



# FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



## St. Michael's Catholic School

St. Michael's School is a Peanut/Tree Nut Safe School

### Principal's Message

The month of February is filled with many celebrations. Together as a school community we are excited to celebrate Black History Month. Every February the students take time to celebrate the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities. This year's theme is "Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; A Future to Build". Lent also begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Christians commemorate the season of Lent as a preparation for the greatest feast in the Christian Church – Easter. We prepare with fasting and denial before the celebration of the paschal mystery of Easter. Lent is about altering one's mind-set toward whole new ways of thinking and acting, with prayer, care for our neighbour and repentance for our sins. We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 13th this year to honour Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Let's Celebrate Love: May you enjoy all the streams of love that flow into your life; The love from family and friends; The love from parents and children; The love from pets; And the love from God. Celebrate love all day long. For it is the breath of your existence. And the best of all reasons living. Mrs. Kerri Lomax, Principal



#### School Bell Times

**8:50am: School Begins**

#### 2nd Nutrition Break

**12:50-1:30pm**

#### 1st Nutrition Break

**10:30-11:10am**

#### School Dismissal

**3:10pm**

#### St. Michael's Catholic School

209 Alder St W

Dunnville, ON N1A 1R3

[www.stmichaeldunnville.ca](http://www.stmichaeldunnville.ca)

@stmccatholic

**ZONE 2**

Principal: Mrs. K. Lomax

Secretary: Mrs. M. Reidy

#### Absent or Late Students

If your child will be absent or late for school please call the office before 9:00am at 905-774-6052



#### Parish Information

St. Michael the Archangel

204 Alder St. W, Dunnville

905-774-6972

Father Josephat

All are welcome to attend:

Saturday - 5pm

Sunday- 8:30am or 10:30am

#### Board Website

[www.bhncdsb.ca](http://www.bhncdsb.ca)

Please view the Board's website for important information. The website includes calendars, Board Policies and other useful information

#### Follow Us on Twitter

See what's happening at St.

Michael's School

@stmccatholic





**Kindergarten Registration** runs until February 23....

If you have a child who will enter JK in September 2024 (born in 2020), you are eligible to register. Registration is online at CatholicEducation.ca until February 23. Please have photos of your child's birth certificate, baptismal certificate, and proof of address (driver's license are not acceptable) saved prior to starting the online registration. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the school at 905-774-6052

## Black History Month

BHNCDSB is committed to providing inclusive and equitable education. We want every student to feel welcomed and have every opportunity to excel, celebrate and create bright futures. The BHNCDSB theme for Black History Month is **"Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; A Future to Build"**. Focusing on Black excellence brings the outstanding and important achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and the communities to the forefront. These achievements and stories inspire all of us. February is a time to recognize, appreciate and value how Black Canadians have built our country and provided us with a culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous country. It also inspires us to build a positive future for all.



## Healthy Snack Donations

Please consider making a donation to this program. With the help of our amazing volunteers, St. Michael's offers healthy snacks to our students, three days week. Donations can be made online through our School Cash Online Program. We thank you for your support



## Pizza Days

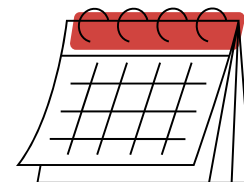
- February 1
- February 8
- February 15
- February 22
- February 29



## Mark your Calendars

### P.D Days

- April 19th
- June 3rd
- June 28th



### School Council Meetings

- February 26 @6:30pm

### Term 1 Reports

- February 5th

### Family Day

- February 19th

### March Break

- March 11th - March 15th

### Easter Celebrations

- Good Friday - March 29
- Easter Monday - April 1



## Ash Wednesday and Lent Offering

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024 and invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection. Although a solemn time, it is also a hopeful, expectant time of prayer and fasting before acknowledging and celebrating Jesus' death and then His subsequent resurrection on Easter. This year our school, along with fellow BHNCD SB schools will be participating in the Lent Campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to support our St. Vincent de Paul Society to help meet the needs of our neighbours in need in Haldimand County. The Lent 2024 campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday and conclude on Holy Thursday (Feb 14- March 28). Collection items have been predetermined in conjunction with St. Vincent de Paul Society. Gift cards and online cash donations are always welcome to help purchase fresh foods.

1. Collection of Personal Care Items: shampoo, body wash, deodorant, tooth paste, tooth brushes, diapers (babies and toddler sizes)
2. New or Gently Used Bedding: sheets, pillowcases, blankets, comforters, mattress pads (especially single size which can be used for our "Bed for Every Child Program")
3. Specific Non-Perishable Food Items: peanut butter, canned fruit/ vegetables, packaged rice (nothing over 1kg in size please).



## Report Cards

All students will be receiving their report cards on Monday, February 5, 2024. Please be sure to check backpacks. Parents may request an interview or call the teacher for more information than the report card provides. Please remember to sign the third page of the report card and return it to the teacher.



## St. Valentine's Day

We will be celebrating St. Valentine's Day on **Tuesday February 13, 2024**, so that we may observe the start of Lent on February 14th, 2024. Students are asked to wear pink or red clothing on this day. Students are welcomed to bring cards and store bought treats to share with their classmates.



## Family Day

School will be closed on Monday, February 19th, 2024 for Family Day. Enjoy a long weekend with your family!!



## Pancake Tuesday

The Parent Council will be making and delivering pancakes to all the students during the morning of February 13. Please remember to pack a lunch and snacks for your child(ren) for the day.



## "Soup"er Bowl

As part of our community outreach, we are having a "Soup"er Bowl Campaign. The campaign will run from January 29 - February 9/24. We are asking for donations of canned goods. All of the collected items will be donated to our local foodbank. We thank you in advance for your support!



## Snow Days

We are a **ZONE 2** school. Details about inclement weather conditions and school closures can be found on the board's website ([www.bhncdsb.ca](http://www.bhncdsb.ca)). **IF THE BUSES ARE CANCELLED THE SCHOOL IS CLOSED. SCHOOL STAFF** are not available and the doors will be locked. **Never drop off your child or send them to school without checking if we are open.**

Any bus delay due to road conditions/visibility can be found on the Student Transportation website ([www.stbhn.ca](http://www.stbhn.ca)) or by calling 1-877-226-6353 ext. 3

## Pink Shirt Day - Wednesday February 28, 2024

Wednesday February 28, is **Annual Pink Shirt Day**. It is important that we take a stand against bullying and break the cycle. We need to speak up when we see injustice towards others, whether it be at school, at home, or out in the community. We encourage everyone to wear pink on Wednesday February 28 to visibly demonstrate that we do not tolerate bullying of any kind. So deck yourself out in pink!!



## Grade 8 News.....

### Candy Grams

Our Grade 8 class will be selling Candy Grams on February 8, 9, 12 and 13. Candy Grams are \$1.00 and the proceeds will go towards the Grade 8 year end trip to Camp Celtic.



### Popcorn

Starting in mid- February our Grade 8 Student Parliament will be selling popcorn! All proceeds from the sale will go towards the grade 8 class trip to camp Celtic! More details to follow.....



### Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

Our Spring 2024 Fundraiser will begin on February 8. We depend on this fundraiser to provide funds to allow us to purchase additional school and classroom materials. We will be selling World's Finest Chocolate bars (milk chocolate, crisp and caramel bars). The bars sold are 3/\$5.00, the total cost for the case is \$100.00. For every case that is sold the school profits 50%. Chocolate bars will only be sent home with the students who have returned their signed permission form. For more information please see the flyer that was sent home with your child.



### Jon Hansen Presentation at Lakeshore Catholic High School

On Thursday February 29, 2024 Lakeshore Catholic High School will be hosting guest speaker Jon Hansen. Jon Hansen is a dynamic speaker and educator who will be discussing with parents the social media challenges facing their children, as well as helping to identify the warning signs of potential social media related issues , such as cyberbullying or excessive screen time. All PARENTS are welcome to attend this presentation at 7:00pm in the gymnasium at Lakeshore Catholic High School.



### French Cultural Event: Fana Soro

As part of our French culture from around the world we are pleased to have Fana Soro join us on Monday February 26, 2024 at 1:30pm.

Fana Soro will share with us the music, dance, and wise messages of the Senoufo people from the Ivory Coast. We will learn about the continent of Africa, their instruments and the love that Senoufo people have for their community. Fana will introduce Balafon rhythms, dance moves, and traditional songs. We are guaranteed to feel the beat!

