



HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PHONE: (905) 523-2329 FAX: (905) 692-0711

"A proud feeder school of Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School"

Principal: Mrs. L. Fama
Superintendent: Mr. C. Ciapanna
Vice Principal: Mr. K. Mielko

Trustee: Mrs. M. Nardini and Mr. P. DiFrancesco
Pastor: Father D. Wilhelm
Secretary: Ms. D. Pelz

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OLOA FALCON FLYER DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



Advent Prayer

Loving God, send Your Spirit of peace upon us as we wait and listen. We long to hear Your voice, we yearn for Your grace. Like Mary, give us hearts of patient expectation, give us hearts full of faith and wonder, give us hearts made glad with joy and hope. Teach us to listen for Your voice, In the wisdom of the elderly and cry of the newborn, in the poor and the outcast, In the students in our care and their families, in our colleagues and in our families. May this Advent season be a time of patience and peace. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we begin the month of December we do so with great anticipation awaiting the birth of Jesus. In the rush of Christmas shopping, baking and planning, let us take time to be mindful of the reason for the season in the birth of our Saviour. As a school, the time of Advent gives us the hope to wait with joy and prepare our hearts for His coming. On Thursday December 6, we will be having an Advent Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish at 9:30a.m. Monday December 10th, and 17th, as well as Friday December 21st, we will gather to pray at our Advent liturgies, which are led by our students within the divisions. Please join us at 9:30a.m. to light our Advent wreath as we get closer to the birth of Jesus.

Thank you to our parents who joined with their children in participating in our interview times to dialogue about the Provincial progress reports. Your ongoing support of your child(ren) is very much appreciated as we work together to build upon their strengths and focus on areas of need. Please continue to keep lines of communication open with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to ensure you are updated and informed. A great way to enhance the link between home and school is to have the agenda book signed each night. Kindly note, that when the first term report card arrives home on February 12th, 2019, you may also arrange to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to continue the discussion in the best interest of your child.

On behalf of the staff I extend our best wishes for a joyful and peace filled Christmas. May you share in the birth of Christ with family, friends and loved ones. May your new year be filled with prosperity, good health and much happiness.

God bless.
Mrs. L. Fama

CHRISTMAS CHARITY

Advent is such a special time for all of us. It is the time to prepare our hearts and our minds, to cleanse and to renew our faith and our commitment to God. The staff and students of Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School have entered into the spirit of Advent by preparing to help those in the community who require our assistance. As a school community we have many special activities planned for the season of Advent; we know that small acts of kindness can have a big impact and can help to make a difference in the lives of others. These special activities also help to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas. We hope that you can participate in some of the activities listed:

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARD DONATIONS

In our continuing effort to reach out to those who can use some support during this Christmas season, OLOA will be sponsoring a Christmas gift card drive for families in need within the HWCDSB. Our students are invited to bring in gift cards for Walmart, in any denomination that will be forwarded to a school in our system, where these families will benefit from the goodwill and kindness of our OLOA community.

STUDENT COUNCIL PROJECTS

Through the efforts lead by the Student Council, the 12 days of Christmas are back! Beginning Thursday December 6th with our Advent mass, Red and green day and the kick off of our hat, glove, scarves and food drive, running until the 20th, the council has planned many special events and service projects. See the calendar of planned student council events in December.

One special event is the **Christmas Tree of Warmth**. Students are asked to donate new mittens, hats and scarves to be provided to St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Food drive

Canned goods will be collected for the Mission Services from December 6th until the 20th.

I know it is a busy time of year and that much is happening in our school. Please note that any help you are able to support is greatly appreciated if families choose to contribute to one of the many charitable causes that we have running through this Advent season. Your consideration and generosity is most appreciated and is reflective of the spirit of giving that is characteristic this time of year.

WEEKLY ADVENT PRAYER SERVICE

Our students will be involved in a weekly Advent Service which will be held in the gym. Our first service will be on Monday December 10th at 9:30am.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Thank you to both CSC members, volunteers and staff who have volunteered to help make our Breakfast with Santa this Saturday December 8th, once again a great success. It is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together to enjoy a meal, talk, have photos taken with Santa and most importantly share in our faith as we wait for the coming of baby Jesus through the Advent season.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Please note the following dates: **Friday, December 21st, 2018**

Last Day of Classes (Regular Dismissal Time)

Monday, December 24th to January 6th, 2019 Christmas Break

Monday, January 7th, 2019 Return to school - regular hours.

HEALTH ACTION TEAM

The 5 Ways to Mental Well-being are a set of 5 key actions that when practiced regularly help to enhance and maintain mental well-being.

The 5 Ways to Mental Well-being Are Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice, Be Creative and Play. For the month of November, the focus was on Take Notice.

This month the Health Action Team will be focusing on Being Creative and Play.

Doing things just for the fun and joy it brings, strengthens mental well-being. Remembering and sharing these experiences increase positive emotions.

It's great to try different ways to be creative and play. For example, making crafts and building.

During the month of December, students will have the opportunity to participate in fun and creative activities like Crock-A-Doodle.

Happy December OLOA!!

GRADE 8 ROBOTICS TRIP

On November 30th, the grade 8 students at OLOA visited Brock University for a "Robotics Technology Day" in preparation for Computer Science Education Week in December. This hands on program included a flurry of building, programming, testing and problem solving using LEGO Mindstorms technology. Our action packed day included a full group robot battle. After learning basic skills with Brock student volunteers, students were given an opportunity to experiment with their ideas, share solutions and work together in small groups. Our grade eights built a robot that could sense its environment, act autonomously and perform physical tasks.

SPORTS NEWS

We had a great season of sports!!

The Senior Boys Flag Football team also had a great season under the excellent direction of Mr. Palumbo. We are very pleased of the way the boys played and represented our school.

The Senior Girls Flag Football team also had an amazing season under the excellent direction of Mrs. Lolua and Mr. Mota. The girls played hard and showed great sportsmanship.

The Senior Girls Basketball team lead by their coaches Mr. DeStephanis and Mr. Capretta had an amazing season and playoff run. Congratulations to the girls for giving it their all.

The Junior Girls Basketball team had a thrilling season. The coaches are very proud of their hard work and enthusiasm! Thanks to their awesome coaches Mrs. Guagliano and Mrs. Mascarenhas.

The Junior Boys flag football team had a very good season. All the boys should be very proud. Special thanks to Mr. Mamer for his coaching.

Congratulations to the students who represented the school at the annual '3 on 3 Hockey Tournament' in November. The students showed great teamwork. Thank you to the coaches Mr. Furlanetto, Mr. Palumbo and Mrs. Flammini-Jones.

Our robotics team did a tremendous job representing us this past weekend at the First Lego League, Niagara Regional Qualifying Tournament. The theme this year was "Into Orbit", and the students had a wonderful day showing what they have built and programmed. A special thank you to Anthony Garcea, the teams lead coach and mentor, as well as the parents who helped cheer on the team!

Way to go Tech Falcons!

SCHOOL CLUBS

OLOA is also offering various clubs to our students including HAT, ECO Team, Student Council, Choir, Robotics and Homework Club. We are pleased to see so many of our students taking part in extracurricular activities.

TIP OF THE MONTH FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCHES

December Tip of the Month for Healthy School Lunches: Get the kids involved! Kids who help plan and prepare their lunch are more likely to eat it. Look at the four food groups in Canada's Food Guide and ask your children to name a few items from each food group that they would like to take to school. Aim to have three of the four food groups included in each lunch. Check out: www.eatrightontario.ca

LOCKDOWN/EMERGENCY EVACUATION/FIRE DRILLS

All of these are part of the Safe Schools Policy and must be practiced. If the school is in Lockdown, the front door or phone will not be answered. If you are in the school during a lockdown, like all staff and students, you must find a safe zone and hide. We had our first lockdown drill in January. Fire Drills happen three times in the fall and three times in the Spring. Again, doors and phones will not be answered and all must evacuate the building, quickly and quietly. Emergency Evacuation Drills will be similar to a fire drill. All must evacuate the building in a safe manner and move away from the school. Safety is paramount in all situations. We pray an event such as this never occurs, however, we must all be trained and prepared.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Just a reminder to exercise caution when you use the kiss and ride lane to drop off and pick up your child(ren). Please be aware that you are to remain in the car while you drop your child off. This will help keep a steady flow of traffic. If you wish to come into the school, please park in a designated parking spot.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PLEASE NOTE

When schools are closed or buses cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, details will be announced by the following Hamilton and area radio and TV stations: CHCH TV Morning Live Channel 11, 900 900CHML, Y108 FM, 95.3FM, Oldies 1150 (CKOC), KLite 102.9 FM, 820 CHAM, and KX 94.7 FM. Announcements will be made by 7:00 a.m.

The school board website (www.hwcdsb.ca); Twitter (<https://twitter.com/HWCDSB>); Facebook (www.facebook.com); The Hamilton Spectator (www.thespec.com) and CBC Hamilton (www.cbc.ca/hamilton) will have the latest news on Snow Day announcements and how they might impact our school.

Our school buzzboard will announce any late breaking news and the Twitter Feed will also be used.

ADVENT REFLECTION

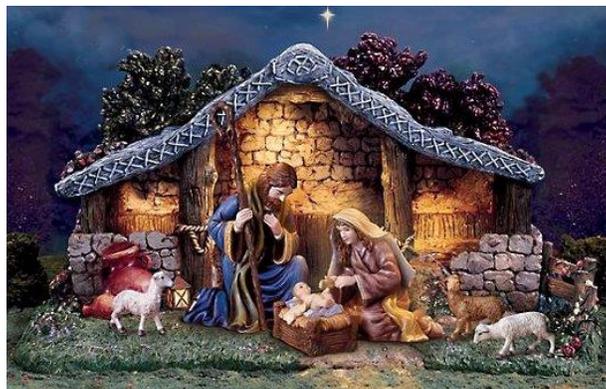
The days are surely coming, says the Lord,

"When I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of David."

(Jeremiah 33:14-16)

The Holy Season of Advent began on Sunday, November 25th. It is a very special time of the year to prepare ourselves spiritually for the celebration of Jesus Christ's birthday at Christmas. Our school will be praying for all families and how God will bless children and parents everywhere so that we will enter into the true spirit of Christmas.

Peace and Joy to all through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.



DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 
2 First Week of Advent	3	4	5 Pizza Wear Red and Green Day! (uniform bottoms)	6 9:30am Advent Mass at the Church Starting the Twelve Days of Christmas at OLOA Hat, Glove and Food Drive starts	7 PD Day	8 OLOA Breakfast with Santa 9am-11am
9 Second Week of Advent	10 Advent Liturgy 9:30am Candy Cane Sale \$2.00 Wear your favourite Christmas hat/tuque Day (Uniform Day)	11 Crockadoodle	12 Crockadoodle Ugly Christmas Sweater Day (Uniform Day) Candy Cane Sale Pizza	13 Crockadoodle	14 BLING DAY! Wear your favourite Christmas accessories. (Uniform Day) Crockadoodle Candy Cane Sale	15
16 Third Week of Advent	17 Advent Liturgy 9:30am Wear your Favourite Christmas socks (Uniform Day)	18	19 Christmas Bingo Pizza	20 December Awards Assembly Parish Visit	21 Advent Liturgy 9:30am Pajama Day Watch a Christmas movie in your Class Wear your Funny Christmas Sweater.	22

23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Fourth Week of Advent						