

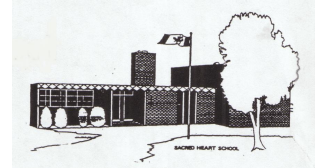
Sept. 4, 2007

HTTP://WWW2.HPCDSB.EDU.ON.CA/~SACREDHEART



## Sacred Heart School

225 Cornyn St.  
Wingham, On.  
N0G 2W0



Phone: 357-1090 or 357-2289 Issue 1



### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Sacred Heart School. It is with great excitement that we begin the 2007-08 school year. The upcoming year promises to be a very exciting one with much to look forward to and many new beginnings for myself and all our new families and staff members who have joined our school community.

The staff looks forward to supporting and guiding students in their educational journey throughout this year. Our present student enrolment is 147.

In addition to myself we have 2 new staff members joining us. Teresa Roelands and Liza Weiler have come to us from St. Joseph's in Clinton. Miss Roelands is our Grade 2 teacher and Mrs. Weiler our Grade 3-4 teacher.

The theme that we have chosen as our guiding principle for this school year is **WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?** This theme reminds us that every decision we make should be based on what Jesus would do in a similar situation. If we all constantly treat others in the way we would want to be treated, we will have a joyful and peaceful school. We look forward to Father John Johnson, our Parish Priest, spiritually guiding us through our upcoming school year.

Our first outreach project for the year will be the school Terry Fox Run that will be held on **Friday, September 14th at 11:30.** Students are asked to bring a donation on this day for the Canadian Cancer Society. This year marks the 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Terry Fox Run. Parents and community members are invited to come out and join us for this important event.

There are four main initiatives that the school will focus on this coming school year. We hope that with the help and support of staff, students and parents, we can work on developing the following areas:

1. Students and staff will always let their thoughts, words and actions, in all situations, be based on our school theme of what Jesus would do in a similar situation.
2. The Expert Panels will guide our instruction in all areas of the curriculum with particular emphasis on Literacy across all subjects.
3. We will focus on developing ways to bring Differentiated Instruction to the classroom so that we recognize all forms of intelligences.
4. Students and teachers will focus their learning on knowing the students starting points and planning instruction on daily assessments of the students. Staff and students will support the board theme of "Stewards of Creation."

I wish everyone a happy and successful school year and look forward to working with each and every one of you. Please take time to read the directors letter of welcome attached  
**Jackie Simpson**

### OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Our beginning of the year school Mass will be celebrated by Father John on **Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.** We thank our parents and community members who join us for special events.

### SCHOOL HOURS

8:50	School begins
10:30 – 10:45	Morning recess
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch break
2:10 – 2:25	Afternoon recess
3:25	Dismissal

\* Please note the change in the afternoon bell time.

**Our staff for the 2007/08 school year is listed below. We welcome our new staff members to our school community with enthusiasm and support.**

### **Teaching Staff**

JK/SK	Linda McKay
Grade 1	Mary Skinn
Grade 2	Teresa Roelands/Camilla Ippolito
Grade 3/4	Liza Weiler
Grade 4/5	Dave Cann
Grade 6/7	Kathy Waecher
Grade 7/8	Laura Kaufman
Resource	Kelly Anderson
French	Camilla Ippolito
Music	Nancy Ross
Principal	Jackie Simpson
Literacy Resource	Patti Welsh

### **Support Staff**

Parish Priest	Fr. John Johnson
Educational Assistant	Liz Allan
Librarian	Paula Mackie
Noon Hour Monitors	Dianne Grummett, Ken Kaufman
Secretary	Annette Marks
Custodians	George & Barb Martlevitz

### **IMPORTANT UPDATES**

#### **Health & Safety**

Due to the Anaphylactic allergy of one of our students, our Kindergarten classroom is designated as a nut safe zone. This means students in Kindergarten must try not bring food to school that contains nuts or nut traces. The only restrictions for the rest of the school is that all food must be consumed in the classrooms. No food is to be eaten outside or in the hallways.

#### **Sun Safety**

Please be advised that the over exposure to the sun even in the month of September can be harmful. Please ensure your child comes with proper sun protection.

#### **Healthy Living**

Our school is committed to providing the healthiest environment possible for our students. The way we do this is through DPA – daily physical activity. Every class will be engaged in a minimum of 20 minutes of physical activity. This activity may be part of regular phy.ed. periods or may take place in the classroom.

#### **Healthy Eating**

All students are encouraged to bring healthy food choices to school. Healthy snacks are mandatory at first recess and highly recommended at all snack times. We

recognize the consumption of water as a healthy life style choice. Water bottles containing only water are allowed in classrooms.

### **Safe Schools Reminder**

The Safe School's legislations have been in effect for the past few years. The purpose of this legislation was to ensure that our schools are a safe place where our children can come without fear of physical or verbal harassment. Sacred Heart is a school to be proud of. It is a school where students have the right to feel safe. This year Sacred Heart will focus on having all students and staff treat others with dignity and respect at all times, especially in the area of verbal interaction. Insults, name-calling, teasing, racial, religious or ethnic slurs, joking at the expense of others, sexist statements or jokes, obscene gestures are all forms of verbal abuse and bullying. **The above actions will not be tolerated and students will be disciplined.** Discipline measures could include any of the following actions: removal of school privileges, school suspensions, and referrals to counseling agencies and Police involvement. It is hoped that close vigilance in this area will make Sacred Heart an even better place to be.

Please take time to read the two brochures attached that deal with these very important issues.

### **CONTACTING TEACHERS AND VISITING THE SCHOOL.**

Open communication between home and school is a very important component of a successful school. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have a concern. Please don't let an issue escalate beyond repair. It is more effective to problem- solve together at an early stage.

Teachers can be contacted by phone. Please call the school office, and the secretary will take your name and number and the teacher will return your call at one of the following times.

8:30 - 8:50 a.m.

12:20 - 12:55 p.m.

3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Visitors to the school are welcome, especially parents. If you wish to meet with a teacher we would appreciate you making arrangements with the teacher at least a day in advance to avoid complications.

All visitors please report their presence to the Main Office so that no unauthorized persons are in our building.

### **Internet Use Permission**

Please find attached the Student Internet Permission Form. It is very important to read this carefully, sign and return to school as soon as possible. Students **will not** be able to access the internet at school until the form is returned. **Please Note:** Students from K-3 are only allowed to utilize internet sites which have been book marked by their teacher.

**CONSENT FOR THE USE AND DISCLOSURE OF ROUTINE STUDENT INFORMATION (This form was obtained from all students who attended a Huron Perth Catholic School in the 2006-07 school year).**

Please note this form will stay on file in your child's Ontario Student Record while your child(ren) are students with this board. If at any time you wish to adjust your permissions, or if you have any questions regarding your child's personal information, please contact the school. If you require a copy of the letter that was on the back of the consent form, please request one at the school office. New families complete this form at registration.

**STUDENT PERMISSION FORMS**

Throughout the school year students take part in many educational and sporting outings. These outings require signed permission forms. **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL OUTINGS UNLESS A SIGNED PERMISSION FORM IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE EVENT.** If you are aware of an upcoming event and have not received a permission form, please write a note in your child's planner or contact the school.

**Please note:** Students are not allowed to leave school property at lunch recess unless they have a dated and signed note.

Students who regularly walk home for lunch simply require one note at the beginning of the year indicating the parents permission for their child to walk home regularly for lunch.

**SAFE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

Together with the gathering of pertinent data, follow-up actions are critical to the safe arrival of our children. Please follow the procedures below to ensure the safety of your children.

**Safe Arrival – A.M. AND P.M.**

Please notify the school by phone (or note) **before 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.** if your child will be late or absent from school in the morning or afternoon. (The answering machine can be used anytime day or night).

**Arriving late or leaving early**

Please ensure that your child(ren) announce their arrival at school to the office when arriving later than 9 a.m. If they are leaving school earlier than regular dismissal time they must stop at the office to advise the secretary of their early departure.

**Early Dismissal/ No bus ride home today!**

If your child will be leaving the school before our regular 3:25 dismissal time, we require verbal or written verification by the parent including the name of the person who is picking up the student (Board Policy). **Please try to call well before the buses are due to leave if at all possible.**

**Administering medicine at school**

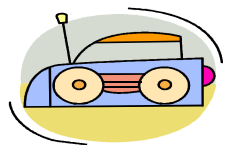
Parents are reminded that medicine can only be sent to school and administered to children at school if the parent delivers the medicine and completes an Assistance With Students Medical Needs Form. For safety reasons, students should never carry medicine with them in their lunch pails or backpacks. Please contact the school if you need a form sent home.

**Student Phone Use**

Students may use the school telephone in the event of an emergency. Calling home to get permission to go to a friends house, to go out for lunch or to have homework dropped off will not be permitted. Thank you for helping us to help your child be organized.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO A SCHOOL EMERGENCY OR INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Parents are reminded to listen to CKNX Wingham FM 102, and AM 920 for details regarding school closures. The reports run just prior to CKNX's newscasts at 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8 and 8:30 a. m. Please note that our school will always be referred to as Sacred Heart School, Wingham.. Also, you can check the Board website for the earliest reports at [www.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca)



**TRANSPORTATION HOME**



Buses will leave the school grounds at approximately 3:25 p.m. Students who do not ride the school bus will remain at the bus loading zone until the buses have pulled out safely. Busses will unload and load students at the east end of the facility. Students are to disembark and walk around the north end of the school into the playground area.

**Walkers:**

Students walking to our school are asked to stay on the sidewalks at all times to ensure safety. Walkers will be dismissed after buses have left.

### Use of main entrance:

**All students must use the student entrances for entering and exiting the school.** Students are not allowed to use the main entrance unless they are arriving late to school or accompanied by an adult. Staff, parents and guests to the school are the only people allowed to use the main front entrance. **All parents and guests must report to the main office immediately upon entering the school.**

**Please note:** Students are **not allowed** to travel on any bus other than their own unless a Request for Alternate Transportation Form has been completed and approved (for babysitting purposes only or if it is an emergency situation).

Bike safety is also extremely important. Students riding bikes to school are urged to obey all bike safety rules.

### **OPEN HOUSE/POT LUCK MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT**

Our open house evening will be held on **Wednesday, September 19th at 6:00 p.m.** until 8:00 p.m. We will begin with a potluck dinner in the gym followed by an informal meet the teacher night and a leisurely tour of the classrooms.

Please bring your own plates, cutlery and enough food to feed your family. **We are hoping that this is a great community “kick off” to the new school year.**



### **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

The Scholastic Book Fair will begin on September 14<sup>th</sup> and run until September 20<sup>th</sup>. (The Scholastic Book Fair is available in the library to all families the night of our Open House as well). The Book Fair is a primary way to replace books for our school. Please support this great fundraiser.

### **NEW PROGRAMS RESOURCES/PROCEDURES**

**Text Books:** Many new textbooks have again been purchased for all the classrooms to aid teachers in the delivery of the Ontario Curriculum. These textbooks are expensive and must last for many years. Each student will be assigned a specific numbered textbook and will be responsible for that book for the duration of the year.

**Any loss or excessive damage to the book will be the responsibility of the student. Please encourage your child to care for any school materials they use.**

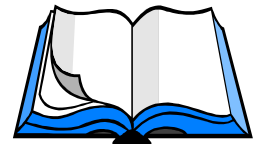
**Scissors and Rulers** These supplies are to be distributed like textbooks. Students are responsible for the care and return of the rulers and scissors distributed to them.

### **Conflict Resolution Program**

As one of our main objectives is to create a school without bullying, teachers will be using the Resource – Imagine A School Without Bullying to help create a safe, peaceful school for our students. We will also be implementing a weekly virtues program. The virtues are simply characteristics that we should try to develop to help us become like Jesus. On the monthly calendar the virtue that will be concentrated on each week will be noted. Please try to reinforce the development of this virtue at home as well.

### **School Planners**

These books are essential in helping students remain organized. It is mandatory that all students have a planner in grades 1-8. We apologize for some incorrect information in the student planner in regards to bell times. The planners were ordered before final changes occurred.



**The cost of the planner is \$5.00 per student, please send to school at your earliest convenience.**

### **LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWS**

Our Sacred Heart School Advisory Council will meet approximately 7 times throughout the year. Our meetings are Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Our first meeting will take place on **Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. At our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting we will be establishing the executive for the upcoming year. We deeply thank all those who serve our school community in this important capacity. We need new parents to serve on our Council. Should you be willing to sit on this extremely important committee please contact the school or any of our current Council members by Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Elections will take place at our September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please take this opportunity to be a valuable voice for our school community. I greatly look forward to working with the upcoming Council.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is an integral component in the curriculum. We ask that all students be prepared for Phys.Ed. with proper clothing and footwear for their

designated days. All students from grades 4-8 must have gym clothes to change into. Once again, students from grades 4-5 will be expected to buy the school gym uniform. These gym uniforms ensure all students are properly attired for gym class. More information on purchasing these uniforms will be sent to you. Uniforms will be available for viewing and purchasing on our Open House evening. Pre-worn uniforms will also be available in some sizes at reduced prices.

All students from grade 4/5-8 will be expected to be utilizing the uniform by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Students who currently own a gym uniform are expected to begin wearing it immediately.

### SPECIAL LUNCHES/MILK.

Once again we will be offering milk for sale daily and periodic pizza days. These programs are voluntary. Parents are asked to complete the attached form to order these items and return it and payment to school as soon as possible.

### NEWS CARRIERS

Our news carriers will be the oldest in the family. Please impress upon your son/daughter the importance of bringing to your attention all material sent home by the school. Parents of our younger students are asked to check your son/daughters school bag on a daily basis.

### REMINDERS

#### Shoes

It is asked that all students have a second pair of shoes at school to be used as "inside" shoes. Wearing the same shoes both inside and out creates unclean, slippery and unsafe floor conditions. From the months of October to May and on days that warrant it, it will be mandatory for all students to change their footwear upon entering the school.

**Please try to purchase white soled or no-marking running shoes.**

#### Toys

It is strongly recommended that students do not bring any electronic hand held games or expensive toys to school. With the number of students at school it is hard to ensure the safety and proper use of such toys.

### VOLUNTEERS/VOLUNTEERS/VOLUNTEERS

Parent and community volunteers are an essential resource to any school. They can make the difference between a good school and a great school. Research shows that a child's success at school is positively influenced by their parents' involvement with their school.



Volunteers can do any number of important tasks and are essential for an effectively run school. Some of the areas we currently are in need of volunteers are: library – to aid in maintaining neatness and orderliness.

Volunteers to work in the various classrooms with teachers and students. Volunteers to aid with special lunch days and also to help with office work. A volunteer form will soon be sent home. Please consider offering some time to this worthwhile endeavour.

### CHEERS

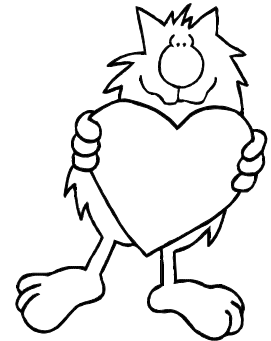
**Cheers** to all the teachers and Mrs. Marks who have been busy preparing for the upcoming year over the last several weeks.



**Cheers** to Mr. & Mrs. Marklevitz for all their hard work in preparing the school for the new school year.

**Cheers** to all the parents and guardians who took the time to answer the parent questionnaire distributed last June. Thanks for your input.

**Cheers** to Shirley McDougall for all the painting and sewing she did for the school over the summer.



### LOOKING AHEAD

- The school will hold a Terry Fox Fun on **Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**. Students are asked to bring a donation for the Canadian Cancer Society on this day.
- School Pot Luck/Open House on **September 19<sup>st</sup>**
- Mass at Church, **September 6th**
- Book Fair – **September 14-20<sup>th</sup>**
- Huron X Country Meet, here, grades 4-8 **Oct. 10th**
- Soccer Tourn. Grades 4-8, **September 27th**
- P.A. Day, **Oct. 3rd**, no school for students.
- Cross Country, **October 16th**
- School Photos will be held on **Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### HEAD LICE ALERT

Head lice are an ongoing possibility. Please continue to be vigilant in checking regularly, your child's hair for head lice. This is an unpleasant reality of life but if head lice are caught in their initial stages, they are much easier to eliminate and thus curbs the spread to other

children. If you detect, head lice, please let the school office know so that we can notify other parents in the class. Be assured, no names are ever given. If you require information on the treatment of head lice, please feel free to contact the school office or the Huron County Health Unit at 482 3416.

A new web site which contains a Fact Sheet on how lice live and feed, how to find them, and precautions to take regarding dangerous products is now available. There is information provided on high quality products, very effective in killing lice and nits, how to safely treat the infestation, and disinfecting the home and play area to prevent reinfestation. This website address is:

[www.webspawner.com/users/licefree/index.html](http://www.webspawner.com/users/licefree/index.html)

### **EARLY YEARS/BEST START**

The Early Years programme will once again be running their Tuesday & Thursday morning session in our school Kindergarten room.. This is an excellent school readiness programme for all young children from birth to kindergarten age.

### **BEST START PROGRAMME**

#### **Attention JK/SK to Kindergarten Parents:**

Sacred Heart is also very excited to be running a Best Start programme at our school. This child care programme is for JK/SK students in the Wingham area who wish to attend day care on non-school days. This is a wonderful opportunity for the North Huron Children's Centre and school to work together. Please contact Best Start at 519-357-2424 for more information on enrolling your child in this great experience.

### **Student Accident Insurance**

Please see the letter at the back of this newsletter regarding Student Accident Insurance. The actual package to purchase this insurance will be sent to you shortly.