



St. Martin of Tours Catholic School



Newsletter—December 22, 2017 ver. 17 v09

Superintendent of School Effectiveness: Ms. Theresa Kennedy
Principal: Mrs. Patricia Flagler Edwards
Vice Principal: Mr. Stephen Tod
Custodian: Mr. Adam Wannamaker
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Martie Berthelot

Trustee: Mr. Brian Kerby
School Council Chair: Mrs. Kelli Nicholas
Pastor: Father Malachy Ekezie
School Phone: 613-637-2720
School Fax: 613-637-2873

Merry Christmas

A Christmas Message

As the end of 2017 draws near, let us take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of staff, students and parents at St. Martin of Tours. The largest of these would be the joining of two schools into one building as we welcomed Whitney Public School. This unique setup has allowed both staff and students to work together to create an enjoyable and welcoming place that promotes learning, integrity and respect.

I ask that everyone take a moment over these holidays to reflect on a quote from Pope Francis:

“On this day of joy, we are all called to contemplate the Child Jesus, who gives hope once again to every person on the face of the earth. By his grace, let us with our voices and our actions give witness to solidarity and peace. Merry Christmas to all! “

- Stephen Tod, Vice Principal

Come let us
Adore
Him



*St. Martin of Tours Catholic School staff wish you and yours
a blessed holiday filled with that special peace and wonder that only
children can bring.*

WINTER EXCURSION



Mike Bibby, Outdoor and Environmental Education Teacher from our school board, will be leading students from grades 5-8 on a winter activity at Mew Lake on **January 18th**. Students will have the opportunity to take part in snowshoeing, cross country skiing as well as outdoor-based learning.

Permission forms have been sent home and we ask them to be returned following the holidays.

Bussing will be provided but parent volunteers are encouraged to join us on this day of fun in the (cold) sun.

NORTH HASTINGS HIGH SCHOOL VISIT



For students interested in attending NHHS, Catherine Betson, Guidance Counsellor at North Hastings High School, will be offering an information session on **January 22nd at 2pm-3pm** for all Grade 8 students planning to attend the school in the fall of 2018. Further detail about the visit will be provided following the holidays.

For those interested in attending an open house and information session at NHHS, there will be one on **February 6th** at 6:30pm.

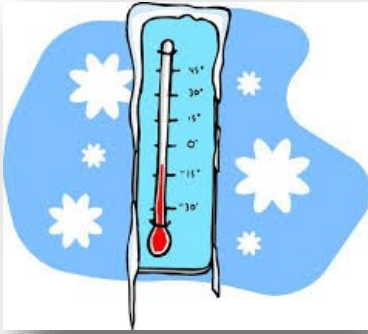
MADAWASKA VALLEY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



For students interested in attending MCDHS, transition meetings can be set up by contacting Mr. Tod at the office. The meetings will allow students and parents the opportunity to meet and discuss plans of entry and course selection for the Fall of 2018 with members from MVDHS.

The meetings are currently being scheduled for January and we hope to hear from you as soon as possible.

FRIGID COLD TEMPERATURES



The guidelines most schools follow are based on the Canadian Paediatrics Society states that students can be outdoors in temperatures as low as -25C air, -28C wind chill.

That being said, if we truly feel that temperatures other than the ones listed above pose a potential risk to the well-being of students, indoor recess can be chosen.

Students are expected to dress warmly and cannot be coming in unsupervised as a means of “warming up” if they’re choosing (within reason) to not dress appropriately for the weather conditions.

Please ensure your children dress according to the weather conditions.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE



Beginning in 2018, St. Martin of Tours will be transitioning to an online payment format known as School Cash Online. This will allow payments to be received electronically rather than by cash. Payment options will include milk and pizza purchases.

For more information about School Cash Online and the ALCDSB, please visit our Board site or www.schoolcashionline.com.

50 / 50 TICKETS



Congratulations to Gord Burley, winner of the 50/50 draw. Based on the sale of 1000 tickets for \$1 each, the winner received \$500.

Thank you for supporting our school!

SACRAMENT PREPARATION



Sacramental Preparation

For students requiring their Sacraments (Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation), Fr. Malachy is willing to offer classes at St. Martin of Tours Church which will occur every other week beginning in January. With parental permission, students taking part in the classes will be released from school to the Church and will rejoin following the class or Mass (when scheduled). The expectation is that the Sacraments can be delivered by Easter Sunday.

More details for the classes and program will be shared in the new year.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Martin of Tours
@stmartin_tours

A great ending to the St Martin of Tours Christmas Concert. Thank you to everyone who came out to watch and thank you to the staff and students for putting on a wonderful show! @ALCDSB



5:19 PM - 19 Dec 2017

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Our Christmas Concert was held on December 19th. We would like to thank all the students and staff for their hard work and preparation for the night's entertainment.

We would also like to thank parents and family members who came out to support the concert and Bake Sale.

PLAYGROUND STRUCTURE UPDATE



Due to an incident involving a non-SMT student in October of this year, the school playground structure has been unavailable for student use. We have recently received an inspection report which clears the structure for use again in the New Year. We apologize for the inconvenience and look forward to student use again.

REMINDERS

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Please bring in your money for the chocolate bars ASAP. We still have 2 full boxes left if anyone are able to sell more. Thank you for your support!



St. Martin of Tours has an Administrative Assistant who is able to answer the phones from 8:30am-1:00pm. If attempting to call after that time, if there is no answer, please leave a message and we will return your call.

In the event of an emergency, you can also attempt to contact Whitney Public School at 613-637-2171.



BUS CANCELLATIONS: As winter approaches and we are faced with the possibility of bus cancellations please take a moment to visit www.triboard.on.ca and sign up for the Cancellations and Delays Notification that can be sent directly to your email. We will not be making individual phone calls to notify parents of cancellations this year.