

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Quality • Inclusive • Faith-based • Education



w w w . w c d s b . c a



Larry Clifford
Director of Education

"Recognizing the huge added value our schools bring to Waterloo Region we are using all available means of communication to encourage our community to **"Come Experience the Difference"**. We want Catholics and non-Catholics alike to know what a faith-based school system offers to pupils spiritually, physically, emotionally and academically".



Wayne Buchholtz
Chair of the Board



Happy Summer!!!
See you in September

June, 2014

WCDSB: "Our Potential is Limitless..."

As we conclude another successful school year I'd like to revisit part of the introductory message from my **2014 Director's Annual Report** -- available at www.wcdsb.ca/about/pdf/2014DIRreport.pdf. I encourage you to read the report and see for yourself all the great things happening in Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools:

"As I visit our schools -- both elementary and secondary -- and interface with community stakeholders who support our Catholic school system I am impressed with the sense of pride, community and willingness to adapt to the challenges that face Catholic education."

Full day kindergarten, 21st century teaching and learning, an inclusive special education philosophy, instructional rounds, problems of practice, restorative justice, EQAO and OSSLT achievement and social justice initiatives are only a few of the initiatives whose sum total leads to quality, inclusive Catholic education in Waterloo Region.

Recognizing the huge added value our schools bring to Waterloo Region we are using all available means of communication to encourage our community to **"Come Experience the Difference"**. We want Catholics and non-Catholics alike to know what a faith-based school system offers to pupils spiritually, physically, emotionally and academically.

We are proud of our achievements to date. We recognize changing patterns in the skill sets our pupils will need to be successful in the years to come. Our commitment is to see our pupils graduate as productive members of society whose morals and values are grounded in the Catholic faith.

Together -- support staff, teachers, administrators, clergy, senior staff and trustees have a moral imperative to continue to do our best for our pupils. Our potential is limitless."

Good luck...God bless...and have a safe and happy summer!

Message from the Board Chair

June is always a time for sadness and joy as another school year comes to an end. We need to remind ourselves that we are a people of hope and joy and that we should always be looking forward into the future.

At the same time we need to remember to live each minute of each day during the summer -- to cherish each moment and to remember to share ourselves with others.

On behalf of all the Trustees, **Joyce Anderson, Manuel da Silva, Janek Jagiellowicz, Frank Johnson, Anthony Piscitelli, Wendy Price, Peter Reitmeier, Greg Reitzel** and our Student Trustees **Alexandru Gheorghe** and **Carlos Valero**, we wish all of our students, staff and families a safe, relaxed and peaceful summer break with family and friends.



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

w w w . w c d s b . c a



An important message from **Monsignor Haller CES!**



Kate Slater-- a grade 2 student from **St Brigid CES** -- asked to have all the proceeds from her 8th birthday party (gifts & loot bags) go to the **We Day "Build a School Fundraiser"** at St Brigid. She contributed \$400 to this worthwhile effort – and the school's total reached \$1500. Kate is shown with teacher **Antonella Lloyd**.



Special Catholic Education Week display at **St. Elizabeth CES**.

Summer as Restorative

By Father Fred Scinto, C. R.

Summer! At last! Summer is that beautiful time of year when for most of us things slow down, at least a little bit, and it is the time when we get a chance to take some kind of formal holidays. So a good time of the year and we certainly should thank God for our summer! Thank you, Lord!

For me summer also brings another thought to my mind and attention – glorious Nature and in full bloom. Often we take Nature for granted. And at times we do not get enough interaction with it, even though from humankind's earliest times to the present, many of us have become aware of its restorative and rekindling powers. The following says it well: *"today, modern research confirms that 'nature therapy' has significant positive effects on stress and disease that greatly surpass those of drugs and many other forms of therapy"* (Caroline Marie Dupont, nutritionist, spiritual director, and physiologist). What is ironic in all this is that recently the **American Psychological Association** and the **American Psychiatric Association** have added a new disorder to their long list – *"nature deficit disorder"* (a disorder that arises from a lack of interaction with nature). Summer is the time when we can counteract this disorder by spending time with and in nature.

Here is a simple way to do this:

- ✓ spend some time outside among greenery, etc., doing nothing;
- ✓ just observe what you see in regards to Nature especially plants, animals, and insects;
- ✓ as you continue to observe, let wonder and amazement arise within you;
- ✓ think of the wonder and beauty and complexity and harmony our loving Creator God has put into Nature;
- ✓ thank God for the miracle of nature; and,
- ✓ keep relaxing!

Do this a number of times this summer and you will experience a veritable and palpable drop in your stress and anxiety and worries.

May God grant you and all your beloved a wonderful, restful and restorative summer. Amen.

Father Fred Scinto, C.R., of the Resurrection Centre for Lifelong Learning, is the Spiritual Animator of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board.

Follow Us !!

twitter

<http://twitter.com/WCDSBNewsWire>
#WCDSBAwesome

You Tube

www.youtube.com/user/WCDSBVidLink



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

w w w . w c d s b . c a

Congrats to our new EcoSchools!

<http://ecozone.wcdsb.ca>

Students and staff at 16 of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools have gone green in a big way, achieving certification as **"Ontario EcoSchools"**.

GOLD

Saint John Paul II CES
Monsignor Doyle CSS
St. Benedict CSS
St. Clement CES
St. Margaret of Scotland CES
St. Peter CES



SILVER

Blessed Mother Teresa CES
Holy Family CES
Holy Spirit CES
Monsignor Haller CES
St. Ambrose CES
St. Anne (K) CES
St. Brigid CES
St. David CSS
St. Nicholas CES



BRONZE

Holy Rosary CES



Students at Holy Spirit CES created a special "Tree of Life" as part of their EcoSchools program

2014 Distinguished Graduate Award



This year's recipient is **St. Jerome's University President Dr. Katherine Bergman** – who attended **St. Anne CES, St. Agnes CES, St. David CSS and St. Mary's H.S.** You can read more about Dr. Bergman's accomplishments at:

www.wcdsb.ca/about/awards/awards-dga.html

13th Annual Waterloo Catholic District Schools



IN SUPPORT OF THE
WATERLOO REGION CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Monday • August 25 • 2014

Choose From Two Beautiful & Challenging Courses:



Green Fees w Golf Cart/Range
&
Whistle Bear Luncheon
4 ball Scramble
Registration & Breakfast • 7:30am
Shotgun Start • 8:00am & Luncheon • 1:30pm
\$199 Package



Green Fees w Golf Cart/Range
&
Whistle Bear Luncheon
4 ball Scramble
Registration & Breakfast • 7:30am
Shotgun Start • 8:00am & Luncheon • 1:30pm
\$99 Package

Silent Auction • More Prizes!

IN SUPPORT OF THE
WATERLOO REGION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

A partial tax receipt will be issued to all participants

Generating Over \$375,000 Since 2002 In Support Of Valuable Programs In
Athletics • Arts • Science & Technology
Equity For All Learners • Faith Formation



On May 16 Bishop Daniel Miehms helped the students and staff of Saint John Paul II CES celebrate the elevation to sainthood of the school's namesake!



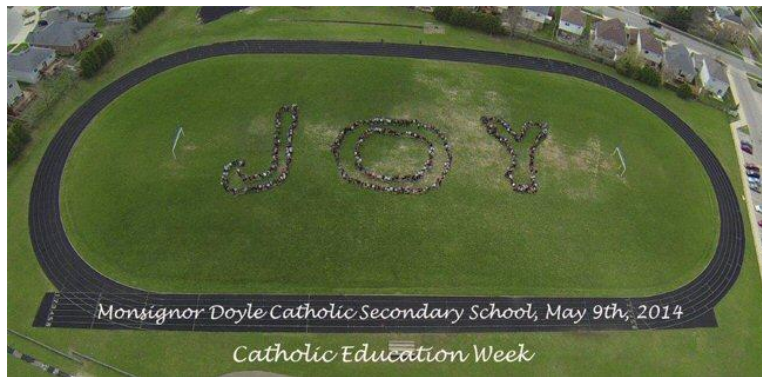
Homework Help is a free online math help resource for students in Grades 7-10. Homework Help provides free, live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers Sunday to Thursday from 5:30pm – 9:30pm.
<https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/>



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

w w w . w c d s b . c a

Around the Region...



On June 11 Waterloo **Mayor Brenda Halloran** paid a special visit to **Sir Edgar Bauer CES**.

Dear God,

Thank you for the things you have done for us.

I am giving up being jealous.

I promise I will love my brother.

I will say my prayers.

I will invite others to play.

I will use gentle hands.

I will be a good helper.

I will share my toys.

I will do my best work.

I will work on getting pom-poms in my bucket at home and school.

I love my bear.

I love you God.

Amen



From JK to Grade 12 -- It's Never Too Late to Sign Up For School!!



During **Catholic Education Week** classrooms across the Region collaborated to create special prayers. Each school then chose a particular prayer to be plaqued and hung in a prominent place in the school.

The prayer above was written by the **Room 24 Kindergarten Class** at **St. Matthew CES** in Waterloo.



Visit www.wcdsb.ca and click **Register for School!!**



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

w w w . w c d s b . c a