



October

PRAYER FOR OF THANKS

Loving God, We



Loving God, we thank You:
 for peace within our land,
 for plenty from Your bounteous hand,
 for means to give to those in need,
 for grace to help in thought and deed,
 for faith to walk, our hands in Yours,
 for truth to know Your law divine,
 for strength to work with voice and pen,
 for love to serve our fellow humans,
 for light the goal ahead to see,
 for life to use alone for You,
 loving God, we thank You.

During this season of harvest, let us pray for those in need of food, for those who see that others are fed, and for those who are made holy in the sharing of food.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: EMPATHY

During the month of October we will focus on the virtue of 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 a safe, caring and inclusive community.

An empathetic person believes that we all share one Spirit; that we are many parts of one body because we are all created in the image and likeness of God.

An empathetic person ...

- Listens attentively
- Watches people's body language
- Notices and responds when someone is upset
- Can name her / his feelings
- Can see a situation from another person's point of view
- Knows that different people may feel differently about the same thing.



Our next Virtues assembly is scheduled for October 21st at 9:30 a.m.

Principal: K. Barton
 Vice Principal: M. Clarot

Secretaries: L. Grant and
 N. Cavaliere

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

P. McMorrow
 905-890-1221

TRUSTEE

F. DiCosola
 905-951-8898

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Rev. L. Leger and Rev. S.
 Hernandez

905-857-1938

ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chair: A. Lettieri
 905-951-8788

Please visit our website at
 Www.dpccsb.org/JBAPT

Volunteer All Star Reading Coaches



The All Star Reading Program provides opportunities for students to develop and to enhance their reading and thinking skills. The students, who have previously participated in the program, have achieved very positive results. We really need volunteers to be All Star Reading Coaches. This entails a half-day training session and then an hour to two hours per week for ten weeks. We are beginning our first week on October 24, 2011. We look forward to working with you. Please pick up a form at the office and return it to the school if you are interested in volunteering. Please contact Ms. Cecchetto or Mrs. Clarot if you have any further questions.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Wednesday, October 5th is United Nations World Teachers' Day and throughout Dufferin-Peel we will be recognizing the many contributions of our teachers on this day. We would like to thank those at St. John the Baptist School, for their commitment and dedication to Catholic education.

Most of us can point to a teacher who has influenced us positively in some way. Take a moment today, or have had in the past. If there is someone who has had a major influence on your life, please take time to thank them. We are looking for teachers you have had a major influence on your life. We are looking for teachers who are making fun and learning fun and interesting, or has helped you to achieve success in some way, take a moment to thank them. Please take a moment to thank one of your current teachers by telling them you appreciate them.

To our outstanding team of teachers, we would like to thank you for the work you do. You are the reason we have such an exciting, vibrant school and that our students continue to excel. You truly matter!

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TEACHER

Dufferin-Peel will continue to have an Special Assignment Teacher (SAT) visiting each school in the system to assist with the teaching of primary and junior literacy and mathematics across the curriculum. The SAT will be working in partnership with classroom teachers to implement the junior literacy and math plan. She will be working with groups of students, as well as individual students, alongside the classroom teacher to target the learning needs of all students. This teacher may be working in your child's classroom from time to time throughout the year. Welcome back Nicole Krzyzaniak our SAT.

EQAO RESULTS

The Grade 3 and 6, primary and junior division, EQAO assessments measure how well students have met the expectations in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1 - 8*. The assessments test what students know and how well they apply their knowledge and skills in reading, writing and mathematics in everyday situations by requiring students to read and respond to passages, to write and to solve mathematical problems.

EQAO assessments combine performance-based activities, requiring written responses, with multiple-choice questions. The results are reported in terms of achievement from Levels 1 to 4, with level 3 as the standard, which represents a high level of achievement.

The results for St. John the Baptist Catholic School, stated as the % of students meeting the Provincial standard (Achieving Levels 3, 4) are as follows for the 2010-2011 assessment.

	Grade 3	Grade 6
Reading	82%	71%
Writing	88%	74%
Math	83%	55%

School results on the EQAO Grades 3 assessments indicate that the school-wide emphasis on reading and writing has produced very good achievement in our students' reading, writing and mathematical skills at the grade 3 levels. Our grade 3 results in reading, writing and math indicate that reading, writing and math are strengths. All three scores are substantially higher than the overall board levels. The grade 6 results show that reading and writing scores were maintained. Math requires additional attention.

Staff and students will continue to focus on reading, writing and mathematical strategies and skills. Our primary and junior literacy rooms are established, we will continue "All Star Reading" for "at risk" readers and many staff will be participating in mathematical focused School and Board sponsored staff development initiatives.

For further details on our results, Catholic School Learning Plan 2010—2013 or student achievement on the provincial assessments please visit the board web site <http://www.dpcdsb.org>. It is important to emphasize that these results should not be used to compare or rank schools, they are intended for the purpose of improving teaching and learning for all students.

TERRY FOX EVENT



Our school Terry Fox charity event was a huge success on Wednesday, September 28th. Student awareness of the work of the Terry Fox Foundation was heightened and our school raised a considerable amount of money that will be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation. The exact total collected will be reported in next month's newsletter. Sincere thanks are extended to Ms. Gatti, Ms. Shepherd, Ms. Russo and Mrs. Ciccocelli for their assistance with this event and to all the students, parents and staff who contributed to the fund raising effort.

Sign up TODAY!

Parents and guardians of Dufferin-Peel Catholic students can stay up-to-date with the latest board news and information by joining the Dufferin-Peel eCommunity. Members will receive the latest news and information by email, including news releases, school activities and events, board meeting highlights, school and bus cancellations, plus useful tips for parents and students. Sign up online at www.dpcdsb.org.



SCHOOL MASS

We will be celebrating mass on Monday October 17th, 2011 at 9 a.m. for grades 1, 3, 5 and 7 and 10:30 for grades 2, 4, 6, and 8.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL FUND RAISER

Our St. John the Baptist Catholic School Council is undertaking a number of fundraising activities this year to help our school meet the extra curricular needs of the students. The major fundraiser this year will be the Dance-a-thon. This dance-a-thon will take place on Monday October 31st. Students in grade 6, 7 and 8 require to donate a minimum of \$10.00. In addition, many prizes will be raffled beginning Monday October 24th. Pledges should be sent to classroom teachers by Thursday, October 27th.

Students have been reminded that they should not approach any strangers in their effort to raise money.



PR

ALLEGY ALERT

As part of our ongoing efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for all of our students, parents are reminded to **please not bring or send any food items to school with your children for distribution to other students.** The most common examples of this situation are students bringing food for class events or parties or for birthday events. Please keep these activities for "at home" occasions. Students may bring in pencils, stickers, etc.



ZEHRS TAPES

Please continue to send your Zehrs grocery receipts to school with your children. The funds we gain from this initiative are very useful towards our School Council activities.

Picture Day is Coming!

Mark your Calendar for our School Picture Day on Thursday, October 27 and Friday October 28

Picture Day information forms will be sent home with all students. Please review the information form and send it back with your child on Picture Day.

All students will be photographed for school service products. Proofs will be sent home for you to preview the images before you buy!

For Tips on preparing for photo day visit lifetouch.ca

Questions call Lifetouch at 1-866-457-8212 or guestservices@lifetouch.ca

Picture retake day is November 16th, 2011.



FROZEN YOGURT THURSDAY

Starting on October 6th, 2011 the parent council will be selling frozen yogurt for a loonie. They will sell them every Thursday until they are gone.



**OCTOBER 10TH IS
THANKSGIVING
NO SCHOOL**

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

"Jesus made it very clear,
Whatever you do to the least of my brethren,
You do it to me.
Give a glass of water, you give it to me.
Mother Theresa

**Please send a non-perishable food item with your
son/daughter to school by Friday October 7th, 2011.**



Enrichment Testing

Challenge testing for all grades 4 students will take place during the week of Oct. 11th. If you would like additional information on this test, please contact Mrs. Marchi.



LUNCH DELIVERIES

When delivering your child's lunch to school, please advise your child in advance that you will be doing so and write his/her name and the teacher's name on the bag. A table to accommodate these lunches has been set-up in the front foyer of the school. We ask for all parents to leave the lunch on the lunch table.

For security reasons, please do not gather and wait inside the front vestibule as you wait for your child to pick up their lunch.

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

The parent council had another successful year in 2010/2011 contributing an excess of \$18,000 to school initiatives.

Distribution of Council Funds for 2009/2010:

Literacy Night - **\$564.77**

Outdoor Recess Soccer Nets & Basketball Nets - **\$2,873.26**

Kindergarten Outdoor Activity Equipment - **\$2,579.58**

3 Anti-Bullying Presentation Assemblies - **\$1,130.00**

Big Kids Theatre - **\$1,092**

Grade I Resources for Literacy - **\$2,896.05**

Scientists in School - **\$5,000.00**

Grade 8 Graduation and SK Celebration - **\$750**

Audio Licence - **\$578.22**

School Play - **\$1,000.00**

Chris Vollum, Parent Facebook 101 Presentation – **\$466.13**

Kyle Dine – Student Allergy Awareness Presentation – **\$350.00**

Dare Program - **\$250**

Youth Bracelets for Virtues Assemblies - **\$300.00**

BFF's Initiative Rosaries for All Students – **\$350.00**

End of Year Teachers Appreciation Luncheon - **\$353.69**

Farewell Gifts of Appreciation for Dante/Mr. Cockburn - **\$257.29**

End of Year Council Appreciation - **\$257.79**

We would like to thank you, the parents and children of St. John the Baptist, for your continual support. It is with all our efforts that our children can continue to experience and benefit from such programs and initiatives.

GOING HOME FOR LUNCH

Students going home for lunch leave by the back door of the school. Parents can meet their child at the black fence.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Council Members for 2010/2011

Chair – Aphrodite Lettieri & Monique Cardinale

Treasurer – Ana Mather

Secretary – Natalya Agostino

Communications Coordinator – Maria Ramos

Parish Representative – Enza DiPasqua

Parent Representatives – Clara Giulianelli, Maria Ramos, Sonia Contatto, Debbie Famele, Rina Carano, Lavinia Tartaglia

Next Meeting Date is October 18th at 6:00-7:00 pm

iEngage Parent Presentation on October 18th at 7:00 pm

The **iEngage Parent Workshop** presented by Anthony McLean will provide parents with the information and resources they need to tackle bullying issues.

Please look for the flyer that will be sent home with your child.



HALLOWEEN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

During the early years of Christianity, the church leaders found it best to add the new religious ideas to earlier, already established beliefs. All Saints Day was proclaimed on November 1st so that the people could continue to celebrate a familiar festival, which respected the spirits. The mass that was said on that day was called Allhallowmas so the evening before became known as Hallow's Eve, or Halloween. Eventually the church recognized that Halloween had become a culture rather than a religious event.

Implications for Schools:

Halloween should be considered a cultural ritual in which children participate. In today's culture, it is rarely a celebration of the Celtic religion. Children today often dress in costumes which reflect the heroes of the culture, for example, Batman. While some claim that Halloween's association with the Ancient Celtic religion is a threat to Christianity; clearly the Church did not when establishing All Saints Day and the Day for the Commemoration of All Souls. In the same way, Father's Day is a cultural event, which does not detract from our understanding of God as Father. St. John the Baptist recognizes the cultural even of Halloween but attention will be paid to the religious significance of All Saints Day, which is the honoring of the whole Church Triumphant united to Christ in the enjoyment of the vision of God.

Costumes

Students can wear their costumes on Halloween Day. We ask that your child come to school dressed in their costume. Please keep in mind that we are a Catholic school and students need to be dressed appropriately even at Halloween. **No masks or replica weapons and knives are allowed.**

KISS AND RIDE

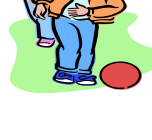
Thank you to all our parents who are respectful of our Kiss and Ride and of the parking signage. Caledon By Law Enforcement officers do regularly enforce the signage both at school and on the roads near the school.

Do not **PARK** your cars in the Kiss and Ride lanes as this causes unnecessary traffic backlog.

Please do not drop off your children in the drive through lane. It is dangerous to have students cross the drop off lane. Our number one concern is the safety of our students. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

RECESS TIME

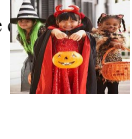
Children are expected to go out for recess everyday. If your child is not feeling well they will not be able to stay in for recesses. There is no recess supervision for these students to remain inside. If you feel your child is not well enough to go out for recess then they may need to spend the day at home.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Please remind your children to be safe during Halloween:

1. Do not wear costumes that are too long to see clearly.
2. Wear light colored costumes to be seen in dark streets.
3. Carry a flashlight to see in dark streets.
4. Go out with a group of friends, preferably under the age of 10.
5. Stay away from busy streets.
6. Watch for cars when crossing the street.
7. Wear costumes above the shoes so they will not trip.
8. Do not eat treats until they are home, and parents have checked the candy.
9. Do not damage other people's property.
10. Start trick or treating early and be home by 8:30.



OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

October is International Walk to School month. On Wednesday October 5th we will begin our "Wednesdays" Walk to School initiative.

Walk, bike, skip or hop to school...but don't drive!



DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS

Teachers dress down on Fridays to support the United Way.



MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY

Our school will be used as a polling site on Monday, October 24, 2011 for the provincial elections.



OCTOBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3 7:30 pm First Communion Parent Meeting at Holy Family Church	4	5 Walk to School Grade 7 Ste. Marie Among The Hurons Grade 8 retreat day at Holy Family	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Page Title</div> <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Page Title</div> <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Page Title</div> <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Page Title</div> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Page Title</div>	1 8 15 22 29
		18 6:00 Parent Council Meeting Anthony McLean Presentation for parents	19	27 School Photo Day Interview Evening for Parents	28 School Photo Day at 9:30 for grades 1-8 Picture Day	
	17 Thanksgiving Mass 9:00 and 10:30	25 Grade 6 at Muskoka Progress Reports sent home	26 Pizza Day Grade 6 returning from Muskoka at 3:15			
	24 Grade 6 to Muskoka Students to be at school at 8:30					
	31 Halloween Dance-athon					

NOVEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Silvercreek Pitcher	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Pizza Day	10	11 Remembrance Day Liturgy	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Pizza Day	24	25	26
27	28 Virtue Assembly at 1:30	29 Advent School Mass at 9 and 10:30 Reconciliation Mass 7:30	30			