



ST. LUKE SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2017

Principal: Mrs. E. Bakaic
Secretary: Mrs. K. Rosati

Parish: St. Andrew Church

Phone: (905) 829-1700

Website: <http://schools.hcdsb.org/luke>

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM: A reminder to call in your child's absence or late arrival to (905) 829-1700. Our answering machine is operational 24 hours a day. Messages will be retrieved between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Provincial protocols require that schools exhaust all emergency contacts prior to calling the police in the event of a child who is unaccounted for. Please ensure that your information is accurate.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As a staff, we continue to dedicate ourselves to the learning needs and improvement of each and every student. The academic, social, emotional and spiritual growth of our students is supported by the many staff members and parent volunteers who give so freely of their time and expertise. Thank you for making the learning environment at St. Luke so awesome! In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for your continued support with our charitable initiatives and fundraisers. We appreciate your generosity and kindness. We are all truly blessed to be part of such a caring and committed community.



Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. E. Bakaic
Principal

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month. Here at St. Luke, the Grade 7 students have been hard at work organizing information items to be read during morning announcements.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BASKET WINNERS!

Thank you to everyone for your generous support of our Gift Basket Raffle. Thank you especially to Nancy Guzzo and the team of volunteers who organized this event. We successfully raised **\$2,164.51**. Congratulations to the winners of this year's beautiful gift baskets!

| BASKET THEME | WINNER |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| World of Princess | Alyssa M. |
| World of Superheroes | Carmella C. |
| All About Trading Cards | Vicky V.-R. |
| Lego Mania | K. Brown |
| World of Minecraft | Alex Z. |
| Mad About Music | Daniel M. |
| Family Game Night | Samuel D. |
| Chocolate Fantasy | Nikita B.-H. |
| Movie Night | Latif G. |
| Girl Power | Alexis L. |
| Sports Mania | Dominick S. |
| Raptors Tickets | J. McDougald |

DECEMBER & JANUARY SHINING STAR RECIPIENTS

Shining Stars are awarded to students who demonstrate a positive attitude, good effort and respectful behaviour. The staff of St. Luke are extremely proud of all of our students who won Shining Star awards this month.

Congratulations to the following raffle draw winners:

| December | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| Movie Pass | Brooke B. | Rm. 4 |
| Art Supplies | Isabelle D. | Rm. 1 |
| Sports Ball | Jonny C. | Rm. 4 |
| Subway Gift Card | Lauren F. | Rm. 2 |
| Chapters Gift Card | Ian A. | Rm. 4 |
| January | | |
| Movie Pass | Alexis L. | Rm. 16 |
| | Justin K. | Rm. 3 |
| Art Supplies | Nana D. | Rm. 16 |
| | Joyce Z. | Rm. 17 |
| Sports Ball | Noah D. | Rm. 2 |
| | Aaron P. | Rm. 17 |
| Subway Gift Card | Alex F. | Rm. 17 |
| | Victoria V. | Rm. 4 |
| Chapters Gift Card | Hailey H. | Rm. 15 |
| | Liam V. | Rm. 12 |

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPT.

Advanced registration for September 2017 Full Day Kindergarten took place on January 24th and January 25th. If you have a child that will be 4 years old on or before December 31st, 2017, please contact our office as soon as possible to register your child for school.

CROSS BOUNDARY AND NON-RESIDENT ATTENDANCE APPLICATIONS DUE BY FEBRUARY 10th

Parents who currently have cross boundary/non-resident status within our school must have the request renewed on an annual basis. The request for renewal of cross boundary/non-resident application must be submitted to the school office by **Friday, February 10th**.

Requests received after this date **may** only be reviewed based on exceptional circumstances. Parents will begin to receive response letters by the end of March. To view the policy, please visit the Board website www.hcdsb.org under Policies and Procedures:

Policy I-04 Cross Boundary School Attendance.

MOVING?



Please let the office know as soon as possible if you know that you are moving and won't be returning in September. We will soon begin preliminary planning for next year's class sizes and this information is very helpful in the planning process.

GRO CLUB GLOBAL CHARITY FUNDRAISER



Once again, with your support, our **GRO CLUB** (Gators Reach Out) is beginning its "Global Charity" drive. Our global initiative focuses on Education and Clean Water. Last year we sold over \$1000 worth of merchandise and 100% of all money raised went to support Haiti. This year we are once again selling Rafiki Bracelets along with Water Bottles to raise money for Kenya. There are a variety of bracelets to choose from at \$10 each and 2 stainless steel water bottle options at \$15 each. Sales will begin on Wednesday, February 1st and will run for the month of February during the lunch hour. Together with the Me to We Foundation and your support, the St. Luke community continues to make an impact globally. Together, we can make a difference!

GATORS BASKETBALL

We are super excited for the new Senior Girls Basketball Team and the season is underway. We have been dedicated in our practices and look forward to our first home game on February 16. The team players are **Bonnie S., Meghan P., Alesandra I., Vanessa W., Ashley B., Jasmyn S., Daria M., Shaylee D., Symphony B., Chiara J., Daniela F., Mykayla L., Sara W. and Bianca B.** A special

thank you to Mrs. Matute for coaching this year's team!

Congratulations to the following boys for making the senior basketball team: **Tate D., Jahmoni D., Matteo D., Dylan D., Christopher F., Diego G., Andrew K., Jakob K., Mark L., Mason M., Michael S., Liam T., Rodney D., Alex G., Luke K., Daniel M., and Dominick S.** Our first game to kick off the season is Wednesday, February 8th at Our Lady of Peace. Thank you to Miss Kellner for coaching the boys this year!

Go Gators Go!

ECO NEWS UPDATE

The ECO Team continues to work hard for the environment. February is an exciting month at St. Luke School.

Winter Walk Day 2017 Wednesday February 1st is Winter Walk Day!



Keep active this winter and join schools across Canada to celebrate Winter Walk Day. Dressing warmly for a brisk winter walk can be exhilarating and fun – give it a try on February 1, here are some ideas:

- If you can walk safely to school, wrap up warm, leave the car at home and travel to school on foot with your friends.
- If you live too far to walk the whole way, try getting dropped off at a friend's house or a few blocks away from the school so you can walk the last leg
- If you take the school bus, have a winter walk in the school yard at break time so you can get active too!
- **saferoutestoschool.ca**

SWEATER DAY 2017 Thursday, February 2 is Sweater Day!



The fun continues on Thursday, February 2 with our annual Sweater Day. Dress warmly, we are turning the heat down for the day by 2 °. National Sweater Day is a WWF-Canada campaign, presented by Loblaw Companies Limited, which asks Canadians to turn down their heat and turn up their sweaters in the name of energy conservation. National Sweater Day occurs annually on a Thursday in February and has engaged over one million Canadians since 2010. In 2017, National Sweater Day is about valuing energy. It's a chance to think differently about how we use energy, where our energy comes from and how we can play an important role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely, not wastefully. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just two degrees Celsius, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about four megatons — equivalent to taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road. WWF is putting Canada on the path to 100% renewable energy by 2050. Reducing Canadians' reliance on greenhouse gas emissions-producing fossil fuels is a critical part of our plan.

- **World Wildlife Fund**

FIRST TERM REPORT CARD & EXPECTATIONS First Term Report Card

will be going home on **Thursday, February 23, 2017.** Students are encouraged to continue to practice implementing good work habits. Students are also encouraged to consistently monitor all new learning and engage in self-assessment. Please keep in mind that pencil and paper tasks are only one form of evaluation used to evaluate your child's growth. Students are also required to demonstrate their learning by communicating their understanding and applying it in a number of varied assessment tasks. Should you have any questions, please



communicate with the teacher. Parents will note a section on the report card for parent and student comments. Even if parents and students do not wish to comment or discuss the report card, parents must sign the tear-off section and return it to school. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's classroom teacher if they wish to discuss the report card. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our children.

WHEN A CHILD IS ILL



We are in the midst of the 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. Please ensure you advise the school of your child's absence by 8:45 a.m. by calling 905-829-1700. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

ANAPHYLAXIS UPDATE

Thank you to all families for your continued diligence with respect to the avoidance of peanut and nut products at school. With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, please remember to avoid sending in food as treats to the classrooms. We must protect the safety of our anaphylactic children. We appreciate the extra effort required to comply with this request and ask for your understanding as we enforce this protocol.

S.E.A.C. SOUNDBYTES

Raising awareness of the Special Education process at HCDSB



WHO is your team at school?

When most people think of special education, they think of **Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs)**. While SERTs certainly play a key role, there are many other team members involved in helping to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students with special needs.

Besides parents, perhaps the most significant team member is the

classroom teacher. The classroom teacher should always be the first point of contact for questions or concerns regarding your child's progress, whether or not they have been identified. As the educational professional who knows your child best, they are significantly involved in developing and revising programming to continually meet the ongoing and changing needs of students receiving special education programming. Open dialogue and a collaborative relationship between parent and teacher is critical to ensuring every student's success!

Exceptional students sometimes require additional support beyond what the classroom teacher can provide. **Educational Assistants (EAs)** work directly with those students throughout the school day. While **SERTs** are primarily responsible for coordinating special education programming and services, they too may provide extra support to students withdrawn from the classroom for part of the day. SERTs can also assist parents who have programming concerns. **Itinerant SERTs** and **Special Education Consultants**, operating at the Board level, provide additional support to school level SERTs.

Principals have ultimate responsibility for successful program delivery and would be the next point of contact for issues not resolved at the teacher / SERT level.

Every elementary school has a **Child & Youth Counsellor (CYC)**, either full or part time. They are there to assist with social, emotional and behavioural issues and play a key role in the mental health of our students.

There are many other professionals who may provide support to students, depending on their individual needs. These include: **Communicative Disorder Assistants, Speech-Language Pathologists, Social Workers, Psych-Ed Consultants, Sign Interpreters** and **Audiologists**, to name a few!

E.S.L. NEWS

EQAO is just around the corner. If you have *English Language Learners* in Grades 3 or 6, they will

be writing EQAO. EQAO is the provincial **Education Equality and Accountability Office**, an independent government body that develops and oversees reading, writing and mathematics tests that Ontario students take in Grades 3, 6, 9, and 10. **settlement.org** can answer many of your questions regarding EQAO. The site provides information in many languages such as: Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Spanish, Filipino (Tagalog), French, Korean, Urdu and more.

The link is as follows:

<http://settlement.org/ontario/education/elementary-and-secondary-school/evaluation/eqao-testing/>

VALENTINES DAY AROUND THE WORLD



***Vietnam:** Couples wear the same style and/or colour of clothes.

***Japan:** There are two Valentine's Days. On February 14 there is a tradition of women giving chocolates to men. On March 14th, men give cookies or white chocolates to the women they like.

***Dominican Republic:** Family and friends play games. The game played in the Dominican Republic is called "Angelito". Dominicans rip pieces of paper and write the name of another person, either boy or girl. A name is chosen and each player gives his/ her "angelito" a present.

***China:** The equivalent of Valentine's Day is the "Oixi Festival," which means "The Night of Seven", and is usually celebrated in early August, in the seventh day of the seventh lunar month.

***Spain:** Only people in love get and give presents. Friends or family don't exchange notes or presents.

***Italy:** On Valentine's Day couples get together to enjoy music, poetry and exchange gifts like the "Baci Perugina," a box of small hazelnut filled chocolate "kisses" (*baci* means "kisses" in Italian).

***Brazil:** "Dia dos enamorados" is on June 12th. Brazilians love to exchange chocolates, flowers, cards etc... but in addition, musical performances are held throughout cities and towns, bringing together couples and families from all elements of society.

***France:** Paris is considered the Capital City of Love and couples from around the globe flock here for the special day.

Love is a global phenomenon and Valentine's Day is celebrated around the world in fascinating and different ways.

A fun craft for Family Day – Make a Chilean Rainstick!

www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/music/rainstick/

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Our next School Council meeting will be held on **Monday, March 6th** at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Remember to check the school website for School Council information and for council meetings and minutes. All are welcome to attend Council Meetings.



SEE THE PROBLEM, BE THE SOLUTION

St. Luke Grade 6-8 students will participate in the HCDSB and the Halton Regional Police sponsored initiative, *See the Problem, Be the Solution*. This initiative aims to spread the message of respect and healthy relationships for all students. The students have been challenged to develop creative arts-based public service messages that communicate the theme, *See the Problem, Be the Solution*, promoting healthy relationships and inclusion to prevent bullying. Good luck to all grade 6-8 students that will be submitting a video, song or poster to this contest.

