

"Out and About"

All Saints Catholic Elementary School Council Newsletter

June 2011

View from the Chair

Wow – another school year has come and gone, and what a wonderful year it was. The Catholic School Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students, volunteers and families of All Saints for their generosity and dedication to help our own school community as well as many local and global outreach projects.

Our own fundraising efforts enable the school to purchase many items that enrich the lives of students. Every fall, the Council sets out a budget based on direction from the Administration and then we fundraise to meet those requests. Regular programs such as Fantastic Friday, Extreme Pita, Frozen Yogurt and Milk help throughout the year and then focused efforts such as the Fall Fun Fair and the Kernels popcorn fundraiser make up any shortfall. We know that a collective groan may be heard from the community every time you hear the word “fundraiser” as we are inundated by our schools, sports teams, and charities. At All Saints we want to know how thankful we are for your support and that your money is well spent.

Here are a few highlights on how this money has been spent this 2010/2011 school year.

- Literacy & Numeracy: Comprehensive Toolkits, classroom libraries
- Guest Speakers: Facebook 101, Nelson Mandela Children’s Fund, Mad Science, Blue Veil Ministry
- Physical Education: Replacing old equipment and covering refereeing costs
- Audio: Replacing many of the old cables and parts to improve the sound system
- Liturgical Supplies: Confirmation crosses, rosaries, busing to mass
- Special Events: Oliver production, Movie Night, Easter & Christmas Treats
- Graduation: Grade 8 graduation plaques and ceremony subsidy
- Technology: The purchase of an additional Smart Board so that all 4 intermediate classrooms will have access to this teaching/learning technology

I am also extremely proud of our outreach success. While some programs are initiatives lead by the Council, many of the ideas and the hard work comes from our students. Through this community outreach, our kids learn that they are citizens of the world and that even as a child they CAN make a difference. Thank you so much for your generosity. The following charities were supported by the All Saints community this year:

Good Bears of the World, Eden Food Bank, St. Vincent DePaul, Sharelife, Autism Society of Ontario, Loonies for Learning, and Canadian Feed the Children (Dr. Simone’s charity: candy for kids, winter clothes, soap, salt).

On behalf of all Council members, I would like to extend our prayers and well wishes to those students, staff and their family members who have been recovering from illness, or the loss of a loved one during this school year.

We are sad to say goodbye to **Mr. Osterman and Mr. Gabrielli** as they retire this June from a teaching career that spans 29 & 30 years respectively. Mr. O and Mr. G. are kind and compassionate men that are loved and respected by more than one generation of students and their families. We wish them both a very happy and healthy retirement.

We are also very sad to say goodbye to **Mr. Vecchiarino**, who has been our Principal for the last two years. He has been an incredible leader, an inspiration to staff and students and a lot of fun to work with in my position as Chair of the Catholic School Council. We will miss his smile, laughter and leadership and we wish him well in his new position at the School Board. Come back and visit Mr. V!

We are looking forward to welcoming **Mrs. Nancy Levey** as our new Principal in September - she will have some big, Italian leather shoes to fill, but she told us that she is up for the challenge!

While the school year passed so quickly, we hope summer slows down a bit and that you are all able to take some time to enjoy life and relax with your families. Our best wishes to the graduating class who move on to high school in September. To all our staff, students, volunteers and families, have fun, stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you all back on September 6th.

God Bless!

Susan Baird – Council Chair

susancurls@hotmail.com

SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for volunteers to come forward and join our team at All Saints. If you are interested in joining the School Council, election forms go home with student information packages the first week of school. The Council Election will be held this year on **Wednesday September 21st**. Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, with the exception of December and March. All parents are welcome to come to any Council meetings, if you want to have an issue addressed, please contact a Council member, or leave a message for us in the school office.

Parents wishing to join any number of our volunteer teams are encouraged to contact **Lori Graham at ldgraham@rogers.com**. Volunteers must have a criminal record check completed. Forms are available in the office and can be taken to the local community station at Glen Erin/Collegeway for approval. There is no cost for volunteers. We have a large number of events and programs that require volunteers throughout the year. Please consider helping out at the school, not only will you meet lots of parents in the community, you will be helping to make All Saints a better place for all the children and have fun doing it!

KERNELS POPCORN FUNDRAISER

When the final numbers were tallied, our Kernels popcorn fundraiser succeeded in raising **\$5,000** for the School Council coffers. Much of the work was done by our Fundraising Chair, **Carolyn Simpson**, and we thank her for time and efforts to make this program a huge success. Thank you also to the community who took the time to sell the popcorn and to those who donated the equivalent profit in lieu of selling the popcorn.

FANTASTIC FRIDAYS

The Fantastic Friday program has raised \$7,000 for All Saints School. The pizza program will have to change to comply with the new government regulations (PPM 150) but we plan on continuing a weekly pizza day. The price of a slice may change in September, but any unused tickets purchased this year, will be honoured for the value that was paid this year. Keep them in a safe place!

Once again, many thanks go to the parent volunteers who show up Friday mornings to tally orders and deliver the pizza to our students: **Charlene Durant, Jill Washington, Lori Graham, Caroline Dales, Lynda McQueen, Jane Lek, Jacqui Grange, Sonia Marsic, Kathy Arbour, Rosanna Marotta, Samia Tannous, and Judith Proulx**. If you are interested in joining one of our teams next year, please contact Lori Graham at the volunteer email address above.

EXTREME PITA UPDATE

The Extreme Pita program has shown continued success throughout the school year and we will continue it for the 2011/2012 school year with any required adjustments for PPM 150 rules. This program brings in over \$1,000 for our fundraising account. Students really enjoy this healthy alternative and we thank you for your continued support. Many thanks to volunteers **Carolyn Simpson, Judith Proulx, and Caroline Dales** for helping me make this monthly lunch run smoothly.

FROZEN YOGURT

This new product was a great success raising \$1,000 from its introduction in March until the end of June. It is PPM 150 compliant, a healthy treat and the kids love it! We will be bringing it back in September. If you have any leftover tickets, please put them in a safe place to be used next year.

MILK

While the milk program still adds almost \$1,200 to our fundraising account, it is not as profitable as it once was due to rising costs. However the primary purpose of this program is to offer a healthy drink option for our kids' lunch. This program would not be nearly as successful without the efforts of parent volunteer **Kathy Arbour**, who processes all of your orders, deals with the suppliers and manages our inventory. The **staff and students of the ASD room** helped with the deliveries this year, along with some inventory help from **grade 8 students**. Thank you all for your dedication to this daily program.

KISS N RIDE

Last but certainly not least, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers who work the Kiss N Ride every morning to make the drop off safe for students. **Barry Derks, and Mauro DiDomenico** volunteer their time each morning, regardless of weather. **Jacqui Grange and Suzanne Rutherford** also assist several days a week. We appreciate their time and efforts to keep all the children safe and the Kiss N Ride running smoothly.

5th ANNUAL FALL FUN FAIR

Mark your calendars! The 5th Annual All Saints Fall Fun Fair will be held on **Saturday October 1st**. The organizing committee is already hard at work planning for this fantastic community event. We are always looking for parents who might be interested in volunteering their time. There are some details that need to be accomplished over the summer, but a lot of time and effort are needed in the final weeks leading up to the day of the Fair. Anyone interested in joining the Organizing Committee or signing up to help out in September, please contact Co-Chairs Christine Derks at cderks@look.ca or Belinda Dei at bdei@sympatico.ca

FAIR DONATIONS:

Quite a lot of the fundraising is accomplished at the silent auction and raffle tables. The committee works hard all summer to secure donations from local businesses. If you are able to donate any good or services from your employer or from businesses that you patronize, please email me at susancurls@hotmail.com.

Another idea that was raised at our planning meeting was donating reward points: **Air Miles, HBC reward points, Costco rebates, etc.** Many of these programs allow individuals to use their points to purchase tickets to events, electronics, toys, games or other items that might be suitable for the silent auction or raffle table.

In addition, we will continue with our themed baskets, where each grade is assigned a theme and we ask that families contribute an item that may fit into a bigger gift basket. Summer time is a great time for bargain shopping so keep your eyes peeled for these requests or any great deals you can find.

JK/SK:	Toys R Us: Cars 2, Disney, Princess, Harry Potter DVD's, books, action figures, dress up items, stickers, games
Grade 1 & ASD:	Arts & Crafts Paint sets, craft kits, beads, markers, crayons, colouring books,
Grade 2:	Culinary Delight Gourmet oils, sauces, serving sets, cookbooks, bowls
Grade 3:	Halloween Decorations, costumes, candles, candy, napkins, serving bowls
Grade 4:	Pamper Day Hand and body lotion, nail polish, candles, chocolate treats, bath products
Grade 5:	Rainy Day / Indoor Entertainment DVDs, board games, CDs, puzzles, popcorn/treats, video games, cards
Grade 6:	Sports / Outdoor Entertainment Balls, team hats, shirts, hockey & other sports equipment
Grade 7:	Time to Bake Pans, baking mixes, decoration sets, bowls, chocolate, cookbooks
Grade 8:	Winter Warm Up Specialty teas, coffee, mugs, mittens, hat & scarf, candles, slippers

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER & STAY SAFE!