



Sacred Heart Catholic School

September Newsletter

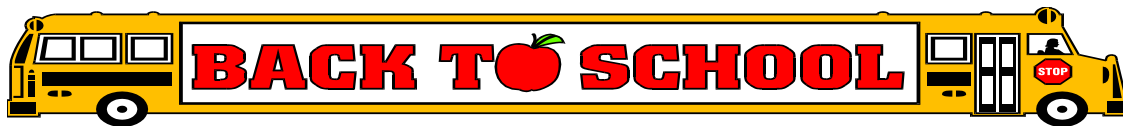
Tuesday, September 6th, 2011

Shannon McDougald, Principal

Charlotte Rouleau, Superintendent

Through the teachings of Christ we promote an environment that fosters patience, peace, faith, hope and understanding.

Visit us at www.cdsbeo.on.ca/coshel



Where every student learns to succeed!

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2011/2012 school year! I am very pleased and look forward to my new position as principal. Prior to this appointment, I was principal of St. Peter Catholic School and vice-principal at Bishop Macdonell. I have spent 24 years in catholic education. I very much look forward to meeting the needs of the students, staff and families of Sacred Heart Catholic School.

We have a lot of fun, interesting and educational activities already planned for the upcoming months. I believe that a positive, enriching and happy learning environment will ensure student success for each and every one of our students. A child that is happy to come to school is a child that will strive to reach his or her full potential.

Parents can do a lot to help their children be successful at school by ensuring proper nutrition and routines around bedtime and homework. Please encourage your child to read as much as possible. Reading a book before bed whether it is in French or English is a great habit to get into!

As a Catholic School Community, we are anxious to work with parents to assist in creating a stimulating, secure and open environment. A strong link between school, the home and the church will go a long way in reaching this goal.

As your child's first teacher, we will continue to rely on you and your support for achieving maximum success. By working together, we are able to help every child achieve his or her potential.

We look forward to seeing you at our Open House Barbeque on Thursday, September 22nd, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher at any time if you have questions regarding class content, or your child's progress.

On behalf of the staff of Sacred Heart School, I extend a warm welcome to the students and families of our community; and, I extend a special welcome to our new students and families. We look forward to working with you and your children.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Shannon McDougald

New Board Theme

Our new board theme for September 2011 to September 2013 is

Shalom – Acting justly... Living peacefully... Celebrating joyfully!

The theme has as its inspiration the Scripture passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans (Romans 14:17), ***“For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but justice, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”***

“Shalom” is used to both greet people and to bid them farewell, and it means much more than peace, hello or goodbye. Living in “shalom” means that our lives are balanced and that we relate to the whole of what surrounds us with a peaceful spirit. The term conveys what God planned for creation. It means that we are in a good relationship with God, with ourselves and our bodies, with our neighbours (all other people), and with the earth.

There are two distinct dimensions to shalom. To ***have*** shalom means to have a life that is put together, full, rich, and abundant as God intended it. To ***bring*** shalom means to bring healing and wholeness to lives, to people, to the world.

As a Catholic school community, committed to wellness and social justice, we are very familiar with these two dimensions of shalom and we look forward to the many special events that will help us bring this new theme to life here at Sacred Heart Catholic School over the next two years.

shalom
Acting justly...
Living peacefully...
Celebrating joyfully!
Prayer

Loving God, help us show that our Catholic education is good news for everyone, our school is good news for our community, our class is good news for the rest of the school, each one of us is good news to each other. Amen.

Parking Restrictions

It is very important to respect the parking restrictions around the school in order to maintain student safety.

Please note that you are not permitted to park in the school bus loading zone located in the front of the school between 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. and between 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

You are not able to access the side entrance of the school located off of Aubin Avenue. There is now a NO ENTRY sign located in the entrance. Please do not enter this area.

The staff parking lot is off limits to parents. Please do not come into the parking lot to drop off or pick up your child.

If you are picking up your child after school, please park on Aubin Avenue north of Fifteenth Street or on Fifteenth Street west of Gallinger Street.

Please respect these parking restrictions so that our students are safe!

Back on Track - Walkathon

Fundraiser

Kick-off – Friday, October 7th



Why do we fundraise? 100% of money raised through fundraising goes back to the students to fund field trips, to purchase new school uniforms, to purchase sporting equipment, to help those in need, etc. On Friday, October 7th we will hold a fundraiser kick-off in the school gymnasium at 8:30 a.m. At this time, students will learn about the importance of fundraising, learn how they can do their part and learn about the prizes to be won!

Imagine this! If every student collected \$25.00 we would raise \$6000.00. Please encourage your child to do his/her part for the benefit of the Sacred Heart Catholic School community.

All money and pledge sheets are due to the school -regardless if no money was collected - by Thursday, October 13th.

Thank you in advance for your support of our fundraiser. You are welcome to join us for our walkathon on Friday, October 14th at 1:00 p.m.

Home School Communication

At the beginning of each month, a school newsletter will be posted on the school's website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca/coshel. If you would like a hard copy, then please call the school. The school calendar will be sent home via your child. Please take the time to read all newsletters. Teachers will also be communicating with you on a regular basis through agendas, newsletters, phone calls and interviews.

Student Absences



All students are expected to attend school every day and to be on time. As part of our safe arrival program, we ask that you call the school before 8:30 a.m. when your child is to be absent or late. Your call is very important to us and assures the safety of your child. We will call the home of each student whose attendance is unaccounted for. Should your child have to leave for an appointment, please send a written note in his/her agenda.

Student Medication

Many children must take medication for a variety of reasons. Please contact the office if your child must have medication during the school day. There is a form that must be completed before the school can distribute medication. This form is available from the office.

Please note that students are not to carry medication (other than an EPI-PEN or an inhaler) on them, in their desk, or in their school bag. A form signed by your child's physician must accompany all prescribed medication. Prescribed medication will be kept in a secure area in the school. Medication that is not prescribed by a physician will not be given to any child and should not be brought to school at anytime.

Lost and Found



Every year, the Lost & Found bin gets filled with unclaimed clothing and other items. In order to identify lost items, parents are asked to please print their child's name on each item. Please encourage your child to keep track of his/her belongings.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

If you are interested in being a member of this year's Sacred Heart Catholic School Council, please complete the School Council Self-Nomination Form or if you would like to nominate a Sacred Heart School parent, please complete the School Council Parent Candidate Nomination Form and return the form to the school office by Friday, September 16th. Both forms are found in the package that was sent home today.

Please consider joining the dedicated team of parents on the Sacred Heart Catholic School Council.

End of the Day Routine



For student safety we have set-up an end of the day routine. At the 2:25 p.m. bell students who walk home - or are picked up - will exit from the following gate:

Exit Gate Near Staff Parking Lot

Students in the following classes will exit near the Staff Parking Lot:

- ✓ Mr. Seale, Ms. Amyotte, Mrs. Ruffo, Mrs. Beauregard, Mrs. Bard, Mrs. McDonald, Madam Line and Mrs. Grant-Poirier

Exit Leading to Aubin Avenue (near school gym):

Students in the following classes will exit from the gate that leads to Aubin Avenue:

- ✓ Mrs. Summers, Mr. Bailey, Mrs. McGillis and Mrs. Dallaire

We ask that parents please wait for their child on the sidewalk so that the exit gate is not obstructed.

Students who take the bus will proceed to the bus gate.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

School Hours

Our regular school hours are from 8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. All students go outside for recess from 11:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. and eat lunch from 11:20 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. Junior and Senior Kindergarten students eat lunch from 11:00-11:20 then go outside for recess from 11:20-11:40.

Parent/Student Information Package



Please take some time to review the information that was sent home to all students today. Most importantly, please verify that the information contained on the student information sheet is accurate. Please sign and return the summary sheet to your child's teacher by Friday, September 9th.

Student Handbook

Take some time with your child to review the Student Handbook located in the front of the student agenda. It contains school policies, procedures and Code of Behaviour. Upon completion, please sign the Parent/Guardian and Student Commitment page.

Milk Program

Students are welcome to purchase white or chocolate milk for .75 cents daily. Milk sales will begin on September 12th.

Student Agenda

This year, students will use an agenda. The agenda helps children to organize their homework and also provides a communication tool between home and school. Please submit the \$7.00 cost of the agenda to your child's teacher by Friday, September 9th.



No Child Without

The **No Child Without** program offers a free MedicAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, you should consider getting a MedicAlert membership through this program.

Your child's voice in an emergency, MedicAlert membership:

- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their MedicAlert bracelet or necklet
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up to date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline.**
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the **Hotline**
- Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed

MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information come to the office for a brochure or visit www.nochildwithout.ca. To register your child you will need a **No Child Without** brochure from the office.

If your child is already part of the **No Child Without** program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 Ext 1 to update your child's file.

School Volunteers

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note that all school volunteers are required to have a police reference check. **This includes parents who volunteer for school trips.** There is a charge for this service. Please note that if you have a Police Record Check on file at the school you are not required to obtain another copy; however, a separate form will be sent to you at a later date for you to complete. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

NO NUT POLICY

We would like to remind you that our school is a peanut free school. We kindly ask that you do not send products that contain peanuts. There are a few manufacturers who are aggressively marketing peanut-free products that look, taste, and smell like real peanut butter (soy butter, sun butter, wow butter etc...). These products cause confusion and difficulty in monitoring lunches on a daily basis, and create an unsafe environment for our peanut anaphylactic student and staff population. Therefore, due to the obvious difficulty in identifying the difference between peanut butter and artificial peanut butter, **we do not allow this product in our school.**

GREEN Team

After a much deserved break, we invite all interested students to rejoin our GREEN Team. Last year this team took control of our recycling program, began our lawn reseeding effort, and achieved silver status in our first-ever effort through the ECO Schools program. There are a few projects awaiting our attention, one being the addition of plant materials to our garden in the northwest corner of our yard. During your own garden cleanup please keep Sacred Heart in mind for donations

of perennials – please contact Mrs. Van Putten if you have anything to share.

As supporters of the Catholic school community, we encourage you to Grow Responsible, Ethical and Environmental Neighbours in every way possible. Here are a few ideas you may try in your homes:

- Recycle almost everything (rinse containers, bind papers and keep plastic bags from blowing away)
- Poke holes in the lid of a jar, fill the jar with grass seeds and have children 'salt-shaker' dead patches of grass in your yard or at a local park
- Try your hand at indoor or outdoor composting... you would be amazed by the decrease in garbage you haul to the street (Avoid composting dairy or meat products)
- While your children play at the park, take some time to pull the weeds from the play area or shift the mulch around to improve the ground cover
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M & M Meats

When shopping at M & M Meat shops, please let them know that you support Sacred Heart Catholic School. A portion of all sales will come back to the school.