



## **Bishop Francis Allen School**

325 McMurchy  
Avenue South,  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6Y 1Z4

Phone: 905-457-4677

Acting Principal:  
E. Filippozzi

Superintendent  
G. Prajza

Trustee  
T. da Silva

Head Secretary:  
L. Guerra

St. Mary Church  
66A Main Street  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6W 2C6  
905-451-2300  
Pastor  
Fr. Liborio Amaral

School Council  
co-Chairs  
T. Kelloway  
T. Falldien

# October 2011 Newsletter

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Blessed are you, loving Father,  
for all of your gifts to us.  
Blessed are you for giving us the  
gift of family and friends.  
We pause and give you thanks,  
Lord, for all these gifts:  
For the rains that give life, for  
the harvest.*

*As we rejoice in your kindness,  
We pray for those who are in need.  
Open our hearts to them  
And teach us to be generous to others as  
you are to us  
Thank you, God.  
Amen*



## Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is celebrated on **Monday, October 10th, 2011**. Students do not attend school on that day. We wish all the students and families a very blessed and safe Thanksgiving Holiday.

## Terry Fox Walk

This year, to celebrate the Terry Fox Run, students, staff and parent volunteers participated in a community walk to raise funds to support Cancer research. The event was a tremendous success. Weather was fantastic, providing a wonderful oppor-

tunity to enjoy an Autumn walk in the community. We are pleased to share with you that we raised more than \$1500 this year. Thank you for your support, it is always appreciated.

## Catholic School Council

I am pleased to announce that we once again have a number of committed volunteers who will represent the school community as members of the 2011-2012 School Council. They are:

Mrs. T. Kelloway— Co-chair  
Mrs. T. Falldien — Co-chair  
Mrs. L. Burton — Secretary  
Mrs. C. DeFreitas— Treasurer  
Mrs. L. Chapman— Voting member  
Mrs. S. Finnegan— Voting member  
Mrs. C. Ullrich— Parish Rep and Voting member

Mrs. S. LeDuc— Non-voting member  
Mrs. B. Shamon— Non-voting member  
Mr. M. Ayouh— Non-voting member  
Mr. A. Glass— Non-voting member  
Mrs. S. Basso— Non-voting member  
Mrs. Ivans— Non-voting member  
Mme. M. Reilly— Teacher Member  
Mr. T. Srsa— Teacher Member  
Mme. M. Morettin— Teaching Rep.  
Mrs. D. Kazor — Non-teaching Rep.  
Mrs. J. Geerts — Non-teaching Rep.

Our council would like to you mark these special dates in your calendars for this year:

November 25th, 2011— Family  
Movie Night

May 18th, 2012— Dance-A-Thon

June 19th, 2012— Annual Community  
BBQ sponsored by the Bishop Francis  
Allen Catholic School Council.

Our council meetings for this year are as follows:

- Wednesday, November 2nd, 2011

- Wednesday, January 11th, 2012
- Wednesday, February 1st, 2012
- Wednesday, April 11th, 2012
- Wednesday, May 2nd, 2012
- Wednesday, June 19th, 2012



### Students—Arrival and Departure

Our students are expected to arrive at school between **8:45 a.m and 9:00 a.m.** unless a staff member has arranged for your child to come early e.g. a practice or other extra-curricular activity. Students are dismissed at **3:30 p.m.** Teacher supervision begins at **8:45 a.m.** Your support in adhering to these times is greatly appreciated.

### Fire Drills

In accordance with Ministry regulations, three fire drills will be conducted in the fall and three in the spring. While we hope that a real fire or emergency situation never arises, this practice helps prepare our students in the event of an emergency.

### Lockdown Drills

It is a policy in Dufferin-Peel CDSB that all of its schools conduct a “Lockdown Procedure” twice a year. This will be initiated should an emergency exist on school property or in the surrounding neighbourhood. Part of the process is to practice the “**Lockdown Procedures**” as we practice Fire drills. The procedures that we will follow have been recommended by the board.

Students will be instructed that when they hear the announcements “Initiate Lockdown Procedure” followed by the repeated ringing of the school bell, all staff and students will follow the following actions:

1. All students and staff inside the building will remain in their classrooms.
2. Students or staff in the hallways or washrooms will be expected to go to the closest classroom.
3. Students and staff will remain in the classroom until further instructions are given.
4. All students and staff who are outside the building are

to quickly move as far away from the building as possible and remain there until further instructions are provided.

### Valuables

Please help us to protect your child’s valuables by keeping them at home. Staff cannot be responsible for any valuables that your child brings to school. In order to avoid valuables being lost or misplaced students are reminded to please keep them at home.



### Picture Day

If your child was absent on Picture Day our re-take day is scheduled for **Friday, October 28th, 2011**



### Student Illness—Staying in During Recess

Students who are ill should be kept home where they are most comfortable and can get better sooner. A child who is too ill to go out for recess is too ill to be at school. Your co-operation is appreciated in keeping your child home when he/she is ill.

### Hot Lunch Options

Back by popular demand, our school will be having regular Pizza Days on Tuesdays. We will also continue with our monthly Mr. Sub Day. This October 13th we are also having a Pasta Day. If you have not placed your orders please return order forms to your child’s teacher.

Information about these lunch options will be relayed to the students. All lunch programmes help support the school as mini-fundraisers, with profits directed to student initiatives

### Special Services

From time to time you may see people working with our students. These people are our support staff. Their jobs may vary, but their goals are the same—to help our students. The following are the support staff for Bishop Francis Allen:

C. Pergotski	Psychologist
A. Donovan	Speech/Language Pathologist
S. Bidin	Social Worker
N. Williams	Child and Youth Worker

### SNAP

Starting this month, Mrs. Ricciuto's Grade 3/4 and Mrs. Peterka's Grade 3 classes will be participating in a new exciting program called SNAP for Schools. SNAP stands for STOP NOW AND PLAN and it is an award winning, evidence-based cognitive behavioral strategy developed at the Child Development Institute (CDI) over 30 years ago. It teaches self-control skills and promotes positive behavior. SNAP helps children learn to stop and think before they act. SNAP for Schools is a whole school approach aimed at decreasing aggressive, antisocial, and bullying behavior and increasing pro-social behavior in students.

Sessions will be led by a trained SNAP Facilitator. They will be teaching 12 SNAP sessions, weekly between October and June this year. Sessions are 45 minutes and cover topics such as:

- Dealing with Anger
- Fair Play and Sportsmanship
- When you're Not Sure/Avoid Trouble
- Dealing with Bullying and Peer Pressure
- Problem Solving and Apologizing

To find out more about the program please contact the school.

### News from our Parish—St. Mary

#### **First Communion Registration**

Parents/guardians asked to bring their completed Registration form along with a COPY of their child's Baptismal Certificate on:

- Wednesday, October 12th, 2011 at 7 pm  
OR
- Saturday, October 15th, 2011 at 10 am

#### **Confirmation Registration**

Parents/guardians asked to bring their completed Registration form along with a COPY of their child's Baptismal Certificate on:

- Thursday, October 13th, 2011 at 7 pm  
OR
- Saturday, October 15th, 2011 at 12 noon.

For more information contact St. Mary's Parish directly at (905) 451-2300

### Halloween Safety

Halloween is just around the corner. Here are some suggestions to keep the children of our school safe.

- choose brightly coloured costumes
- Use face paint instead of masks
- Plan a safe route with your child
- Remind your child of road safety rules
- Accompany your children
- Remind children not to enter homes
- Check the treats before allowing your children to eat them

### BICYCLE SAFETY

While we make efforts to ensure safety it is difficult for us to manage total surveillance of the school grounds. Students who continue to ride bicycles to school this fall are reminded that they are to lock bicycles to the rack located in the staff parking lot and not along the school perimeter fence. Unfortunately, we have experienced a theft of a bicycle belonging to one of our students. Furthermore, students are required by law to wear a recognized safety helmet. Please ensure that your son/daughter is reminded of these guidelines. Safety reminder: skateboards, scooters and shoes with heels are not permitted at the school.

### PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)

At this time, we would like to bring to your attention a problem that occurs from time to time each year in most schools. The problem is infestation by head lice (pediculosis).

If cases are found in the school, we shall inform all parents. We ask that you also check your own children and, if you find them infested, we would ask that you let us know so

we may advise you on the proper treatment for them. This information can also be obtained from a pharmacist or the Regional Health Department.

If your children do become infested by head lice, we will ask you to keep them out of school until after they have been treated with the correct shampoo and their hair is entirely clear of both lice and nits (eggs).

If we all cooperate in these procedures, we may not entirely escape outbreaks, but we will be able to bring them under control quickly.



### Boys Soccer Tournament

The BFA boy's soccer team participated in the annual Brampton West Athletics Association outdoor tournament on Monday September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Creditview and Sandalwood soccer fields. The boys exhibited hard work and good sportsmanship in their two losses to St. Anne's and St. Lucy's. An honorable mention goes out to Kyle P. for leading the offensive charge with 2 goals and 1 assist on the day. Byron B. also deserves credit for his tremendous defensive efforts. Mr. McCollum and Mrs. Ricci would like to thank all the players who participated, including: Kyle P., Ugo T., Sebastien L., Corey V., Byron B., Lorenzo D., Tyler F., Elias B., Carlos G., Korrado A., Seamus F., Matthew A., Shawn P., and Jeremy D. Also, a special thanks goes out to the parent volunteers who helped cheer on the squad throughout the day.



### Intermediate Girls Soccer

Congratulations to the Intermediate girls soccer team who participated in the family tournament on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. Although they did not qualify for the playoff round, the girls showed wonderful team spirit and sports-

manship throughout the day, and represented BFA with pride.

Thanks to all the girls for their hard work and dedication.

Kalie B., Merica C., Dominika C., Wakilat C., Sole C., Zian C., Lorena F., Pauline G., Caitlyn K., Tamoyah M., Brooke P., Gillian R., Sydney T.,

A special thanks to Mrs. Bennett for all her help at the tournament.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Dunne-Leslie & Mr. Virdo

### October Virtue of the Month is Empathy

God has given us the ability to form connections with each other—to live together. Empathy helps us to connect and live together in safe, caring, inclusive communities. Empathy refers to the ability to identify with and feel other people's concerns.

What Empathetic People Do:

- Listen attentively
- Watch people's body language
- Notice and respond when someone is upset
- Can name her/his feelings
- Can see a situation from another person's point of view
- Know that different people may feel differently about the same thing.

### 2010– 2011 Yearbooks still available

**Last year's Yearbooks are still available for purchase!**

Did your child miss out on **last year's** yearbook? Do they have a token of their last year's classmates, bestfriends and pictures of their teachers?

If you did not get a chance to purchase last year Bishop Francis Allen yearbooks you can still do so now.

They are only \$20.00 and can be purchased by filling out the following and submitted to your youngest child's teacher.

For more information drop by the office for forms.

Please make all cheques payable to Bishop Francis Allen School Council.

