

ST. MARY SCHOOL

WELCOME BACK NEWSLETTER

September 6, 2011

"At the beginning of this school year, we thank you, God, for so many things: for our school, for desks and books, for pencils and paper, for crayons and paint. We thank you, too, for all of the teachers, assistants and parents who help us to learn, and for those who make this school a happy, safe place: the caretakers, the secretary, the volunteers, our parish priest, the crossing guards, and the principal. Help us to appreciate everything that is done for us. We ask this through the Master Teacher, Jesus." Amen.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Our school is a caring Christian community founded in Catholic values. We are dedicated to working in partnership with parents, the parish, and the greater community so that all of our students can achieve academic excellence and be prepared for future challenges. On behalf of the entire staff, I welcome all students and parents to the 2011-2012 school year. As Catholic educators, we strive to meet the needs of each child spiritually, academically, socially, and physically. It is our goal that the school and parents foster open lines of communication, to ensure that each child reaches their true potential.

I would also like to welcome all new and returning families to our St. Mary School community. In addition to our new students, we welcome Stephanie Brownlee as a new staff member.

SCHOOL HOURS:

Yard Supervision: 9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

(NOTE: Please ensure that your child is **not** on the yard prior to 9:00 a.m., as there is **NO** yard supervision)

Classes Begin: 9:15 a.m.

In-Class Snack Break: 10:35 – 10:40 a.m.

Lunch: 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.

In-Class Snack Break: 2:10 – 2:20 p.m.

P.M. Recess: 3:30 – 3:40 p.m.

School Ends: 3:40 p.m.

STAFF

Ralph Sharples	Principal
Stephanie Brownlee	Grade 4 IMM
Jill Nugent	Grade 4 ENG
Trudy Lang	Grade 5 ENG
Mary Bowers	Grade 5/6 ENG
Kerri Fowlow	French Teacher
Janice Pagé	Grade 5 IMM/Core
Janet Sheehan	Grade 4 ENG
Patrick Huntley	Grade 5 ENG
Pierre Lacroix	Grade 6 IMM
Marilyn Vollebregt	Grade 5/6 ENG
Claire O'Grady	Special Education
Bonnie Levesque	Gr. 6 ENG
Mary Lynn Greene	Student Support Worker
Cathy Clement	Educational Assistant
Mary Brown	Educational Assistant
Maureen Eygenstein	Educational Assistant
Mary Leclair	Educational Assistant
Rob Smith/Shane Merkley	Custodians
Debra Hamilton	School Secretary

ST. MARY SCHOOL PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS!!

We would like to remind **ALL** adults that the "SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS" is our top priority. It is for this reason that all visitors to school property during school hours (9:00 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.) must sign-in at the office and pick-up a visitor's pass.

Parents and caregivers are asked to drop-off/pick-up their children at the main office or the north gate (school/church parking lot off of John Street). **During the day, our school yard is strictly for the use of students and staff/Board employees.** As such, we ask that **ALL parents/guardians** respect that our school yard is off-limits to anyone else during school hours (9:00 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.), as it will help enable staff to insure the SAFETY of all students throughout the school day.

Parents may drop-off items or leave messages at the office, as we will not interrupt our classrooms unless it is an emergency. Please remember to call in if your child will be absent. Please check and use your child’s school agenda daily, as we will use it as our primary source of communication. On behalf of my staff and students, I would like to thank you in advance for making these adjustments. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me.

HEADS UP

- Breakfast Club will start on Monday, September 12th from 9:00 to 9:15 a.m.
- As was the policy last year, **ONLY** Grade 6 students are allowed to leave the school at lunchtime and **ONLY** with written permission from a parent.
- Because of new Ministry of Education policies that require the school (rather than parents) to pay for the students, we regret that we can **NO LONGER** offer a swimming program at St. Mary School.
- Some of the programs/services that are available in our community are posted outside of the office.
- We strongly encourage our parents and students to go through the agenda in order to familiarize themselves with all school procedures.

MISCELLANEOUS

- For information updates, etc., please check the school website: www.stmaryschoolcp.ca.
- For information on head lice, please contact the Head Lice Action Line at 1-800-660-5853.
- For information on Scouts Canada, please call Elizabeth Docker at 613-253-3118.
- For information on Girl Guides of Canada, please call 613-253-1313.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS/ELECTION

Effective Friday, September 9th, School Council Nomination forms are available at the office, on the website or, if requested, can be sent home with your child. You will be given a receipt upon submission of your ballot. Nominations will close on Friday, September 16th at 3:25 p.m. Election ballots may be picked-up at the school office, or can be printed off the school website, as of Monday, September 19th. School Council elections will close on Tuesday, September 20th at 3:25 p.m. and all candidates will be notified of the results on Monday, September 26th. **EVERYONE MUST VALIDATE THEIR BALLOT WITH THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TEAM MEMBER TO CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY.** The date of the first School Council meeting is Tuesday, September 20th.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2011
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY
(ALL SCHOOL & BOARD FACILITIES ARE CLOSED)**

DOCUMENTS TO BE COMPLETED/RETURNED	FOR INFORMATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mary School – Registration Information Sheet • Walk/Photo Permission • Pizza Order • Milk Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Rules • School Year Calendar • Transportation Pamphlet • IAP Kids Plus Life Insurance Brochure/Application Form