



HOLY NAME OF MARY SCHOOL NEWS

161 Peel Street N
St. Marys, ON
N4X 1B2
Ph. 519-284-2170



September 2, 2009

<http://www2.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca/~holyname/>

Principal: Mr. G. Haber

Principal's Message

Happy New School Year! On behalf of the entire Holy Name of Mary staff I would like to extend to all of you a very warm welcome back. The new school year always bring excitement and gives us much to celebrate. In particular, we celebrate and offer our warm welcome to the new students and families to our Holy Name community. We also welcome some new faces to our staff: Mrs. Heather Verhoeve will teach the Grade 6/7 classroom half time and Mrs. Tara Boreham joins us as our Grade 2 teacher. In addition, we are excited to work alongside Father Philip Joseph, newly appointed Pastor at Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church. We are also thrilled to welcome back Mrs. Patti Drinkwalter, Educational Assistant.

As your principal, I want to share with you what an honour it is to serve you in this capacity. I look forward to working alongside all of you, the staff and parish as we cultivate and nurture a rich Catholic learning environment for your children. I am excited to continue to work alongside all of you and your children in what promises to be a faith-filled, exciting and productive school year.

Newsletter Changes

In an effort to further our eco-friendly work, please note that *all families will receive the newsletter electronically this year unless you specifically indicate you would like a hard copy*. Please note: **This is the final hard copy of the newsletter**. In addition, instead of emailing the newsletter, they will be available on line by following the newsletter link found at:

<http://holyname.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca>

Newsletters will be completed on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. On those days, we will have your child inform you there is a new newsletter available by having them write it in their planner. JK and SK parents will have it emailed to them, as their children do not have a planner. These parents are asked to please contact the school to provide their email addresses. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please send a note into the school to the attention of Mr. Haber.

Student Information Form

Please take some time to carefully complete the *Student Information Form* that has been sent home this week. Please review and update these sheets if necessary. If no changes are necessary, please indicate this at the top of the sheet by printing "Information accurate". **For safety reasons, it is important that the information is current and accurate. Please return the forms no later than Friday September 11th.**

Holy Name Staff for 2009/2010

Mrs. O'Connor	Jr. Kindergarten
Mrs. Cousins	Sr. Kindergarten
Mrs. Nowak-Mitchell	Gr. 1
Mrs. Boreham	Gr. 2
Mrs. Smith	Gr. 2/3
Mrs. Murray/ Mrs. O'Connor	Gr. 3/4
Mrs. Keene	Gr. 4
Mrs. Kaszowski	Gr. 5
Mr. Landers	Grade 5/6
Mrs. Brekelmans/ Ms. Verhoeve	Gr. 6/7
Ms. Vivian	Gr. 7
Mrs. Pieniazek	Gr. 8
Mrs. Vallance	Music
Mme Dafoe	French
Mme Bazinet-Lane	French/ Special Education
Mrs. Regier	Special Education
Mrs. O'Connor	Special Education
Mrs. Greason	School Secretary
Mrs. Bailey	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Burlingham	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Drinkwalter	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Morrow	Educational Assistant
Mrs. McCarthy	Custodian
Mrs. Kelly	Custodian
Mrs. Hodgins	Custodian
Mrs. Verwer	Library Technician
Father Philip Joseph	Parish Priest
Mr. Haber	Principal

Mark Your Calendars!

Sept. 11 Student Information Forms due

Sept. 11 \$3 for planners due

Sept. 11 Food Order Forms due

Sept. 16 Magazine Fundraiser Assembly

Sept. 17 Bus Safety and Evacuation Presentation



Sept. 23 Picture Day

Sept. 23 Soccer Tournament

Sept. 24 Picture Day

Sept. 25 PD Day **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

New Bell Times

Please note the following change in bell times for our school:

8:50	Opening Bell
10:35	15 Minute Recess
11:40	Lunch Begins
12:40	Afternoon Classes Begin
2:20	15 Minute Recess
3:25	Bus Students Dismissed
3:28	All Other Students Dismissed



PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE NO SUPERVISION ON THE SCHOOLYARD UNTIL 8:35 A.M. AND, AS SUCH, ASK THAT CHILDREN NOT BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE THAT.

Student Agendas

Students in grades 1 to 8 have received a school agenda. Please spend some time reviewing the information at the front of the agenda that you will find informative, as it relates to routines and expectations of the school. Please sign page 16 at the front of the agenda no later than Friday, September 11th to indicate you and your child have reviewed this information. Teachers will be demonstrating to the students how to effectively use the planners, as well as letting them know their expectation for having the agenda signed by parents. This is also a wonderful tool to help facilitate communication between home and school. Please feel free to record comments/questions for the teacher. Parents are also encouraged to check the agendas on a daily basis for homework assignments and/or comments from the teacher. To help offset the cost of the agendas, we are asking for each student to bring in \$3 by **Friday, September 11th**.

Visiting the School

Holy Name of Mary School prides itself in being a welcoming environment. As such, you are always welcome to discuss questions or concerns about your child's program with the teacher. As a courtesy, however, please make an appointment to do so. The teacher's first responsibility is to the safety and teaching of the students, and classroom interruptions must be kept to a minimum for that to occur. In addition, when you come into the school it is important for safety reasons that you sign in and out at the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Safe Arrival Policy

If your child is going to be absent or late, please call the school at **519-284-2170** to report it to us. Attendance is taken at 8:50 and 12:40 so calling before these times would certainly help us out. If we do not receive a call from you, we will call to find out the reason for your child's absence. **Please ensure we have phone numbers where you can be reached throughout the day.**



Clean and Shiny!

A very special and big **THANK YOU** is extended to Mrs. McCarthy, Mrs Kelly and Mrs. Hodgins, our school custodians. They all worked extremely hard during those July and August days to clean up our school for another year of learning. The school looks fabulous and such cleanliness helps everyone feel proud of our school!

Student Drop-Off And Pick-Up

OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY AT HOLY NAME IS THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN. As such, please help us create the safest environment possible at drop-off and pick-up times by observing all traffics signs. Vehicles are not to park on Egan St. or Peel St. Parents who pick up their children after school are asked to wait for the buses to depart before picking up their child. Thank you for your cooperation.

Picking Your Child Up Throughout The Day

If you need to pick up your child for whatever reason while school is in progress, please report to the office. We will call your child from class to come to the office. Your child with then sign themselves out. Upon arrival back at the school, your child needs to report to the office for a late slip and to be signed back in. Again, thank you for your cooperation.

*****ALLERGY ALERT*****

We have students in our school with **life threatening allergies**. It is of the utmost importance that we all do everything possible to keep the school environment as safe as possible. As a school staff, we have protocols in place to deal with these allergies. We are asking for the assistance and support of ALL students and parents as well. Please read the following guidelines and review them carefully with your child:

1. Please do not send in any food item that may contain peanuts or peanut products.
2. Hands are to be washed after eating anything that may contain peanuts or peanut products. **This includes food that has been eaten at home before coming to school.** Traces of food can get on the bus seats, playground equipment, desks and personal belongings and pose a serious threat to the students with allergies.
3. Absolutely no eating or drinking on the bus.

Also due to allergies, **NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.**

In no way can any school guarantee a 100% allergen free environment but we all have a responsibility to work together to do our best to create an environment that is as safe as possible for ALL of our students. Thank you for your cooperation.

Special Lunch Program

The order forms for this year's Lunch Program have now been sent home with your children. Please complete this form if you are interested in having your child receive one of the special meal options and return it to your child's classroom teacher no later than **Friday, September 11th**. Please note that **NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED**. If the order form has been misplaced, you may obtain a copy of it, along with the food order calendar, by visiting the school website at <http://holyname.hpccsb.edu.on.ca> and then following the "Food Information Link".



Crossing Guard Changes

The St. Mary's Town Council recently approved an additional Crossing Guard for the north end of St. Marys with its placement being at the corner of James Street North and Egan Avenue. This placement will be for the 2009-2010 school year. With the closure of Arthur Meighen and Central schools in 2010, the flow of school children heading to the new school, on James Street South, may or may not change. Future studies, carried out in partnership with the school boards, may require changes to the current crossing guard locations as well as the number of Crossing Guards required. In addition, the OPP have advised that children funneling in from the Widder Street East subdivision should be dissuaded to cross at the intersection of Widder Street East and James Street North and follow the sidewalk to the James Street North and Egan Avenue cross walk location.

Health Unit News

Healthy Eating Makes a Difference

Studies show that well-nourished children concentrate longer and perform better at school. Prepare your child for success by packing healthy foods for meals and snacks.

What to Pack

Whether it's a traditional lunch or two nutrition breaks in the Balanced School Day, each meal should include:

- At least one vegetable or fruit
- Foods from at least 2 of the other 3 food groups – Grain products, Milk & Alternatives and Meat & Alternatives.
- Water instead of juice. Although a small amount of 100% fruit juice is nutritious, too much juice can ruin a small child's appetite.

Food for Little Folks

While at school, your child only gets 20 minutes to eat. Here are some tips to ensure the food you send is eaten.

- Finger foods are popular, quick and easy to eat. Pack mini pitas, baby carrots, grapes, strawberries, cubed or string cheese, or bite-size crackers.
- Keep portions reasonable. A half sandwich, a mini bagel or mini muffin, ½ orange or banana, and ½ cup/125mL of milk may be enough for a 4 or 5 year old.
- Peel and section whole fruit, such as oranges and kiwis. Nick the end of a banana to make peeling easier.
- Make your own lunch kits using containers with divided sections so you can pack veggies and dip, fruit and yogurt or cheese and crackers.

What Not to Pack

Stay away from foods that offer little nutrition, such as:

- Pop, fruit-flavoured beverages and all other sugary drinks.
- Store bought cookies, cakes, and granola bars that are chocolate covered or with marshmallow or chocolate chips.
- Fruit leather strips and fruit-flavoured gummy candy.
- Store-bought lunch and snack packs.
- Candy, chocolate bars.

For more tips on packing healthy lunches, contact your local Health Unit. In In Perth, call 519-271-7600 ext 267.