

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School *Newsletter*

Principal: Karen Moran

Vice-Principal: Sandra Fragoso

November 2018 Newsletter

*Dear God,
Help us to devote our whole life and thought
and energy to the task of making peace,
praying always for the inspiration and the
power to fulfill the destiny for which we were
created.*

What did Jesus say about Peace?

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall
be called children of God (Matthew 5:9)*

*Peace be with you. As the Father sent me,
so I send you (John 20:19)*

*Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put
things in order, listen to my appeal, agree
with one another, live in peace; and the God
of love and peace will be with you*

(2 Corinthians 13:11)

*And let the peace of Christ rule in your
hearts, to which indeed you were called in
one body. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15)*

Liturgical Celebration

Please join us for our November
Mass scheduled for Wednesday,
November 14th at 9:30 a.m. at Blessed
Sacrament Church. All are welcome!

Family Mass

Please mark your calendars and make plans
to attend our Advent Family Mass which
will take place on Tuesday, December 18th
at 6:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church.
Let us together celebrate the true meaning of
Christmas as a school community.

We Remember

Our Remembrance Day Ceremony is
scheduled for Friday, November 9th, 2018.

Our thoughts and prayers will recognize the
brave men and women who
serve our country in areas of
conflict and in peace-keeping
missions, both past and
present. We would like to
make a commemorative



display in the front foyer. Students are
invited to bring in a photo of any family
member who has or is serving in the
military. Please write the student's first and
last name on the back so that it can be
returned. Photos should be brought into the
Office by November 5th. Our students will
be attending a Remembrance Day Ceremony
at 10:40 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church
on November 9th. Please join us if you can.
In addition, several of our students will also
be attending the Day of Remembrance
Ceremony at the Catarauqui Cemetery with
members of the community. Thank you to
Mrs. Corcoran for accompanying our
students to this community event.

School Council Meeting

Please join us for our next OLMC Catholic
School Council meeting scheduled for
Monday, November 12th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
in the Learning Commons. All are welcome
to attend! A special Thank you is extended
to Jennifer Barrie, Marie Nolan and
members of School Council for hosting a
very successful Children's Clothing
Consignment Sale on October 13th. Thank
you for your ongoing support of our students



School Cash Online

Thank you to all families who have made the switch to School Cash

Online for making payments related to school related purchases and events. School Cash Online remains the preferred ALCDSB's method of payment for all school fees. If you have not done so already, please visit

<https://alcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> to set up a profile so that purchases can be made easily when the time comes. Thank you for making the switch to School Cash Online!

Your Child's Digital Portfolio (Kindergarten to Grade 6)

As you are aware, regular and ongoing use of the Fresh Grade app remains our Board and school's commitment to fulfilling Ontario's Ministry of Education mandate to create pathways to success for all students. Maintaining a digital portfolio is designed to help students achieve their personal goals, and become competent, successful, and contributing members of society using an evolving and contemporary means of communication with Parents/Guardians. As part of a student centered approach to growing and learning, the goal of using digital portfolios with our students is for students to reflect on the following four areas of their learning as they design personal pathways to success:

- Knowing Yourself
- Exploring Opportunities
- Making Decisions and Setting Goals
- Achieving Goals and Making Transitions

In the coming weeks, students will begin to share some of their work and learning from class with you using the Fresh Grade app. If you have not done so already (we are using Consents signed last year), please sign the Fresh Grade Consent Form and provide your email address so that you will be notified when your child or your child's Teacher has posted work and learning to share with you. You may request a Consent from your

child(ren)'s Teacher. Parents/Guardians may wish to make a supportive comment to their children, recognizing effort and accomplishments at school. Please note that while the email component is a necessary feature to make the Fresh Grade app function, Teachers may not respond by email, preferring to use the Agenda, telephone or meeting for communication with Parents/Guardians. Thank you for your continued interest in your child(ren)'s work and learning at OLMC! Please check the link below for more information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h95QqxtaRCk&t=6s>

A Parent's Guide to Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math (Ministry of Education)

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. Please see 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 attached to this Newsletter. If you have any questions, please call your child's teacher.

Holy Cross visits

OLMC

Our year-long transition of students from Grade 8 to Grade 9 at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School will begin on November 6th, when the Guidance Department will be visiting our Grade 8s in the Learning Commons at OLMC. We look forward to their visit. If you have any questions about your child's transition to secondary school, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



November 30th Numeracy PA Day

Friday, November 30th is a Professional Activity Day. Staff will be engaged in activities related to the Ministry of Education's Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math initiative. As a result, there are no classes for students.

School Safety Drill

In addition to annual Fire and Lock Down Drills, all schools in ALCDSB are now required to have evacuation procedures in place in the event that a bomb threat is made to the school or to the immediate area surrounding the school. The Bomb Threat Protocol would be initiated when the safety of the school population is threatened by circumstance, the safety of the school is in jeopardy because of a threat to the surrounding area or the Board executes the steps of its Response Guide because of a local or Board implicated threat. At Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School, our procedure would include classes leaving the school building through fire line procedures and meeting at Amherstview Public School or the Loyalist Recreation Centre as directed by the Emergency Response Team. Bus transportation may be arranged for accessing shelter furthest from the school. From there, Parents/Guardians would be notified by

phone, radio and/or social media to pick up their children. Each year, we are required to practice this drill. Our first Bomb Threat Protocol practice will take place on Thursday, November 29th at approximately 1:00 p.m. with our School Community Officer. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Life Touch Photo Retakes

Please note that Life Touch Photography will be at OLMC for photo retakes on November 8th.

FUN FRENCH FACTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Approximately 60% of English words are of either French origin or Latin origin words that also exist in French!

<http://bit.ly/2PkHOCX>

*Encourage your child to be
a lifelong
learner of
French!*



Volleyball Tournaments

Good luck to students currently participating on school volleyball teams. System-wide volleyball tournaments will be held as follows:

Junior Boys: Nov. 9th - Mrs. Lake

Junior Girls: Nov. 7th - Ms. Pearson

Senior Girls: Nov. 12th - Mrs. Corcoran

Senior Boys: Nov. 15th - Mrs. Lattanzio

Thank you to all students for their effort and participation, and to Staff Coaches for their time and commitment to their teams!

Social Justice Update

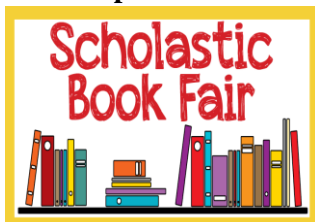
In September, students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 were invited to create for our school a student led social justice team. Students were

quick to step up to the challenge and the team now totals 30 dedicated members. The mission of the team is to offer help and bring cheer to those who need it in our school, our community and the world. Our first project was to organize the collection of non-perishable food items for St. Vincent de Paul's food bank, in early October. The collection was a great success due to the generosity of OLMC families in donating items at Thanksgiving time. Our team then focused its attention on choosing a name. Several suggestions were made and after a vote, we became the OLMC Action Helpers. Our most recent project was the collection of slightly used Halloween costumes. The OLMC school community once again helped us out tremendously and we collected an impressive amount of costumes that were donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Kingston. The team will be meeting again in early November to discuss ideas for future projects. We thank the greater school community for your help with our projects and look forward to communicating our future efforts with you. Thank you to Mme Martin for leading the way!

Scholastic Book Fair is coming to OLMC!

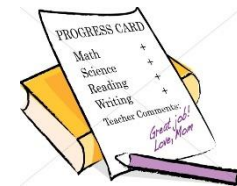
Get ready for reading! Please note that the Scholastic Book Fair will be at OLMC the week of November 5-9th in the Learning Commons. Items from the Scholastic Book Fair make great Christmas gifts as well as great reading material for everyday! The Scholastic Book Fair will be open during the following times:

- **Wednesday, November 7th from 3:45-5:30 p.m.**



- **Thursday, November 8th from 3:45-8:30 p.m.**

Thank you to Mrs. Miles and her volunteers for providing this opportunity to St. OLMC families. We look forward to great reading ideas!



Kindergarten Initial Observations and Elementary Progress Report Cards (Grades 1-8)

The Kindergarten Initial Observations Report will be sent home on Tuesday, November 6th. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of observations of your child's learning since the start of the school year and early evidence of growth in learning in relation to the overall expectations of The Kindergarten Program (2016). As well, The Provincial Progress Report for Grades 1-8, will also be sent home on Tuesday, November 6th. The Provincial Progress Report places significant focus on the Learning Skills and Work Habits necessary for success in school and in life. The Learning Skills and Work Habits that will be assessed include:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Responsibility | Collaboration |
| Organization | Initiative |
| Independent Work | Self-Regulation |

You will receive personalized feedback on student performance in these areas, which will serve to recognize their strengths and identify next steps which may enhance performance. Similarly, you will receive general feedback on their performance in subject areas as well. Again, the comments will recognize strengths and identify next steps for learning and achievement. Please note the traditional mark or percent will not be given on the Elementary Progress Report Card. Rather the Progress Report will tell you how well your child is progressing: "very well", "well", or "with difficulty". Parent – Teacher conferences for students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 will be held on

Wednesday, November 7th (3:45 – 5:15 p.m.) and Thursday, November 8th (3:45 – 8:30 p.m.) by request. Please note that student attendance at the conference is encouraged. The Conference Request Forms will be sent home in the next couple of days. Conference times will be set as close to your request as possible. You can also expect to receive two provincial report cards, one in the winter and one at the end of the school year.

Dismissal Procedures/ Calls for Alternate Arrangements at pick up time

Again a big thank you to Parents / Caregivers who are collecting children outside their designated dismissal doors. By now, arrangements for routine dismissal are well established and going very smoothly. As mid-afternoon is a very busy time in the Office, we would ask that any alternate arrangements for Dismissal be communicated to the school well before 2:00 p.m. so that we have time to ensure messages are received by students and teachers in time for end of day. Thank you for your consideration of this request for smooth end of day procedures.



Lost & Found Items

Parents are asked to please check the Lost and Found box while visiting the school to pick up items belonging to their children, and to encourage children to do the same while at school. At the end of each month, clothes are collected and donated to charity. Therefore, please remind your children to check for items you know are missing at school

Thank you for your ongoing support of students learning, achievement and well-being at OLMC!