



ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

344 Parkinson Rd. Woodstock ON Canada N4S 2N6

T: 519-675-4426



To locate/review all important dates, please refer to our School Website.

<http://www.ldcsb.ca/school/PAW/Pages/default.aspx>

Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at St. Patrick's Catholic School I would like to extend a warm welcome to both our returning and new students and their families. We have been waiting for you! I hope summer provided an opportunity to enjoy some rest and relaxation with family and friends and you feel rejuvenated for the new school year.

A new school year has arrived and you will find some new faces at St. Patrick's and many familiar ones. Collectively, we share a renewed sense of enthusiasm for this coming school year and a commitment to providing your child with a quality Catholic education where students feel successful and continue to discover the joy of learning. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. J. McDonald who will be serving as Vice-Principal of St. Pat's. He brings enthusiasm, excitement and a passion for Catholic Education. Mr. McDonald will be at St. Pat's each Thursday and Friday and alternate Wednesdays. Please extend a warm welcome to Mr. McDonald. We are very fortunate to have him join our School Community.

It is a blessing to continue to serve this vibrant school community as principal. As parents/guardians, you play an imperative role in your child's education and I thank you for your ongoing support and dedication. As we begin this new school year, please consider getting involved in various school activities, Catholic School Council, Healthy Snack Program and Parent Engagement evenings. We value your input and together we can provide a safe, nurturing, faith-filled learning environment.

Mr. McDonald and I look forward to meeting you at the Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, September 20th from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher, other families and enjoy some delicious food!

On the first day of school, all students from grades 1-8 received an agenda. The family handbook section provides valuable information. Please take the time to review with your child the expectations and sign indicating that you have read and understand the expectations.

Wishing all of you a joyful and successful school year. May God continue to bless St. Patrick's Catholic School and our community as we learn and grow together.

Yours in Faith,

Mrs. J. Berkvens, Principal Mr. J. McDonald, Vice-Principal



Parent Portal is available to inform parents of bus times, location and name of bus company providing service. Keep details in your phone for reference and notifications.

Student Absence or Late Arrival

Parents, please report absenteeism or lates using SchoolMessenger.

SchoolMessenger:

<https://go.schoolmessenger.com/#/home>

- SchoolMessenger App
- 1-833-275-6702

Teachers will also be using SchoolMessenger as their tool to communicate with parents.

Communication

Safety continues to be our number one priority. In order for us to ensure the safety of your child(ren) to and from school, we need clear consistent communication from you.

If your child has more than 1 means of transportation home throughout the year, please write a note to your teacher on the morning in question, explaining how your child will get home that day. For instance, if your child is a bus student but is walking instead, a written note is required. At any time, if your child is being picked up and it is not the regular routine, please let us know in written form who is picking up your child. Although your child may know the change in schedule, the teachers cannot make changes to the regular routine without written notice. I am sure you can appreciate that this is for your child's safety.



LUNCH BOX ORDERS

Healthy school meals are just one click away.

Order now!
lunchboxorders.com

LONDON DISTRICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

lunchboxorders.com will continue as our hot lunch and milk provider again this coming year. If you are new to the school you can register now at: <http://www.lunchboxorders.com> so that you will receive a notification when orders can be made.

Online Payments Now Available

Register for *School Cash Online* to make purchases online for things like field trips, spirit wear, and other items. No need to take out cash, you can shop online from the comfort of your own home.

Go to the URL below and click "Get Started Today"!

ldcsb.schoolcashionline.com

LONDON DISTRICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Devices anywhere on school property, field trips or extracurricular activities without permission/supervision from a teacher is prohibited
2. Devices must be placed in the classroom bucket upon entering the classroom at morning bell
3. Students will remain on task during assigned activities using devices appropriately and for learning purposes
4. Devices must return to the classroom bucket immediately following the assigned activities
5. Devices from the classroom bucket will be given on the way out of the class at the end of the day and may not be used until after students are off school property unless permission is given by a teacher
6. Devices are used responsibly and appropriately so that the climate of St. Patrick's maintains all student's safety and dignity

Students are not required to have cell phones for classroom instruction. We have electronic devices for those who choose to not bring theirs to school. Those choosing to bring their devices to school are doing so at their own risk and **St. Patrick's will not be responsible for lost, broken or stolen devices.** Adherence to this expectation is mandatory for those bringing devices to school or any activity away from the school (i.e., field trips, extracurricular activities, etc.). The device will be banned from school property for the remainder of the term or year depending on severity of conduct for those choosing to disregard policy criteria (i.e., off-task activities like, but not limited to: messaging, taking photos, visiting APPS or sites irrelevant to the assigned task, avoid putting device in bucket when not being used for instruction, and for those not consenting to 'Device' policy). Students needing to contact parents during the day or while away for a school activity, may request permission from a teacher to either use their device while being supervised, ask teacher to contact parent or go to the office where the parent can be contacted. **Your student will not be able to text or call during the school day without direct supervision from a teacher.**

St. Patrick's Healthy Snack Program

We are very fortunate that the Healthy Snack Program continues again this year. Students will be served fresh fruit or vegetables for morning snack on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning September 25th. Thank you to Louise D'Annibale and her dedicated volunteers for your valuable work with the Snack Program to ensure our students receive nutritious and delicious snacks Tuesday to Thursday each week.

Volunteers are needed! Please consider.

Please contact Louise D'Annibale at 519-537-4840 or mldannibale@rogers.com or St. Patrick's School 519-675-4426 if you are able to volunteer a bit of time to help with our Snack Program.



Woodstock By Law Now in Effect

Recently, the City of Woodstock has passed a by-law that will reduce the speed of traffic around the schools, and prohibit stopping in front of the building. This includes Parkinson Road.

The by law has already been passed and in effect. By-law officers and police have begun actively enforcing the by-law and will continue to do so.



September Classroom Placements

In May and June, a great deal of time went into collaboratively creating this year's class lists. Students were placed in their perspective classrooms taking into consideration: friendships, learning needs of your child and those of the other students in his/her class, your child's work ethic, academics, etc). We appreciate your understanding and positive attitude so that your child remains excited when returning to school. Here's to a fantastic year of learning with new friends and staff!



5 ways to help children learn skills needed to cope with challenges and bounce back from disappointments from Southwestern Public Health

1. Build an emotional connection with your child. – Tell and show your child they are loved. Give hugs, smiles, high fives and cuddles. Eye contact and physical touch are important so put away your cell phone and spend quality time together.
2. Help them with their emotions. – Accept their feelings; everyone has their ups and downs. Talk to your child about emotions and how to recognize them. Teach them to accept their own feelings and not to judge or label feelings as good or bad. Teach them to be kind to themselves.
3. Teach your child ways to cope with stress. – Discuss how talking to family or friends you trust can help you feel better. Show your child how taking three deep breaths can help them to calm down. Discuss other relaxation activities like reading, singing, listening to music, exercise and spending time in nature, cuddling, laughing or joking, coloring or other forms of artwork can all be helpful ways of reducing stress.
4. Teach your child to problem-solve. -Talk about how to break down a problem into small steps. Handle one step at a time. What is the problem? Come up with solutions together. What are some pros and cons of different solutions?
5. It's okay to make mistakes – Teach your child to give themselves permission to make mistakes. Having love and compassion for themselves and others when mistakes are made, instead of judgment and criticism, is a much healthier and more positive way to deal with mistakes.
6. Help your child understand they have their own resiliency that they can draw on, and to see how their own conditioned thinking (I am not good enough.) robs them of being able to see their own resilience.

Environmental Stewardship

We have a responsibility to be Stewards of the Earth, therefore we are choosing to go green as much as possible. This will be the only paper newsletter sent home. All information will be delivered through our school website/classroom websites or SchoolMessenger.

We can each be a good steward of the earth, finding ways to live more in harmony with nature and to respect all of God's creation.



How to Address Concerns: Collaboration is Key

1. **Always contact your child's teacher first.** Most situations are resolved at this level. Throughout the school year, take advantage of opportunities to talk with your child's teacher(s). Talking about a concern may be less awkward if you know the teacher first.
2. If your first discussion does not resolve the concern, try speaking with the teacher a second time.
3. If your second discussion with the teacher does not resolve the concern, contact the Principal or Vice-Principal.



St. Patrick's Catholic School Council ALL WELCOME!

You are invited to attend St. Patrick's first Catholic School Council meeting for the 2018-19 school year on Wednesday, September 26th at 5:30pm at the school. Please consider nominating or running for an elected council member. Nomination form is attached.

PLEASE JOIN US ON SEPTEMBER 20TH

You are invited to St. Patrick's WELCOME BACK BBQ

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Great opportunity to gather with one another and welcome our new families to our School Community.



Drop Off and Dismissal Procedures

For the safety of all students, it is imperative that everyone follows our beginning and end of the day procedures.

Please use the Kiss n' Ride during morning drop off and during pick up at the end of the day. Maps and instructions were sent home on Friday. Please do not leave your vehicle during Kiss n' Ride and remember there are other families that are waiting in line to drop their child(ren) off.

Bus students will be dismissed at the first bell to load their bus. At the second bell, walkers will be dismissed and directed by staff to follow our safe route while leaving the premises. If you are walking your child home, you must wait for direction from staff and use the crosswalk on Parkinson Road. Please DO NOT walk towards the Kiss n' Ride traffic (against the gym -towards the parking lot) to exit. This is an unsafe situation.

If you will be picking up your child(ren) from school at the end of the day, please use the Kiss n' Ride which has proven to be safer and more convenient. Staff will keep students in their care until your car pulls up. Please use our school entrance driveway and pull up to the front of the school where staff will be there to assist. We are able to load 3 cars at a time. If you are experiencing a large line up, please use the overflow driveway (which runs beside the baseball diamond) and is used in the morning for Kiss n' Ride. Please stay in order and DO NOT pass other vehicles as this poses a safety hazard.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated. We all have a duty in keeping our children safe.

Morning Drop Off

For the safety of all students on our schoolyard, we ask that parents say good-bye to their children at the Kiss n' Ride location, not on the schoolyard. This is a great opportunity to build your child's independence. Staff are on the yard to supervise at 8:10am. Please do not drop your child(ren) off before 8:10am as they will be unsupervised.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



Sacramental News from Holy Trinity for Fall 2018

Confirmation Information for students entering into Grade 8 September 2018

The time has arrived for your son or daughter, if they are ready, to complete their initiation into the Roman Catholic Church through the ***Sacrament of Confirmation***. At your son or daughter's Baptism, you, as parents, ***"accepted the duty of raising your child in the Faith so that God's life within them would be protected from sin and would grow stronger day by day."*** (Liturgy of Baptism) The celebration of Confirmation is a significant step in their faith journey, as they seek to grow closer to our loving God.

The primary responsibility of helping children grow in their faith and preparing them for their sacraments rests solely with the parents. The church and school are there to assist with preparation but the best way that parents can assist their children with Sacramental Preparation is to journey with them.

To register your son or daughter for the Sacrament of Confirmation you must pick up a **REGISTRATION PACKAGE** from Holy Trinity Parish office or download it off our parish website under Sacraments and then Confirmation registration form\parent letter @ www.holytrinity.dol.ca. Registration packages will be available on the website from September 5th, 2018. Registration packages will be available for pick up at Holy Trinity Parish in the gathering area of the church beginning the weekend of September 8th and 9th, 2018. The completed registration package must be returned to Holy Trinity Parish Office on or before **Thursday September 27th, 2018**. A Parent\Candidate Information Meeting will take place on Wednesday October 3rd, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Parish. Further information regarding Sacramental Preparation will be in the church bulletin so please pick up the bulletin on a weekly base to keep informed.

First Reconciliation and First Communion Information for students entering into Grade 2 September 2018

Children in **Grade 2** are invited to continue their Sacramental journey by preparing and making their **Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion**. Parents/guardians have the primary responsibility of helping your children grow in faith. The Catholic School in their religion program will help prepare the children with their sacramental preparation but the primary responsibility rests with parents/guardians.

To register your son or daughter for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation\First Communion you can either pick up a **REGISTRATION PACKAGE** at Holy Trinity Parish office or download it off our parish website under Sacraments and then First Reconciliation registration form\parent letter @ www.holytrinity.dol.ca. Registration packages will be available on the website from September 5th, 2018. Registration packages will be available in the gathering area of the church beginning **Friday September 28th, 2018**. The completed registration form must be returned to Holy Trinity Parish Office on or before **Wednesday October 10th, 2018**. A Parent Information Meeting will take place on **Wednesday October 17th** at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity. Further information regarding Sacramental Preparation will be in the church bulletin so please pick up the bulletin on a weekly base to keep informed.

NO REGISTRATION PACKAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL

Meet our St. Patrick's Staff

2018-2019



Mr. Will Cochrane	JK/SK	Ms. Katie Ambroziak	EA
Mrs. Heather vandenAkker	ECE	Mrs. Yvonne Belore	EA
Mrs. Kelly Horne	JK/SK	Ms. Kaitlin Burns	EA
Mrs. Ewa Bieganski	ECE	Mrs. Morgan denOuden	EA
Mrs. Erin Parent	JK/SK	Mrs. Catherine Goulet	EA
Mrs. Julie Martens	Grade 1	Mrs. Michelle Leduc	EA
Mrs. Christina Marques	Grade 1/2	Ms. Beth Little	EA
Mrs. Rita Hoekstra	Grade 2	Ms. Erin O'Hoski	EA
Mrs. Erin Aarts	Grade 2/3	Ms. Darlene Pimentel	EA
Mrs. Paula Charters	Grade 3	Mrs. Nancy Pinnoneault	EA
Mrs. Ana Dempsey	Grade 3/4	Mrs. Christal Ramesbottom	EA
Mrs. Tanya Wilson	Grade 4/5	Ms. Veronica Rankin	EA
Mr. Carlo Capaldi	Grade 5	Ms. Nicole Robillard	EA
Mr. Doug MacDonald	Grade 5/6	Mr. Cory Winkworth	EA
Mr. Jonathan Circelli	Grade 6	Mrs. Sherry Alves	Charge Custodian
Mr. Ken Minello	Grade 7	Mr. Peter McNeil	Evening Custodian
Mr. Dan Martens	Grade 7/8	Mrs. Ellen Lynch	Reading Intervention
Mr. McMahon	Grade 8	Ms. Jenn Lester	Social Worker
Mr. Jason Rivas	French	Mr. Terry Riley	Noon Hour Supervisor
Mrs. Victoria Kiellerman	French	Mrs. Erin Bender	Noon Hour Supervisor
Ms. Roxanna Nakonechny	Music	Mrs. Dorothy Corkum	Noon Hour Supervisor
Ms. Stephanie Giustizia- Aprea	Primary	Mrs. Gennyne Austin	Noon Hour Supervisor
Mrs. Angela Langlois	SPST	Mrs. Sandra VanRyswyck	Noon Hour Supervisor
Ms. Taylor Scott	SPST	Mrs. Pat Payne	Elementary School Student Supervisor
		Mrs. Janinne Stanley	Secretary
		Mr. Jamie McDonald	Vice-Principal
		Mrs. Julie Berkvens	Principal





Called to Soar Like an eagle.

Catholic School Council News

St. Patrick's Catholic School Advisory Council will be hosting its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018 at 5:30pm in the School Staffroom. St. Patrick's Catholic School Council meets approximately 4-6 times per year and works to support the school and its initiatives; helps build school community, and act as an advisory body to the principal. New members are encouraged and always welcome. If you are interested in serving as a member of the council executive or know someone who is interested, please fill out a nomination form and return it to the school office on or before September 20th.

Elected Positions for Catholic School Council:

Chair or Co-Chairs

Treasurer

Secretary

There are also a number of sub-committees that we are always looking for new members to join. Please come join us on September 26th!

Catholic School Council Nomination Form

I would like to nominate the following person for position of _____ on the St. Patrick's Catholic School Council.

Name: _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Home Address _____

If a person is nominated, they will be contacted and asked to attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, September 27th, 2016 at the St. Patrick's Library, beginning at 5:30pm.

September 7, 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Welcome to a new school year at St. Patrick's Catholic School! We are looking forward to a fantastic year in our community. To kick off the year, Catholic School Council is supporting a Welcome Back Barbecue in our school yard (if it is raining, we will be in the gym) and an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher on Thursday, September 20th, 2018 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.

To make this event a success we need two things. The first is for you to let us know if you can come and what food you will be purchasing at the barbecue so that we can have enough food. Please fill in the section below with the needed information.

The second thing we need is lots of help. Please indicate on the bottom of this form if you can help us out for set-up, cooking or clean-up.

On behalf of St. Patrick's Catholic School Council, we welcome you and hope you can attend.

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*******Please do not send money to school before the BBQ, we will be collecting money the night of the BBQ ******

Our family will be attending the barbecue.

Family name: _____

To feed our family, we will need:

_____ hamburgers at \$3.00 each

_____ hotdogs at \$2.00 each

_____ pop at \$1.00 each

_____ water at \$1.00 each

.....
Parent(s)/guardian(s) name: _____ can help at the barbecue. Please check how you can help below.

Set -up _____

Cooking _____

Clean up _____

Phone number you can be reached at _____