



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Catholic Elementary School



299 Landsbridge Street

Bolton, Ontario

L7E 2K4

Phone (905) 951-8788

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February 2012

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. D.
 Young-Sam-You
 905-857-1938

ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

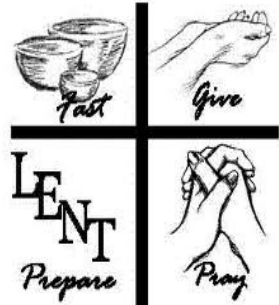
Chair: A. Lettieri
 905-951-8788

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

LENT

Lent is a season of turning to God in simplicity and sincerity as we prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter. Our hearts feel heavy as we remember our sins, but we are also confident in God's mercy and forgiveness.

The three great Lenten practices are prayer, fasting and alms-giving (giving money or other help to the needy). Doing these three things will help us to keep Lent as a holy season. In our prayers this Lenten season, let us be open to God's kindness as we promise to pray with more love, avoid treats and make a contribution to a charitable organization, such as ShareLife.



ONE WORLD—ONE SIGHT

Is a vision care program, that has helped millions of people see their world more clearly, through donations of glasses. Please donate your used eyewear and sunglasses. There will be a box located in the front office beginning on Ash Wednesday.

LENTEN PRAYER

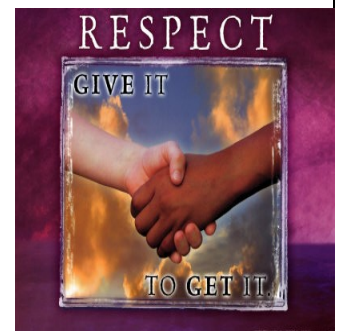
Lord God,
 in this Lenten season of growth
 teach us humility
 and help our love to grow.
 May our faith grow stronger
 and our selfishness weaker.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

VIRTUES - RESPECT

During the month of February we celebrate the virtue of respect.
A respectful person:

- ✓ Treats himself/herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy
- ✓ Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- ✓ Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs and inappropriate gestures
- ✓ Says "Excuse me", "Please" and "Pardon me"
- ✓ Avoids gossip

Our next Virtues assembly is scheduled for February 27th at 9:30 a.m.



Kindergarten Registration Dates



Registration for Junior and Senior Kindergarten for the 2012—2013 school year will take place as follows:

- Monday, February 6, 2012 from 7 to 9 pm.
- **Snow Date Only**—Tuesday, February 7, 2011 from 7:00—9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Feb. 8, 9 & 10, 2012 from 9:00—11:00 a.m. and 1:00—3:00 p.m.

To register your child, you will need:

1. Proof of age.
2. Original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman, Greek, or Ukrainian Rite, for one parent and child (if the child has not been baptized, a letter of counseling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted).
3. Updated immunization records.
4. Proof of Canadian citizenship or Landed Immigrant status.
5. Proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement).
6. For schools in Caledon and Dufferin County, emergency rural address numbers for identifying your property.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

School Council would like to thank all the parents that purchased magazines through the QSP fundraiser. School Council raised \$1500. A special thank you to Oliva T. from Mr. Bonaccorso's class who sold the highest dollar amount for the fundraiser.

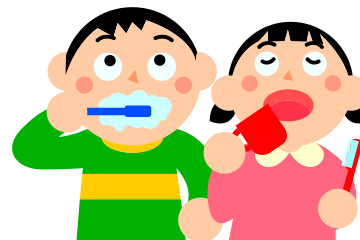
OUR SCHOOL MEETING DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Wednesday February 29th, 2012
- Tuesday April 17th 2012
- Thursday May 31st, 2012

ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT) Program

If you can't afford to take your child to the dentist, you can bring them to a Peel Public Health dental screening clinic for a free dental screening. You may qualify for dental care through the CINOT program if you meet eligibility criteria. For more information, or to book a dental screening appointment, call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700.



TOOTHY TIPS FOR PARENTS

Current information on dental health in Peel indicates that more than 1 in 3 children have been affected by cavities. Cavities can lead to infections in the mouth, pain, poor eating habits, speech problems and expensive dental treatment. Parents can play an important role in helping to give their child a healthy smile. Here are some tips for you and your children:

1. Have your children brush their teeth two times a day for at least 2 minutes each time. The most important time to brush is before bed time.
2. Supervise and help your child with brushing and flossing until they are able to tie their own shoelaces.
3. Use Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide to choose healthy foods and snacks. Healthy food choices can help to prevent the start of cavities.
4. Take your child to the dentist regularly.

BUCK OR TWO BOOK SALE

St. John the Baptist Catholic School Council is presently collecting **gently used book donations**, appropriate for students in J.K. to Grade 8. These books will be sold during our **Buck OR Two Book** fundraising initiative which will be held during Education Week in May.

At your earliest convenience, you may drop off your gently used book donations in the boxes located in the front forum of the school. This is a great time to clean out your bookshelves at home! More information regarding the sale date will follow. Thank you for supporting student literacy and our school!



IT'S WINTER! DON'T HIBERNATE — WALK TO SCHOOL AND CELEBRATE

Wednesday February 8th, 2012 is Winter Walk Day across Canada.

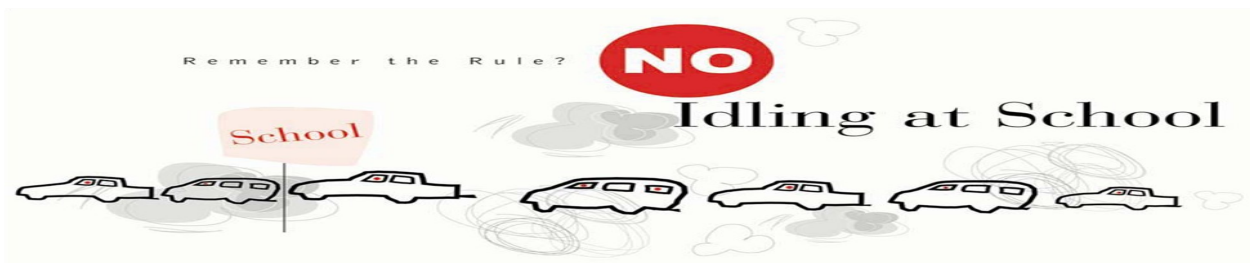
Walk to school for a healthier environment, safer streets, making friends and ... having fun!

Please be advised that students are kept indoors at recess during the winter only when the weather conditions are extremely cold. (When the wind chill equivalent temperature is minus 25 degrees Celsius or lower, as per school Board policy.)

TIPS FOR DRESSING FOR WINTER WALKING



- Keep hands and head covered to prevent heat loss
- On really cold days wear a scarf over your face and mouth
- Wear warm, waterproof boots
- Wear a warm coat that deflects the wind
- Woolen clothing helps to retain the heat
- Wear clothing or carry knapsacks with reflective material – it's important to be seen
- If possible, tuck an extra pair of socks and mitts into knapsacks



You can reduce air pollution and care for the air we breathe, by turning off your engine when your vehicle is parked.

- **You'll save money** - Depending on gas prices, you can expect to save well over \$60 per year just by turning off your engine. Idling a vehicle for 10 minutes a day uses up more than 100 litres of gasoline in a year.
- **You'll breathe easier** - By turning your engine off, you and others around you won't have to breathe in unhealthy exhaust fumes from a vehicle that is going nowhere.
- **You'll spare the air** - You will reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to problems such as smog and climate change.

Ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting your engine!

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

St. John the Baptist will be celebrating black history month and diversity in February. A number of events will take place to promote, celebrate and honour Black History and Diversity.

- The library will have on display books about Black History and Diversity
- Announcements, that will include information and trivia about Diversity and Black History
- Grade 7 will be hosting a "Baptist Friends of Faith Diversity" afternoon
- "Friendship Bracelets" will be for sale for valentine's day...the cost is 1 for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00

MOVING?

FLEX-BOUNDARY? PLAN AHEAD ...

We are in the process of planning staffing and organizing classes for the 2012-2013 school year. If you are planning on moving out of the St. John the Baptist area, or simply changing addresses within our boundaries, please let the office know as soon as possible. Families with students who live outside of the school area are reminded that they must apply through the Flex Boundary policy to the Principal for permission to attend the school **every year**. Permission to attend the school under Flex-boundary is guaranteed for **one year only**. Many factors, including staffing, and numbers of students in classes is considered each year before a decision can be made. The deadline for Flex Boundary applications to the principal is March 30, 2012.

Please note, that Flex-boundary for Kindergarten is subject to a different procedure. Few, if any, Flex-boundary requests will be accommodated. Please see the school website for more information or contact the office.

Nominations Open for Outstanding Educators

There are many examples of excellence in Ontario's schools, boards and licensed child care settings, and just as many reasons to nominate someone for a Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence.

These awards celebrate educators and support staff who make remarkable contributions to Ontario's education system.

Many staff employed in Ontario's publicly funded schools and boards can be nominated. There are eight award categories:

- Teacher of the Year
- New Teacher of the Year
- Early Childhood Educator of the Year (NEW!)
- Excellent Support Staff
- Excellence in Leadership
- Lifetime Achievement
- Team of the Year
- Full-Day Kindergarten Team of the Year (NEW!)

Nominations are open until February 6, 2012. Award recipients will be announced in the spring and recognized at a special awards ceremony during Education Week in May.

SPELLING BEE COMPETITION



The spelling bee competition was held here at St. John the Baptist. Congratulations to all those who participated in this fun competition.

The participants were as follows: Leanna A., Zachary S., Sabrina L., Christina M., Victoria A., Zachary M., Alessia C., Arianna S., Giorgio P., Natalie S., Shawn S., Jasmine A., Emily L., Dina B., Emily M., Steven C., and Sara K.

The winner of the school level competition was Shawn S.

Thanks again to all those who participated and did their best and to Mrs. Scanlan for coordinating this wonderful school event. Thank you to Mrs. Pitcher for helping with the judging.

INTERMEDIATE PUBLIC SPEAKING PRESENTATIONS

The Intermediate Public Speaking Presentations were recently held here at St. John the Baptist. Congratulations to all those who participated in this inspiring initiative. The participants who presented their speeches in the gym are as follows: Alessia B., Nicolina P., Abby D., Jenna F., Michael Z., Julia R., Melrena S., Emily M., Daniel F., Samantha S., Brianna C., and Dina B.

The winners of the school level competition were Brianna and Dina.

They will represent our school at the annual intermediate Catholic Women's League Public Speaking Competition. Thanks again to all who participated and did their best and to Mrs. Modugno for coordinating this school event. Thank you to Mm. Covre and Mm. Commisso for judging.



FAREWELL AND WELCOME!

We would like to wish Fr. Sherwin well as he will be leaving Holy Family Parish. He will be greatly missed. He will be Pastor at Our Lady of the Lake/Immaculate Conception Parish in Sutton, Keswick.

We welcome Fr. Damian who will be joining our Pastoral team at Holy Family Church. We are looking forward to working with him.



We also welcome back Mm. Commisso and Mrs. Zambito who are returning from a maternity leave. We want to thank Ms. Danielle and Ms. Ciccocelli who have done a fantastic job with our students.

REMINDER OF FEB. 8 DEADLINE FOR EXTENDED FRENCH PROGRAM!

In order that you have all the necessary information in making a decision as to whether this program would be beneficial for your son or daughter, St. Cornelius School has provided our school with some copies of the application form and some general information about the program. Please note that the deadline for the Extended French application form, as well as a copy of the Grade 4 First Term Report Card (being sent home Jan. 31) is February 8 by 3:00 p.m. and must be received at the St. Cornelius School Main Office. We hope that you and your son/daughter will take the time to discuss the merits of this program and consider the benefits of receiving a bilingual education. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call the Principal at St. Cornelius School at (905)584-2245.

KNIGHT'S OF COLUMBUS BASKETBALL FREE THROW



Members of the Holy Family Parish Knight's of Columbus Council hosted the local basketball free throw championships here at St. Michael's on Saturday, January 21. We sincerely thank the Knight's for organizing this very worthwhile community event and to the following students that represented our school: Samantha K, Morgan P., Justin D., Julian B., Matthew., Jenna, Arianna, Luca C., and Christina.

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING

As a parent, you can support your child's learning both at home and at school in many ways. Here are some things you can do with your child:



- Continue to build a good relationship with your child's teacher, seeking advice and suggestions for learning.
- Establish with your child a consistent routine for completing homework, including a regular study time and location, and encourage your child to maintain the routine.
- Discuss school work, successes, concerns, and interests with your child.
- Continue to offer praise as your child attempts new learning, and offer help and support when it is needed.
- Keep in mind that children who read well usually come from homes where parents: show an interest in reading; read to their children; talk with their children about what they are reading, thinking, and doing.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Thanks to our many parents who regularly call the school to report their child(ren) are going to be absent from school. Your phone call to the school saves Mrs. Cavaliere, our attendance secretary, a tremendous amount of valuable time in trying to track down unexplained absences. Remember that you can call the school twenty four hours a day to report your child's absence. On days that buses are cancelled and schools are open and students remain at home, it is expected that parents will report the absence of their children.

Students and parents are reminded that being punctual for school is a very important habit to follow! Our school entry times are 8:45 am for morning classes and 12:45 pm for the afternoon classes. Students who arrive even a few minutes late for school not only disrupt classes already underway, but put themselves at a disadvantage, because they need to "catch up" with classmates once they arrive into class. All students from Junior Kindergarten to grade 8 who arrive late to school must report to the main office to check in before going to class.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD ON TIME

Parents please be on time to pick your child at the end of the day at **3:15 pm** and for Kindergarten parents at **11:15 am and 3:15 pm**. Please remember we don't have supervision for your child after these times. We want to ensure that your child is safe at all times.

FEBRUARY 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Gr. 7 & 8 Skiing Pizza	2 Interview Night	3 PA Day (Interviews)	4
5 Speeches at Holy Family	6 JK/SK Registration 7-9 pm	7 Gr. 7 Meningitis Shots Gr. 8 HPV Shots	8 Extended French Application Due JK/SK Registration 9-11 am & 1-3	9 JK/SK Registration 9-11 am & 1-3 Grade 8 Scientist in the schools	10 JK/SK Registration 9-11 am & 1-3 Sub day & Milk Program Gr. 8 Scientist in	11
12	13	14 French Carnaval	15 Pizza French Carnaval Jr. Hockey	16 Kindergarten lottery for inbound students at 7 p.m. French Carnaval Jr. Hockey	17 Milk Program French Carnaval	18
19	20 Family Day No School	21	22 Ash Wednesday Liturgy	23	24 Sub Day Milk Program Int. Hockey	25
26	27 Virtues Assembly 9:30 am	28	29 Pizza School Council Meeting at 7 p.m.			

MARCH 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	1 Jr. Speeches	2 Milk Program	3
4	5 JR Hockey	6 Int. Hockey	7 Jr./Int. Hockey	8	9 Milk Program Sub Day	10
11	12 Mid Winter Break	13 Mid Winter Break	14 Mid Winter Break	15 Mid Winter Break	16 Mid Winter Break	17
18	19	20	21 Pizza	22	23 Milk Program Sub Day	24
25	26 Virtues Assembly at 1:30	27 Int. Hockey	28 Int. Hockey	29	30 Milk Program Deadline for Flex. Boundary requests for principal	31