

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2017

# SISTER CATHERINE DONNELLY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**“Sister Catherine Donnelly Catholic School strives towards instilling lifelong learning skills and personal excellence based on the foundation of faith, school and community support”**

Mr. Zulian -Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

Jan.17	CSCC meeting at 6:30pm
Jan.23	Pasta Lunch Order Forms due
Jan.26	Gr. 4, 5, 5/6 & 6/7 classes to visit Georgian College to see Lion King Jr. performance
Jan.30	Grade 8 Graduation Pictures
Jan.30 – Feb.10	Candy gram sales
Jan. 31	Good News Assembly- 11:20am
Feb. 3	P.A. Day
Feb.16	Grade 7 Immunizations French Café 1:15 -2:25pm
Feb.23	Barrie Colts game night
Feb.24	SCD Spirit Day
Feb. 28	Good News Assembly 9:30am
Mar.1	Ash Wednesday



Jesus said, “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding the one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it” (Matthew 13:45 - 46).

*Imagine spending your whole life searching for the most precious pearl. When you finally find it, how would you recognize it? Would searching for pearls help you learn something about them? What if we were to search in every situation, every moment in our lives, for the precious pearl that is the kingdom of God here on earth? Then, when we finally have eyes to see it, what must we “sell” before we can finally “buy” it? What can selling and buying even mean when we’re speaking about the kingdom of God? Surely Jesus doesn’t mean that we need money in order to “buy” the kingdom? If that were so, only rich people could be saved.*

*In the parable of the precious pearl, “selling” means to give up other, lesser pearls. But why would the merchant need to give up something that brings him happiness? Is it possible that spending our attention and love on things that won’t last cannot make us truly and deeply happy? How do we then “buy” the kingdom? Can we keep back any little part of ourselves and still enter the kingdom of our God, the one who gives us all?*

### **Safe Arrival**

The Safe Arrival Program at our school is to ensure the safety of all students placed within our care. If your child will be absent and/or late, we ask that you contact the school at 705-726-1221 before 9:00 am. If you are not able to speak to a person, our school answering machine is on 24 hours per day to accept your message. **On bus cancellation days if your child is a walker or out of boundary and will not be attending, please leave a safe arrival message. We have to make numerous calls and the attendance is not completed until 11:00 am.** Email safe arrival messages are also available. To leave an e-mail message, please visit our school website at [scd.schools.smcdsb.on.ca](http://scd.schools.smcdsb.on.ca), at the Quick Links menu pick safe arrival form and follow the instructions. Thank you for your assistance in sharing the responsibility of the safety of all children with us.



### **Winter Conditions**

Please be advised that during cold spells we will monitor the appropriateness of the students being outside. Our general rule of thumb, provided by the Health Unit, is that during cold weather periods, if the temperature is  $-25\text{ C}$  or colder, or the wind chill factor is  $-28\text{ C}$  or below, students are to remain indoors. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Snow pants, hats, warm boots and mittens are essential as the students are outside for up to twenty-five minutes during recess.

### **Snowballs**

During the winter months, it is essential to leave all snow on the ground in the interest of student safety. **Throwing or kicking snow at others is not acceptable behaviour for students at our school.**

### **Inclement Weather Arrangements**

If hazardous road conditions prevail before the school day begins, Sinton Transit, the company providing bus services for our school, will inform of any bus route cancellations prior to 7:00 a.m. on the following radio stations: ROCK 95 (FM), CHAY (93.1 FM) and B101.1 (101.1 FM).



We are in the "Central Region".

On such days, the school will be open at 8:44 a.m. to receive children. The decision to send children to school rests with the parent or guardian. The understanding is that the parent/guardian is responsible for transportation on these days when the buses are not running and are expected to pick up their children at 3:20 p.m. If the school should close early, the students will be sent home or to the predetermined location we have on record at the school. If that information is not provided, students will remain at the school until the parents pick them up.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Each year at this time, we start our planning for September's accommodation and staffing needs. If you have a son or daughter starting kindergarten for the first time, please call Mrs. Janette Prisciak, our school office administrator. For children starting Junior Kindergarten for the first time, they must be born in 2013 thereby making them 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2017. Children starting Senior Kindergarten for the first time, and who have not attended Junior Kindergarten, must be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2017. Please bring this to the attention of all friends and relatives within our school boundaries with children at home attending kindergarten for the first time. The parent or parents of students being registered must be Roman Catholic to be eligible to support the school board and will be asked to provide a copy of their baptismal certificate. A Kindergarten Information Meeting will be scheduled for the spring. The date of this meeting will be announced in an upcoming newsletter. **Registration forms will be available in February 2017.**



**The Grade 8 Graduation pictures will be taken on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Boys should be dressed in a shirt and tie and girls should be dressed in a white or off-white blouse. Proofs will be sent home for package selection.**

Sister Catherine Donnelly Catholic School is part of the Barrie Colts Adopt - A - School Program. Our game night is February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Barrie Colts will be playing the Hamilton Bulldogs. Please mark this date on your calendar. More information will be sent home at a later date.



### **The Social Justice Team**

The Social Justice Team will be selling candy grams from January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 10<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds from the candy grams will go to the Global Commitment Initiative to support clean water and sanitation in Ecuador. Candy grams are 3 for \$1.00 or \$0.50 each.

### **Scent- Free School**

Staff, students, and visitors are asked to avoid coming to Sister Catherine Donnelly wearing scented products that may trigger an allergic reaction. Our policy is to ask a person who enters the school wearing fragrance to wait outside of the main doors. If students come to school with a fragrance, we may need to call a parent to pick them up. Each time an individual who has this allergy is exposed to a fragrance the reaction becomes more severe; therefore it is important that we all work together to make our school a safe environment for all.