

584 Stafford Street

Port Elgin, Ontario

Saint Joseph's News

Phone 519-389-5495

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Safe Arrival Phone 519-389-5495

Principal: Keith Walsh

Superintendent: Mrs Francine Pilon

Trustee: Jules Vanhaelemeesch

Secretary: Kelly MacArthur

Co-Chairs of School Council: Lisa Marshall and Shannon Quennell

Our school community strives to promote love and respect for God, self and others, while fostering lifelong learning and celebrating Catholic faith, traditions and values.



On behalf of students and staff at St. Joseph's School, I would like to extend a special Thank You to St. Joseph's Parent Council and the many volunteers who orchestrated our School Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 19th. It was a very nice opportunity for the whole school to come together and share a meal during such a special, holy season. We appreciate all of your efforts and thank you for your caring.

Happy New Year!

The staff of St. Joseph's School wish all of you and your families a very healthy, holy, peaceful new Year!



Please join us: **January Assembly**
Thursday, January 25th at 2:00 p.m.

Ski Dates for St. Joseph's:

Skiing for St. Joseph's School will take place in February. The dates are February 1st and 28th
Open to all Grade 6-8 students. Students will leave St. Joseph's at 7:00 sharp and return to school around 4:30-5:00.

GRADE 9 REGISTRATION FOR
SEPTEMBER 2018

•Grade 8 Parent and Student Information Nights will be held at St. Mary's High School on Thursday January 11th and Tuesday January 16th



beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parents of Grade 8 students are encouraged to attend one of these evening sessions to learn more about St. Mary's High School, programs, diploma requirements and course options.

Safe Arrival Program

Please, don't forget to use our 24 hr Safe Arrival Program 519-389-5495 before 9:00 am whenever your child is away from school. This is a program that we have in place to ensure the safety of our students. As well, when you call, the Health Unit has asked us to track the type of sickness.

Please provide that information when you call if applicable. The Safe Arrival Number is an answering machine that will be checked by Mrs.



MacArthur prior to the start of the school day. Many thanks for this, as it saves the time it takes to follow up with calls to your home or emergency contact numbers.

Staff Professional Development



Friday, February 2nd, 2018 is a Professional Development Day for staff. There will be no school for students on this day. Staff will be involved in professional development workshops at Saint Joseph's School.

Bus Safety

Bus safety, for our students, is an issue that we are always trying to stay on top of. The bus driver has a tremendously difficult job in trying to drive safely and keep an eye on students at the same time. We are asking you as parents to go over these safety rules with your child(ren) to help ensure that everyone arrives to and from school in a safe manner.



1. Students are to sit in their seat facing the front of the bus.
2. Place back pack on lap or in front of their feet on the floor.
3. Keep feet and bags out of the aisle.
4. Stay seated until the bus comes to a full stop.
5. No eating on the bus.



School Council Meeting
Thursday, January 11th @ 6:30
All parents are welcome.

*VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS
AT SACRED HEART IN
WALKERTON*
BOYS - JANUARY 26th
GIRLS - JANUARY 29th
JUNIOR - JANUARY 30st



Rainbows

The support group called, "Rainbows For All God's Children", is a program for children who are living in single parent families, step families and families going through transition. Even though sometimes separation, death and divorce appear to be grown-up problems, they have profound effects on the children involved. Trained staff at Saint Joseph's School will be offering this 12 week session course beginning in February 2017. Students will go through one session per week and will have the opportunity to put their feelings into words, work through their grief, build a stronger sense of self esteem and begin to accept what has taken place in their family. Students involved in the program will also have to sign a Confidentiality Contract to ensure what is said during a support session is not repeated outside of the group meeting. If you would like your child to get involved in this program, please contact the school. A form will be sent home for you to sign if you wish for your child/ren to participate. It must be returned by January 26. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter!



PLEASE SIGN IN

Parents, please be aware that we have a visitor sign in policy. We have placed a small table in the entranceway with a sign in book. We respectfully ask that you simply sign the book before proceeding any further. We have put this in place for the safety and security of our students and staff. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.



TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Please be sure to review the bussing arrangements with your child(ren) before they leave for school. This is particularly important if you are sending a note regarding a change in the pick-up at the end of the day. Please note that we are governed by strict rules regarding bus changes. Alternating from one bus to another to accommodate scheduling is not allowed. This is not in the best interest of the child as the students safety is paramount. Our school bus manifests are prepared daily by 3:00 pm. If you require different arrangements for the end of the day, we ask that you send a separate note to the office with your child in the morning or if necessary, call the school no later than 2:45 p.m. We appreciate your support in this manner.



Virtue of the Month: Patience

Patience is quiet hope and trust that everything will turn out well, even when it is difficult. To be patient is to be like God who never gives up calling us to love Him, and walk in His way.

Student Writing Skills

Children who hate to write need lots of encouragement. But so do enthusiastic writers. Their commitment to writing can wax and wane. You can help make writing special and fun for your child. Consider doing these things.

-Buy personalized stationary for your child, or make it on the computer. This is a first step in encouraging a



tradition of writing thank you notes and letters to relatives.

-Exchange notes with your child. Put notes of thanks and praise in his lunch box. Invite him to surprise you with notes of his own making.

-Immerse your child in the writings of others. Give books as gifts and go often to the public library together.

Please Note: If the busses

are cancelled, but the school is open, your child walks to school or is driven, but you decide to keep him/her home, please call the Safe Arrival line.

Thank you! 519-389-5495



Newsletter: Electronic Copy please!!

In the interests of time and caring for our environment, I would like to ask you to accept your newsletters in an electronic format...if you don't receive it in this format already. This format obviously allows us to save trees and the time it takes to photocopy all those pages and distribute them to the classrooms. As well, parents, you may have a better chance of receiving it! I say that with tongue in cheek of course, but nonetheless, an electronic copy would remove some of those obstacles. Please send us an email address so that we can send you these newsletters electronically.

End of day pickups

Thank you for your patience as we work out the bugs to our new end of day pickup scenario. We are keeping the safety of all of our students at the fore as we roll out this new format. Please see the note sent home before the break for more information or you may call the school. Thank you.

Parent Council Swimming: Saturday, January 13th. 2:30-3:30. A Light snack will follow.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2018</h1> <p>Monthly Quote: "Kids go where there is excitement. They stay where there is Love."</p>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Welcome Back. Happy New Year!			11 SMHS Grade 8 Parent Information Night. 7:00 P. Council 6:30		Parent Council Swimming: 2:30-3:30.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		16 SMHS Grade 8 Parent Information Night. 7:00.				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Monthly Assembly at 2:00.	Grade 7-8 Boys' Volleyball at SHHS.	
28	29	30	31			
	Grade 7-8 Girls' Volleyball at SHHS.	Grade 4-6 Junior Volleyball at SHHS.				

