

Sacred Heart Batawa Catholic School

September 2017



31 Thomas Bata Blvd., P.O. Box 135, Batawa, ON, K0K 1E0 | Office: 613-398-6393 |

Welcome Back!!!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to our amazing school. Over the course of this year we will endeavor to help our students reach their full potential in academics, goal setting, self reflection, athletic ability and their faith. We will work hard to establish positive relationships with each student and family at our school, and create a team atmosphere that will raise our children up and help them realize their true character and abilities.

Each member of our staff has taken time over the summer to reflect on why they are working in education and have put these thoughts on paper. I encourage you to look at their 'manifesto's' outside of each room during our community meet and greet on September 21st.

Many preparations have been made in our classrooms; the hallways have been cleaned and shined; teachers are rested; and plans are set. Now all we need is to welcome back the smiling faces of our amazing students!



A PRAYER FOR BACK TO SCHOOL:

Dear God, Thank you for the gift of children. Please watch over them as they go back to school this year. Keep them safe every day. Help them to remember that you are right there with them in the halls and classrooms. Help them soak up good knowledge and to dismiss any negative or worldly messages they may hear. Help them treat others with kindness and respect, and to guard their hearts with the armor of Your Word. Give them joy and peace as they put their trust in you. Amen



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 11– Milk Distribution Begins
- Sept. 14– Gr. 7/8 to Frink Center
- Sept. 18– Bus Evacuation Practice
- Sept. 21– Photo Day
- Sept. 21– Pizza Distribution
- Sept. 21– Meet n' Greet– 5:30pm
- Sept. 27– Magazine Fundraiser Begins
- Sept. 27– Gr. 5-8– Writersfest Workshop
- Sept. 29– PA Day

Our School Schedule

- 9:00** Yard Supervision Begins
- 9:15** Instructional Time
- 10:35–** Recess
- 10:50–** Instructional Time
- 12:10– 1:10–** Recess and Lunch
- 1:10–2:10** School Wide Math
- 2:10–3:30–** Instructional Time
- 3:30–** Dismissal



Intermediate Students Will Become Leaders

This year our intermediate students will be given many opportunities to show their natural leadership abilities at Sacred Heart Catholic School. Students will be provided with opportunities around training, planning and facilitating activities, working as a team and demonstrating positive examples for the students who look up to them.

Several committees have been formed with the idea that there is something for every Grade 7 or 8. Our staff will support the students in these committees by helping them make their ideas become reality. Students will be the driving force behind this as we attempt to give the students of Sacred Heart a voice in what goes on and what initiatives we take on.

Grade 7/8 students will study resume writing in their class and submit a resume for one of the following committees: Leadership Committee, Intramural Committee, Legacy Project Committee, Faith Life and Announcement Committee, Environmental Stewardship Committee and a Yearbook Committee.

Intermediate parents are asked to speak with their children about these committees and encourage their full participation.

There will also be multiple opportunities for our students to work with the student council from St. Paul. The first such activity will be a leadership day at the Frink Center on Sept 14th. Details will follow soon!

Milk and Pizza Sales

Every year we endeavour to give parents a break from making lunch at least once a week, and this year will be no different. We will have a weekly pizza day, with pizza that meets all Provincial guidelines for nutrition. Pizza will be for sale for \$3 a slice, ordered by the month. Details will follow the first week of school.

We will also sell milk again this year– chocolate and white. The cost for milk has risen slightly, therefore a milk card will be 15 milk for \$12, or \$1 per milk if purchased the day of. Milk will begin week two.

Safe Arrival Program

Parents/guardians are asked to call the school at 613-398-6393 whenever your child will be late or absent. A message may be left at any time on the answering machine. Please indicate your child's name, grade, teacher and reason for the child's absence. If no call is received, office staff will use the contact information provided to locate the child or the parent regarding the absence.

Safe Entry Procedures

At Sacred Heart Catholic School we endeavour to be a safe and welcoming environment for all of our students, staff and families. We have a safe entry system that is in operation from 9am until 3:30pm each day to ensure that all visitors who come to the school check in at the office and be screened appropriately. We do from time to time have members of the community who enter the school before or after hours and do not check in at the office. We are asking that the office be your first stop every time you enter the school, and that the secretary or Principal be given an opportunity to call the teacher you wish to see, before heading to their classrooms. Teachers, EA's and school staff could be meeting with other parents, each other, or on the phone discussing confidential information and it could be embarrassing for any of the parties should this information be overheard. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter, as we try to ensure the safety and confidentiality of all of our students, staff and families.

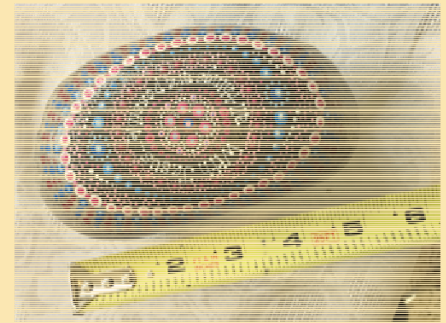
Fresh Grade is Here!

We are pleased to announce that Fresh Grade will now be in use in every single classroom from Kindergarten to Grade 6! Fresh Grade is an online tool used by teachers to gather evidence of student achievement and share the work your child has done in school. Teachers will regularly upload photos of your child's work, your child in action, or send out messages regarding classroom activities or needs. We do require a signed consent form and a valid email address in order to make this happen. In the coming weeks we will send home the necessary paperwork should you require it, and you will then be able to participate in this exciting home and classroom connection!



Numeracy Quick Tip:# 1

Make math fun. Spend time with kids on simple board games, puzzles, and activities that encourage better attitudes and stronger math skills. Even everyday activities such as playing with toys in a sandbox or in a tub at bath time can teach children math concepts like weight, density and volume.



Students Need Rocks!

This year we are going to take on a project in one of our gardens at the front of the school. We have a garden where simply nothing will grow. We would like to use this space to grow ideas and culture. Over the summer we are asking that each student look for a nice flat rock that they will paint and make as unique as they are. The rocks will be arranged in the garden to celebrate the unique identity of every staff member and student in the building. For now, students should look for a rock that is at least 3-5" in diameter, and bring it to school this September.



Literacy Quick Tip:# 1

Read together every day

The best thing you can do is read daily with your child. If she is a reluctant reader, you could take turns reading pages or sentences, depending on her age. Remember that practice makes perfect, so set aside some reading time every day

Welcome to Father Don

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Father Don Oberworth as our Faith Leader at Sacred Heart. In the coming weeks Father Don will get to know our students as well as all of the amazing things that we do at Sacred Heart to help our students grow in their Faith.

Father Don will meet on a weekly basis with two classes, and will celebrate Holy Mass once a month on Tuesday.

As always, all members of our community are welcome to attend Mass and celebrate with us. A schedule of Mass dates will be forthcoming as soon as dates are chosen. Welcome Father Don!

Introducing our Amazing Staff for 2017/18

Mr. Brad Reitzel– Principal

Mrs. Michelle Storrar– Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Ida Klemecic– Early Childhood Educator

Mr. Brian Evans– Grade 1/2 Teacher

Mrs. Janice Butler– Grade 2/3 Teacher

Mrs. Barb Duchesne– Grade 3/4 Teacher

Mr. Chris Terry– Grade 5/6 Teacher

Mrs. Michele Brule– Grade 7/8 Teacher

Mrs. Ellen Cooke– Educational Assistant

Mrs. Jennifer Hughes– Educational Assistant

Mr. Kevin French– Custodian

Mr. Nichola's D'Amico– Special Education Teacher

Mrs. Nicole Lamoureux– French Teacher

Ms. Carrie Moncrief– Child and Youth Worker

Ms. Miriam Petch– Library Resources Assistant

Ms. Maria Caume– Lunch Duty Supervisor

Mrs. Jocelyn Riley– Lunch Duty Supervisor

Mrs. Kim Shangraw– Secretary

Freedom of Information Act and School Communication

Recent changes to the Freedom of Information Act have placed requirements around the use of email addresses and sharing of information with parents in this manner. As a result, we will require an updated email address for each and every family, so that we can email newsletters, order forms, or other information from the central office. Fresh Grade is not impacted by this change, and can continue as is. Please examine the paperwork sent home with your child, and ensure the proper email address and contact information is present. We would also ask that you go to our school website and register your email address for updates on school activities and newsletters. Go to www.alcddb.on.ca and choose Sacred Heart (Batawa) from the drop down menu. Then fill your email into the associated box.

Sacred Heart Protocol for Sharing Concerns

Over the course of the year there are bound to be concerns over things that take place in the classroom, on the yard, or during various activities. Both teachers and parents might have a concern and sometimes the first instinct is to go to the principal about such issues. However, in the best interest of the relationship between the teacher and student/family, in all cases it is understood that the classroom teacher or parent, should be the first point of contact. If the issue at hand can not be resolved after an initial conversation between the teacher and parents, then the parents or teacher may wish to meet as a team with the principal. The relationship between home and school is crucial to the success of our students and our school. If issues arise, please work through them as soon as possible.

Parent and Community Volunteer Opportunities

Parent volunteers play a large role at Sacred Heart Catholic School. Every parent has a special talent or ability that could enhance the learning experience for all students at the school. Please consider helping out in some way this school year. Below are examples of ways in which volunteers could offer their time. If any of these areas say: 'that's me!', please put an X beside it and return it to the school office.

- _____ helping with our school volunteer reading program
- _____ helping individual students or small groups with math
- _____ helping in a classroom on a regular basis
- _____ helping in the Maker's Space (Monday's and Wednesday's)
- _____ volunteering on field trips
- _____ helping with the Breakfast Club (before school)
- _____ helping with Pizza Days (Thursday at lunch)
- _____ School Council (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Parish Rep, Parent Rep)
- _____ attend School Council monthly
- _____ assist with 'Meet and Greet' BBQ on Sept. 21st.
- _____ help with school fundraising
- _____ fitness or dance instructor
- _____ play a musical instrument
- _____ visual artist
- _____ other amazing talent to share? _____

Do you have any other volunteer ideas or have any questions? _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Email: _____

Child's (children's) Name(s): _____

Teacher's (teachers') Name(s): _____

I am available (X all that apply):

before school starts _____ during the school day: _____

lunch time 12:10-1:10 _____ after school: _____

I require a paper copy of the school newsletter.

I have a current Police Records Check (Current within 3 years)