

April 2016

J A M E S C U L N A N C A T H O L I C S C H O O L

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Principal's Message

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J A M E S C U L N A N
C A T H O L I C
S C H O O L
A D V I S O R Y
C O U N C I L

OUR NEXT
MEETING WILL
BE ON TUESDAY,
APRIL 5TH AT
7:00 PM

ALL ARE
WELCOME TO
ATTEND!

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Spring has finally arrived! At long last, we welcome longer days, warmer temperatures, and a greening landscape. With the season's sense of newness and rebirth, and with Easter still in our hearts, we are reminded that God's love is stronger than death itself, and that hope blooms in the hearts of all.

How appropriate that our Virtue of the Month for April is Justice, as Jesus gave his life for the sake of the unjust. But justice is also an important part of Catholic teaching beyond Christ's death and resurrection. The need to be just comes from the obligation to respect the dignity of every human person. This dignity comes from being created in God's image. Failing to respect human dignity, including failing to do justice, is a failure to respect the image of God in others.

So many initiatives and activities have taken place at James Culnan this year which bring to life the theme of justice. As in this month's quote, "*Let justice flow like a stream, and righteousness like a river that never goes dry.*" (Amos 5:24), we will continue to demonstrate our gospel values in both word and action. With much planned in the final few months of school, I wish to thank the many staff members, students, and parents, who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to putting our faith into action.

I look forward to a continued collaboration as we work to ensure that James Culnan remains a leader in the academic, social, and spiritual development of our students.

Regards,
Stephen Dempsey
Principal

Leonor Goncalves
Vice Principal



ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT
Allergen-Aware Environment

Please take special note that we have children in our school who have a very serious, **life-threatening allergy to tree nuts, peanuts, all nut/peanut products, all seafood products**, called Anaphylaxis. We are notifying all parents that students **should not bring any nuts, peanuts, peanut butter or any food containing nuts or peanut products such as peanut oil, sesame seeds, etc., as well as any seafood products to school.**



SCHOOL BUSES

Please note that if your child is registered to ride the school bus, he or she must ride the school bus and not take the liberty to walk home on any given day. **All students on buses must ride the buses to and from school every day.**



SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM -
STUDENT ILLNESS OR ABSENTEEISM

If your child is to be away from school for any reason, always call the school by 8:30 in the morning to report the absence. If calling after-hours, you can record the child's name, grade, teacher, and reason for the absence, on the school's voicemail. As well, our secretary, Ms. Curcic will also accept e-mail notification of an absence. You can email the absence information to: susan.curcic@tcdsb.org.

If you are picking up your child early, please be sure to report to the office to sign them out. If you are returning before the end of the day, please sign your child back in at the office.

If children are not feeling well, please give them an opportunity to recuperate at home. It is assumed that if children are well enough to be at school, they are also well enough to take part in recess. Children need time to get some fresh air and stretch their muscles. If they are dressed properly, they will be able to do this in comfort. Also, please ensure we have a current emergency number where you can be contacted.

NOTICE

**ALL VISITORS
MUST REGISTER
AT OFFICE**

**VISITING THE
SCHOOL**

We value the importance of making James Culnan a welcoming place for our parent community.

This, of course, has to be balanced with the school's obligation to ensure a safe environment for all students. When visiting the school, **always report immediately to the office.** Never travel the halls or go to classrooms without first getting permission from Ms. Curcic or Mr. Dempsey.

PARISH CONNECTIONS

Our next school Mass will be held on Thursday, April 21st at 9:15 a.m. Mass is held at St. James Church, 728 Annette St. All parents and family members are welcome to attend.

The sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated at St. James Church on April 3rd and April 10th at 2:00 p.m.

Autism Awareness

James Culnan will celebrate World Autism Awareness Day on Friday, April 1st. A whole-school assembly will take place at 12:30, during which students will dance in unison to the song We Are Family by Sister Sledge. The children have been working hard at learning the dance steps, and are excited to come together as a community in support of an important campaign.

On this day, all students are encouraged to wear blue as a sign of solidarity.

World Autism
Awareness Day





PARKING

Given our growing enrolment and limited number of parking spaces, a reminder to all that the lots on both the North and South side of the school are for staff only. As a recommendation, there is little vehicle congestion on Windermere Avenue in the morning, making it an ideal location to park. if escorting your child into the school.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

When dropping off and/or picking up your child(ren) from school, kindly refrain from parking “left wheels to curb”

Crossing into the wrong lane to park is extremely dangerous and puts members of our community at risk.

If you want to park on the school-side of the road, approach from the South on Willard Ave., or from the North on Windermere Ave.

Also, be sure to park outside of the designated “Bus Loading Zones” and do not block neighbours’ driveways.

PUNCTUALITY



Punctuality is a characteristic and life skill we strongly encourage at James Culnan. It is important that a child develops this responsibility early in life for it will serve him/her well in years to come. For all aged children, it is the responsibility of the parent(s) to ensure they get to school on time. Students must arrive to school before the 8:30 a.m. bell, and be present, in-line with his/her class, when the school bell rings.

NEWS FROM PARENT COUNCIL

A big thank you to all who came out on March 2nd, to see Jennifer Kolari speak about Connected Parenting. **Stay tuned for our next speaker on Internet Safety in May.**

On April 5th there will be another round of Parent Council sponsored lice checks. Please contact the office if you need to borrow a lice removal comb.

Our annual Multicultural Potluck will be on April 29th - hope to see everyone there! More information regarding what to bring will be sent home shortly. We will also be selling Spirit Wear later in April, which can be worn as part of the uniform.

The next Parent Council meeting is April 5th at 7:00 pm, please join us!

James Culnan Community Fun Fair will take place on Thursday, June 16. Come one, come all!

Plant a tree in honour of Earth Day on April 22, 2016. Direct contact with trees helps people (especially children) learn about nature, which is much needed in our urban environment. Forests also support up to 80% of terrestrial biodiversity and play a vital role in safeguarding the climate by sequestering carbon.



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