



# St. Mother Teresa High School



November 2018

## Principal's Message



Hello from St. Mother Teresa Catholic High School;

We are sending out this month's newsletter in tandem with our Remembrance Day assemblies. The ceremony was beautiful, thought-provoking and respectful. Our students in the Arts and Contemporary Studies, as well as our students involved in various cadet corps distinguished themselves in this sign of respect. When people glibly and cynically report that teenagers are self-absorbed and lack respect, I will argue until my last breath that they are among some of the finest people for whom I am blessed to be associated. As we approach the early evenings of November and as thoughts of Christmas come near, students find their way into their teachers' rooms to seek ways to improve the lives of others. Students seek ways to combine empathy with action. Our school board spiritual theme from Micah "Seek justice, Love kindness and mercy, walk humbly with God" is alive and well in our students and staff.

I also wanted to highlight a literacy activity we did yesterday with students. Every student was directly emailed with a document with an article, a video, and infographic, and an editorial about the developmental effects of cannabis. This is timely with the new legalisation and monetization of the cannabis industry. Students all interacted with the materials and the activities were paired with literacy strategies. The goal was not to scare but rather to inform students about the very real risks associated with early and lifetime cannabis use. Ask the students to share the materials with you. It should open up some excellent dinner table conversations! We also had a Health Canada

interactive display at lunch last week explaining the dangers of opiates. Your students' health and wellness will always be a priority for us.

Stay tuned for a pre-Christmas online magazine filled with examples of experiential learning, sports and other activities. There is so much to share. Please find many information items following my message.

All the best!



Geoff Edwards  
Principal



**Important Dates:**

**November 9: Remembrance Day Ceremony at St. Mother Teresa**

**November 9-21: St Mother Teresa Book Fair**

**November 12-16: Grad Photos (book online at [bookmygrad.ca](http://bookmygrad.ca))**

**November 12-16: Career Week**

**November 14: Grade 9 Take your Kid to Work Day**

**November 14: Grade 7/8 We Day**

**November 15: Grade 7/8 Resiliency Day**

**November 15: HS Report Cards being Distributed**

**November 16: PD Day no school**

**November 19: Catholic School Council Meeting in the Learning Commons  
7:00pm- We will have a presentation on how Math is taught from grades 7-12 at  
SMT.**

**November 19-23: Bullying Prevention and Awareness week**

## **Reminder of University and College Application deadlines**

January 16, 2019 - deadline for students to submit their completed application to the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).

February 1, 2019 - deadline for applying to highly competitive College programs through the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS). Applications received and paid for before this date will be given equal consideration.

Lunch help sessions will be offered on Nov. 28th, Dec. 5th and Dec. 12th through Student Services.

### [Voilà Live's Virtual Immersion Campus](#)

is open to *all students* in our board from K-12. Every evening from Monday to Thursday students have access to live teachers online to practice their French and get homework help in French. Children can also play live, communicative games in French on the platform. For more information please see: A [letter for parents](#) with the access code, the [step by step access guide for parents](#), and [Bookmarks](#) created for students.

### **OCDSB offers: Literacy/Numeracy Community Programs**

Continuing Education runs 10 Community Literacy/Numeracy Programs after school and in the evening. These programs are on a drop in basis and serve as "Homework Help" that provide students with a supervised opportunity to complete, review, practice and organize their work in order to help them achieve greater success at school. There is no charge for these programs. Students are asked to bring along their Ontario Education Number (OEN), which can be found on the top of any Ontario Report Card. list of [community program sites](#).

### **TVO Mathify**

(<https://www.tvomathify.com/students#>) or can be found on the student portal under "Homework Help" . Students will need their OEN number found on their report cards or on [my.mths.ca](http://my.mths.ca)

Mathify connects grade 7-10 students with Ontario certified math teachers - online, after school - to better understand how to solve math problems.

## **Titan Trek 2018**

By: Emily-Anne C, grade 11 student

Titan Trek is an annual 5 km run around our school. It is also a fundraising activity for the students. Two weeks before Titan Trek we try to get classes to raise lots of money for our school and whichever classes raise the most get a special breakfast.

This year our school raised \$12000. The money that classes raised goes to the school for school activities. This year the money is going towards new dance shoes, snow shoes, guest speakers, new wrestling mats, a vertical garden, and for teacher requests.

Over 1500 students participated in Titan Trek 2018. This year we ran the 5 km run and then we had a barbeque. We had hot dogs, chips, and water/pop. The food was free and so is everything else. After lunch there was music, karaoke, and sports that everyone can do. Students get to pick songs that they want to play for Titan Trek and for sports there is football, soccer, and volleyball. Everyone always participates in these sports and they have lots of fun. Usually there are inflatables, like bouncy castles, but this year the inflatables were unfortunately canceled because of the weather. Everyone still had fun, though.

Titan Trek 2018 was a great way to raise money and raise school spirit at the same time.

## DEL F Testing

Dear Parent(s);

In February 2013, the Ontario Ministry of Education released *A Framework for French as a Second Language, K – 12*. This framework articulates three provincial goals for FSL, the first of which is to increase student confidence, proficiency and achievement in FSL. This goal reminds us how important it is that students have confidence in their ability to use their French skills effectively.

In recent years, provincial initiatives have taken place using the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (CEFR)* to inform practice in FSL. The CEFR provides a comprehensive overview of competencies that French language learners need to develop in order to communicate and interact effectively. It presents levels of language proficiency, starting at the basic level A1, continuing to A2, B1, and B2 (which are considered independent). Levels C1 and C2 reflect a competency level beyond secondary school.

This year the Ottawa Catholic School Board is pleased to be able to offer a limited number of students the opportunity to write an internationally-recognized language exam called the *Diplôme d'études en langue française (DEL F)*. This exam is based on the CEFR proficiency levels.

This exam is outside the required component of the regular French as a Second Language program. Therefore, DEL F exam results will not be included in determining report card grades. However, upon successful completion of the exam, students will receive a DEL F certificate awarded by the French Ministry of National Education (France). In the past, many OCSB students have been successful in receiving their DEL F certification.

The DEL F exam is taken in two steps:

Step One: According to the exam schedule, students within same DEL F levels complete the oral comprehension, written comprehension, and written production components. Exam schedule:

November 26, 2018 from 12:00pm to 2:30pm (DEL F level B2)

November 27, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:45pm (DEL F level B1)

November 28, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:40pm (DEL F level A2)

Step Two: Students individually complete oral production and interaction exams as scheduled (between November 26 and November 28). All participants will receive details, including the exact date, time and location of their oral exam, via school staff and/or the contact information provided on the consent form,

Please note that individual student results will not be reported back to the school. All information and materials collected will be kept confidential. Participation in this exam is voluntary. You may choose not to have your child participate, or your child may choose not to

participate.

Please discuss this opportunity with your child and, if they wish to participate, you must complete the enclosed consent form and return it to your child's French teacher in a sealed envelope no later than **Friday November 16, 2018**.

For more information please see

[http://delf-dalf.ambafrance-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/depliant-parents-8\\_anglais\\_special\\_canada\\_web.pdf](http://delf-dalf.ambafrance-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/depliant-parents-8_anglais_special_canada_web.pdf)

Due to the limited number of spaces available for this test, schools will be randomly selecting participants from the list of students who express interest. Confirmation of participation will be sent to you at the school or via the e-mail address you provide.

**Please note that the fee for the exam will be \$30 payable by cash or cheque made payable to the *Ottawa Catholic School Board*. Please include your child's name in the comment portion of the cheque. Funding for transportation to the DELF administration facility (to be provided with confirmation of participation) is the responsibility of the individual participants.**

Thank you for considering participation in the DELF.

Sincerely,

*J. Bosc*

Educational Consultant

Student Success

Attachment: Consent Form