



St. Marguerite d'Youville Newsletter

November 2018

A Message From the Principal

Dear St. Marguerite d'Youville Community,

It is honestly unbelievable to me how fast the school year progresses and the excitement of the school year continues as the weather grows colder! November is an exciting month as the first official Progress Report comes home for our Grade 1-8 students as well as the first Communication of Learning for our Kindergarten students. The Progress Report is a significant indicator of how your child is progressing this year. It focuses on learning skills that make effective students. I say this every year, but as a parent and administrator, I find this to be the most important report that comes home. It shows the student what they need to work on in order to become a better student. In other reporting periods, the focus is on achievement and attainment of curriculum expectations and a grade/letter that is assigned. In essence, this report is a road map of skills that students need to master in order to achieve or exceed the Provincial standard. A good practice is to read and delve deep into the report with your child. It helps them to take ownership of their own learning and acts as a monitoring/checking piece towards personal and academic goals. The comments written by teachers focus on "strengths, weaknesses and next steps". The next steps are how the student is able to improve on the challenges that they may be experiencing. Use these next steps as part of your goal setting with your child. Also, you will notice in the subject areas the boxes that are checked as "Progressing with Difficulty, Progressing Well or Progressing Very Well". As noted in the letter I am sending home with the reports, these terms are in relation to achieving the provincial standard (Level 3 or B) by the end of the term/year. If your child is "Progressing with Difficulty" that does not necessarily indicate they are failing. It means that they are currently not meeting the provincial standard (Level 3 or B) and indicates that they require improvement and/or assistance to achieve this standard. It is really feedback that says that together with the teacher, student and parent we need to develop strategies to help the student reach their goals. Thursday November 15th is Parent-Teacher Interview night. I hope you take the opportunity to come out and meet with your child's teacher. Request for interviews will come home with the report card. I have included at the end of the newsletter a great resource called "A Parent's Guide to the Fundamentals of Math."

Mr. G. Moore, Principal

"One Person Can Make a Difference....Be The Difference For Someone Today!"

Things You Need to Know



School Visitors: Please note that all school visitors must report to the main office and sign in. Parents and relatives are not permitted in the school hallways or playground without approval of the Principal. Volunteers and visitors must sign in and wear a visitor pass ID tag. Please do not just stop in to visit your child's teacher without making prior arrangements.



Choir and Orchestra Program. St. Mary School has begun the application process for entrance to Grade 5 for 2019/2020. Brochures with application forms are available in all elementary schools. Please contact your Principal for further details of the application and audition process or call St. Mary School at (519) 675-4423. Applications are due to back to St. Mary School by December 21, 2018. Application to the program is open to all Grade 4 Students of the London District Catholic School Board. All applicants must meet the admission requirements.



The Middlesex London Health Unit recommends that you stay home if you are sick. Sick people who go to work, school and other public places can spread their illnesses to others. Staying home is important to help reduce the spread of disease. Return to work or school one day after you are symptom free. If you have diarrhea or vomiting, do not prepare food for others until it has been at least 48 hours since the last time you had diarrhea or vomiting.

Thank you for supporting The United Way

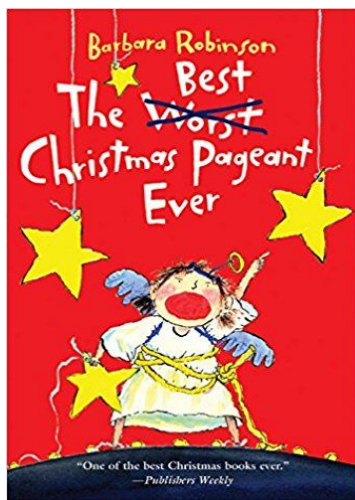
Thank you to all who supported our United Way Campaign this year. Your support for pajama day, donating used books and purchasing books was greatly appreciated. Through whole school initiatives and staff fundraisers we raised \$1506.95!!!!Your generosity will help many, through the United Way, and it also sets a wonderful example for the students who have learned that we are called by God to help those in need. Amazing! Thank you to Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Esposito for championing this campaign.



"Fantastic, Terrific, Learning and Faith-filled All Day Long!"



Habitual Lateness is becoming or is an issue for many of our students (not the one off that happens every once in a while). Being punctual is an extremely important skill for children as they grow into young adults. This is an excerpt from the Early Learning Academy on tips for parents to help their children: **Be conscious of time:** Set all your clocks and watches to the same time. If you're one of those people who is normally late, set them up a little so that you've got some "wiggle room". Things usually take longer than you think, so make sure you've allowed sufficient time to get out of the house and on your way. **Wake up when you're supposed to:** Don't hit the snooze button for just a few more minutes. Set a time to get up and do it. This is much easier if you go to sleep on time. **Re-examine how long your daily tasks take:** Make sure that you're not underestimating the time it takes to get ready and out of the house in the morning. **Plan your daily commute:** Check out the shortest route, where traffic jams might occur and alternate routes. Do this before you actually have to arrive at school. Check the weather reports for road conditions during inclement weather. **Organize yourself:** Pick out clothing the night before. Plan lunches and put together what you can the night before. If you need to take something with you to school, put it in the same place every day to take to make it routine. **Eat breakfast at home:** Don't hit the drive-through...eating at home takes less time, costs less and is healthier! **For children:** Have their clothes ready (including coats and mittens). A good idea is to have everything prepared the night before. Inspect backpacks and make sure all the books, materials and other items they will need the next day are there—put it by the door for easy pick-up on the way out. Check for any permission slips that need signing. **If you are passed the 9:00 am on arrival, you must go to the office to sign in as part of our safe schools procedures.**



The cast and crew of [*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*](#) are busy working away at preparing the play for you and your family's viewing pleasure! Our production will be presented on the evenings of Tues., Dec. 11th and Wed., Dec. 12th. Tickets will be ready for purchase mid-month and will be available on a first come, first served basis—so keep your eyes open for more information! If you decide to buy tickets to our show, you have an evening of laughs in store for you. The majority of the play's storyline revolves around a family of six wild children. These kids, the Herdmans, are referred to as, "the worst kids in the history of the world." Who knew that this year they would show up for Sunday school and somehow manage to take over the Christmas Pageant? In the small town where our play takes place, every year the Pageant is put on by the same parent, with the same kids, and is done exactly the same way. This play is filled with the hilarity that ensues after the arrival of the Herdman family on the scene. Just wait to see how it all unfolds!

"Fantastic, Terrific, Learning and Faith-filled All Day Long!"

Key Dates For November

- 1: Hot Lunch (Swiss Chalet)
- 7: Boston Pizza Celebrity Server Night Fundraiser 5-8 pm; Hot Lunch (Swiss Chalet);
- 9: Remembrance Day Liturgy (Mr. Bouchard's Class); Progress Reports Home
- 13: Catholic School Council Meeting 6 pm
- 14: Hot Lunch (Boston Pizza)
- 15: Parent/Teacher Interview Night 4-8 pm
- 16: PD Day (Faith Day)
- 21: Hot Lunch (Byron Pizza); Cookie Dough from QSP fundraiser to be picked up
- 19-23: Safe Schools and Belonging Week
- 23: Student Parliament School Spirit Day (Wear Red/Black/White and Spirit Wear)
- 28: Hot Lunch (Kelsey's)

Catholic School Council News

1. Thank you to all who came out, volunteered and helped plan the Hallowe'en Spooktacular! It was such a great night and there were so many fantastic costumes!
2. Save the Date:

-Nov. 7th - Boston Pizza Spirit Night; 5-8pm; Fanshawe Pk. Rd. W/Hyde Park; Take-out and delivery orders also qualify.
-Nov. 12th - Laura Secord Chocolate Campaign begins.
-Nov 15th to 18th Samko & Miko Toy Sale – Submit Stamped Receipts
3. Year End Event Committee Meeting November 12th at 6:30pm in the staff room.
4. Next Council Meeting to be held November 13th at 6pm in the staff room.
5. Volunteers for future events are always welcome. If interested please email Jacquie Attard jj_attard@yahoo.ca

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A Parent's Guide to the Fundamentals of Math

Grades 1 to 8

Making sure that students have a strong understanding of the fundamentals of math is one of the best ways to prepare them for success, now and in the future. What students learn today will help best position them to solve everyday problems and to increase their employability in tomorrow's economy.

As students progress through elementary school, they will develop their ability to think mathematically, learn about different concepts and relationships, and to apply their knowledge. Key concepts include addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication, which will help to set the stage for more advanced skills, including algebra, and working with integers and decimals, among others.

By developing a strong understanding of numbers, students will be able to perform mathematical calculations quickly and accurately – whether they do so mentally, on paper, or by using a calculator. The ultimate goal is for them to be able to perform mathematical procedures with ease. This skill will also support students as they develop their skills in critical thinking and problem solving.

Ontario's publicly funded schools are focusing on the fundamentals of math. This is an overview of what Ontario students in Grades 1-8 are learning in math, and how you can support your children's math learning at home.



Fundamental math skills from Grades 1 to 8

Most students learn math facts gradually over a number of years as they build their knowledge and confidence in their own ability to do math. The chart below provides examples of some fundamental math concepts and skills that students are expected to learn in elementary school by the end of primary grades (1-3), junior grades (4-6), and intermediate grades (7-8).

By the end of Grade 3, students will:

- Show understanding of and the use of whole numbers to 1000, i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3... 1000,
- Count forwards and backwards from 1000
- Use coins and bills to count and make change up to \$10
- Add and subtract numbers to 1000
- Recall and use multiplication facts to 7×7 , and related division facts, e.g., $49 \div 7$
- Understand the relationship between 1 whole and parts of 1 whole as fractions

By the end of Grade 6, students will:

- Show understanding of and the use of whole numbers to 1 000 000 and decimal numbers to thousandths (e.g., 0.001)
- Count by tenths, hundredths, and fractional amounts
- Read money up to \$1000 and represent it using bills and coins

- Add and subtract whole numbers and decimal numbers to thousandths
- Use multiplication and division facts to multiply and divide:
 - ♦ 4-digit whole numbers by 2-digit whole numbers
 - ♦ decimal numbers to tenths by whole numbers
- Understand equivalent fractions (e.g., $\frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$)
- Understand the relationship between fractions, decimals and percents
- Use and apply ratios and unit rates (e.g., use a water to sugar ratio of 4:1 to make syrup)

By the end of Grade 8, students will:

- Show understanding of and the use of any whole number and decimal number
- Work with money as an application of decimals, fractions, percents, and rates. For example, calculating the total cost of an item, including tax
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide combinations of whole numbers, decimal numbers, and integers, using the order of operations (e.g., $(2 - 5)^2 - 0.8 \div 2 = 8.6$)
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions
- Use equivalent forms of a number (decimals, fractions, percents) (e.g., $\frac{3}{4} = 0.75 = 75\%$)
- Solve problems involving ratios, and rates, e.g., calculate the most economical way to purchase 125 songs, if 25 songs cost \$7.99 and 50 songs cost \$10.45

Why math skills are important

We all use mathematical concepts in everyday activities, without even thinking about it. Every day, we are making correct change when shopping, estimating how many cans of paint are needed to paint a room, measuring ingredients when cooking, or calculating the tip on a restaurant bill. Fundamental math skills are also foundational to other aspects of the math curriculum, such as determining area, volume or rates. These are the skills we use when determining how much tile is needed for a new floor, or determining the more economical way to purchase music online – for instance, is it a better deal to buy 24 songs for \$7.99, or 50 songs for \$10.45?

How can you help?

Math is everywhere, and you can help your children make connections between what they are learning in school and everyday experiences at home and in the community, such as at the store, cooking at home, or managing money.

Here are some ideas about how math can be part of your regular day-to-day routine:

- **Math games** – Math puzzles and games can show that math is fun. They also require trial-and-error thinking, enhance numeracy and logical thinking, and promote discussion.
- **Math on TV** – Watch educational television programs. Many offer websites with activities to do together, including free games, apps, math crafts, and songs.
- **Math at the grocery store** – You can talk to your child about how to weigh fruit on a scale or how to estimate the total cost of items as you fill your cart.
- **Math with money** – Help your child manage money by creating a budget together or saving to make a special purchase. Or you could go shopping together and help with estimating the amount of a purchase, calculating the tax and checking the change.
- **Math in computer games** – If your child enjoys the computer, introduce them to fun and educational web-based games and activities.
- **Math in the kitchen** – Bake, cook and prepare food with your child. There are many great math opportunities in the kitchen, such as measuring ingredients.

By making math a priority and finding ways to help your child with math at home and in day-to-day life, you are helping to inspire a love of learning, and a better understanding of math.

Ontario is committed to working with parents, teachers and students to focus on the fundamental skills and concepts of math to help improve students' performance in math.

For more information and resources on how to help your child with math at home, please visit:
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/min_math_strategy.html

Additional resources include:

- Doing Mathematics with Your Child – <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideNumEn.pdf>