



ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL—December 2018

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

Secretary: Miss S. Talbot
Office Assistant: Miss C. Dunn

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"Learning, Serving and Praying Together"

As we begin our spiritual journey through the Advent season, the four candles of the Advent wreath remind us of the four weeks of waiting. We wait patiently as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We are called to be light to others; to radiate warmth, goodness, and compassion to all we meet. In our school community, we show our compassion and call to service through the support of many charitable initiatives. The Christmas Angel Tree in support of our school families is available for parents to choose an angel and donate a gift card this Christmas. We ask that all gift cards be returned by **Friday, December 7th**. You are also welcome to add hats and mittens for adults and children to our hat and mitten tree during this time, which will support Kerr Street Ministries.

We will also be celebrating weekly Advent liturgies prepared by our students and staff on:
Monday, December 10th at 12:30 p.m., Monday, December 17th at 1:50 p.m.
Friday, December 21st at 10:00 a.m.

We will also be celebrating a school mass with Father D'Sa at St. Dominic Church on Wednesday, December 5th at 8:30 a.m. Parents and guests are always welcome to join us for our liturgies and masses.

May God's grace and goodness, brought to us through the birth of the Christ child, bless you with renewed hope, peace and love now and in the new year! On behalf of the staff, we would like to extend to all our families, a heartfelt prayer for a happy and holy Advent season.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. Braid
Principal

Mr. Deoni
Vice Principal

*****Student Attendance Management System*****

Our new automated student attendance management system called **Safe Arrival**, offered through *School Messenger* is up and running! Please continue to report your child's absence or late arrival in one of the following ways:

1. using the SchoolMessenger mobile app **available on Apple App Store or Google Play store**
2. By logging into the SchoolMessenger website **go.schoolmessenger.ca**
3. By calling into an interactive toll-free phone line **1-844-445-4505**

******Please note if you are phoning in to report a late and you do not receive a "late" option report it as an absence and it will be updated to late when your child signs in at the office.******

It is imperative that you use the email address that the school has on file.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

Registration for JK students for September 2019 and **NEW** SK students will be held on **January 23 and 24th**. Parents with older siblings at school may come to the office to register at any time in January in advance of the registration dates.

Registration Requirements

- JK students must be 4 years old by December 31, 2019
- SK students must be 5 years old by December 31, 2019
- Child's Baptismal Certificate (Roman or Eastern Rite) OR RC Baptismal Certificate of one parent
- Child's Birth Certificate
- Families new to the school must provide proof of address
- Families new to Canada must provide Immigration papers

Please Note: If your child is presently attending JK you do not need to register him/her for Senior Kindergarten. If you would like to pick up and fill out forms in advance of the registration dates please speak to Ms. Talbot in the office. **We encourage all parents of potential school age students to register at this time to ensure the best possible classroom organization for September.**

MOVING?

If you are moving and your children will be leaving the school please call and let the office know. As well if you move and your children will remain at St. Dominic there are forms to complete to ensure we have your correct address on file.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next school council meeting will be on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Parents please join us for the following Christmas celebrations held in the large gym.

The kindergarten classes will be performing their Christmas concert on Friday, December 14th at 2:00 p.m.

The Grade 1 to 8 classes will perform their concert on Thursday, December 20th. Due to space limitations in our gym and to help accommodate the anticipated number of guests, we will be holding 2 performances—9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. **Parents are asked to remain for the entire performance.**



CHRISTMAS BREAK

Christmas Break is from December 24, 2018 to January 4, 2019 inclusive. Friday, December 21 will be an early dismissal at 1:20 p.m. with buses picking up at that time.

WHEN A CHILD IS ILL

With the approaching cold and flu season, we remind you that a child who is not feeling well is in no state to learn and participate fully in the school program. An ill child will feel more comfortable at home. Also, it is likely he or she could infect other children. We strongly encourage parents to keep sick children at home or make other care arrangements. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

BUS STUDENTS TAKE NOTE

Children are not permitted to take a different bus that is not the bus they are assigned to. If they have plans to go to a friend's house that is on a different bus route other arrangement for transportation need to be made. As well students who are not bus students may not take the bus to a friend's house.

LUNCHES AND CHRISTMAS TREATS

In order to minimize the risk for our anaphylactic students and to promote our school as a Healthy School, parents are asked not to send their children with lunches from an outside provider (eg. Tim Hortons, McDonalds, Subway).

For the same reasons please do not send in baked goods or food treats for your child's class. We can not allow distribution of any of these foods—they will be returned to you. Please do not send Nutella, pea butter, soy butter or anything with nuts in your child's lunch.

BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION

School staff are scheduled to begin supervision in the morning from 8:05 a.m. until 8:20 a.m. on the playground and bus lanes. We ask that you not drop-off your children earlier since there is no scheduled supervision before 8:05 a.m.

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Please try to make it a habit to discuss after school arrangements with your child in the morning before they leave for school and note changes to the regular routine in your child's agenda. It would be much appreciated if you could avoid calling the office to deliver messages regarding after school plans for your child. We attempt to minimize interruptions to teaching and as well the office is very busy.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Thank you to Mr. MacPhail and all the staff and student helpers who prepared so diligently to make this day special. Thank you to parents and guests who were able to join us.

Dear St. Dominic School Staff and Students,

We would like to thank you and your school community for generously donating 64.8kgs or 142.9lbs to our 7th annual Care2Share Halloween Candy Drive.

This year 3 Oakville elementary schools; St. Dominic, St. Nicholas and Pine Grove Public Schools, donated a total of 155.8kgs or 344lbs of Halloween treats!

All of these goodies are soon to be shipped from the Canadian Food for Children Mississauga warehouse to Guatemala and Nicaragua where Dr. A. Simone's co-workers will distribute them to children in need.

We are very grateful for your effort in sharing with those who will never know the joy of trick or treating and the abundance of candy we enjoy in Canada.

We look forward to our next 2019 collection and until then, we wish everyone a joyful holiday season and the very best new year.

Sincerely,

Julia and Vanessa Silano

LIBRARY NEWS

The Book Fair was a tremendous success!! A great big thank you to all of the eager students and parents who contributed at the Book Fair and for the donations of the Classroom Wish List. This fun and exciting Book Fair could not have been run so smoothly without the valuable time of the many dedicated student and parent volunteers who helped throughout the week.

Thank you to all...see you at the next Book Fair!

Mrs. L. Sousa



PIZZA AND MILK

Pizza order forms for the session beginning Tuesday, February 5 (Monday, Feb. 4 for milk) will be emailed the first week of January. The due date for all lunch and milk forms will be Friday, January 11 so make sure you watch for them and return them promptly. As always, purchasing online is the best way—no returning forms required.

SALAD CART

The next session for salad will begin on Wednesday, February 5, 2019. Forms will be sent along with pizza and milk. Again, online is the best way to pay, however, if you pay another way salad must be paid separately from pizza and milk.

SNOW PASS

It is time once again for the Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass! The Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass is a not for profit program that is offered by the Canadian Ski Council. It provides skiing and snowboarding to every 4th and 5th grader across Canada so that every nine and ten year old will have the chance to ski and board this winter! Application forms are available in the office.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Halton Catholic District School Board provides procedures to follow in the event of inclement weather. For extreme cold and temperature with or without a wind chill factor.

- Warmer than -15°C , students may remain outside for all regular outside activities.
- Between -15°C and -20°C students may remain outside for no longer than 20 minute intervals at a time.
- Colder than -20°C , students must remain inside

When temperature thresholds are in effect, students are required to keep their outdoor coats/jackets with them throughout the instructional day.

BUS CANCELLATIONS/SCHOOL CLOSURES

If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather and your child is a bus student you **DO NOT** need to enter your child's absence. **If your child is a walker and will be staying home, please enter your child's absence using the School Messenger App/website or toll free number.**

Please do not call the school directly to report an absence or to ask about closures and cancellations. School closure and/or bus cancellations can be found on hcdsb.org or haltonbus.ca

If buses are cancelled and you choose to drive your child to school you **must** make prior arrangements for their pick up at the end of the day.

INDOOR SHOES

We ask that all students keep a pair of indoor shoes at school. Boots need to be left at the lockers to reduce the amount of water and mud brought into the school.



HALLOWEEN DANCE-A-THON

We wish to thank our Dance-a-thon committee and the volunteers for their leadership in our Halloween Dance-a-thon fundraising event for this school year. Thank you also to the number of parents who came to dance with us! Your support of our school is deeply appreciated.

The funds raised by the by the Dance-a-thon will allow us to provide a number of extra supports to supplement student programs, resources and activities for our students. With your support we raised a total of \$16,495. We have already begun to use these funds to benefit our students. We will provide updates as to how fundraising money is spent in future newsletters.

Thank you to all families for your efforts in assisting us with our major fundraiser this year!

ADVENT LITURGIES

All parents and families are invited to attend our Advent Liturgies.

1st week of Advent- Wednesday, December 5th @8:30 a.m. Mass at the Church

2nd week of Advent - Monday, December 10th @ 12:30 p.m. Liturgy in the Gym

3rd week of Advent - Monday, December 17th @ 1:55 p.m. Liturgy in the Gym

4th week of Advent - Monday, December 21st @ 10:00 a.m. Liturgy in the Gym

Advent Prayer

Ever-loving God,

We thank you for the exciting season of Advent.

*Together we travel on a journey of hope
toward greater kindness, peace and joy
in our school, our parish and our families.
May our Advent journey also bring hope
to our sisters and brothers near and far
who are in need.*

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

Amen.

