



HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PHONE: (905) 523-2581 FAX: (905) 664-8052

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

Principal: Mrs. L. Fama

Superintendent: Mr. C. Ciapanna

Vice-Principal: Mr. K. Mielko

Trustee: Mr. L. Agro

Pastor: Father D. Reitzel

Secretary: Ms. D. Pelz

OLOA FALCON FLYER FEBRUARY - 2019 NEWSLETTER



*I said a Valentine prayer for you and asked the Lord above
To fill your heart and bless your soul
With the precious gift of love.
I prayed for love from family
And from every cherished friend
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end.*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February is here! The Virtue of this month is love. Love is a human essential. We show our love to God daily, to our family and friends. We aim to follow the two greatest commandments in all we do. This means we endeavor to develop in ourselves the habit of thinking, speaking and acting with an attitude of care and positivity to all people we meet and in all circumstances. We search for ways to be helpful to God, to our families, to our friends in our school, in our social activities and extra -curricular events. We continue to be the Face of Christ to all we meet.

This month, Report Cards will be coming home. It will be an opportunity to discuss with your child his/her successes and areas for improvement. Also, our sports teams are in full swing, students are working on their various projects and our Grade 8's are making choices for high school. Students are beginning second term with a fresh opportunity for success and, as parents, please work to keep your child on task.

Remember that daily reading and review is beneficial at all levels for all students and please remember to keep in touch with the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. L. Fama

VALENTINE'S DAY

Students are encouraged to dress in red, white and pink on Thursday, February 14th. This is a dress down day for the staff and students.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next school council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 26th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. All are welcome to attend!

ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT

As we approach another "chocolate season", we would like to remind you to continue to ensure that Valentine chocolates and candy that contain nuts or nut products are not brought to school. Thank you for your continued support. It is very crucial that all staff, students and parents follow the important and necessary protocols for allergies. No peanut butter or treats with nuts are allowed at school.

REPORT CARDS GO HOME

Report cards for students (SK-Grade 8) will be released to students and parents on February 12th, 2019. Students will be encouraged to celebrate and build upon current successes while also responding to areas in need of improvement. Learning Skills and Work Habits remain a focus as always since these are lifelong traits that have an impact on all future endeavours. As always, OLOA thanks all parents for the collaboration in charting the journey ahead for their children into the second term.



PD DAY

Friday March 1st, 2019 has been designated as a PA Day across the system. Staff will be participating in a variety of professional learning activities to support the achievement, growth and learning of all students.

FROM THE OFFICE—FDK REGISTRATION

Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten registrations will be taking place this month. Children turning 4 years of age by December 31, 2019 are eligible to register for Junior Kindergarten, and children turning 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2019 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten. Parents are required to bring their child's Baptismal Certificate, Birth Certificate, Immunization, and proof of residency. Packages are available at the office; however, Registration has begun.

Please contact the school at 905-523-2581 to book an appointment with Ms. Pelz, Secretary.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT TARDINESS

Please remember that school begins at 9:10am and we hope to be finished with our Opening Prayers and announcements by 9:20am. Tardiness at the beginning of the day has a negative effect on student learning and the ability to learn the routines in the classroom. As a parent, if you are choosing to drive your children to school, please ensure that they are here on time so that they will be able to maximize their learning. As well, picking your child up early at the end of the day also disrupts classroom time and routines.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important part of success at school for students. Please review your child's agenda nightly and use it as a communication tool with your child's teacher. At OLOA Catholic School, we follow the HWCDSB Policy regarding homework which is the "10 minute Rule". The "10 Minute Rule" guideline states that a student should do 10 minutes of homework per grade, e.g.: A Grade 2 student would do 20 minutes while a Grade 6 student may do 60 minutes. This number is a guideline since student ability and time on task varies. If, however, you find that your child is spending too much time on homework, please review their work habits and work area at home to eliminate any distractions and/or contact your child's teacher

to help clarify any issues that your child may have. Homework may be reviewing notes, working on research for projects, completing unfinished work assigned in class, completing assignments, preparing for tests, etc. Regardless of other work, try to find time for your child to read on a daily basis, and whenever possible, read with them and ask them thoughtful questions about the item they are reading.

WINTER REMINDERS

We have had a snowy, icy and cold winter weather throughout most of December, January, and into February. These are a few reminders for students:

Snowballs: With the arrival of snow in these winter months, students are reminded of the "NO THROWING" rule. Snow is not to be thrown, kicked or lifted in the air at all as this is a safety concern. Please reinforce this at home with your children. Snow pants and boots are needed in order to play on the snow covered field.

Indoor Shoes: It is imperative that children have "indoor shoes" to wear indoors during the winter months. Wet floors, fire alarms and general safety concerns necessitate this request. Slippers are not to be worn during school time.

Winter Clothing: Please ensure that children are dressed to go outside each day. Please ensure your child has snow pants, boots, mittens/gloves and a hat to wear when the temperature calls for it.

REMEMBER TO LISTEN TO LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AND TO CHECK THE BOARD WEBSITE FOR SCHOOL/BUSSING INFORMATION.

ONTARIO CATHOLIC GRADUATE EXPECTATION ASSEMBLIES

We will be having our recognition assemblies for the month of February on Thursday February the 28th. Our primary classes will have their assembly at 1:00pm. Juniors will take place at 2:10pm and Intermediates at 2:50pm.

PROVINCIAL FAMILY DAY

This day occurs each year on the third Monday in February for the purpose of emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time together. As a result, Family Day this year will be Monday, February 18th 2019. Accordingly, school will be closed. Enjoy the time!

PINK SHIRT DAY

On February 28th, 2019, **Pink Shirt Day** will be celebrated across the country in schools and communities. **Pink Shirt Day**, began in Nova Scotia when 2 high school students witnessed another student being bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. In response, the 2 students purchased pink shirts and wore them to school and a few days later got everyone at school to arrive wearing pink.

Each year, people wear pink to remember that positive actions make a difference and that change starts with each one of us.

In recognition of this day, the students and staff of Our Lady of Assumption are encouraged to wear pink.

MARCH BREAK

The March break will begin on Monday, March 11, 2019. School will resume on the following Monday, March 18, 2019.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW!

On Saturday January 26th, the Knights of Columbus held the Annual Basketball Free Throw Competition. Congratulations to all the participants. Thank you to Mr. Furlanetto for leading our team and preparing our kids. The Knights of Columbus are very committed to helping connect the Parish and the schools. All students should aim to be involved in the activities that are offered.

CELL PHONES

With respect to cell phones in school, as a rule, the use of cell phones by students for making calls, texting and receiving texts on school property during the instructional day is prohibited. This expectation has been made clear to all students. I would ask parents' cooperation in ensuring that communication between parent(s) and child(ren) go mainly through the school office during the instructional day. School staff is available at all times to address emergencies and student concerns. Students who are required to have a cell phone available to them for before and after school purposes must keep the cell phone in their school bag or pocket and it must be turned off for the entirety of the instructional day. Students found using their cell phone during the instructional day without permission will have to have their parent come to retrieve it from school. The school is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any personal electronic equipment brought onto school property. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.



ANY CHANGE IN FAMILY INFORMATION SINCE SEPTEMBER 2018

In an attempt to keep our records as accurate as possible, would you please notify the school immediately if there has been any change in the information we have on file regarding addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts and/or custody arrangements. It is important to keep the school informed of these changes so that we can maintain contact in case of emergency.

BUS PROTOCOL

Parents of children who take the bus are kindly asked to remind their children about bus safety rules. These rules are in place to ensure the safety of all. When unexpected behaviours occur on the bus, the attention of the bus driver is diverted, placing all passengers in jeopardy.

- always stay seated, back against seat
- keep all items, including feet, out of the aisles
- use an indoor voice at all times
- listen to the driver and the Bus Safety Patroller
- treat each other with respect

IMMUNIZATION REMINDER

If your child's immunization information is not complete, Public Health and Community Services will be sending you a letter requesting that you update your child's immunization information. Hamilton's Medical Officer will inform certain parents that their children will be officially suspended from school until various conditions are met.

Free Immunization clinics are provided by Public Health and Community Services for families which do not have a family doctor. Call 905.540.5250 for more information.

<https://www.hamilton.ca/public-health/clinics-services/vaccines-immunization-clinics>

FEBRUARY'S ECO NEWS

We will continue to strive for Waste Reduction by

- * Encouraging the use of reusable water bottles
- * Utilizing our recycling bins properly
- * Using our GOOS (Good on one side) bins for scrap paper

In the area of Energy Conservation, we are working toward

- * Turning off lights when leaving the classroom
- * Turning off computers when not in use
- * Participate in Power Down periods when the sunlight is plentiful

SWEATER DAY

On Thursday, February 7, 2019 we recognized National Sweater Day. We are asking our staff and students to wear a warm and cozy sweater/ sweatshirt and lowered our thermostats in the classroom to raise awareness about our energy consumption. If all Canadians lowered their thermostat by just 2 degrees it would reduce the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking 700,000 cars off of the road! Small actions can make a big difference. We thank everyone for all their eco-actions at OLOA.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please remember that if there are any questions families may have concerning school activities/events or classroom curriculum, that you contact the school directly for clarification. You may also visit our school web page for information or follow us on twitter.

Our Lady of the Assumption
Catholic Elementary School

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Follow us on Twitter

Our Lady of the Assumption will be sharing updates through Twitter. If you'd like to follow us on Twitter, please visit: <https://twitter.com/oloaces>

Posted on Sep 27

Student Accident Insurance available from Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada

Posted on Sep 20

Student Protection Plan

Adoption Information Night

Event Date: Sep 20 Would you like to be part of a child's story? Adoption is one way to be part of the next chapter of a child's ...

HWCDSB schools commemorate Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 29

Orange Shirt Day serves as a reminder that "Every Child

FEBRUARY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 	2
3	4	5	6 PIZZA DAY 	7 SWEATER DAY	8	9
10	11 CONFIRMATION RETREAT 	12 REPORTS CARDS 	13 PIZZA DAY 	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16
17	18 	19 SNUGGLE UP AND READ DAY PAJAMA DAY	20 PIZZA DAY 	21	22 BIRTHSTONE CIVVIES DAY	23
24	25	26 CSC MEETING 6:30pm 	27 PIZZA DAY 	28  PINK SHIRT DAY OCGE ASSEMBLIES 1:00-Pr. 2:10-Jr. 2:50-Int.	March 1 P.D. DAY	