

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School



**September 2018**

## **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!**

Welcome back to school after what we hope was a refreshing summer! We look forward to working with all families to kick off the 2018-2019 school year. A special welcome is extended to families who are new to Our Lady of Mount Carmel!

Families are encouraged to access our school website at [www.alcdsb.on.ca](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca) to learn about what is happening at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We will refresh feature stories weekly and include notices about upcoming events. We ask all families to please access our school website during the first week in September to request a monthly Newsletter by entering your email address to receive monthly newsletters and notices by email. *Each month we will send home a paper calendar. However, the remainder of the Newsletter will be sent electronically to your email.* Alternatively, you may come into the school to pick up a paper copy. Thank you for taking the time to complete the important task of signing up on our school's website to receive an electronic Newsletter each month!

We look forward to assisting your child (ren) reach his or her academic, social, emotional, physical and spiritual goals, thereby experiencing success at school with your continued support.

We will have an opportunity to meet at our Welcome Back BBQ and Open House, which is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

As the year progresses and you would like to meet, please do not hesitate to call the Office to schedule an appointment with our Staff.

Once again, we are excited about this new beginning as we embrace our Board's theme, "I by my works, will show you my faith" (James 2:18), with a particular focus on our 2018-19 school-wide theme of "We are a community of faith".

*Karen Moran, Principal*

*Sandra Fragoso, Vice-Principal*

Follow us on Twitter



@alcdsb\_olmc

### **Monthly Mass**

Our first Mass will take place for students in Grade 1 to Grade 8 on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at Blessed Sacrament Church at 9:30 a.m. with Fr. Shea. Please join us if you can.

### **Yard Supervision**

<b>begins:</b>	<b>8:40 a.m.</b>
School Begins:	8:55 a.m.
Recess:	10:15-10:30
Lunch:	11:50-12:50
Recess:	2:30-2:45
Dismissal:	3:25

### **Fire Drills**

Each year, schools are required to conduct at least 6 fire drills during the school day. Please note that the first three fire drills are scheduled for: September 11<sup>th</sup> a.m., September 19<sup>th</sup> p.m. and September 27<sup>th</sup> a.m. The remainder of the drills will take place in the spring.

### **Peanut/Nut Safe School**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School is a peanut/nut safe school! We have several students who are **severely allergic** to peanuts and nut products. If peanut butter or even the smallest amount of peanut/nut containing food enters their body, these children experience a life-threatening reaction.

In order to keep our students safe, we are asking for your assistance by not sending nuts or peanut ingredient snacks or lunches to school. This may sound simple. However, it requires an extra effort to read labels to ensure that food taken to school is peanut/nut free. Thank you for your diligence.

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Staff List     2018-2019

Karen Moran	Principal
Sandra Fragoso	Vice Principal
Megan Bosman	Admin Assistant
Katie Scriver	Admin Assistant

Tammy Peters	Custodian- Daytime
James Gowdy	Custodian- Evening

### English

Kindergarten	Kari Torres and Kaitlyn Barbosa
Grade 1	Polly Pearson
Grade 2-3	Stephanie Whittaker
Grade 3-4	Ron Gibson
Grade 4-5	Kendall Lewis (Andrew Grimston)
Grade 5- 6	Susie Lake
Grade 7-8	Jessica Williams
Grade 7-8	Tanis Lattanzio

### French Immersion

Kindergarten	Kate Roberts and Lisa Kennedy (ECE)
Kindergarten	Kayla Hay and Lisa Hazel (ECE)
Kindergarten	Kelsey McLaughlin and Sharoll Van Hal (ECE)
Grade 1	Allyson Adams
Grade 1-2	Trista LeFave
Grade 2	Ashley Reinhardt
Grade 2-3	Courtney Lambert
Grade 3	Nathalie Compeau
Grade 3-4	Joel Kyer
Grade 4-5	Sarah Davey
Grade 5-6	Alicia Bacile
Grade 6-7	Veronique Martin
Grade 7-8	Madeline Corsi-Johnson

PPT Teacher	Jaqueline Dillon
PPT Teacher	Francesca Martinez
PPT Teacher	Sheridan Lester
PPT Teacher	Amy Latham

Itinerant Arts	Cheryl Fisher
Itinerant Arts	Judy Gladstone

SERT	Jessica Corcoran
SERT	Sandra Fragoso

Educational Assistant	Denise Bell
Educational Assistant	Dara Beaubien
Educational Assistant	Betsy Fillion
Educational Assistant	Sarah Storms
Educational Assistant	Samantha Fowlow
Educational Assistant	Brandy Young

Library Resource Assistant	Emily Miles
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Youth Worker	Chelsea Sandrin
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Lunch Supervisor	Niki Hunter
Lunch Supervisor	Tammy Robidoux

Pastor	Fr. Tim Shea
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## Welcome Back BBQ and Open House

Our Open House is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Again this year, we invite all families to a BBQ which will be available for purchase from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and will include hotdogs, chips and a drink. As in past years, a silent auction and raffle draws will also be part of the evening. Thank you to OLMC School Council for coordinating the BBQ event! Looking forward to meeting families on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018!



### Learning Spaces

You may have noticed some work being done outside on the playground over the summer. This work is in preparation for the arrival of a 6 Classroom Portapack unit that is scheduled to be ready for occupancy near the end of September or early October. Please note that the following Grade 7-8 Classes will begin the year in existing stand-alone portables and will then transition into the new portapack a few weeks later: Mrs. Williams, Ms. Corsi-Johnson and Mrs. Lattanzio. In addition, Mme. Martin's Grade 6-7 Class will also relocate to the new portapak so that all of the intermediate students are in the same general learning space. We thank the Staff and students for their flexibility as we prepare for the move later in September!



Please join us on September 10th for our Terry Fox Fund Raising Kick Off Event. We will

be having a prayer service and a hair cut marathon. Thank you to the students who grew their hair in support of cancer research. Our Walk will be on September 27th!

### School Cash Online



OLMC is excited to announce that we will continue to offer School Cash Online, which provides you with the convenience of paying online for school items such as trips, hot lunch, milk, popcorn and spirit wear. School Cash Online is our school's preferred method of payment and is a great way to pay without the need for cash or cheques.

Please follow the link below to register online – it takes less than five minutes! Once you have registered your child, you will be able to see when they have a new item posted online for purchase. You also have the option to be notified whenever your child has a new school expense due, so you don't have to worry about missing the deadline.

For more information, please visit our school website at [www.alcgsb.on.ca](http://www.alcgsb.on.ca).

To register: <https://schoolcashonline.com/Home>. Thank you!

### Milk and Popcorn Cards

To purchase milk and popcorn this year, you will be required to purchase a **milk card** or a **popcorn card** using **Cash Online**. This will reduce the We will not be selling milk or popcorn without a milk/popcorn card. Milk and popcorn will be available for sale later this month. Thank you for your support as we look to increase efficiencies in cash handling.

### Student Agendas

Today many children in Grades 1 to Grade 8 have received a Student Agenda. The Agendas have proven to be a useful communication tool between home and school as well as an opportunity for all students to learn responsibility by recording important information and dates for success at school. While the cost of the Agenda remains the same, **we are asking families to please pay \$5.00 per Agenda to help cover the cost of this resource using School Cash Online by September 7th.** Students come to rely on their agendas for daily organization and routines well into the future.

A copy of the OLMC Code of Conduct is also in the agenda. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with this information and review it with your child(ren). Thank you for your continued support.

### Digital Portfolios

Ontario's Ministry of Education has implemented an education and career/life planning program for Ontario schools to create pathways to success for all students. It is designed to help students achieve their personal goals and become competent, successful and contributing members of society. Again this year, students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will continue to create a digital portfolio using **FreshGrade**, an online portfolio application that students and staff will use to upload learning artifacts to share with families.



The artifacts will serve to start a conversation with families about their child's learning and to eventually offer feedback to children about their learning and interests. Throughout the 2018-19 school year, we will be using this tool to share student learning with families. We look forward to learning and sharing together. If you are new to the school or new to the electronic portfolio, please watch for additional information and a Consent Form to come home mid-September. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school. Parents who signed the consent last year are not required to sign the consent again. Only first time OLMC students will be given a consent form to have parents sign and return to school. Thank you for your attention to this important detail.

### Friday, September 28th, 2018 PA Day

Please note that Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is a PA Day. As such, there are no classes for students. This PA Day is a school-based day with a focus on reviewing EQAO results and school improvement planning for student achievement and well-being.

### Picture Day

School pictures for students will be taken on **October 15 and 16th**. Please note this on your calendar at home! Picture retakes will take place on **November 8th**.



### Spring 2018 Grade 3 and 6 EQAO Results

Preliminary school results from EQAO Assessment of Reading, Writing and Math will be available to schools in early September to review and verify. Individual Student Reports for students who wrote the Grade 3 and 6 assessments last spring will be sent home in October, shortly after they arrive at our school.

### Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy working with children and have the gift of time to give? If so, Our Lady of Mount Carmel is looking for volunteers in the following areas: reading with children, math tutoring, re-shelving materials in the Learning Commons, Hot Lunch program, Fundraising, Special Events, and ECO Team. If these opportunities interest you, please let us know. All volunteers must have or be willing to get a Criminal Background Check. Thank you!

### Criminal Background Checks for Parent Volunteers

The Board requires that parent volunteers produce a Criminal Background Check that is current (within 3 years). Working with children requires a Vulnerable Sector Check and it can take a significant amount of time to complete the screening process. This can result in a delay of several months before a Criminal Background Check can be produced. If you anticipate that you would like to serve as a volunteer in our school, or be a chaperone for a school activity or field trip, you are encouraged to initiate the process as soon as possible in anticipation of a possible delay. Thank you in advance!

### Drop off/Pick-up/Visitors to the School

As part of a Ministry of Education initiative to help us provide a safe environment for your children, **all doors to the school, including the front door, will remain locked.** All visitors to the school are required to ring the buzzer at the front door and identify themselves to staff before being granted access. All visitors are required to sign in at the Office and wear a Visitor's Tag while in the school. The visitor log book **must be signed** upon entry/exit to the school. Our office staff will assist you in making arrangements to meet while in the school. Please note that our staff may be assisting children, answering phone calls and meeting with students, parents and staff during the course of the day.

However, we will endeavour to respond to front door calls in a timely manner. Thank you again for your on-going patience and co-operation.

At dismissal time parents/caregivers are asked to wait outside at the designated areas to pick up their children. This request is made in order to reduce congestion in the hallways and minimize disruption to the instructional day. The doors through which your child will be dismissed are the same ones they will be using for recess. Again, thank you in advance for your continued co-operation with regards to this matter and for your continued patience.

### Safe Arrival & Signing In/Out at the Office

Parents/Guardians are reminded to call the school to let us know if your child will be absent or late on any particular school day. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

If your son/daughter is late for school, they **MUST** be signed in at the office. If your child has an appointment and needs to leave early, they in turn **MUST** be signed out at the office.

For safety purposes it is essential that we know when students arrive and when they leave.

### Leaving School Grounds during Lunch Hour

As we are not able to ensure the safety of students off school property, we do not permit students to leave the school grounds at any time, particularly during the lunch hour. If students will be walking home regularly for lunch, Parents/Guardians must provide written permission allowing students to walk home for lunch on a regular basis during the school year. Parents/Guardians who wish to take their child out for lunch should sign their child out at the office. **At no time** are students to leave school property without written permission.

### Student Dress

Student dress is expected to be in good taste and to be reflective of the Catholic nature of our school. This is especially relevant to T-shirts and "summer" wear. Please refer to the "Code of Conduct" for details. All staff will be monitoring compliance with school and school board expectations. Students are required to have indoor and outdoor footwear. Fire Safety regulations require that students wear shoes at all times. Thank you for reviewing these expectations with your children at home too!

## Lost & Found

Parents are requested to ensure that their children's clothes, boots, gloves, scarves, running shoes, lunch kits, etc. are marked with the child's name. Clothing does get misplaced and many children have identical or similar clothing. If a child has lost or misplaced articles of clothing, there is a good chance it will be in the Lost & Found box. Parents are also encouraged to come to the school and look through the Lost & Found box. Every year many excellent articles of clothing are left behind. At the end of each month, these items will be collected and sent to charitable organizations.

## School Bus Emergency Phone Number

Because emergency issues related to school bus transportation can often occur either before or after regular secretarial hours at schools, please take note of the following phone number. This number will connect you to the Tri-Board Transportation Authority between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.: 613-354-1981 ext. 317. Please visit an updated Tri-Board website at [www.triboard.on.ca](http://www.triboard.on.ca). This site will inform you of any bus cancellations.

You can follow Tri-Board on Twitter to get information on bus cancellations and late busses. @BusDelayNCancel or subscribe to email notifications from Tri-Board at <https://transportation.triboard.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>



## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School Council

OLMC Catholic School Council is a forum through which parents/guardians and other members of our school community can contribute to improve student achievement and well-being. Membership on School Council includes representation from parents/guardians, the parish, the community, teaching and non-teaching staff, and school administration. The role of any school council is to work, as part of the school community, to improve student learning, achievement and well-being.

The OLMC School Council is a dynamic and integral part of this school community. All parents are encouraged to become involved with School Council. As vital members of this school community, your involvement and input are encouraged to help meet the needs of all our children.

Through the organization of various social and community building events as well as fundraising efforts, this group of dedicated members has supported the purchase of a variety of school and student resources.

OLMC School Council meets on a regular basis and all meetings are open to parents/guardians from our school community. All meeting dates will be announced in our monthly newsletter. Please look for our School Council table during the Welcome Back BBQ and Open House on September 26<sup>th</sup> to learn more.

If you are interested in serving on Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School Council as a Voting Parent Member and you cannot make it to the meeting, or you would like more information, please contact Ms. Karen Moran or Chair, Jennifer Barry directly by Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Our first School Council Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons. All are welcome to attend!

## Students Receiving Medication

The necessary forms for pupils receiving medication during the school day must be completed and returned prior to medication being administered at school. This also includes Ep-iPens and inhalers. Please contact the school secretary if you require additional copies. If we are unaware of your child's medical needs, please let us know as soon as possible. We require Parent/Guardian signed authorization and a Physician's statement **for each school year**. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **French Fun Facts DID YOU KNOW?**

Students who speak several languages will increase their chances of finding a job, whether at home or abroad. Learning another language enriches the mind and opens up new horizons, both personal and professional.

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

Again, welcome back to OLMC! We look forward to a great school year by living our mission of developing a school community of love, learning and respect by living Christian values and nurturing every student's growth. Together we are called to demonstrate faith that loves, forgives, lives the Gospel and rejoices!

