



# THE MARAUDER EXPRESS



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### WELCOME BACK!

This year we will be celebrating the theme: "Catholic Education: Exploring Paths of Joy." in our Ontario Catholic Schools.

The main theme is inspired by the work of Pope Francis and his "Joy of the Gospel" and the sub-themes are inspired by the biblical story of "The Road to Emmaus", namely that we are all on a life journey of faith where Jesus reveals himself to us.

*God of kindness and mercy,  
each day we desire to serve You  
with faithfulness.*

*Help us to serve You with  
humility as we walk gently on  
the earth.*

*Teach us to serve You with  
compassionate hearts and  
hands.*

*Strengthen us to serve You as  
we build a world of justice for  
all.*

*May Your example inspire us to  
serve joyfully in the love of  
Christ.*

*+Amen.*

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to all new staff, students and families. As

educators we focus on helping students develop academically, socially and spiritually.



### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Monday, September 15**  
BBQ – Meet & Greet  
The Teacher

**Friday, September 19**  
P.A. Day no school

**Saturday, September 20**  
Parish Mom to Mom Sale

**Friday, September 26**  
Feast Day Liturgy

**Tuesday, Sept. 30**  
Stamp Club Meeting Gr. 3-8

Please take the time to read over the newsletter carefully and to check your child's agenda regularly to see if any important events are forthcoming. In order to save paper we will be sending home a condensed version of the newsletter with a calendar in October. The full newsletter will be available on line or a hard copy upon request (Please fill out the survey that was taken home). Please stay informed and together we can all work

towards making this year a great school year for all! I will also ask that you subscribe on the school's website so that information can be emailed periodically for your information.

Yours in Catholic Education,  
Mr. P.A. Messina,  
Principal

**Mr. P. A. Messina**  
Principal

**Mr. D. Fletcher**  
Assistant to the Principal

**Mrs. M. Cipolla**  
Superintendent of  
Education

**Mr. M. Valvasori**  
Trustee

**Reverend Joe Selvanayagam**  
Canadian Martyrs' Parish Priest

**Mrs. MacIssac**  
Secretary



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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AND MORE

## COMMUNICATION:

We encourage parents to contact their child's teacher early in the year to enhance the lines of communication between home and school. It has been our experience that ongoing communication between parents and teachers helps to alleviate problems later on in the year. Teachers will also communicate with parents to keep them informed of issues, concerns and events in the classroom. On behalf of the staff, we wish to extend our best wishes to all our students for a very successful year at Canadian Martyrs CES. We hope they are all excited to put forth their best efforts in the days and months ahead.

## Newsletter

All monthly newsletters will be found on line through the Board's website at [www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca).

A letter was sent home last week requesting your preference of a hard copy or online viewing.

## OFFICE NEWS

The office is a very active and busy place. The phones are a necessary component of daily office procedures. As you can appreciate, lines must be kept free for incoming and outgoing calls. Students will not be allowed to use the phone for forgotten homework, after school arrangements, school supplies or trip permission forms. It is the students' responsibility to prepare for the school day the night before. In the case of an emergency, we will contact the parent. We believe that it is important that students understand their responsibility of coming to school prepared. Please be sure to let your child know if the after school pick-up arrangements have changed before they leave home and send a note to the teacher.

Students are reminded of the bus rules regularly. Please reinforce these rules so that the transition from home to school is smooth. Students must ONLY ride their designated bus. In the past, parents have sent notes giving their child permission to ride a friend's bus. This procedure is NOT allowed as the buses have a record of the students and the contact numbers in case of an emergency. When students are not taking the bus home, a written note must be

sent to the school to confirm this. If your child is being picked up by another person, please notify the school with a written note. Your child's safety is important to us. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Pizza & Pita Pit Lunch Days...

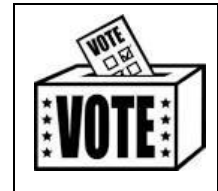
Pizza and Pita Pit lunch days will continue this year on various Fridays. We will begin the program on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> on the *Feast of the Canadian Martyrs*. Forms will be arriving shortly.

Please note we will also be selling healthy snacks such as popcorn and cookies during the recess and lunch periods throughout the year.

More information to follow in the upcoming days.

Thank you

## STUDENT NEWS



### Student Council Elections

The Student Council speeches and elections will be held in the next week or so. Classrooms will be conducting their own elections within their respective class for Student Reps. There will be two Student Reps from each class. Grades 4– 8 students will vote for their Executive Student Council.

### Spirit Days

We will have Spirit Days with activities and events throughout the year for the students. Please check the CM monthly calendar for more information.

### Uniforms

**A reminder that uniform items may be purchased at JML Uniforms**

**95 Parkdale Ave. N. Hamilton 905-544-1608**

**\*\*\*Purchases can also be made at the Open House - 20% DISCOUNT!**

## Student Bus Patrollers

Students in grade 6, 7 and 8 will be volunteering to be bus patrollers. The students will be trained at a later date. If your child has a bus patroller vest at home please make sure that it gets returned to school as soon as possible.

## HWCDSD - Déjà Vu Youth Theatre

Holding open auditions to all students in grades 4 – 8 of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board and is designed to develop creativity, enhance self-confidence and encourage an interest in musical theatre and the performing arts. Our goal is to create and perform musicals with a Catholic message that reaches young people. Rehearsals in singing, dancing and acting will be coupled with age-appropriate theatre games which will occur on Monday and Thursday nights from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at St. David CES. This hard work will culminate with students sharing their newly developed skills in an original musical with schools across our board.

For more information, please contact us at [dejavu@fc.hwcdsb.ca](mailto:dejavu@fc.hwcdsb.ca)

### INFORMATION MEETING:

An information meeting for all parents and students interested in auditioning will be held at the Nicholas Mancini Centre (44 Hunt St.) on **Wednesday, September 10th, 2014 at 6:30 pm.**

## Medical Concerns

There are many students that may have allergies and may have to take medication for a variety of reasons. The Hamilton-Wentworth Roman Catholic District School Board has procedures that must be followed for the proper dispensing of medication. In order to help us at the school please have your child come to the office or send a note to the teacher to get the forms that must be completed by their Family Doctor. All forms and medication are kept on file with the Special Education Resource Teacher. We ask that parents send the medication clearly labeled with your child's name. **Under no circumstances are children to bring any kind of prescription or over the counter medication to school with them.** All medications must be delivered to the office with the proper documentation in order for it to be administered. Please help keep our school a safe learning environment for all.

## REMEMBER!!!!

### WE ARE A PEANUT FREE SCHOOL.

There are a number of students in our school who endure very severe anaphylactic reactions to sesame, milk, peanut butter, nuts of any kind, and/or peanut food products. These reactions can be caused by ingestion and/or airborne. We ask for your assistance by not sending any snacks or lunches that contain peanut products. We also ask you to remind your children not to share snacks, treats or lunches at any time with others. Parents of students with any allergies/medical concerns are asked to inform the classroom teacher and the main office immediately. We are concerned for the health and well being of all our students. We thank you in advance for your co-operation and support in this matter.



## ATTENDANCE, LUNCHROOM PROCEDURES and VISITORS

As you know the safety of the children under our care is one of our most important responsibilities. To help us keep the students safe and to help us keep track of all the students under our care the following policies will be implemented this year.

- 1) If your child is going to be absent please call the school in the morning. Students may not leave the school unless they have a note from their parents and **they are picked up by an adult at the office.** The adult must come into the school and sign the student out.
- 2) All students should be in the playground by 8:35a.m. at the latest when the warning bell rings and should be waiting for the entry bell. Any student that is late must report to the office for a late slip.
- 3) Our lunch break is from 11:35 to 12:25 p.m. A child who is going out for lunch is to be picked up by an adult at the office so they can be signed out. Any student who leaves the building without written permission shall be deemed truant and will face the consequences.

We will have Grade 7 and 8 lunch monitors and students are expected to show respect towards them at all times.

- 4) All visitors to the school are asked to report to the main office and sign in the visitor's book. If someone other than a parent is meeting your child, kindly let the teacher know.
- 5) If you need to drop off lunch or any item forgotten by your child, we ask that you do so at the main office. **In the interest of providing the best learning environment possible, we try not interrupt instruction time.** Please leave lunches and /or forgotten articles with our secretary in the main office.

### SCHOOL HOURS

8:40	Entry and Opening Exercises
10:00-10:15	Morning recess
11:35 - 12:00	Lunch recess
12:00– 12:25	Students eat lunch
1:35-1:50	Afternoon recess
3:10	Closing Exercises and Dismissal

### VOLUNTEERS

Provincial law makes it mandatory that volunteers who work with children must have a current police check. For those volunteers that have provided a police check in the past must sign a declaration form each year. More information about the process can be obtained at the office. We hope to see more parents volunteering for the Catholic School Council events.

### THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A STUDENT:



**" Our talents are God's gift to us.  
What we do with them is our gift to God."**  
*(Leo Buscaglia)*

All students are expected to work to the best of their abilities and complete work as it is assigned. Proper behaviour in the playground and the classroom also help students find success since the focus at school is to challenge ourselves to do our best in all areas at all times.

### Homework

Please reinforce with your child the importance of completing their daily assignments since it helps them find success. Daily homework based on a child's

grade (approximately 10 minutes per grade) is a good way to reinforce concepts and skills. Also daily reading is essential for good skill development. Students that regularly fail to complete assignments may lose privileges, have in school withdrawals and further action will be taken if necessary.

### Daily Physical Activity

In order to help improve the fitness level of our students and to fulfill the Ministry of Education's mandate for daily physical activity we will once again take time for students to run/walk and exercise throughout the day. Please support healthy eating and exercise at home as well so that children can work to reach their full potential.

### Agendas

Students will be using agendas to keep them on task. The agenda is a great communication tool to help you communicate with staff. Please take the time to read it and sign it daily. Please have your child bring in \$3.00 as soon as they can.

### Lunch Monitors

Thank you to those students that have volunteered to be lunch monitors this year. You have demonstrated your leadership skills through your actions. Our younger students have responded positively towards their lunch monitors this past week. Volunteering is one of the most outstanding characteristics of a Catholic School. We thank them for giving service to others as they continue their years at Canadian Martyrs.

### Electronic Devices

Personal electronic devices are not permitted on school property for obvious reasons such as theft, liability, distraction to the learning, *Privacy Act* and so on. However, if we decide in the future to move towards a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) System, we will need to establish guidelines as well as a contract for devices to be used for the sole purpose to review and reinforce skills, concepts and knowledge taught in class. Such activities for literacy, numeracy, and other subject areas are available on various types of APS.



## FAITH CORNER

Canadian Martyrs Catholic  
Elementary School  
1355 Main St. West  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8S 4M7  
Phone: 905-522-8071  
www.hwcdsb.ca

A Proud Feeder School to  
ST. MARY CATHOLIC  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
905-528-0214  
Principal: Mr. M. Gravina



### Canadian Martyrs Parish

The Parish of Canadian Martyrs is pleased to assist you, the parents, in the Catholic education of your children. The parents have been given the role of “first teacher” in the way of spiritual life by God himself and reinforced by the baptismal promises. This religious teaching by the parents is demonstrated in the home by daily prayer, a life of charity toward one another and worship of God, particularly by the participation at Sunday Mass. The parish will work closely with the school and parents to pass on our Catholic faith.

#### Mass Times are as follows:

Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm  
Sunday Mass: 10:00 am, 12:00 noon  
(Student Mass - September to April)

Rev. Joe S. Selvanayagam, Administrator  
Ms. Star Wang, Administrative Assistant

38 Emerson Street  
Hamilton L8S 2X3  
(905) 528-4632 - Fax (905) 528-8296  
Email: [cdnmartyrsparish@cogeco.net](mailto:cdnmartyrsparish@cogeco.net)

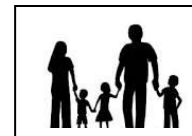
**School Masses:** Please refer to the monthly calendar and the website for dates and times.

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### CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Catholic School council plays an important role in the life and development of a strong school community. Depending on the school's needs the Council fills a variety of roles and helps the staff, parents and students work together for the betterment of all. The guidelines governing Catholic School Councils have been laid out by the Government of Ontario and require that new councils be elected every school year in September. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school. The nomination letter was sent home first week of school.

#### Open House - Meet and Greet the Teacher BBQ Event



The Open house for our school will take place on Monday, September 15th from 5:00 until 7:00. Order forms were sent home first week of school. Hopefully all order forms have been completed and submitted to the school. At 7:00p.m. in our library, all are welcome to our first and brief meeting for the election of the new School Council.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### Parent Conference

The H.W.C.D.S.B. will be holding its 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parent Conference, "Weaving the Catholic Partnership" at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School on Saturday, November 1, 2014. Registration forms will be sent at a later date. Please keep this date open.....more information to follow.

### International Language Program for Elementary School Students

Current educational research indicates that learning or maintaining a second or third language has a positive effect on all aspects of a child's educational development. The focus of the Catholic School Board International Language Program for elementary school students is to offer an opportunity to develop and/or maintain the ability to read, write, listen and speak a new language or the language of the home or heritage. The Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board, through St Charles, offers free classes to elementary school students in schools throughout the city. A flyer is attached to this newsletter. To see what is available in your area please log onto [www.St.Charles.ca](http://www.St.Charles.ca)

### School Uniforms

If your child has outgrown their uniform please donate it back to the school so that another student can take advantage of wearing it. We like to keep a variety of sizes so that parents can share the uniforms instead of buying them. Please send any clean and gently used uniform to the school at any time throughout the year. If you would like to receive some used uniforms please make an appointment with Mr. Messina. Thank you for your help!



Catholic  
Children's Aid Society  
of Hamilton

*Care beyond belief*

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### **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE** – Pay for Student Items Online

Parents now have the convenience of paying for school trips, spirit wear, and other items online.

After registering for **School Cash Online**, you will receive emails notifying you of school trips, events, activities, and other items available for purchase online.

Visit <http://hwcdsb.schoolcashionline.com>