

ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

7185 Rosehurst Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5N 7G6

905-785-9298

Fax: 905-785-1227

Board web site: www.dpcdsb.org

School web site: www.dpcdsb.org/albert

Principal

S. Steer

Vice principal:

P. Golin

Secretaries:

T. Ball

A. DellaPia

P. D'Amato

Superintendent:

D. Oude-Reimerink

Trustee:

E. O'Toole

Miss. Wards 9, 10

905-812-5163

Esther.otoole@dpcdsb.org

Pastoral Team

Fr. Leo Huard

Fr. Abraham Kulanjyil

Fr. Joseph Kalluvila



Parish:

St. John of the Cross

A Prayer For The Virtue Of Respect

Dear God,

You have done such a marvelous job of creating us and the world around us. Among Your greatest gifts are our friends and acquaintances.

They are the yeast in the dough of life –they make life lively and interesting.

We come to You now asking for the grace and strength to keep a sense of respect. We hope that by recognizing and honoring the shared Spirit in everyone we meet, we can contribute to making our school a safer, more caring, more inclusive community.

May Your gift of respect help us to live each day with the confidence that we are in the company of people who are not strangers but who are our spiritual brothers and sisters.

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Brother, who lived to show us Your way.

Amen

Sunday Mass Schedule St. John of the Cross Church

6890 Glen Erin Dr. (905) 821-1331



Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

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

FEBRUARY – RESPECT

This month we will celebrate the virtue of Respect. God has given us the virtues of friends and companions to keep us company and to help us out along the way. Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God – and so every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ. As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity, and thoughtfulness, which are different ways of saying respect. That respect should come first and foremost from ourselves. We have to respect ourselves and then we will be able to respect others. We should also be able to expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet- our brothers and sisters in Jesus. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at respecting ourselves as well as respecting those around us.

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”, “Pardon me”
- Avoids gossip

The Meaning of Lent

When you send forth your spirit you renew the face of the earth. Psalm 104:30

Lent consists of two parts: the first being the forty days between Ash Wednesday and Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday). The second part of Lent is the time of Passiontide or Holy week. This year the Liturgical Season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 Ash Wednesday.

What does the word “Lent” mean? Why have we given this name to the time of preparation before Easter? Lent comes from an old word meaning “springtime.” During the spring of the year, daylight increases, trees begin to bud and flowers start to appear. The new life that comes to the world each spring is like the renewal of life that comes when we pray and try harder to follow Jesus.

The ashes on Ash Wednesday serve two purposes:

1. They symbolize, and remind us, that something must die in order to bring about new life.
2. They are a symbol of sorrow and repentance for sins committed. Historically ashes were placed on peoples’ foreheads as a sign of repentance.



Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday, February 22, 2012, all students from JK to grade 8 will participate in Ash Wednesday liturgies. Students will receive ashes, reflect on readings and pray together as a faith community in preparation for Lent and the Easter season.

SCHOOL HOURS

Morning Supervision begins at 8:15am. In the interest of Health and Safety please do not drop your child off before supervision begins.



FRIENDSHIP STRATEGIES

Parents can be helpful in addressing positive behaviours that will allow their child to build lasting friendships. Helping children understand how to treat one another and how to value and make friends are important, positive steps in eliminating isolating behaviours.

The Top Ten Ways To Keep Your Friends

1. Show them kindness and respect.
2. Stick up for them.
3. Be supportive when your friends need help and advice.
4. Tell the truth, but be kind about it.
5. If you hurt a friend, say you’re sorry.
6. If you make a promise, keep it.
7. Put some effort into friendships: otherwise your friends might feel neglected.
8. Don’t try and change your friends; accept them the way they are.
9. If a friend hurts you and apologizes, accept the apology.
10. Treat your friends the way you want them to treat you.

Friendship Liturgy

Please join us on February 14th, 2012 for our Friendship Liturgy. We will be celebrating in the gymnasium at 9am & 1pm. All are welcome!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. ALBERT?

Our students and teachers have been active, not only in the classroom, but in the gym, hallways, and library. Some of the activities that students are currently involved in include:

- Chess For Grades 2 to 8
- Grade 7 & 8 Basketball teams
- Library helpers
- Heads Up
- School Choir
- Speeches & Public Speaking
- Grade 7 & 8 Hockey Team
- Student Leadership

INTERMEDIATE YEARBOOKS

Attention Parents! Grade 7 & 8 students have begun to work hard to keep those special memories alive for this year's Intermediate Yearbook. Once again the yearbook will be on sale Feb. 13th to the 24th. The yearbook is in full colour, approximately 50 pages with a soft cover binding. Please send cash or cheque payable to St. Albert of Jerusalem for \$20.00 to your child's homeroom teacher.

A reminder there will be no extra yearbooks in June to purchase. All books must be pre-ordered by the 24th of February.

Winter Dress

It is imperative that all students come to school ready to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. Please ensure that your children come to school prepared to go outdoors. Waterproof outerwear, hats, gloves and boots will keep them warm and dry. As well, all students must have indoor footwear. This is imperative in the event of an emergency evacuation, since students will not have time to put on their boots if they have to evacuate the building. Please send your child to school with extra socks, as these tend to get wet very easily.



February is "Black History Month." This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians, who throughout history have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians in our society and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

REMINDERS

February 3 P.D. No School
February 20 Family Day Holiday
March 12-16 March Break Holiday

Cold and Flu Season

Cold and flu season is back and so too are children's illnesses. Please use discretion in keeping your child home to recover. A sick child is not in a state to learn but is in a position to infect others. Remember, if your children are well enough to attend school, they are well enough to go outside at recess. If there is a medical reason why your child must remain indoors, we require a Doctor's note.

Parent Survey Link

The on-line survey is now open. This survey will allow you to share your voice in regard to the many initiatives that are undertaken by the St. Albert of Jerusalem school council. Please share your ideas, thoughts and feedback with the council so that we can offer programs that meet the needs of the school community. Computers will be available during our parent teacher interviews.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SAJCouncilSurvey>

PUBLIC SPEAKING GRADES 4-8

As part of the Language Arts Curriculum, our students in grades 4 through 8 will be involved in planning, preparing and presenting speeches. A student from each classroom will be selected to represent their classmates in the gymnasium. Our School competition will be held Thursday, February 9th, 2012. The **Intermediate competition will be held in the afternoon and the Junior grades in the morning.** One entrant from each division will be selected by a panel of judges and is invited to proceed to the Mississauga North Family Competition scheduled for **Thursday, February 17th, 2012, hosted at St. Elizabeth Seton.** Currently all students are diligently preparing their speeches. Good luck to all.



ST. ALBERT HOCKEY TEAM

The St. Albert of Jerusalem intermediate co-ed ice hockey team had their first tournament of the year on January 19th, 2012. The tournament was held at Erin Mills Twin Rinks. The very young St Albert team won two of their three games in round robin play and advanced to the medal round held on January 26th. The team played very well winning their first game, 6-5 against St. Dunstan. They were victorious with their second game, 2-1 against St. Nicholas. In the third game the team played hard but lost to Holy Family, 5-2.

MVP honors go out to the following students:

Game 1: Spencer G.

Game 2: Ashton F.

Game 3 Jack H.

Congratulations to all the team members: Josh F., Eric M., Spencer G., Andrew M., Jonathan C., Michael C., Ryan C., Michael D., Ashton F., Jonathan G., Matthew G., Jack H., Rebecca B., Anthony O., Travis S., Jordan S., Trevor S., Tyler V., and Jacob T.

INTERMEDIATE BASKETBALL

Our intermediate girl's and boy's basketball teams are now underway. These young athletes are demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and dedication. We are proud to have them representing St. Albert of Jerusalem Elementary School as they host and travel to their upcoming matches.

Girls Team:

Andrea N., Sandra H., Erika C., Sarina D., Rebecca B., Sarah L., Monika R., Marezza A., Madison C., Taryn C., Lauren P., Calandra L.,

Boys Team:

Anthony O., Jacob D., Dylan C., Odafe E., Matthew A., Kyle P., Spencer G., Michael P., Marcel Z., Clyde D., Jaylin B.

Game Schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, February 7th 4:00 Boys, then Girls

Thursday, February 9th 4:15 Girls then Boys

Good luck to both these teams as they prepare to qualify for the Family Tournament on February 24, 2012.



GRADUATION PHOTOS

**Grade 8 graduation photos
will be taken on Thursday,
February 16th, 2012**

SAFETY AT SCHOOL

SAFETY IN THE SCHOOL YARD

Everyone wants a peaceful school yard, full of students who play nicely with each other and show kindness and acceptance to all. As parents you want your children to be respected and to show respect to others. Throughout the year we focus on many activities that will assist children in playing safely and respectfully. At regular meetings our staff is in-serviced on active school yard supervision; they are alert to activities that indicate unsafe play. The school staff is diligent in watching for bullying behaviour, unsafe play or yard conditions, and playful activity that may lead to aggressive behaviour.

Given all of this, it is recognized that children are children and do not always make safety conscious decisions. Be it at home or at school, accidents can happen and the best of children can sometimes place themselves in harmful positions.

Like you, the staff of St. Albert of Jerusalem want children to have fun at recess while practicing safe, active and appropriate play. In order to achieve this goal we share with you **some** of the many practices we reinforce during announcements, within our classrooms and while on recess supervision. Your assistance in reinforcing these rules will help in keeping all the children safe while at school... and maybe while playing in your neighbourhood as well!

OUTDOOR PLAY

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS:

- ✓ Respect each other by being polite, friendly and cooperative.
- ✓ Including others to play in games
- ✓ Choosing to play fairly and safely when playing games
- ✓ Playing with acceptable toys and equipment.
- ✓ Respecting school property and the environment
- ✓ Lining up quietly when the bell rings.



UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

- ⊗ Standing in the middle of, or walking through, active games such as football or soccer
- ⊗ Leaving school property without permission
- ⊗ Calling names, harassing or making fun of other people
- ⊗ Swearing and/or using inappropriate language
- ⊗ Making inappropriate or offensive gestures
- ⊗ Aggressive or Rough behaviours:
 - fighting
 - pushing or shoving
 - tripping
 - grabbing or lifting someone
 - checking or hitting someone
 - hair pulling, scratching, pinching, spitting
- ⊗ Throwing unsafe objects: snowballs, ice, rocks, sticks, sand, etc...
- ⊗ Playing unsafe or rough games: wrestling, tackling, red rover, play-fighting etc...
- ⊗ Littering by throwing wrappers, garbage, food and containers on the yard

- ⊗ Pulling at trees or breaking branches
- ⊗ Writing on school pavement or walls
- ⊗ Disrespecting our neighbours property

ACCEPTABLE GAMES

PAVEMENT AREAS: (When field is open)

- ✓ Basketball within the designated area
- ✓ Foot hockey alongside the school walls
- ✓ Throwing soft balls (tennis ball) against a side wall
- ✓ Skipping
- ✓ Pavement games: 4 square & hopscotch
- ✓ Bouncing balls with a soft utility ball
- ✓ Playing "pump" with a soft utility ball



FIELD AREAS:

- ✓ Soccer, Flag Football, Soccer Baseball, Foot hockey
 - In soccer, no kicks more than ¼ of the field or above waist level
 - Returning someone else's soccer ball with a light pass, not a kick
- ✓ Playing catch with soft balls in an area away from other students
- ✓ Building snow structures, but no stealing other people's snow

UNACCEPTABLE TOYS TO BRING TO SCHOOL:

Students are NOT allowed to bring the following to school:

- ⊗ Hardballs (can easily cause head injury)
- ⊗ Bats
- ⊗ Hockey sticks
- ⊗ Skateboards, roller blades or scooters (may not ride on school property)
- ⊗ Walkie -Talkies
- ⊗ iPod
- ⊗ MP3 players, cell phones, pagers (only to be used off school property)

** If students bring their own soccer or basketballs to school, they should be marked with their names and put away safely in the classroom.

**Due to theft and unfair trading play cards and collectables are not allowed at school.

ASKING FOR HELP:

Ask a teacher or yard supervisor on duty for assistance when:

- ✓ an accident or injury has occurred
- ✓ a stranger is in the school yard
- ✓ you or someone else is being bullied
- ✓ you see someone playing unsafely
- ✓ you do not feel well
- ✓ you have a serious problem or conflict with another student(s)
- ✓ a ball is lost on the school roof or out of school boundaries
- ✓ you need to use the washroom



**Night School Secondary School
Credit Winter 2012**

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
**SECONDARY NIGHT SCHOOL CREDIT
COURSES**
WINTER SESSION 2012
February 8th to May 23, 2012

MISSISSAUGA LOCATIONS

St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S.
2800 Erin Centre Blvd.
Philip Pocock S.S.
4555 Tomken Rd

BRAMPTON LOCATION

Notre Dame
2 Notre Dame Avenue

<http://www.dpcdsb.org>

Volunteer Corner

Thank you to all our volunteers for their valued efforts in All Star Reading, Fluency Friends, and Talk About It programs. We are always looking for additional volunteers. If you have your Criminal Reference Check completed and can offer one or more mornings a week for volunteering we would be happy to speak to you about an opportunity to participate in one of our many programs.

Extended French

Registration packages are due on the 8th of February, 3:00 at St. Therese of the Child Jesus.



**Junior & Senior Kindergarten
Registration for 2011-12**

Registration for the 2012-13 school year will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on the following dates:

Monday, February 6th, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*
*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2011 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8,9,10, 2012.

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Parents/Guardians should bring the following documents when registering their child:

- § Proof of age (Birth Certificate)
- § Original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or Baptismal Certificate of other rite in communion with the See of Rome) for child and 1 parent
- § Updated immunization records
- § Proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- § Proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)
- § For schools in Caledon and Dufferin County: emergency rural address numbers for identifying your property

For more information, contact your local Catholic school or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24500.

School Council

The next school council meeting will
be held on
Monday, February 27, 2012.
All are welcome to attend!
6:45 p.m.