

# Sacred Heart Batawa Catholic School

December 2017



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As the Advent season begins I am reminded of the gift we are presented with each and every day at Sacred Heart Catholic School. The gift of Catholic Education gives both staff and students the opportunity to prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus. It is a season that marks new beginnings with expectant waiting and preparation. Our staff works attentively with our students on countless projects throughout the season to help them appreciate and identify with many Catholic practices used to help mark the significance of this time of year. Weekly Advent celebrations are held where songs are sung, prayers are said and candles are lit. A highlight of our school's celebration of Advent is our mass being held in our School gymnasium on December 14th at 6pm. I would encourage each of you to attend. This opportunity to celebrate mass as a community is another gift bestowed upon us as a Catholic school. Hot chocolate and fellowship will follow after Mass. In addition, our school will participate some charitable work, as our Virtue for the month is Charity. We will gather canned food and fresh food items for the Frankford Community Partners Pantry. Our leadership group will spearhead this charitable initiative. I hope to see many of you at these events. Brad Reitzel Principal



## Advent Prayer

**God of Love,  
Your son, Jesus, is  
your greatest gift to  
us.  
He is a sign of your  
love.  
Help us walk in that  
love during the  
weeks of Advent,  
As we wait and pre-  
pare for his coming.  
We pray in the name  
of Jesus, our Savior.**

**Amen.**



## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Dec. 14th– School Advent Mass  
6pm

Dec. 14th– Batawa Open  
House @ Ski Hill 4pm

Dec. 19th– Terrific Kids/Virtuous  
Life Assembly– 1:15pm

Dec. 20th– School Trip to Stir-  
ling Theatre

Dec. 22– Last day of school

Jan. 8– First day of school.

## 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



All Sales Available Online!

At Sacred Heart we now have the ability to pay for purchases online. Any activities, food items, or field trips will now be able to be paid with a Credit Card. Simply follow the links found on our school web page to set up your profile. When a new item is added for purchase, you will receive an email letting you know that things are available for purchase. You will then be prompted to login to your account and purchase the items you wish to order. The system is very similar to that of most online shopping experiences. Please contact Mrs. Shangraw for more details if you need them!



## 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. The office must be your first stop every time you enter the school, and the secretary or Principal will make a call to 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.**

### 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.



# Annual Sacred Heart Advent Mass

We will once again celebrate our Catholic Tradition of Holy Mass in preparation for the Christmas Season. Students and teachers will prepare over the coming weeks for the many hymns and readings we will do during mass, and Father Don Oberwarth will lead us as we prepare to welcome Jesus. Please come and join us for an evening of prayer, Christmas Carols, Fellowship and cookies and hot chocolate. Mass will be held on Thursday Dec. 14 @ 6pm, followed by carolling and refreshments.



**Numeracy Quick Tip:# 3**

**Use real world examples to teach math. Point out ways that people use math every day to pay bills, balance their checkbooks, figure out their net earnings, make change, and tip at restaurants. Involve older children in projects that incorporate geometric and algebraic concepts like planting a garden, building a bookshelf, or figuring how long it will take to drive to your family vacation destination .**

We will also have a raffle for a Kobo Ereader, donated by the Bata Development Corporation.

## Grade 7/8's to do Boat Challenge

A group of 8 Grade 7/8 students will be given the opportunity of a lifetime by participating in the Skills Ontario Cardboard Boat Challenge. The challenge will require our teams to create a boat out of 2, 4"x 8" sheets of cardboard and two rolls of duct tape. They will then race their boat and do a weight capacity challenge. The competition will take place on Jan. 31. Good luck teams!



**Literacy Quick Tip:# 3**

**Surround your child with reading material**

**Many children will read everything they see around them, so the more they see, the better. Keep books and magazines readily available, of course, but also think outside the box. For example, rather than putting the breakfast cereal away as soon as you've poured it, why not set it in front of them on the table and let them read the back panel? To help very early readers, put name labels on doors, windows, pieces of furniture to help them learn everyday words.**

## Sacred Heart Skiing

**Our students from Grade 5 to 8 will have the opportunity to once again ski at Batawa Ski Hill. We have booked two dates, Jan 24 and February 8th. An event will be created on our Online Payment System and permission forms will be sent home after Christmas. As per board policy, students will be required to attend a lesson prior to being allowed to commence their skiing activities. Snow boarding will not be permitted.**



## Volleyball



During the month of November our Volleyball teams had the opportunity to realize the many hours of hard work that they put in practicing in the gym at lunch. Each of our teams committed countless hours to training, working very hard with their coaches and team mates. We are all very proud of all all of their efforts and we know they represented Sacred Heart exceptionally well. A tremendous thank you to Mr. Evan's, Mr. Da'Mico and Mr. Terry for coaching. Our Senior Boys Team captured the B championships. Congratulations boys!

## Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellations

The winter months are upon us. During this cold time of year parents and guardians should be aware of how to determine if their child's bus has been canceled. Please note that the decision to cancel busses rests with Tri-Board Bussing services. Bus routes cancelled due to inclement weather are cancelled for the entire day. **If you choose to bring your child to school please note that you will be required to pick them up at the end of the day.** In order to access information regarding bus cancellations please visit [www.triboard.on.ca](http://www.triboard.on.ca) On this site you will be able to determine if your child's bus is running, delayed or canceled. In addition, information is available on all local radio stations early in the morning., Twitter and our school website.



In the last few years we have seen our schools close formally only twice. Bus cancellations do not mean that schools will be closed. The decision to close schools can only be made by the Director of Education. If schools are closed however, we will make every effort to send out a Synervoice message to your homes letting you know that Sacred Heart has been closed for the day. In the event that the schools are closed part way through the day, again a Synervoice will be sent out, and in the event parents can not be reached we will call Emergency Contacts. Please call Mrs. Shangraw to ensure that you Emergency Contact information is up to date.

## Sacred Heart School Improvement Plan

If you are visiting our school you will notice that there are a whole lot of pictures and charts on the wall in the front entranceway. The staff at Sacred Heart are proud to show our community what we are doing to improve our school in terms of Academics, Stewardship and Discipleship. You can see our goals laid out in these three pillars, along with evidence of what we have done throughout the year. This exhibit is to be used to further a discussion on what we can do even better to improve Sacred Heart and take it from Good to Great!

You should also be seeing weekly Fresh Grade updates from your child's class (Gr. K- 6) as per our board and Ministry initiative to create student portfolios that will help students and parents reflect on assessments, keep parents informed of what their child is doing, and allow for opportunities to demonstrate growth. If you have not seen FreshGrade, or had a chance to sign up, please contact your child's classroom teacher.