



# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School Newsletter, February 6, 2018

Principal:	Mrs. Patricia Flagler-Edwards	Vice-Principal:	Mr. Stephen Tod
Superintendent:	Ms. Theresa Kennedy	Trustee:	Mr. Brian Kerby
School Council Chair: J. Hudder	Vice Chair: L. Hetu	Pastors:	Fr. Scott Murray
School Council Treasurer:	T. Allan		Fr. Malachy Ekezie
School Council Secretary:	M Hicks		Fr. Ron Meyer
School Council email:	<a href="mailto:omercs@alcdsb.on.ca">omercs@alcdsb.on.ca</a>		
School Phone No.	613-332-3300	Custodian:	Miss Darlene Storey
School Fax No:	613-332-0523	Administrative Assistant:	Mrs. Lois Lalonde
School Website:	<a href="http://schools.alcdsb.on.ca/omer">http://schools.alcdsb.on.ca/omer</a>	Follow us on Twitter:	@alcdsb_omer
School Email:	<a href="mailto:omer_secretary@alcdsb.on.ca">omer_secretary@alcdsb.on.ca</a>		

## SchoolCashOnline

KEVGROUP

Milk cards are available on-line, (as are pizza orders, on a monthly basis). To register for online purchases, please see our website, and scroll down to School News to “Register Now”.

### Spaghetti Lunch



**THANKS SO MUCH** to **KELLY BRAUN, MEAGHAN DOUCETTE, LAURA HETU, BRENDON HICKS, DAVE LANDRY, MICHELLE SUNSTRUM & SCOTT WILKES** for giving of their time to organize, prepare and serve our spaghetti lunch on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. **A HUGE THANK YOU** also to our **SCHOOL STAFF** members who prepared all of the sauce and to **MS. DARLENE STOREY** who set up all of the tables for the lunch.



All this week, from Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, students at OLM are enjoying class instruction and information sessions with Naomi and Derek Martin, of Tribal Vision Dancers, about Indigenous Peoples’ culture and traditions. All classes are engaging in Haudenosaunee Dances and the entire school will celebrate with a “Social” on Friday at 9:45. Parents are welcome to come and watch from the stage in our Gymnasium. We are grateful to Shawn McDonald (ALCDSB Special Assignment Teacher for Indigenous Education), and our School Council for assisting us with the funding for this unique opportunity.



The Faith Life Committee is hosting a  
Mardi Gras/St. Valentine’s Day Dance  
Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.  
Permission forms are coming home today.



Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board  
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[www.alcdsb.on.ca](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca)

## Grade 8 Open House TONIGHT



North Hastings High School invites all Grade 8 students and their parents or guardians to an Open House on Tuesday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

### Skating Day, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

The whole school will be skating at the arena on February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30 – 11:00.

Permission forms are coming home this week.

### ATTENTION GRADE SEVEN PARENTS



Thank you to the Grade Seven parents who have already submitted their money towards our 2018 graduation ceremony. Just a reminder to please send in your donation of **\$25.00** as soon as possible. **YOU MAY MAKE THIS PAYMENT ONLINE IF YOU HAVE REGISTERED FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE.** Please look for the “Grade 7 Pre-payment for Graduation”, as the item. Alternatively, you may send your donation (cash or cheque) to the office through your child’s teacher, if you are not registered. **Thank you for your support.**



December Merit Awards



January Merit Awards

### BLESSED PALMS NEEDED



We are approaching the season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. At that time, we have ashes placed on our foreheads in the sign of the cross as a symbol of the season and a reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross on Good Friday. These ashes are made by burning the blessed palms from Palm Sunday. Each year, we collect blessed palms from the previous year’s Palm Sunday to be burned to use for the ashes on Ash Wednesday. We are requesting that any families, who have their palms from last year, to please send them into the school. We will have a palm burning service on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### PUBLIC SPEAKING



Classes are preparing for the annual public speaking competition. Students in grades 4 to 8 are now or soon will be delivering their speeches in class. OLM School Finals are set for February 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Legion Speak Off date is February 18<sup>th</sup>. Parents can help their children by assisting them in researching a topic that is appropriate to their age, interests and ability. As you listen to your child practice, encourage them to pay particular attention to their pace, clarity, expression and gestures. Good luck to all!



**REGISTER ONLINE!  
FOR 2018-2019 KINDERGARTEN  
PROGRAM**



ALCDSB will soon be able to accept online registration for Kindergarten students for the fall of 2018-2019. To be eligible, the child must be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2018.

Please stay tuned for more details as registration will be online by end of February.

If you have any questions, please call the school.

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

The Immunization of School Pupils Act requires Public Health to have up-to-date immunization records for all students in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties. **If you received an immunization notification**, please update Public Health according to their request.



**Stand up against bullying  
February 28, 2018**

Bullying is a major problem in our society – in our schools, workplaces, homes, and via social media. Over the month of February, we will be helping raise awareness on these issues which will hopefully give us all the tools and courage needed to stand up against bullies and step in when we see it happening. On February 28, 2018 we encourage all of you to wear a Pink Shirt to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS:** It is imperative that you inform the school immediately whenever a change occurs in your family information (e.g., change of address, telephone number, busing information, sitter information, etc.). Also, if applicable, the school must receive copies of legal documents. **The school can only enforce child custody orders by following written court directives.**

**Join the 20<sup>th</sup> Backyard Bird Count:**



The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a joint partnership between Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, with Bird Studies Canada as the official Canadian partner. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the GBBC and it will occur this year between February 17<sup>th</sup> to February 20<sup>th</sup> (Family Day Weekend). The GBBC engages birdwatchers of all ages across North America in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are. Anyone can participate, from beginners to experts. You can count for as little as 15 minutes on a single day, or for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy - and it helps the birds!

It's as simple as counting the birds at a location near you, estimating how many birds you saw of each species, and filling out an online checklist on the [Great Backyard Bird Count website](#). As the count progresses, you can visit the GBBC website to view results and share photographs. You can also enter the photo contest, win prizes, and share your experiences on the Facebook and Twitter social networks. Email [gbbc@birdscanada.org](mailto:gbbc@birdscanada.org) for more information.

**BRRRRR!**



Please be reminded that outdoor recess during the lunch period is 40 minutes and there can also be a lengthy wait at the end of the day for individual buses to arrive. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor play at school; snow pants; warm, water-proof gloves/mittens, warm scarves & hats; and of course, boots. It is also a good idea to send in extra pairs of dry mittens and socks.