

# ST. NICHOLAS CES

## Principal's Message

Greeting Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the Month of December and the Advent Season!

Throughout December we will prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. Through prayer, reflection, and classroom activities we hope to inspire students with the true meaning of Christmas and focus on the simplicity of the season. To celebrate and mark the Feast of St. Nicholas on December 6th we invite our families to donate to our One-Day Christmas Food Drive in support of the Newmarket Food Pantry. We're inspired by St. Nicholas and how he dedicated his life to serving God and his generosity to those in need. To celebrate the Advent season we will attend mass virtually with Father Garcia and the neighbouring Newmarket Catholic schools on December 7th. In addition, we will also be celebrating with a virtual Advent liturgy on December 9th. We are grateful for the ability to gather, pray and celebrate virtually as a school during the Christmas season.

It will be a busy month as we ready ourselves for the holidays and combine festive activities while meeting the goals and expectations of the curriculum. Students from K-8 will be taking part in our first S.T.R.E.A.M (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) project; The Christmas Tree Challenge. The premise of this challenge is based on some Christmas fun; *there is a global Christmas Tree shortage and our students have been asked by Santa to build a Christmas tree per class based on specific criteria.* Students will incorporate curriculum expectations, creativity, collaboration, and innovation throughout the completion of this challenge. We're looking forward to seeing what our students come up with!

Friday, December 17th is the final day of school before the Christmas break. I hope this is a peaceful time for all, spent with family and friends. Wishing you all a healthy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,

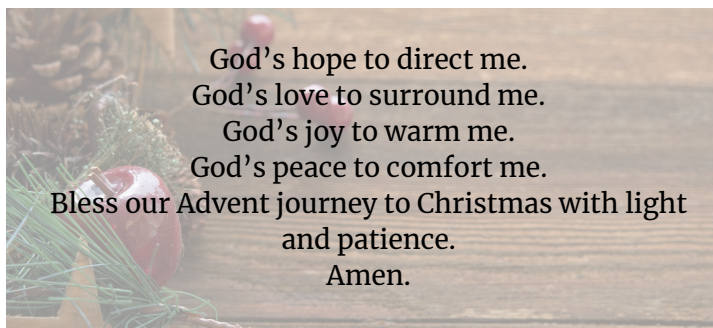
*C. Zorzi*

Mr. Zorzi

### UPCOMING DATES:

- December 1st -10th- S.T.R.E.A.M Christmas Tree Challenge
- December 6th: St. Nicholas Feast Day - One Day Food Drive
- December 7th: Advent Mass with Father Garcia @ 10:40 am (Live Stream link to follow)
- December 9th: Virtual Advent Liturgy
- December 13-17: Christmas Spirit Week (see attached calendar)
- December 14th: Reconciliation (more information to follow)
- December 20-31: Christmas Break

<p><b>Mission Statement</b></p> <p>Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.</p>	<p><b>Vision Statement</b></p> <p>Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.</p>
<p><b>Core Values</b></p> <p>Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Catholicity, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect</p>	<p><b>Strategic Commitments</b></p> <p>Integration of Our Catholic Faith, Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement, Effective Use of Our Resources, Engaging Our Communities</p>



### SPECIAL NOTES:



Extra Clothing: A gentle reminder to ensure students have all their winter clothing with them when entering in the morning. Students from grades k to 8 are encouraged to pack extra socks and a change of clothes with them in their backpack in the event that they get wet from the snow/slush during the winter season.



Safety Reminders: We ask that parents/guardians do not park in the 'Kiss N Ride/ Bus Loop. Parked cars lead to traffic congestion and delays. If you would like to park your vehicle please use the West parking lot. In addition, please think 'safety first'; be mindful of speed limits, stop signs, and your surroundings on the school grounds during morning entry and afternoon dismissal to ensure safety for all.



Winter Weather: Please exercise caution around the school during snowy and icy conditions. While the Board and the school work to minimize slippery ice patches or other hazardous conditions, we caution everyone to use great care when walking in and around the school. Although we plow, shovel, salt, sand and mop, winter weather in Canada comes with its challenges. Thank you for your cooperation in minimizing falls!



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