



Georges Vanier Catholic School

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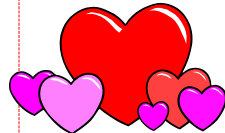
Pastor

Fr. Grima

*Catholic School
Council Co-Chairs*

*Jennifer Valentini &
Vanda Gioia*

FEBRUARY 2012



A Valentine Prayer

God of power and might,
thank you for the gift of love this Valentine's Day
and for all the people whose love shines in my life .

Continue to fill my heart with Your love,
and let me share that love with the world,

this Valentine's Day and always.

Amen



Grade 8 Trip to St. Francis Centre

On January 27th the grade 8 classes went to St. Francis Centre on a trip to embrace God.

We helped each other to discover the ways of God and his powers in every-day life. We learned that God can perform miracles and loves us with every step in our lives.

Father Pierre celebrated mass with us and furthered our knowledge of the Catholic Church and traditions. We learned that the sacraments are visible signs of God's invisible grace. The grade eights learned that as they receive confirmation they are making a vow to God and taking a big step to be committed to Catholic life.

By Kyla and Courney, Mrs. D'souza's class





Student Contact Information

It is very important that we always have up to date information on parent contacts and changes in telephone numbers at work or at home. Please make sure you notify the school of any changes in your work, babysitting or custodial arrangements and update the information at the office.

Severe Food Allergies

We have a number of students with severe life-threatening food allergies (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to certain allergens and can result in death in minutes.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class, please send lunch items with your child(ren) that are free from peanuts and shellfish. We also are **not** encouraging the sharing of birthday cakes or snacks among students. Each student should be eating the lunch/snacks brought from home.



Cold Weather

Students should come to school ready to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. Please ensure that your children are dressed warmly; wearing insulated boots, winter coats, mittens, hats, scarves, etc. Please be sure to label all articles of clothing for easy identification.

Students will have recesses outdoors with the following exceptions only: outdoor recess time will be reduced when the temperature is -20 degrees Celsius or colder, with or without wind chill and children will be kept indoors when the temperature is -25 degrees Celsius or colder, with or without wind chill.

All students should have indoor shoes at the school. This is very important in case of an emergency evacuation as students will not have time to put on their boots.

It is also a good idea to pack an extra pair of socks and pants in your child's backpack in case they get wet playing in the snow.

Safe Arrival Policy

In our attempts to implement the safe arrival policy, we ask that you let us know if your child is going to be late or away from school. An answering machine for attendance calls is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week so you may call at your convenience.



**Our attendance number is (905) 792-2251,
Select 1 for the attendance line.**

Please leave your child's first and last name, as well as the teacher's name and the reason for the absence. Please speak loudly and clearly when leaving a message.

Thank you for your assistance in making sure that your child(ren) are arriving safe.

Bullying Prevention Corner



February – Telling an Adult about Bullying is Not Tattling

February's in-class lesson focuses on the difference between tattling and telling. In dealing with bullying situations, students are encouraged to use the strategy, 'telling an adult'. Although this sounds simple and logical, there are many difficulties and roadblocks associated with this strategy. Younger children struggle to understand the difference between telling and tattling, while older children struggle with their desire to deal with situations independently. The goal of telling an adult is to keep children safe. Students will learn to identify the difference between telling and tattling (reporting and rattling), explore reasons students don't report bullying and understand how to effectively and safely report to an adult.

Tattling/rattling is defined as telling in order to get someone into trouble, or telling when there is no one being hurt and no rule being broken that could result in a dangerous situation.

Telling is defined as reporting unsafe behaviours to an adult in order to get help for someone – to get someone out of trouble.

Tips for parents:

- use incidences where one child is telling you about sibling behaviour to help children identify whether they are tattling or telling
- practice with your child how to 'tell an adult' about bullying (what happened, how they feel, what help they desire)
- develop awareness of the 'reasons' children state for not reporting bullying to adults

Important Reminders

Feb. 2 & 3	Parent/teacher interviews
Feb. 8	Brampton Battalions serving breakfast
Feb. 8	Virtues Liturgy - Respect at 1pm
Feb. 13	Graduation pictures
Feb. 14	Valentine Dance
Feb. 15	Lockdown Drill
Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 2pm
Feb. 23	Parent Evening - Kindergarten to grade 2
Feb. 26	Reconciliation for grade 2's

March Break is
March 12 to March 16



Be sure to visit our school website

for our school newsletters &

information at

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/GVANI>

Monday February 20 is Family Day and there is no school for students.

Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten

Registration for Full-Day Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year, will take place at Georges Vanier Catholic School on the following days:

Monday, February 6, 2012*

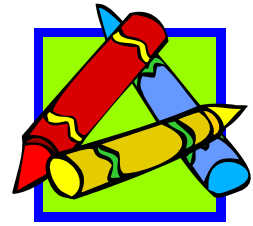
7:00-9:00 p.m.

*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8, 9 & 10, 2012

9:00-11:00 a.m.

1:00-3:00 p.m.



Parents/Guardians should bring the following documents when registering their child:

- ◇ Child's birth certificate
- ◇ Original Catholic Baptismal Certificate
- ◇ Updated immunization records
- ◇ Proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant Status
- ◇ Proof of address

Intramural Basketball

Congratulations goes out to the Great White Sharks who are intramural basketball champions for 2012. The champion players are Luke, Ayo, Zackary and Johnathan.

Runners up goes to the Outback Jacks who gave a valiant effort, but fell just short in a thrilling, down-to-the-wire finish, 34-30.

Thank you to all the participants for making it an exciting season and to Mr. Mintz for organizing this event.



After School Pick-Up Routine

School dismissal is at 3:30 p.m. It is important that all students proceed home at this time or have someone at the school to pick them up on time.

Young children may make unsafe choices when they are faced with the discomfort of not knowing who is picking them up or when the person picking them up is late.

Please ensure to review the following guidelines with your child:

- ◇ Designate a regular meeting place and time.
- ◇ Communicate any changes in plans to your child and their teacher via a note in your child's agenda.
- ◇ Your child should not change the plans without the parents permission and a note being sent in to the teacher.
- ◇ Be sure to pickup your child(ren) on time to avoid any confusion and unnecessary worry being caused to your child(ren).



DO NOT change your child's routine at the last minute of the school day as we may not be able to get a message to your child.