



# Georges Vanier Catholic School

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September 7, 2011

*Principal  
Sílvana Reda*

*Secretary  
Paula Tomei*

*Superintendent  
of Schools*

*Mr. Tucciarone*

*Trustee*

*Scott*

*McLauchlan*

*Parish*

*St. John Fisher*

*Pastor*

*Fr. Grima*

*School Hours*

*9:00—3:30*

## A Prayer For the Beginning of the New School Year

May we explore together the territory of knowledge;  
May we learn together the mysteries of truth;  
May we share together the joy of friendship;  
May we release in each other the spark of creativity;  
May we inspire others to follow Your call.

May we always remember that You,  
the anchor of all knowledge, all goodness,  
all truth and all beauty, delight to share all  
experience with us.

Amen

"Giving them  
Books..

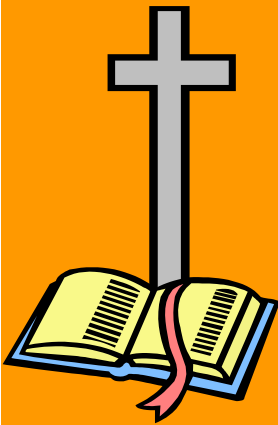


## Principal's Welcome!

Welcome Back! On behalf of the staff of Georges Vanier Catholic School, welcome back to all of our students and their families.

A special welcome is extended to all who are new to our community. Each new school year is an exciting beginning. The staff and I look forward to working with you and your children over the next ten months to provide a highly rewarding year, both spiritually and academically, for all of our students. You are encouraged to participate in your child's education by becoming involved in our school activities. If you have any questions or concerns, at any time, please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher or myself. ....

## Principal's Message continued.....



.....The staff have been hard at work preparing curriculum, planning and creating a welcoming learning environment for all our students. A number of our staff participated in professional learning this summer. An excellent example in life-long learning!

Our gym has a new floor, which looks wonderful with our two murals painted on the walls—*the Vanier Vikings* and *Go Make a Difference*.

The beginning of each school year is always marked by change which requires all of us to be understanding, accommodating and flexible. The September school organization is based on projected enrolment numbers prepared by the school board. Such enrolment projection determines the number of teachers assigned to the school and consequently the grade and class configurations. In the event that student enrolment falls below or above projections, an adjustment to the number of teachers assigned to the school follows, which may affect the placement of your child. Therefore, as we start the year, staffing is still tentative. Presently our enrolment is changing and we may reorganize the classes. We appreciate your understanding.

I look forward to a new and exciting year ahead.

*Silvana Reda*

PA Day is  
September 16

Open House  
will be on  
September 22

### Student Agendas

The cost of the student agendas is \$6.00. Please send in the money to your child's teacher this week. The student agendas help develop organizational skills, time management strategies and study skills at an early stage in their educational career. Students can use the planner on a daily basis to record homework, assignment due dates, and to record other items of information that may require sharing between the school and home. Parents are encouraged to review the planner on a daily basis with their children to model the development of positive work habits.



## Bullying Prevention Corner

We will be continuing with our PeaceMaking Committee, which includes school staff, students and our Public Health Nurse. We are looking for a couple of parent volunteers, who would like to be part of this worthwhile committee. We will have at least one meeting per month, during the lunch hour. Please call the school if you are interested.

Our PeaceMaking Committee will address Bullying Prevention in our school. We will be implementing the Comprehensive School Health model to create a school wide programme, which was developed by Public Health Nurses. It emphasizes a positive school climate and challenges bullying behaviour.

### What are the key strengths of this approach?

A comprehensive approach to preventing bullying is effective because it focuses not only on individual behaviours but on the environments in which children interact. This approach aims to co-ordinate change at all levels of the systems in

### Bullying is characterized by:

- ◆ a deliberate intention to harm
- ◆ a power imbalance
- ◆ repetitive actions over a period of time



### WHAT ARE THE KEY STRENGTHS OF THIS APPROACH?

- ◆ **Inclusive—representatives include staff, parents, students —everyone has a voice**
- ◆ **Collaborative —everyone works together to establish and achieve the shared goals**
- ◆ **Ownership—everyone shares responsibility and the desire to make sure things are done well**
- ◆ **Consistent — everyone communicates the same message the same message**
- ◆ **Sustainable —interventions are ongoing and integrated into the school environment**

The focus this month will be:

Everyone has the right to be safe at school.

Each class will be creating a classroom contract, with input from all the children.

## Student Accident Insurance

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage. Although enrolment is voluntary, the Board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips or if parents do not have dental insurance coverage. Enrolment is required in writing. There are two options for enrolment:

- 1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in directly to the Insurance Company
- 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437)

Please do not return envelopes to the school.

## Peanut/Nut Allergy

We have a number of children in our school who have a severe life threatening allergy to peanuts and other nut products. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe an life threatening allergic reaction. We do not want to put any child at risk. Please do not send in products containing nuts. In our Catholic School Community, we have an obligation to be responsible for one another. Thanking you in advance for your continued support, cooperation and understanding regarding this matter.

more information.....

- ⇒ School Pictures will be on September 20 for Kindergarten to grade 6. Grade 7 & 8 students will have their pictures taken on September 21.
- ⇒ Catholic School Council Elections. If you are interested, please pick up a nomination form in the office and return by Friday, September 23. If an election is needed, it will be held on Tuesday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m in the school library. This evening will be our first Catholic School Council, and all are welcome!
- ⇒ Open House/Curriculum Night will be on Thursday, September 22. More information to follow.



