

St. David School



DORCHESTER

ST. DAVID CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER, 2008

NEWSLETTER

“Learning in the Name of the Lord”

Our Website: www.ldcsb.on.ca

Click on Schools: Click on St. David School

Principal: Susanne Schulert-Quenneville

Secretary: Pam Xuereb

Telephone: (519) 660-2779 Fax: (519) 660-2779

Principal Welcome:

On behalf of the staff at St. David, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you back to a new school year as well as to welcome any new families to our community. I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer filled with fond memories of time spent with family and friends.

I am very excited about becoming a part of this new school community and my goal as Principal is to serve the students, parents and staff of this community to the best of my ability. I have had the pleasure of meeting with staff and numerous members of the community and I think we are very fortunate to have so many people interested in serving the community and helping to ensure that the children of St. David not only receive a great education but that they develop to their full potential in all aspects of their life: spiritually, socially, physically, and academically. I am very humbled to work with such wonderful and dedicated people.

I have recently come to St. David after having returned from being on a maternity leave. Prior to my maternity leave I was the only administrator and the SPST at St. Thomas More, which was previously one of our twinned sites. My husband Craig is a teacher within our Board and we have a five-year old daughter named Chloe and a son, Keaghan who is 15 months old.

Over the course of the summer we have had a few staffing changes that I think you will want to know about. A number of staff continue to be on leaves for a variety of reasons and we hope they are well. Those who continue to be on leave are:

Mr. John Maycock
Ms. Irene McManus

In addition, Sarah Cashier has accepted a full-time position at St. Robert and Carol McMahan has accepted a full-time position at St. Anthony French Immersion. We wish both of these teachers well in the coming year.

Joining our team at St. David are:

Mr. Robert Fijal for Ms. Casier, Mr. Nathan Stout for Mrs. McMahan, Miss Da Silva is in for Mr. Maycock while he is on temporary leave and Ms. Paula Batista-Borrowman will join us while Ms. McManus gradually returns to work.

I hope that you will take a moment to welcome each of our new staff members to this wonderful community as well as to come and introduce yourself to me as I would very much like to meet each of you.

In the first week of school, each student in Grades 1 to 8 will receive an agenda. The agenda is designed to assist students in keeping their homework and assignments organized as well as to track academic performance. In addition, the agenda is a key component in maintaining the lines of communication open between the home and school. The cost of the agenda is \$6.00 per student and may be given to your child's teacher within the first two weeks of school.

In closing, we pray for a healthy, happy, school year filled with opportunities not only to work with you, but, opportunities for each child to discover and develop the gifts God has bestowed upon them, in an enriched environment that fosters mutual respect, kindness and faith.

Sincerely,

Susanne Schulert-Quenneville,

SCHOOL HOURS

8:55 a.m.	Morning bell
9:00 a.m.	Classes begin
10:25-10:40 a.m.	Morning recess
12:00- 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
2:20 – 2:35 p.m.	Recess
3:30	Dismissal

2006-2007 St. David Staff

Principal	Susanne Schulert-Quenneville
Secretary	Pam Xuereb
JK/K	Denise Zuk
JK/K	Mary Lynn Dewancker
1 / 2	Keelan Di Trolio
1 / 2	Ellen Lynch
3	Tracy Blay
3/4	Michelle Lewis
4 / 5	Vanessa Da Silva/John Maycock
5 / 6	Karen Kinahan
6	Laurie Gall and Robert Fijal
7	Nathan Stout
8	Patty Friedrich
Music	Katie Kelly

French	Sonia DiMurro Angela Drummond
Librarian	Linda Jemmett
SPST	Wendy Shannon
Educational Assistants	Joanne Stewart Irene McManus/ Paula Batista-Borrowman Jen Bilger Debbie Muck Helen Jones Jen Hare Joan Cooper Meggan Schnarr-Rice Margaret Robertson Elizabeth Ross
Custodians	Scott Shute (Charge) Ken Crits (Night)

Important Notice

Please note, our school phone and fax numbers are as follows:

Telephone# (519) 660-2779
Fax # (519) 660-2779

REMINDERS

Tuesday, September 9 – 7:00 pm
School Council Meeting – Voting in of the New Council

Tuesday, September 16 - 5:30 – 7:30
Meet the Staff

Middlesex-London Health Unit
Vaccination Clinic Dates

HEP B and Meningococcal C for Gr.7
Wednesday, October 9 – 10:30 (1st dose)
Thursday, Apr. 16, 2009 – 10:30 (2nd Hep B)

ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Please remember to call St. David School when your child will be away or late for school (519) 660-2779. We have an

answering machine to record your call at any time of the day or night.

We ask parents to sign out students leaving early and sign in students coming into school late. As well, visitors to the school during the school day are asked to sign in and out. This will assist the staff with tracking the activities of students and other individuals coming into and leaving the school.

ALLERGY ALERT

Several students at St. David have life-threatening food allergies. We are asking for your support and cooperation as you chose snacks and lunches. St. David is a PEANUT-FREE school, so please do not send any foods that contain peanuts or nut products. Also, help your child to remember to wash their hands and brush their teeth before coming to school if they have had any peanut products at home.

ANAPHYLAXIS INFORMATION

If you have a child with a life-threatening allergy and would like more information about the use of the epi-pen as well as reasons why students with life-threatening allergies should have one on their person at all times, please contact the school as we will set up an information session for interested parents with our School Health Nurse, Kelly McMahon.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Our first school celebration of the Eucharist is Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 9:30 at Mary Immaculate Parish. We would like to invite all families to attend our opening school mass.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student Accident Insurance brochures will be sent home with each child and are available in the school office. Enrolment in the plan is strictly voluntary and at the discretion of the parent/guardian.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL AGENDAS

Our new students Catholic agendas are on sale. The cost to each student will be \$6.00. We ask that each student in Grades 1 – 8 purchase an agenda and use it daily to record homework and school activities. Parents are asked to use the pocket at the front of the agendas to send notes to school (i.e. hot lunch and milk order forms, newsletters etc.)

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

At the outset of each new school year school councils hold elections. If you would like to become a member of our school council, please fill in Nomination Form and submit it to the office by Monday, Sept.8. Our first school council meeting where we will vote in our School Council Executive will be Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 7 pm.

DENTAL SCREENING

As part of School Health Services in schools served by the Middlesex-London Health Unit, registered dental hygienists from the Middlesex-London Health Unit do annual dental screenings in certain grades. If you do not wish your child to be involved with this health unit program, please write a note to your child's teacher informing them of your wishes.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We welcome Yvonne Bozik, Program Supervisor and Frances Hamer, Program Assistant of the London School Age Program, to St. David School. Any questions pertaining to this program can be directed to the London Children's Connection at 471-4300, Ext. 247. This program operates out of the Learning Lab.

PLEASE, KEEP US INFORMED!

We will be sending our blue Student Verification Forms home. Please review these forms and carefully update any information that has changed and return the form to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Be sure to include one or two emergency contacts with phone numbers in case a parent cannot be reached in an emergency. Also, please fill out the attached form to let us know if you can help with calling parents in the event of an emergency situation (e.g. buses leaving early due to a snow storm).

SCHOOL YARD SUPERVISION REMINDER !!!

Staff is assigned supervision duty in the schoolyard beginning at 8:40 a.m. each school day. Students need to arrive after 8:40 a.m. to ensure that they are supervised.

QSP MAGAZINE DRIVE

Our QSP Magazine drive will begin at the end of September. The assembly to introduce new incentives and to inform students about the magazine drive will be on Monday, Sept. 29. If you have some 'hard to buy for' people on your Christmas list, this is the perfect gift idea!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Our first PD Day will take place Friday, Oct. 3. Students will have the day off school but staff will be working hard on our school improvement plan and ways to improve student learning.

MILK AND JUICE ORDERS

Included in this newsletter are the order forms for milk and juice. If you would like your child to have milk or juice at lunch, please fill in the forms and return them by Monday, Sept. 9.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Each year St. David hosts many activities and events and in order for these to be the success that they are we require the assistance of volunteers. If you are able to volunteer your time in ANY capacity at St. David, please let us know. We are always looking for volunteers for the library, reading with young children and having them read to you, hot lunches, referees for sporting events, assisting on the yard at lunch hour, etc. Any person who volunteers to work with children requires a police check. If you already have a police check at the school, Mrs. Xuereb will be sending home an Offence Declaration form for you to fill out. If you do not already have a form at the school, please contact Mrs. Xuereb at the school to receive the forms and a letter from me stating that you are looking to volunteer your time. You would then bring to the police station the forms and the letter and the cost of the police check is free.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our annual Terry Fox Run is Friday, Sept. 26. Students will be collecting pledges in order to raise money for this exceptional event and cause. We'd like to thank Mrs. Kinahan and her Gr. 5/6 class for taking the lead on this event. Stay tuned for more details!

ONTARIO EARLY YEARS GUEST SPEAKER: DAVID BOOTH

The Ontario Early Years Centre of Elgin-Middlesex-London is presenting David Booth on Tuesday, Sept. 16 starting at 6:30 at the Salvation Army, in St. Thomas. David will be speaking regarding literacy and young children. All families are invited to attend. Tickets are \$10 per person. For more information call 519-631-9496.

HEALTH AND SAFETY – SUN EXPOSURE

Just a reminder that even though we are entering the fall season, ultra-violet rays continue to remain high, especially during the first few weeks of the school year. I would like to remind parents that the use of sunscreen and hats are still recommended, especially during the lunch hour when children are outside for a longer period of time.