



**St. Catherine of Siena
Catholic School**
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Principal: Ms.. L. Smith
Vice-Principal:
Mrs. C. Anthony

Mission Statement
With a pioneering spirit we, the Community of St. Catherine of Siena, are dedicated to fostering a learning environment that encourages academic excellence, faith expression, leadership and the celebration of



our individual gifts.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School

**Wash your hands
often !!**

Update # 29

Update for Feb. 18, 2010

Smart board Pilot Project

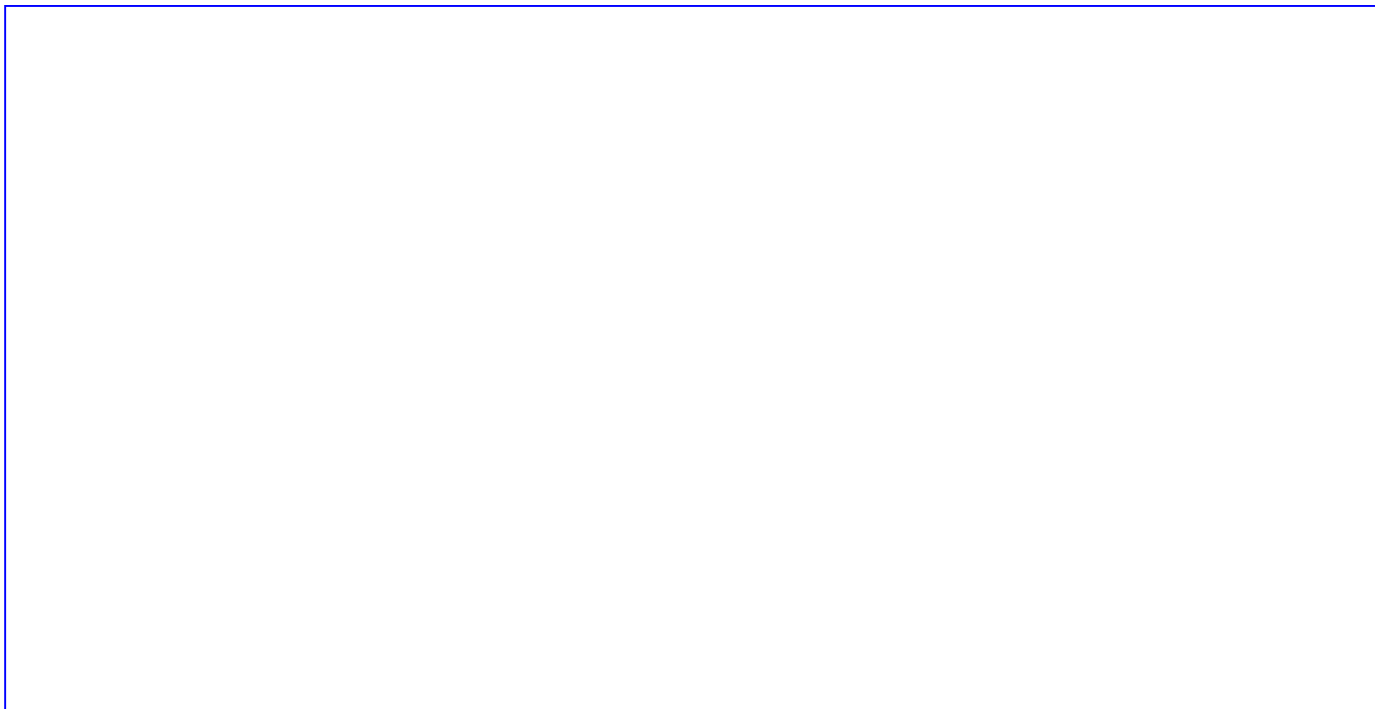
Since the installation of smart boards last week, we have had questions about possible future installations. This is a pilot project with the initial selection of classrooms based on those teachers who had expressed interest in smart boards in the past and who have had experience using this technology. With their knowledge and enthusiasm, the plan is to train other teachers who are interested in this tool and then look at ordering more boards. This is a very costly project as each board with installation costs between \$4000.00 and \$5000.00. Our School Board does not provide funds for this so placing a board in every classroom is a huge expense especially if staff are not familiar with the technology.

Initially, we had planned on a board for the library. However due to the setup of the library, we have to do some small adjustments to shelving areas in order to make it possible for the installation of the board in an appropriate place in the library. The library will be included in the next installments of boards. All classes will have access to this board.

As we move forward with this project, we would appreciate your patience and understanding of the enormity of this plan. Our teachers are at different stages of understanding of this technology and the training takes time. We anticipate that with costs and training, we are looking at at least a 2, possibly 3 year time line to equip all classrooms if our pilot project is a success. We want to make sure that everyone is comfortable with the technology and that we have the technical support to correct any issues that may arise with the use of the boards. The School Board is able to provide tech support for computer connections to the boards. All other concerns are corrected by Duplicom, the company we purchase the boards from. Any issues with the boards that occur outside of warranty coverage are at the expense of the school. The hope would be that these would be minimal costs as this would impact our school budget.

If you have any questions, please contact the office.

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Cakewalk and Heart and Stroke Fundraising News

Thank you to Mrs. Bancroft, Mrs. Traher and their volunteer group who successfully ran our Valentine Cakewalk Fundraiser on behalf of our School Council. We raised over one thousand dollars with this cake walk. Special thanks to all of our parents and grandparents who baked up a storm for this event! If presentation is everything, we certainly had a bakery of delights available for this event.

We are also pleased to announce that we collected \$450.00 for the Heart and Stroke foundation. This was done by our Student Parliament and we thank them for organizing our Red and White day in honour of this foundation as well as Valentines Day!

Carnival Week Excitement

This has been a very exciting week with many different activities taking place to celebrate Carnival ! Our tubing day on Monday was a great success with our students from Gr. 4 to 8 having a blast tubing out at St. Mary's. We were very impressed with the number of students and staff who took on the challenge of walking back up the hill instead of taking the tube ride. Great cardio workouts for those who took the challenge. It was early to bed on Monday night for many of our staff and kids !!

Tomorrow is skating day for our Primary classes. We wish them a fun adventure on skates.

Jersey Day and Go Bananas Day

Tomorrow, Friday Feb. 19 is Jersey Day. Jerseys may be worn over uniform pieces. Our Go Bananas Day has been moved to next Thursday February 25. Students are encouraged to wear yellow and bring a banana as a healthy snack.

Hot Lunch Update

Just a reminder that our hot lunch and milk program began the second round on Monday of this week. Thanks to Mrs. Ryken and Mrs Wiseman and their team of volunteers for their support in this venture.

Dates to Remember

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| Feb. 22 | School Council mtg. at 6:30 p.m. |
| Feb. 25 | Go Bananas Day |
| Feb. 26 | Last Friday of month dress down day for students |
| Mar. 1 | Gymnastics meet |
| Mar. 1 | Healthy School comm.mtg. at 3:30 |
| Mar. 3 | School Mass in gym at 9:30 a.m. |
| Mar. 13- 21 | March Break |
| Mar. 26 | Second term report cards go home |
| Mar. 26 | Junior Hockey tournament |
| Mar. 29-30 | Dental screening for JK, SK,Gr. 2 and Gr. 8 |
| Apr. 2 | Good Friday |
| April 5 | Easter Monday |
| April 7 | Easter Mass at St. Michael's Church at 10:00 a.m. |