



December 2010
Edition

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Pastor

Msgr. Joseph Shiels

School Council Chair

S. Baird

Enclosures this month:

- Integrated Ridership (STOPR)
- JK\SK Parent Information session
- Home & School Connection

Principal's\Vice-Principal's Message

Recent research estimates that the average person spends 5 years of his or her life waiting in line, 2 years playing "telephone tag" and 6 months sitting in their car, waiting for the light to turn green. It seems that we spend a lot of our life waiting for one thing or another.

During the season of Advent, we wait "in joyful hope", and we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. At All Saints Catholic School, students and staff are engaged in the spirit of the season by helping those in our community who need our assistance. As a school community, and in conjunction with our parent and parish partners, we have many special activities planned for this Advent season that serve to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas.

On behalf of the staff of All Saints Catholic School, may your family have a peaceful and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Virtue of the Month

In the month of December we will celebrate the virtue of **Hope**.

God helps us to keep on working for a more peaceful world, even when we feel discouraged.

People of Hope...

- keep up a positive attitude,
- can bounce back from tough situations,
- set and stick to their goals,
- know that Jesus will help us.



Advent Prayer

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail.

Amen.

In the month of December, the **Virtues Assembly** will be held on Tuesday, December 14th at 1:15 pm. We welcome all visitors to come celebrate the virtue of Hope at this assembly.

Our school **Advent Mass** was held on Monday, December 6th at 10:30am in the school gymnasium. Parents and families joined us in celebrating the season of hope and preparation for our Lord, Jesus Christ. Thank you to **Msgr. Joseph Shiels** for leading us in prayer!

Wishing you a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

Mr. Vecchiarino and Mr. Cahill

SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas Holidays

December 20, 2010 – December 31, 2010
School begins again on January 3, 2011



EXTENDED FRENCH/FRENCH IMMERSION

The Extended French Program begins in Grade 5 and continues up to Grade 12. Please see the Board website (<http://www.dpcdsb.org>) for program description, eligibility, registration, transportation and location information.

An Extended French Information Meeting is scheduled in on **Wednesday, January 12, 7PM at St. Christopher School** for the 2010-2011 school year. Anyone interested in the Extended French program should attend. Registration packages and application forms will be distributed at that time.



The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board would like to find out if parents/guardians of children in Junior and Senior Kindergarten are interested in accessing **French Immersion** at existing and/or possible additional sites when their children start Grade 1. Parents can access the survey online at <http://www.dpcdsb.org>

ANAPHYLAXIS/ALLERGEN AWARENESS

We hope that you have had the opportunity to read our notice regarding the All Saints School Protocol for Allergen Awareness. We would like to remind you that Christmas treats for other students in the class should only be sent in at the teacher's request (i.e. in the event of a classroom social, etc.) This will provide teachers the opportunity to inform parents that treats will be served on a specific day and parents will be able to opt out of the activity if they wish. Please note that any treats that arrive at the school on an unplanned day will remain in the office and will be returned home with the student at the end of the day.

We would like to inform you that School Council will be providing the students with a Christmas treat after the December Virtues assembly. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns regarding this activity. We appreciate your constant support in the matter of Allergen Awareness at All Saints School.

KISS N RIDE INFORMATION

DADS AND MOMS ON DUTY

It has been a great autumn so far at the front of the school, and we do appreciate the fantastic cooperation you've given to the teachers and volunteers. With the cold weather approaching, we thought we'd send out some reminders of the Kiss N Ride rules. These are in place so that the children can get safely onto the school property from your vehicles and to protect those other students around you as you drive through the driveway.

→ Always drive your vehicle on the left side of the driveway when you drop off your children.

→ Please do not park your car in the driveway; if you have to get out to help your children, please park on the street (in the legal areas) and assist your child in that way.

→ The right lane is reserved for busses and emergency vehicles only. By driving in the right lane, you run the risk of hitting another child exiting the vehicle in the left lane ahead of you. Please avoid using the right lane.

→ There is a 15 kph speed limit while in the Kiss N Ride lanes. There are several small children being dropped off that do not have a fast reaction time. Please keep a sharp lookout for children who may dart out between cars.

→ The school day starts at the ring of the bell at 8:45AM. Children should be already out of the vehicles and at their doors by this time.

→ Please remember: Kiss N Ride volunteers serve the school in the interests of ensuring the safety of all. We appreciate your smiles, your patience and your cooperation!

NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the coming of the cold, so many of us are confining ourselves inside our homes to keep away from that cold. Unfortunately, that deprives our bodies of very necessary natural vitamin D and that good ol' breath of fresh air! How about a nice walk in the morning after you have dropped off your child(ren)? Well we have a great idea for you, and you can benefit your school at the same time! How about joining our Kiss N Ride team? For just 10-15 minutes in the morning, you can participate in your child's school and get the exercise that our bodies need. It's just another few minutes in the morning, and then you can go home and really enjoy your cup of coffee/tea after a good morning's work. It does not have to be every school morning, but any day you can volunteer would be greatly appreciated!

If you're interested in joining our special team, please let one of the Kiss N Ride volunteers know or inform the office; we'll happily train you and show you the ropes!

The volunteer aspect of the school life adds value for both parent and student and we encourage everyone to do their part in making this a great school year.

– Mr. B. Derks (Parent Volunteer)

QUEBEC EXCURSION



Planning is well underway for our Grade 8 trip to Quebec. A number of details have been provided to parents to date including: on-line sign up instructions, Quebec information packages and details about insurance packages associated with the excursion. Please note that deposit money becomes non-refundable once the trip is confirmed. The price quoted is based on a minimum of 30 student travelers. However, the price may change, particularly if the number of students who travel is substantially less than 30.

Please note that the deadline for registration has been extended to **Friday, December 10, 2010.**

OUTDOOR PLAY

Our first major snowfall could come any day now. Please ensure that your child is properly dressed for outdoor play in a Canadian winter. It is a school expectation that all students go outside for recess for exercise and fresh air. If your child is unable to go outside for recess because of illness, please consider keeping them home until they are feeling better. We also ask that your child have a pair of indoor shoes for classroom use, labeled with their name for easy identification.

We would appreciate your support in reinforcing the school rule that all snow stays on the ground. For everyone's safety we do not allow snowballs, kicking snow, or any other snow/ice activity that could lead to potential harm or injury.



FIRE DRILL\LOCKDOWN

All Saints is required to practice fire drills and lockdown procedures throughout the school year. We hold 6 fire drills each year as well as 2 lock down drills.

During fire drills, students are asked to move safely and quickly to the nearest exit, and proceed to their designated class area outside the building. If an exit were to be blocked, students are to leave the building via an alternate exit.

In a lockdown, students are alerted over the PA that the school is "initiating a lockdown." Students are directed to move away from all windows and doors. Classroom doors and windows are secured. Students remain this way until the alert is cancelled.

Discussing these procedures with your child will help underscore and support the importance of these safety measures.

PA DAY\ PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

January 14, 2011 has been designated a Professional Activity Day, for teachers to work on assessment and evaluation of student progress. There will be no classes for all students on that day.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CLOSING DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER

During the winter months, inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00am and will be announced on the following radio stations:

CKFM 99.9 CFRB 1010

CHUM 1050 CHF1 98.1

CFTR 680 CFNY 102.1

Or please check our Board website at www.dpcdsb.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Families are assigned to All Saints from the St. Vincent de Paul group at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish and baskets will be delivered to families through Parish volunteers. Last year we sponsored 18 families including 23 adults and 44 children. In 2010, we are helping 15 families including 27 adults and 38 children. Please remember that our food and gift donations go a long way to help these families celebrate Christmas. Gifts for the families can then be sent in the week of December 6th – 10th. Every gift should be wrapped and labeled with the basket number and gender/age of the recipient (i.e. basket # 1, girl age 2). Thank you for your generosity!

SPARK TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY KIDS

Spark Together for Healthy Kids™ is the Heart and Stroke Foundation's response to the growing epidemic of childhood obesity. They are an Ontario-wide initiative helping to inspire individuals, families, communities, businesses, and government to spark collective change to help children become more physically active and eat healthier foods.

Sign the Spark Promise to Our Children at www.heartandstroke.ca/spark ***What can you do?***

- Walk your children to school, the local grocery store and playground.
- Organize, volunteer or advocate for local community projects such as farmers' markets, community gardens and walking and biking trails.
- Contact your local MPP, city councillors and school board trustees about the issues you are concerned about such as subsidized healthy food programs, more sidewalks and access to recreational programming.
- Apply for a [Spark Community Advocacy Grant](#) to ignite action in your community. Tell friends, neighbours and colleagues about why Spark Together for Healthy Kids is important for the health of Ontario's children. Together we can ignite sustainable change for a brighter future for our children – one spark at a time.

SPORTING NEWS

Ice Hockey teams have been chosen:

Congratulations to:



Intermediates

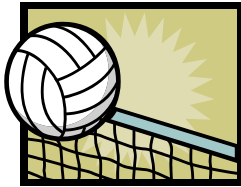
Andrew D.	Alex M.	Matthew E.	Justin V.
Cristian G.	Declan V.	Olivia R.	Ethan M.
Eric G.	Kelly M.	Jeannine F.	Justin H.
Michael S.	Chris M.	Austin N.	Spencer G.
Alexandra C-B.			

Juniors

Ben J.	Jacob R.	Stephen F.	Evan S.
Tristan R.	Zoey W.	Taylor L.	Grant F.
Tyler B.	Lauren E.	Philip D.	Santino F.
Makafui M.	Thomas B.	Matthew H.	Aaron B.
Michael P.	Ryan L.		

(Coaches – Mr. Carrabs and Mr. Osterman)

First hockey tournaments are hosted by All Saints. The Intermediate tournament is January 19-20/2011 and the Junior tournament takes place February 15-16/2011.



The Junior Girls' Volleyball team fought hard and came within one point of qualifying for the playoffs.

The Junior Girls' Volleyball Team are :

Lauren E	Nicole C.	Veronica G.	Melissa M
Edo O.	Miranda M	Catherine C	Maria M

The Junior Boys' Volleyball advanced to the playoffs and beat St. Christopher to advance to the Family Tournament. We are proud to report that our team placed 3rd overall in the Family!

(Coaches: Ms. Szeto, Mr. Carrabs, Ms. Zanatta, Mr. Discenza)

The Junior Boys' Volleyball Team are :

Ben J.	Jacob R.	Stephen F.	John H.
Michael P.	Thomas B.	Santino F.	Joshua S-C.



Intermediate Basketball tryouts are ongoing and the team will likely be chosen before Christmas. The season begins in January. (Coaches: boys - Mr. Carrabs, girls - Mr. Discenza)

OUR CATHOLIC HERITAGE

1. How long have Catholic separate schools been educating Catholic children and contributing to the public good in Ontario?

For about 170 years. In the early 1800s there were separate schools in many cities, towns and townships. In Peel, three separate schools opened before Confederation (1867): St. James in Malton in the 1830s, St. John's Agricultural College (1861) and St. Patrick's (1861), both in Wildfield.

2. Has the Ontario government always supported separate schools?

Yes, as did its predecessor, the United Legislature of Canada East (now Quebec) and Canada West (now Ontario) during its total life from 1841 to 1867. One of the first pieces of legislation it passed in 1841 was the *Common School Act*, with a separate school clause.

3. Why did the United Legislature of Canada East and Canada West keep improving separate school legislation?

It responded to Catholic parents, trustees, bishops and priests, editors of the four Catholic newspapers, members of the business and professional world, all of whom argued for legal and financial rights for separate schools.



4. Was there opposition to separate schools before Confederation?

Yes, as now, there were advocates of one school system. Protestant spokespersons believed in the adequacy of the common (now public) school's basic non-denominational Christianity, which constituted an important element of the common school's religion lessons and their readers. They held that beliefs specific to certain religions should be taught in the churches and homes.

5. Why did Catholics find the non-denominational religious education of the common school unsatisfactory?

Catholics wanted separate schools where all the beliefs of the Catholic Church would be taught, where the pupils would live their faith in a sacramental and community manner in proximity to the parish church and priest, and where religion would permeate the reading, literature and history curriculum. Furthermore, as modern times arrived, the multiculturalism of the public school's student body necessitated the eradication of the teaching of Christianity.

**From Your Catholic School Trustee
Sharon Hobin**

I am so happy to have been acclaimed as your trustee for another four years. I do look forward to working on behalf of the ratepayers, parents and students who attend the schools that I represent.

As Christmas approaches, I encourage all of you to attend the many activities that will be taking place in our schools from Advent Masses to Christmas plays and concerts. I have also heard a rumour that the man himself, Santa Claus may appear in some schools. Very exciting!

School Councils have been elected and are up and running. I also encourage you to attend the Council meetings as they provide parents with first hand information about board wide and local school initiatives. Many Councils are bringing in speakers to speak about many interesting topics for parents.

Our new board holds its inaugural board meeting on December 7. We will have three new trustees on the Board of Trustees:

- Peter Ferreira, Wards 6 & 11 Mississauga, (formerly a trustee and chair of the board)
- Anna da Silva, Brampton, Wards 1, 3 & 4
- Scott McLauchlan, Brampton, Wards 7-10

Returned trustees are:

- Linda Zanella, Brampton, Wards 2, 5, & 6
- Mario Pascucci, Mississauga, Wards 1 & 3
- Sharon Hobin, Mississauga, Wards 2 & 8
- Anna M. Abbruscato, Mississauga, Ward 4
- Thomas Thomas, Mississauga, Ward 5
- Bruno Iannicca, Mississauga, Ward 7
- Esther O'Toole, Mississauga, Wards 9 & 10
- Frank Di Cosola, Caledon/Dufferin

This year, the Board of Trustees opened St. Michael Catholic Secondary School in Bolton, and next year will open Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Elementary School in Brampton. Of course I am so excited to see the ground breaking for the new Loyola which will happen in the Spring of 2011. The school is set to open in September 2012.

The Board has received year-three of full-day kindergarten program sites. To date, we have opened 48 classrooms in 16 sites in our board with an additional eight sites scheduled to open in September 2011. We have only opened up sites in accordance with the funding model, at the direction of the trustees. We hope to have year-four sites identified in the Spring. Our board continues to collaborate on site selection with our community partners and co-terminus board. For my area, Full Day Learning is offered at St. Lewis. Next year it will be offered at St. Francis of Assisi and in year three it will be offered at St. Margaret of Scotland and St. Luke. The board must meet a list of criteria when choosing schools. Before and After School Day Care is not free. Parents must pay an hourly fee.

The Board is attempting to organize a meeting with our local MPP's in the New Year. It is my hope that our local MPP will attend the meeting. We always look forward to a productive and mutually beneficial meeting.

In terms of **transportation**, I continue to receive calls about transportation issues. Since Bill 177 was brought into legislation and since the provincial government has established the consortium between Peel and DP in order to guarantee effectiveness and efficiency, parents who have concerns must contact **STOPR** which can be found on the DP web site at www.dpcdsb.org. We have reduced the walking distances from 1.6 kilometers to 1.0 kilometers for grade 1 students and by reducing the distance criteria for eligibility for grades 7 and 8 students from 3.2 kilometers to 2.0 kilometers. We were able to do this because we had funding in the budget which we have now used. We must have a balanced transportation line in our budget. If you received Courtesy Ridership this year there is no guarantee that you will receive it for next year and each year is assessed based on empty seats. When we go to integrated ridership with Peel as we have been forced to do by the ministry I feel that we will have few empty seats although I have no information to confirm that. Parents who are relying on Courtesy Ridership for next year should be warned that this may change. This is out of the hands of the administration of the schools and the trustees. Flex boundary students do not receive bussing. You may reach STOPR directly by going to www.stopr.ca.

As I visit my schools I am acutely aware of our outward signs of our Catholicity. It is crucial that we continue to make our elected representatives aware that we expect that they will stand for Catholic education in this province. I wish each and every one of you a blessed Christmas and all the very best for the New Year. May the good Lord always hold you in the palm of His hand.

- Sharon Hobin

ARE YOU TICKED?



Dufferin-Peel
Catholic District
School Board

Direction of school support has long been an issue for Catholic school boards in Ontario. The fact is that, unless the municipality is notified, the school support designation, for assessment purposes, automatically defaults to public school support when an individual or family moves to a new address.

This may have an impact on students' eligibility to attend Catholic elementary schools, trustee representation on school boards, and on government perception of support for Catholic education.

We want to bring a greater awareness around this matter and have created the Are You Ticked? campaign as the communication vehicle for this awareness.

If you would like more information on school support designation or would like us to help you check or change your school support designation to the Catholic system, please call the School Board at (905) 890-0708, ext. 24512.

FLAGS AT HALF STAFF

To mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women, flags on all Ontario government buildings across the province were flown at half-mast from sunrise to sunset on **Monday, December 6, 2010**. Dufferin-Peel supports this action and, in this regard, you may have noticed the flag in front of the school at half staff on this day.



YOUTH FAITH AMBASSADORS

On Friday November 17th, several Youth Faith Ambassadors traveled to Dr. Simone's Canadian Food for Children Warehouse to be "the hands and feet" of Jesus. The candies collected from the All Saints community "Candies for Kids" drive were delivered. The students spent the morning helping to unload cars that arrived with donations and loading a container that was leaving for El Salvador that afternoon.

It was a wonderful experience for our Youth Faith Ambassadors and we look forward to returning on Friday December 17th with all the Intermediate Students to load another container and to participate in a Mass at 11:00 with all the volunteers.

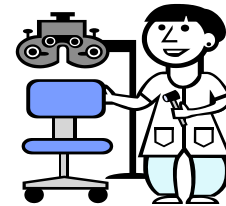
'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next school council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Library. Detailed information (including meeting dates, minutes of past meetings as well as the Out and About Newsletter) is available in the School Council section of the school website. Please visit <http://www.dpccsb.org/ALLST/School+Council/>

EYE SEE...EYE LEARN PROGRAM

We are pleased to be working with the Ontario Association of Optometrists in bringing the Eye See...Eye Learn program to our Dufferin-Peel Junior Kindergarten families. All Junior Kindergarten teachers have received the Eye See...Eye Learn materials to provide to parents. Local optometrists are providing OHIP-insured eye exams and if the child needs glasses, they will receive them **FREE**.



JK\SK INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

There will be an information session for parents of children with special needs such as vision, hearing, physical/medical, developmental or autism that are entering JK, SK or the Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program in September 2011.

The information session will be held at the **Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board -- Catholic Education Centre Room 301 on January 26, 2011 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Parents/Guardians are also reminded to register their child here at our school office. Registration will take place at All Saints Catholic School on:

February 7, 2011(7:00 pm-9:00 pm)
Snow Date: Feb. 8, 2011 (7:00 pm-9:00 pm)

February 9, 10, 11, 2011 (9:00-11:00 am and 1:00-3:00 pm)

Please note that All Saints will not be providing Full Day Kindergarten in 2011 – 2012.

CREATURE QUEST

On Wednesday November 17th, all the grade 7 students enjoyed a morning observing and touching various animals from different ecosystems around the world. It was a great supplement to their Life Strand Unit in Science. Students learned about the animal's habitats, adaptations, their importance within the food chain and the relationship between abiotic and biotic in the environment.

A big thank you to Mrs. Zanatta and Mrs. Lima for organizing this amazing event which was both educational and enjoyable.