with children have an obligation to report promptly to the CAS if they suspect that a child may be in need of protection. Teachers/Principals face substantial fines if they don't comply. It is the role of the CAS to investigate such reports. If your child is bruised or marked from an accident, you may wish to let the teacher know about the circumstances. Should a report be made to the CAS, you should understand that we are complying with the law in the child's best interests.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM / DRESS CODE

Families are reminded that as per HCDSB Policy II-41, all students, JK to grade 8, attending St. Dominic School must wear the school uniform. Uniform items include navy blue bottoms and navy/white tops which are embroidered with the school crest. Please also note that as per Board policy, "the principal of each school has the discretion to determine whether a student is in violation of the School Uniform Dress Code or the School Dress Code, has responsibility to enforce the school uniform dress code/school dress code policy, and has the authority to implement the requirements of this policy, including any supports or consequences to students." The staff and students appreciate your continued and consistent support in following the school uniform policy.

We have an ongoing used uniform exchange program. All items are donated and free for the taking. See the office staff if you would like to look through our collection.

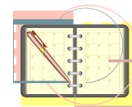
Our school uniform provider is ISW Uniforms.  
[www.iswuniforms.com](http://www.iswuniforms.com)

Additional information is available to the school website.

## SCHOOL WEBSITE/NEWSLETTERS COMMUNICATION

We will continue to email the monthly newsletters and other important information, however, the best way to keep informed as to what is happening at the school and to view the calendar is to visit regularly the St. Dominic School website at <http://elem.hcdsb.org/stdominic/>

**It is very important that we have your correct email address in our system so check the information update forms that were/will be sent home and verify your email address.**



## STUDENT AGENDAS/ FAMILY FORMS

On the first day of school, students in Grades 1-8 received a **student agenda**. Parents who did not pre-pay in June will be sent a form and are asked to submit \$5 to the teacher to cover the cost of this agenda by **September 14th.**

Students will also receive a package of important **Family Forms** that must be completed and returned to the school by **Friday, September 14th**. A cover letter is attached as well detailing more specific instructions. **It is very important for parents to accurately and fully complete the forms and to return them to the school in a timely manner.** We appreciate everyone's cooperation with this necessary process!



We continue to offer School Cash Online to pay for any field trips, pita, pizza and other items and events. Please register to pay online if you have not already done so. This is by far the best way to pay, no lost cheques or cash and you will receive an instant receipt for any payments. As well, with items such as pizza and milk it eliminates the need for order forms. Some of the schools in our board are at 100% participation! Would be great if we were one of them.

To register to pay on line you can access the School Cash Online link through the board or school website.

Please note your child must be "active" in order to sign up. JK parents will not be able to register until your child attends their first day.

### ASTHMA PROTOCOL

Please ensure your child's asthma medications are on hand and are up-to-date, particularly if your child is affected by exercise-induced asthma. Please communicate your specific instructions through the Student Asthma Management Plan.



### ANAPHYLAXIS & MEDICAL CONCERNS

All parents are reminded that we are attempting to provide a "Minimized Allergen Environment" for all children. We have a number of students who suffer from life threatening food allergies. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction that can result in death within minutes.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we remind you that all foods sent to the classroom must be free from peanuts or nut products. **Please reserve all treats for birthdays for home celebrations. Do not send any food treats for your child's class.**

Also, latex balloons will not be permitted. Thank you for your support.

### REMINDER:

**ALL MEDICATIONS AND EPIPENS MUST BE SECURED IN THE OFFICE, AS WELL AS A SECOND EPIPEN WHICH IS CONCEALED IN A POUCH ON THE STUDENT.**

Current anaphylactic students and students with asthma and other medical conditions were sent revised forms in June. If you have not already done so, please return the forms and any medication to the office ASAP.

### PEDICULOSIS/HEAD LICE

Get a head start to reduce the spread of head lice. By checking your child's head regularly, you can catch it early and treat it before it has a chance to spread. **It is very important that if you find your child to have head lice, eggs or nits that you let the school office know.**

Student's who have been found to have head lice **must** be rechecked by We Care/CBI Health Group. You can find the nearest school location for rechecks by calling 905-507-6562

### CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Recent research shows that a concussion can have very serious implications on a child's cognitive and physical abilities. Parents and guardians are reminded that a comprehensive protocol, based on current research and best practices, has been developed to help parents, students, and staff prevent, recognize, and respond to a concussion. More information, including a [Parent Fact Sheet](#) and a [Student Fact Sheet](#) can be found on the Board's website at: <http://bit.ly/HCDsBConcussion>.

### BICYCLE SAFETY

A reminder to students who ride their bike to school that they are to walk their bikes to the bicycle racks once they reach school property. **At dismissal, bikes are to be walked to the property line before being mounted.** The enforcement of the mandatory wearing of bike helmets went into effect in October 1995. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that:

- Your child knows the Bicycle Safety Rules.
- Your child's bicycle is roadworthy.
- Your child is physically capable of riding a bicycle in a safe manner.
- Your child wears a helmet.
- Your child has a lock for the bike.
- Bikes are locked on bike racks.

### PETS NOT PERMITTED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

No pets are permitted on school grounds at any time with the exception of seeing eye dogs and handlers by prior arrangement with the Principal. Thank you for your support in ensuring our students' safety.

### MEDICATION

If your child requires medication during the school day (prescription or non prescription) this medication must be kept in the office and a "permission to administer" form needs to be filled out by parents/guardians. Students are not permitted to keep any medication with them.

### NOON HOUR PROCEDURES

In the package of Family Information and Consent forms that you are asked to complete, you will be asked to pick your child's regular noon hour routine; whether they will be staying for lunch or going home on a daily basis. For safety reasons please be advised that a note to the classroom teacher or phone call to the office must occur each time there is a change in the routine. "Standing Notes" indicating that a child can leave school property anytime he/she chooses are **NOT** acceptable. As a school staff it is important for us to know each time a child leaves our care at noon hour, that permission has been given and that parents know the exact whereabouts of their child (ren). Your co-operation and support of this important supervision and safety procedure is appreciated.

Please check the school website (address on first page) on a regular basis to keep with all school events. The calendar is kept current and contains all important dates.

We also send emails with information you need so make sure you read them to keep informed.

## KISS AND RIDE

The goal of the **Kiss and Ride program** is to allow students safe passage to the school upon arrival via the school parking lot entrance. As there is only one entrance to the school parking lot, you have the convenient choice of the Kiss and Ride or you may park your vehicle in the designated school parking. **The Kiss and Ride route allows you to let your children out safely and quickly in the morning.** In the afternoon, only buses are permitted in the Kiss and Ride area. The crosswalk is to be observed at all times. We ask all parents to please abide by the following guidelines:

- Follow the directions of the crossing guard.
- Do not pass cars ahead of you.
- Wait until your car has reached the Kiss and Ride sidewalk before allowing your children to leave your vehicle
- Unload on the right side of your vehicle, closest to the Kiss and Ride sidewalk.
- Have your child ready to leave your vehicle (i.e. Backpacks ready).
- Be patient with the students, parents and volunteers.
- Do not park/stop your car in the lanes beside the parking spots.



Thank you to our staff members who are on duty in the Kiss and Ride area from 8:05 until 8:20 each morning. Parents will not need to get out of the car or walk their child to the school door. We thank you in advance for continuing to drive with care and not pass cars that are parked in the Kiss and Ride area ahead of you. **The left lane is for busses only.** Consider walking if you are close enough and if you live on a bus route sending your child on the bus rather than driving to help alleviate congestion before and after school. Please help us make our parking lot a safe and friendly area for the whole St. Dominic school community.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Consider becoming involved with our Catholic School Council for the 2018/2019 academic year. If you are interested please make note of the following timelines:

**September 10—19:** Nomination Forms for Parent Representatives are available for pick in the school office.

**September 19:** Nomination forms and a one page information sheet about the candidate due to the office by the end of day.

**September 27:** Elections, if necessary, will take place at school, with details to follow. Candidates will be notified if elections are necessary.

**September 28:** Names of the School Council members will be posted on the school website and announced in the October school newsletter.

## STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Halton Catholic District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Since accidents can happen, and some injuries result in medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans, as a parent, you may wish to consider purchasing student accident insurance.

Student accident insurance can provide you with financial piece of mind against the possible expenses that can be incurred if a child is injured at school.

The Board makes available an Accident and Life Insurance Program for students exclusively through Old Republic/Reliable Life Insurance Company. Participation is voluntary and the costs for the program are paid by the parent or guardian. The program offers a variety of plans and benefits, which can be tailored to suit your needs. The coverage provided by the policy is comprehensive and reasonably priced (\$8.00 to \$32.00 per year depending on plan chosen).

The insurance agreement is between the parent or guardian and the insurance company. If you wish to subscribe or for more information, please visit: [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or call 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).



## BUS SCHEDULES

Bus schedules were posted online by HSTS during the last week of August. Eligible students who live more than 1.6 km from the school are permitted to take the bus to and from school. There will be five buses servicing St. Dominic School. If you are unsure whether your child is eligible for transportation, please visit the Halton Student Transportation website at <http://www.haltonbus.ca> **first** for transportation information rather than contacting HSTS by phone as they experience a high volume of calls in September. If you have any concerns or problems with the HSTS, you can also reach them via email at [transportation@haltonbus.ca](mailto:transportation@haltonbus.ca).

### Halton Student Transportation Services Online Portal

An online portal for parents is available for busing information. A link is available on the HSTS website. Through the portal, you will have secure and easy access to bus schedules, delays, cancellations, and e-mail notifications if bus routes are running late.

### COURTESY SEAT POLICY (Empty Seat Procedure)

Where routes have been established and there is available space on a bus, students may be allowed to ride even though their distance from school is within the minimum limit. No additional stops will be added.

Permission may be withdrawn at any time and should not be considered to constitute a precedent or establish a right. Courtesy Seat forms are available at [www.haltonbus.ca](http://www.haltonbus.ca).

#### Please note:

Submitted applications will be reviewed by HSTS between October 1st and October 30th. For the month of September you will need to make alternate arrangements for transportation.



## VOLUNTEERS IN OUR SCHOOL

Each year St. Dominic School actively appeals to the Parent Community for volunteers. We currently have a very active and involved group of parent volunteers in our school. Their tireless energy, enthusiasm and support are greatly appreciated by all staff. It is through their efforts that we can offer students special events and activities. We invite and encourage you to please give consideration to becoming actively involved in the school as a parent volunteer. As you are aware, all volunteers in schools must have a completed Criminal Records Check (dated within one year). We have included a volunteer form and a "declaration form" with this newsletter. The declaration needs to be completed each year **after you have submitted a Criminal Reference Check**. Please print these forms and submit them to the office if you intend to volunteer this year.

## LUNCH/MILK

Please watch for an email in late September for information on ordering pizza, milk and /or pita for the first lunch term. First term pizza and milk go right till January so don't miss out! We do not accept late orders.

## Student Government

The Student Government is looking for grade 7 and 8 students. If your son/daughter may be interested in participating in this group, they are to see Miss R. McNamara for an application form. All forms are due to Miss R. McNamara by Thursday, September 13th. The Student Government's mission is to advocate for students and the wider community. Through various activities the student government will promote school spirit and complete acts of charity for the local and global community.

## LUNCH SUPERVISOR

We are looking for a lunch supervisor. This is a paid position from 11:20—12:20 from Monday to Friday. If you are interested please call Mr. Deoni for more information.



**ST. DOMINIC STAFF  
2018-2019**



<b>Mrs. McGowan</b>	<b>FDK room 105</b>	<b>Mr. MacPhail</b>	<b>7 room 209</b>
<b>Ms. Morreale (LTO)</b>	<b>FDK room 101</b>	<b>Ms. McNamara</b>	<b>7/8 room 210</b>
<b>Mrs. DeMedeiros</b>	<b>FDK room 120</b>	<b>Mr. P. Taraschi</b>	<b>7 room 212</b>
<b>Mrs. Harper</b>	<b>FDK room 103</b>	<b>Ms. Hilinska</b>	<b>8 room 211</b>
<b>Mrs. Toth</b>	<b>FDK room 104</b>	<b>Mr. Sajko</b>	<b>8 room 207</b>
<b>Mrs. Phillips</b>	<b>DECE room 101</b>	<b>Ms. Dennie</b>	<b>SERT</b>
<b>Mrs. Koufidis</b>	<b>DECE room 120</b>	<b>Ms. O'Grady</b>	<b>SERT</b>
<b>Miss Slaats</b>	<b>DECE room 104</b>	<b>Mme. Logar</b>	<b>FSL</b>
<b>Ms. Martins</b>	<b>DECE room 103</b>	<b>Mme. Hicks</b>	<b>FSL</b>
<b>Ms. Ribau</b>	<b>DECE room 105</b>	<b>Mme. Buegler (.5)</b>	<b>FSL</b>
<b>Mrs. Belcher</b>	<b>1 room 106</b>	<b>Mr. Van Sickle (LTO)</b>	<b>PTM</b>
<b>Mrs. McGrath</b>	<b>1 room 119</b>	<b>Mr. McLean</b>	<b>PTM</b>
<b>Ms. Turnbull</b>	<b>1 room 102</b>	<b>Ms. Grasso</b>	<b>PTM</b>
<b>Mrs. Sas</b>	<b>2 room 109</b>	<b>Ms. Corbacio</b>	<b>Arts</b>
<b>Mrs. Singer</b>	<b>2 room 118</b>	<b>Miss Ongaro</b>	<b>EA</b>
<b>Mrs. Hart</b>	<b>2 room 112</b>	<b>Mrs. Howlett</b>	<b>EA</b>
<b>Mrs. Makhlof</b>	<b>2 room 111</b>	<b>Mrs. Smith</b>	<b>EA</b>
<b>Mrs. Vasilak</b>	<b>2/3 room 113</b>	<b>Mrs. Shewchuk</b>	<b>EA</b>
<b>Mrs. D'Agostino</b>	<b>3 room 205</b>	<b>Mrs. Calhau</b>	<b>EA</b>
<b>Mrs. Macys</b>	<b>3 room 203</b>	<b>Ms. Ryrie</b>	<b>CYC</b>
<b>Mrs. Service</b>	<b>3 room 202</b>	<b>Mrs. Sousa</b>	<b>Library</b>
<b>Mr. Delle Monache</b>	<b>4 room 204</b>	<b>Mrs. Rodrigues</b>	<b>ELL</b>
<b>Ms. L. McNamara</b>	<b>4 room 201</b>		
<b>Mrs. J. Seese</b>	<b>4 room 135</b>	<b>Ms. S. Talbot</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Mrs. Kontenis-Moore</b>	<b>5 P1</b>		<b>Office Assistant</b>
<b>Ms. Morrier</b>	<b>5 P2</b>	<b>Mr. J. Moitoso</b>	<b>Custodian</b>
<b>Mr. Petruccelli</b>	<b>6 P4</b>	<b>Mr. P. Deoni</b>	<b>Vice-Principal</b>
<b>Miss Moscato</b>	<b>6 P3</b>	<b>Mrs. M. Braid</b>	<b>Principal</b>