



# St. Mark School Newsletter

## October 2021

St. Mark Catholic Elementary School  
240 Autumn Hill Cres.  
Kitchener, ON, N2N 1K8  
Phone: (519) 743-4682

*"Growing in skill, wisdom and strength."*

### Our Mission Statement

*St. Mark Catholic Elementary School, with home, Church and community, is committed to nurturing the growth and future success of faith-centered individuals through the pursuit of academic excellence, Catholic values and respect for all.*

### IMPORTANT DATES

**International Walk to School Month**  
October

**Dwarfism Awareness & Acceptance Month**  
October

**National Custodial & Maintenance Worker Day**  
Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

**World Teachers Day**  
Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

**Walk to School Day**  
Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

**Terry Fox Closing Assembly**  
Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>  
(afternoon)

**Professional Development Day**  
Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>  
(Full Day)

**Thanksgiving Day**  
Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

**School Picture Day**  
at St. Mark School  
Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

**Canada Library Workers Day**  
Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe we have completed a month of school already. Please be sure to check out the important dates on our calendar for the months of October and November.

The **Autumnal Equinox 2021** occurred on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:20 pm; the first day of fall arrived as it always does. Once again, we are richly blessed with all the beauty the autumn season offers.

Our school community is very blessed to have a **School Council** that is committed to working together to make the school the best it can be. I would like to extend a sincere thanks to the members of our School Council who so generously give of their time, and for their commitment to the students, staff and parents of our school community. Please continue your support of this group and their endeavors this year. There is more information about our School Council in this School Newsletter for your perusal and information. Please note School Council is now being referred to as **Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)**. We encourage you to check the school website for more information about CSAC activities.

Father Steve has placed priority on the sacraments of Reconciliation, the Eucharist and Confirmation this fall. More information for the families of our current grade 2 & 7 students is forthcoming from **St. Mark Church** regarding the completion of the sacraments by the end of this school year. More information about our Liturgical Calendar at the school is forthcoming.

We are all very thankful for our school community and the students we serve. I would like to wish everyone a very joyful Thanksgiving. Please take some time to give thanks for the many blessings we have. **Happy Thanksgiving!!** Enjoy this beautiful time of the year.

Mr. Lankowski  
Principal

**Council Chair Commissioning  
(Virtual) Event**

Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>  
(6:30-7:30 pm)

**National Bus Drivers Day**

Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

**Early Childhood Educators Day**

Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

**Thanksgiving Mass (Virtual)  
at St. Mark School**

Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
(9:00 am)

**Confirmation Celebrations  
at St. Mark Church**

Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> &  
Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>  
(7:00 pm)

**Halloween**

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

**NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE**

**The Feast of All Saints**

Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Remembrance Day**

Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

**Bullying Awareness &  
Prevention Week**

November 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

**Grade 4 Bible Celebration**

Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
(2:15 pm)

**Progress Report Distribution Day**

Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

**Professional Development Day**

Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

**First Communion & Confirmation**

**Enrolment Masses  
at St. Mark Church**

Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> &  
Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
(Regular Mass Times)

**Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Virtual or Phone Meetings  
Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>  
3:30-9:00 pm

**SCHOOL PICTURE DAY**

Individual and class **School Pictures** will be taken on **Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>** for all students JK to Grade 8. If you do not wish to have your child's picture taken with his/her class, please contact your child's teacher no later than **Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**. Please try to avoid appointments on that day, since class pictures cannot be retaken.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWS**

Our **Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)** met virtually for the first time this year on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Our CSAC Executive, Parent & Staff members are as follows:

Chair: Diana Darcey

Vice-Chair: Claudine Newman

Treasurer: Chetna Tomar

Secretary: Sarah Demaiter

Parents:

Catherine McCaffery, Elizabeth Searam, Krysti O'Kelly, Michelle Proctor, Paula Jacobs, Geraldine Doerr, Elizabeth Opiyo, Emily Hartlen, Joe Preis, Shannon Thompson

Teacher: Michele van der Veen

Principal: Gary Lankowski

Catholic School Advisory Council Meetings, 2021-2022 are scheduled as follows:

Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 31, 2022, at 7:00 pm

Thursday, May 26, 2022, at 7:00 pm

Parents/guardians and citizens are all welcome to attend either virtually or in-person as these are public meetings. More information about CSAC activity is forthcoming and will be included in subsequent school newsletters.

**TERRY FOX WALK FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

Thank you to our students, staff, and families for their participation in our annual **Terry Fox Run**, and for the kind donations to the Terry Fox Foundation for Cancer Research. Funds raised for the Terry Fox Walk for Cancer Research will be published in our *November Newsletter*.

**SCHOOL AGENDAS & FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FORMS**

All students from grades 1-8 have received a **student agenda** for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents are requested to pay **\$5.50** per agenda using **School Cash Online**. Please contact Mr. Lankowski should your family require financial support with the agendas. Also, please complete all forms on School Cash Online at your earliest convenience.

