



OFFICE STAFF

PRINCIPAL: S. Steer
VICE-PRINCIPAL: P. Golin

Administrative Assistants:
T. Ball, A. DellaPia

**SUPERINTENDENT OF
MISSISSAUGA NORTH**

D. Oude-Reimerink
905-890-1221

TRUSTEE

E. O'Toole (Ward 9 & 10)
905-812 - 5163



**ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER**



7185 Rosehurst Drive, Mississauga ON L5N 7G6
Phone (905)785-9298 Fax (905) 785-1227
Board web site: www.dpccsb.org
School website: www.dpccsb.org/alber

A Prayer for the Beginning of the New School Year

May we...

*explore together the territory of knowledge;
learn together the mysteries of truth;
share together the joy of friendship;
release in each other the spark of creativity;
inspire others to follow Your call;*

*May we always remember that You,
the author of all knowledge, all goodness,
all truth and all beauty, delight to share all
experience with us.*

Amen

**Our Virtue for
September....
Faith**



To begin the new school year, we'll focus our attention on the first of our virtues – **faith**.

Faith is the great virtue of believing in God and trusting that God is with us.

A *faithful* person believes that we are created, guided by and destined to be reunited with God.

A *faithful* person believes that God's plan for us includes the right to be safe, especially at school.

A Faithful person...

- Prays regularly and reverently
- Learns from Scripture stories
- Honours people's God-given names
- Assumes that there is good in everyone
- Accepts the God-given worth of themselves and others

St. John of the Cross Catholic Church

6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, Ontario Tel: 905-821 - 1331

Pastors: Fr. Leo Huard, Fr. Abraham Kulanjiyil, Fr. Joseph Kalluvila

Website: <http://www.saintjohnofthecross.com/>

Mass Schedule St. John of the Cross Church

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

OFFICE ITEMS

STUDENT ABSENCES

Please call the school on the days your child will be absent. This is a safety precaution that can save precious moments should there ever be an emergency. We thank you for your continued support in following this procedure.

Upon reaching the school answering service, please leave the following information:

- Date of absence
- Student's full name
- Grade level and teacher
- Reason for absence
- Date of return



Please continue to call on each day that your child is absent. When your child returns to school, please provide the teacher with a note regarding the specific reason for the absence.

Attendance: 905-785-9298 ext 1

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

Friday, September 16th is a Professional Activity Day. Students do not attend school on this day. Teachers will be involved in Adult Faith Development and reorganization of classes if necessary.

PICTURE DAY

Monday, September 26th is Picture Day for all students at St. Albert of Jerusalem School.

At St. Albert we gladly present the opportunity to offer "Green Screen" technology to parents. On-line background choices and ordering of prints is just one of the many features within the Edge Imaging technology package.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As this new school year begins, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new families in our school community and to welcome all those returning to St. Albert of Jerusalem School. A special greeting is extended to our Junior Kindergarten children who are starting school for the first time.

We are fortunate to welcome our returning staff members. Many have worked diligently over the summer months in various educational capacities such as marking EQAO, taking courses and setting up classrooms for the new school year.

We offer congratulations to: Mrs. Zenga who gave birth to beautiful Ruby last June; Mrs. Marcuzzi whose daughter Adelina was born in June and Mr. Bellizzi who has welcomed his beautiful son, Luca into the world.

We offer warm welcomes to our newest staff members: assistant secretary Ms. DellaPia, senior kindergarten teacher, J. Polom and grade 2 teacher C. Beach. We know that they will find St. Albert of Jerusalem a warm place to work, grow and learn.

Our custodial staff, Mr. Silva, Mr. Adriano, Mr. Tesaro and Mr. Oscan, has been diligently preparing the school for your children. My heartfelt appreciation is extended to them and each of the educational and administrative staff who have truly extended themselves in preparing the school for another year of academic challenges.

As we anticipate the successes of the year ahead, I encourage you to remember that each success will be the result of the mutual support and respect we as parents and educators show one another. It is very important that the positive relationships of the past continue throughout the upcoming year. As our students mature we are reminded that their beliefs, ideals and sense of responsibility, friendship and family are constantly challenged and the common language and support we share as role models in their lives will impact greatly on their values as they grow into Catholic leaders of the future.

Our school community is strengthened through our partnerships, none being more important than our parish team and our active School Council. Our students respond respectfully and eagerly to each faith and school initiative; this can only be attributed to the values modeled by their parents. The staff of St. Albert of Jerusalem School is happily committed to working with its partners to continue to support each child in their quest for knowledge, happiness and, above all, spiritual development.

All my best for a wonderful school year! God Bless.

S. Steer



CURRICULUM NIGHT

Please join us at St. Albert on the evening of Wednesday, September 21st for a community barbeque and Curriculum Night. Classroom visits begin at 7 pm. Mark this date on your calendars and plan to attend this great kick-off to the new school year! More information will follow.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The history of Catholic schools in Ontario since 1841 is one of dedication and perseverance in the face of financial hardship and adversity. Due to the commitment of the religious teaching Orders, the bishops and priests, the teachers, parents, and students, our forebears have handed to us a great gift – a fully funded public Catholic school system.

The courts of Ontario and Canada have reinforced the rights of the Catholic school system with a number of judgments which affirmed the rights of separate school boards to:

- (a) have their guaranteed powers in the *Separate School Act* of 1863 improved,
- (b) receive equitable funding,
- (c) prefer Catholics when hiring elementary and secondary school teachers,
- (d) have their own buildings,
- (e) have an exclusive Catholic school community.

The integration of religious truths and values with life is one of the most significant elements that distinguish the Catholic school from other schools. This is a matter of crucial importance today in view of contemporary trends and pressures to compartmentalize life and learning and to isolate the religious dimension of existence from other areas of human life. The courts have recognized, over the years, that Catholic education is not a subject but rather a way to view the world that speaks to the interrelationship between faith, knowledge and action. The Catholic school is a unique setting within which this ideal can be realized in the lives of Catholic children and young people. In our Catholic schools this reality can and is lived out.

VIRTUES INITIATIVE

A Catholic Faith Community is rooted in a set of common beliefs which are inspired by the life, mission and teaching of Jesus.

As a Catholic Community we are called to learn, to grow and to become more like Jesus in the way we see and treat others. Our Catholic faith plays an important role in helping us shape schools that are safe, caring and inclusive.

Catholic School education provides us the opportunity to integrate virtue formation into all areas of our school life within the context of our faith. St. Albert of Jerusalem School will again focus our attention on the *Catholic Virtues*. This program is designed to help us nurture virtue and character development in the lives of our students. Each month, the entire school will focus on a different virtue. Classroom and school wide activities and assemblies will all focus on the nurturing of a specific virtue. We would appreciate your support in discussing these virtues with your child and encouraging behaviours that demonstrate these virtues. Here is a list of the virtues we will be nurturing this school year.

September	Faith
October	Empathy
November	Conscience
December	Hope
January	Self Control
February	Respect
March	Kindness
April	Love
May	Acceptance
June	Fairness



OPENING MASS

Please join us to celebrate our opening mass on Wednesday, September 28, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

WHO WAS ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM???

Albert Avogadro was born in the middle of the twelfth century in Castel Gualteri in Italy. He became a priest of the Holy Cross at Mortara and was elected their leader in 1180. Named Bishop of Bobbio in 1184 and of Vercelli in 1185, he was made the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem in 1205 where, in word and example, he was the model of a good pastor and peace-maker. While he was Patriarch (1206-1214) he united the hermit monks of Carmel into one community and wrote a code of conduct or Rule for them. He was murdered at Acre on September 14th, 1214.

Patriarch: [pey-tree-ahrk] a person regarded as the father or founder of an order, class, etc.

SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVES

SCHOOL BUS COURTESY SEAT POLICY

At this time, transportation is only available to eligible students. Those wishing to access the courtesy rider policy are asked to pick up an application form at the school office and return it to Mrs. Golin.

*Depending on availability, seats will be allocated by the middle of October. **Please note that all children who were previously granted permission to ride the bus under the courtesy rider policy must find alternative transportation until the seating situation on the buses has been assessed and new passes are issued.***



HEPATITIS B INNOCULATIONS

Peel Health will continue to offer free immunization against Hepatitis B for students in grade 7 and for grade 8 students that have missed the vaccination. It is given as a series of two injections over a period of six months. Also available is the non-compulsory immunization of Gardasil for grade 8 female students. This is a series of three injections given throughout the year. If you have any questions please call the Peel Health Department at (905)799-7700.

Dose #1 will be administered on: Wednesday, September 14, 2011
Health Departments, by law, must keep a current record of your child's immunizations. It is the responsibility of parents to keep their child's records up-to-date.

POLICY ON PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Although game systems, cell phones and MP3 players have become the accessory of necessity for many of us, they do not enter into our world without a problematic flip side.

In some cases, unregulated use of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) has facilitated illegal activities in the school environment or during school-sanctioned activities. It has become an unfortunate reality that the promotion of academic excellence and the preservation of academic integrity can be compromised by the unregulated use of PEDs during the instructional day, at assessment times and on formal exam days. In this regard, it has recently become Board and school policy that all **PEDs must be kept out of sight, turned off and not used within school premises or during school-sanctioned activities such as retreats, field trips, sports events, etc.** To prevent the loss or damage of PEDs, we encourage students to leave their PEDs at home.



SECURITY AT ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM

During regular school entry and dismissal we kindly ask that you remain outside your child's regular entry or exit door or at a predetermined meeting place and not enter the school building. Although it may be tempting and convenient to pop in and ask a quick question or assist your child, it is not always a time when the teacher or child can proceed with his/her duties or carry on an uninterrupted conversation. At the beginning and end of the day, it is especially important that we minimize distractions so that teachers and students can direct their attention to their studies, organization and safety.

A reminder that all visitors INCLUDING PARENTS must come to the office, sign in and pick up an identification badge. No one is allowed within the school without proper supervision and identification. This procedure will help students and staff in recognizing our many visitors at St. Albert of Jerusalem School. If you are picking up your child at a time other than regular school dismissal, we ask that you report to the office. Arrangements will be made for your child to meet you at the office. If you intend to send someone else to pick up your children, please inform the classroom teacher.

We thank you for your cooperation in supporting a safe environment at St. Albert of Jerusalem.

CRIMINAL REFERENCE CHECKS

Anyone working in our school as a new employee or volunteer must have a Criminal Reference Check completed by the Peel Police.

CRC are free of charge for volunteers. Forms are available at the school office

VALUABLES

Students are requested not to bring valuables or items of importance to school. Heartache often follows when these items disappear. The school does not accept responsibility for the above, although every effort will be made to help students find missing items. Personal items should be marked with your child's name. When visiting the school please take a moment to check the Lost and Found box that is located on the first floor of the school. Missing coats, boots and lunch bags often turn up in this receptacle.

HEALTHY FOODS

The School Food and Beverage Policy contributes to improved education and health outcomes for all students. The school Food and Beverage Policy constitutes a comprehensive approach to the sale of food and beverages in schools province-wide. The implementation of this policy is another step in creating healthier schools in Ontario. It also reinforces the knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding healthy eating that are developed through the various subjects and disciplines in the Ontario curriculum. For further information on the School Food and Beverage Policy, see Foundations for a Healthy School, at www.ontario.ca/healthyschools As part of our school's effort to promote healthy eating and to comply with the Ministry of Education's School Food and Beverage Policy, we will be working with students, parents, and the staff to improve the nutritional value of food and beverages for sale at our school. These changes will make it easier for students to choose healthy food and beverages and will help them practise what they learn in the classroom about healthy eating.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit their child or to take their child home after school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitation rights and other special instructions. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of any custodial arrangements that may affect your child during school hours.

SABRINA'S LAW

Sabrina's Law is an Act to protect anaphylactic pupils in publicly funded schools in Ontario. Named "Sabrina's Law" in honour of an Ontario student who died following an anaphylactic reaction in 2003, the law became effective on January 1, 2006. This law requires that every school board establish and maintain an anaphylaxis policy. It also requires that principals develop individual plans for pupils at risk of anaphylaxis.

PEANUT / NUT AWARE SCHOOL

School can be a very frightening environment for a child with a severe allergy to peanuts or nut products. In an effort to further promote a safe and secure environment for all of our children we ask your support in working toward a school-wide nut free, peanut free school. Approximately 2% of our school population suffers from this life-threatening allergy. At first glance this may appear a small percentage. However, we must take into consideration that these children are not isolated to any particular grade level and, like all students, utilize the computer lab, washrooms, library and physical education equipment. We ask that you place careful consideration to school lunches and snacks and refrain from sending in items that are made of, or contain, nuts or peanuts. Students who do bring nut or peanut products to school will eat these items in a safe area outside of their classroom. They may return to the class when they have finished eating and have washed their hands.

We offer our heartfelt thanks for your support.



STUDENT INSURANCE

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Two options are offered for enrolment:

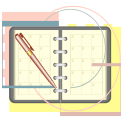
1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in or 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437). Parents alone have the right to insure their children.



STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Your child will receive a package which contains a number of forms requiring your attention. Of particular importance is the Information Verification Form. We ask that you take a few minutes and check over this information to ensure that it is accurate. Please make any changes needed directly onto the sheet and return to your child's teacher this week. Please add area codes for all phone numbers. ALL SHEETS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL as soon as possible, even if there are no corrections needed. It is very important that we have accurate phone numbers and emergency contact persons in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

SCHOOL AGENDAS

 Through the combination of school funding and the fundraising efforts of the Parent Council, the students in grades 1-8 are provided an agenda that is used to develop their organizational skills as well as facilitate communication regarding homework, deadlines and special events. Starting on page 2 of the agenda is a guide to the rules and responsibilities from the principal and from the school board "The Catholic Code of Conduct". Please take some time to look over the agenda with your child. It is particularly important to emphasize that the agenda is to be used daily to assist your child in organizing his/her time and to keep parents informed on what is happening in class and in the school. It is a great vehicle to jot down a short note to the teacher and the teacher can respond in the same way.

DISTRIBUTION and STORAGE of MEDICATION

Some of our students require medication during the school day. All medication is to be stored in the office except where directed by a physician (i.e. epi-pens). Board Policy requires that we have signed request/authorization forms from parents and the supervising physician in the office. These forms are available in the office. We encourage you to follow up on this practice as soon as possible, but in a proactive way, we also encourage you to visit our school website and access this form if you feel your child will need to have medication administered or stored at school. If you have not received these forms, especially for epi-pens, please contact the office. In some cases of asthma, the doctor may advise that a student should carry a puffer. We comply with advice of doctors in these situations, but we must be made aware of the arrangements.



When medication is approved for storage, it must be labeled with the student's name, name of medication, prescription information and dosage. The medication is to be brought to the school in the packaging that was provided by the pharmacist. Please do not have students deliver medication to the office; it should be brought in by an adult. Medication that is sent to school without the proper documentation will not be stored or dispensed by school personnel. **This also applies to over-the counter medications such as, Tylenol, aspirin, ibuprofen, cough medicine, Benadryl, and allergy medications.**



PLASP operates Before, Lunch and After School Programs for children up to 12 years of age, at St. Albert of Jerusalem.

Registration now taking place.

Want to know more? See the PLASP staff at this school, or call the PLASP head office 905-890-1711, or visit our website at www.plasp.com

The site supervisor at St. Albert of Jerusalem is Zahar Darvish

PRESENTING...

The St. Albert of Jerusalem Catholic School Staff, 2011 - 2012

Staff	Grade	Room	Staff	Grade	Room
A. Mendes	JK AM/PM	103	K. Havens	7A	207
P. Aquino	JK PM SK PM	104	I. Maiato (L. Marcuzzi)	7B	205
M. Braun	SK AM/PM	105	J. Sparkes	7C	204
J. Polom	SK AM	102	S. Kelenc	7/8A	221
C. Almeida	1A	117	C. Biffis	8A	202
T. Misiewicz	1B	119	E. Bradford	8B	201
M. Stellato	1C	116	C. Gal	8C	220
C. Dulhanty	1/2 A	118	J. Lossing	SERC	101
S. Dale / L. Lucchetta L. MacNeill	2A	110			
A. De Souza	2B	115	L. Bellizzi	Primary Planning Time	
C. Beach	2C	111	N. Habre	Primary Planning Time	
A. Murphy	2/3 A	106	R. DeBuck	Junior Planning Time	
B. Hussul / P. Kupferschmidt J. Parker	3A	108	A. Galle	FSL	
A. Mol (M. Zenga)	3B	109	E. Kontgen- Statkiewicz	FSL	
F. DiFazio	3C	107	C. Richards	FSL	
F. Mondano	3/4A	210	J. Pocrnic	Resource JK - 1	
M. Pandullo	4A	213	P. Ashworth	Resource 2-3	
D, Pavao- Oliveira	4B	211	T. Cameron	Resource 4 - 6	
J. Fletcher	4C	214	S. Baiana	Resource 7 - 8	
A. MacIntosh	4D	215	V. Juchimenko	Teacher Librarian	
C. Melo	5A	217	S. Cadieux	ERW	
M. Campuzano	5B	216	E. Cavan	ERW	
F. Miniaci	5C	212	R. Harris	ERW	
A. Piccuito	6A	206	M. Heffernan	ERW (0.5)	
	6B	209	C. Rumbolt	ERW	
	6C	208	C. Cheung	Child and Youth Worker	

Long Term Occasional Staff

	<i>Staff on Leave</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>
I. Maiato	L. Marcuzzi	June 21, 2012
A. Mol	M. Zenga	December 1, 2011

PARENT'S CORNER

SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are invited to the last meeting of the 2010/2011 school council and the first meeting of the 2011/2012 St. Albert of Jerusalem Catholic School Council, to be held on Wednesday, September 28th, 2011 at 6:45 pm (following the executive elections) in the school library. It is very important to get as many parents involved as possible so that we can work together to make our school a better place to grow and learn.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

On Tuesday, September 6th, 2011 a letter outlining the Catholic School Council election process will be forwarded to your home. On September 20th all nomination forms must be received at the St. Albert of Jerusalem office prior to 4 pm. Elections will be held during our Curriculum night on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 unless council is acclaimed due to the number of nomination forms being less than those required for a full council as indicated by our constitution. The inaugural School Council meeting will be held on September 28th, 2011 at 6:45 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 14, 2011: Launch Date for Safe Routes to School

September 14, 2011: Hepatitis B- Dose #1 for grade 7 students, Dose #1 Gardasil, grade 8 girls

September 16, 2011: Professional Activity Day -**No classes for students**

September 17: Feast Day of St. Albert of Jerusalem

September 21, 2011: Barbeque and Curriculum Night 6:00 pm – 8 pm
School Council Elections (if needed)

September 26, 2011: Picture Day

September 27: *WE Day*... rally for new Student Leaders

September 28, 2011: Opening Mass 9:00 and 10:15 am

September 29, 2011: Terry Fox Run

October 10, 2011: Thanksgiving Day

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS

During the course of the year, our school has the privilege of assisting our parish priest in preparing students for three sacraments:

Reconciliation and Holy Communion: Grade 2 and older

Confirmation: Grade 8 and older

Although the school plays a major role in sacramental preparation, parents, as the primary instructors of faith, are key in preparing their children to receive these sacraments. Preparatory meetings have been organized for parents. These meetings will provide you with an opportunity to be an integral part of your child's spiritual growth in these sacraments.

**ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS CHURCH,
6890 GLEN ERIN DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, 905-821-1331**

SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Parent meetings for Reconciliation: Sunday, September 11th, 3:00 p.m..

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Parent meeting for Confirmation: Sunday, September 25rd, 7:30 p.m. or Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.



2011-2012 School Year Calendar

First day of classes elementary and secondary schools	Tuesday, September 6, 2011
Last day of classes Semester 1 Secondary (Semester Schools Only)	Tuesday, January 24, 2012
First Day of classes Semester 2 Secondary (Semester Schools Only)	Friday, February 3, 2012
School Year ends Elementary and Secondary Schools	Friday, June 29, 2012
Number of school days for the 2011 – 2012 school year	194
Number of Instructional Days in Elementary Schools	188
Number of Instructional Days in Secondary Schools	188
Number of Professional Activity Days in Elementary Schools	6
Number of Professional Activity Days in Secondary Schools	6

► School Holidays for the 2011-2012 School Year

Every Saturday and Sunday	
Labour Day	Monday, September 5, 2011
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 10, 2011
Christmas Break (inclusive)	Monday, December 26, 2011 to Friday, January 6, 2012
Family Day	Monday, February 20, 2012
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, March 12, 2012 to Friday, March 16, 2012 (inclusive)
Good Friday	Friday, April 6, 2012
Easter Monday	Monday, April 9, 2012
Victoria Day	Monday, May 21, 2012

► Elementary Schools – Professional Activity Days

1. Friday, September 16, 2011	Principal's Day: Re-organization/Faith Development/Prov. Priorities
2. Friday, November 18, 2011	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
3. Monday, January 16, 2012	Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress
4. Friday, February 3, 2012	Reporting to Parents on Evaluation and Pupil Progress
5. Friday, May 11, 2012	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
6. Monday, June 11, 2012	Term 2 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress

St. Sofia Only

1. Friday, November 18, 2011	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
2. Monday, January 16, 2012	Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress
3. Friday, February 3, 2012	Reporting to Parents on Evaluation and Pupil Progress
4. Friday, April 13, 2012	Principals Day: Curriculum and Faith
5. Friday, May 11, 2012	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
6. Monday, June 11, 2012	Term 2 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress

► Secondary Schools – Professional Activity Days

1. Friday, September 16, 2011	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
2. Friday, November 18, 2011	Provincial Priorities and Faith Development
3. Thursday, February 2, 2012	Principal's Day: Semester Turnaround
4. Wednesday, June 27, 2012	*Principal's Day: Year End Reporting and Activities
5. Thursday, June 28, 2012	*Principal's Day: Year End Reporting and Activities
6. Friday, June 29, 2012	*Principal's Day: Year End Reporting and Activities

*Semester and year end evaluations and school wide promotion meetings; contact parents with summer school recommendations, OSR and report card preparation; inventory management of books, equipment, learning materials; curriculum development for new course outlines; goal setting for the upcoming school year.

► Secondary Schools – Examination Days

Semester 1: January 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, 2012
Semester 2: June 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 2012