

St. Therese of the Child Jesus School

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Mississauga, Ontario
L5N 6X7
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September 2009

Volume 1, Issue 1

THE THERESE TIMES

September 2009



Prayer of Return

*O Lord, we return from a time of rest, vacation, visit-
ing.*

We return from camps, travels, cottages.

Thank You Lord for the summer.

*It eases the mind,
Relaxes the body,
Soothes the soul.*

We return to work, school, routines.

We return to meetings, sports, lessons.

Thank You Lord for our students, teachers, parents.

Guide all who learn.

*Lord keep us from getting so organized that there is
not time left for You.*

*Let us seek and serve You in everyone we meet,
Everywhere we go and everything we do.*

*As we return to our routines,
Let us not forget who sends us on this journey.*

Amen

PRINCIPAL:

T. DeClerico

V. PRINCIPAL:

M. D'Andrea

SECRETARIES:

J. Lusk

M. Williamson

PARISH:

St. John of the Cross
Church

Father Leo Huard, Pastor

905-821-1331

SUPERINTENDENT:

D. Oude-Reimerink

TRUSTEE:

Esther O'Toole

905-812-5163



WELCOME BACK

It is indeed an honour and a privilege to be the new principal of St. Therese of the Child Jesus School. To be part of such a wonderful community of students, staff and parents is a true blessing.

My goal as Administrator is to build upon the solid foundation established by previous Administrators and to continue to foster a climate of warmth, spiritual development and academic achievement. As a Catholic School Administrator I have a deep commitment to serve the spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional needs of the students in my care. This can only be achieved through active, ongoing communication between all of those concerned--the students, parents, teachers and parish.

I look forward to working with you in partnership as we strive to achieve the goals of Catholic Education.

Sincerely yours,

Tina DeClerico
Principal

Message from Esther O'Toole

Welcome to Our New Superintendent Denise Oude-Reimerink and Farewell to Michael Prospero

Mississauga North Family of Schools

From: Trustee, Esther O'Toole, Ward 9, 10

Michael Prospero who has been the Superintendent for the Mississauga North Family of Schools for the past six years has announced his retirement. Mr. Prospero has been a key leader in this Family and has played an integral role in the growth, successes and challenges of this large Family of Schools. We wish Michael the Lord's blessings as he moves on to this next phase in his life and thank him for all of his contributions to our schools in Mississauga North.

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Denise Oude-Reimerink as the new Superintendent of the Mississauga North Family of Schools. Mrs. Oude-Reimerink has been a Principal at both the school and Board Department levels. She has played important roles on many of our Boardwide Committees including our Strategic Review Committee, Management of Information for Student Achievement, and the Boardwide Speaking Contest just to name a few. She will bring her many talents to the Mississauga North Family of Schools and we look forward to working with Mrs. Oude-Reimerink as your Trustees.

We wish you all a great start to the school year. We hope to meet you at School Council Meetings or as we visit the schools this year. May the good Lord bless you and your family as we move into another great year for Mississauga North and for Dufferin-Peel.

2009-2010 School year

The staff of St. Therese of the Child Jesus would like to offer a warm welcome to all students and their families, especially those new to our community. We look forward to a rewarding year, full of opportunities and challenges that stimulate learning and growth for all. Together, we, parents, teachers and parish, share the responsibility and privilege of passing on our rich faith heritage and providing each child the educational excellence they deserve. We invite your active participation in the education of your child. We look forward to meeting you at our 'Open House/Family BBQ/Meet the Teacher Night' on Tuesday, September 22 from 5p.m. to 8p.m. Mark this date in your calendars. More information will be sent home soon.

Listed below, for your information, are the 2009-10 staff assignments as they exist on September 8, 2009. **Student and teacher class placements remain tentative for the next couple weeks as we monitor the normal fluctuation in student population that occurs at the beginning of any school year.** If reorganization is necessary we will work as quickly as possible to establish new student and/or teacher assignments. We will endeavor to keep the best interests of your child in mind if a new class placement is required.

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

2009-2010 STAFF LIST

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>
JK/SK AM/PM	E. Pugliese
Grade 1	T. Armstrong
Grade 1/2	S. Viola
Grade 2/3	K. Silva
Grade 3	L. Davis
Grade 4	M. Mills
Grade 4/5	R. Tomas Zahhar
Grade 5	J. Donnelly
Grade 6	M. Ramlogan
Grade 6	C. Dinis
Grade 7	R. Jusys
Grade 7	J. Bortolotto
Gr. 8	S. Murray
Gr. 8	E. Lanza
Ex. Fr. 5	C. Firhoj/S. Pires
Ex. Fr. 5	S. Pires/C. Firhoj
Ex. Fr. 6	T. Packalen/S. Ribeiro

Ex. Fr. 6	S. Ribeiro/T. Packalen
Ex. Fr. 6	G. Langfeld
Ex. Fr. 7	D. Knapp/U. Urac
Ex. Fr. 7	U. Urac/D. Knapp
Ex. Fr. 8	A. Abbruscato/T. Singh
Ex. Fr. 8	T. Singh/A. Abbruscato
PRI. SERT/ESL	S. Smith
JR./INT. SERT/ESL	L. Austin
SERC	M. Keough
FSL	J. Mamolo
FSL	J. Trinca
LIBRARY	E. Abbott
ERW	M. Hatch
Art Teacher	A. DaCosta
Gym Teacher	A. Powers
PRINCIPAL	T. DeClerico
VICE PRINCIPAL	M. D'Andrea
SECRETARIES	J. Lusk M. Williamson
CUSTODIANS	L. Dias R. Mills N. Dizon

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 information into all areas of our school life within the context of our faith, St. Therese School will be continuing the "Virtues Program" this year.

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 activities will focus on the nurturing of a specific virtue. We would appreciate your support in discussing these virtues with your child and encouraging behaviours that would demonstrate these virtues. Here is a list of the virtues we will be nurturing this school year.

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 a good in everyone
- Accepts the God-given worth of themselves and others

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

P.A. DAY
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
NO CLASSES

SCHOOL HOURS

9:15	Opening
10:40 - 10:55	a.m. Recess
11:45	a.m. JK/SK Dismissal
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:15	p.m. JK/SK Start
2:25 - 2:40	p.m. Recess
3:45	Dismissal

BEFORE SCHOOL HOURS SUPERVISION

For your child's safety we request that he/she **not** be on school property until supervision begins at 9:00 a.m

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS & EARLY RELEASE DAYS

Attached is an overview of the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar. Please keep this on file for quick reference to important dates including school holidays. Please note, **Friday, September 18, 2009 is a Professional Activity Day** for teachers. There will be no classes for students. Our staff will be involved in reorganization, if necessary, program planning and faith development activities.

Also note, **Early Release Days** have been set for Wed. Sept.

30 and Thurs. Jan. 14. All students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. on Early Release Days. There will be no afternoon classes for students on Early Release Days.



MEET THE TEACHER/FAMILY BBQ NIGHT

We are trying something a little different this year for Meet the Teacher Night. On Thursday, September 22 the School Council will host a Family BBQ in conjunction with the Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be available to purchase from 5-6:45p.m. Families and teachers will eat picnic style outside so bring your lawn chairs and blankets. At 6:45p.m. everyone will be invited to the gym for some general comments and information from the principal, Ms. DeClerico and then proceed to the classrooms to meet the teachers. The evening will wrap up at 8p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Estimate forms are being sent home later in the week. **DO NOT SEND MONEY AT THIS TIME!!**

TERRY FOX DAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 Details of the plan for St. Therese of the Child Jesus School will be sent home in the next few days.



PARISH CORNER

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

6890 Glen Erin Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
L5N 2E1

Tel: (905) 821-1331

Fax: (905) 858-8486

email: stjohnofx@rogers.com

Website: www.saintjohnofthecross.com

PASTORAL TEAM-

Fr. Leo Huard, Pastor

Fr. Abraham Kulanjijil, Associate Pastor

R. Joseph Kalluvila, Associate Pastor

Kate Watkiss-Pastoral associate

MASS TIMES-

Weekdays- Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 9a.m. First Fridays, 7:15 pm only

Wed. 7:15 p.m.

Weekends- Sat. 5p.m., Sun. 8:00a.m., 10:00a.m., 12:00p.m. & 5p.m.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION-

Sacraments are parish, not school events. *Initial* preparation is done by the schools through the religion program. *Immediate* preparation is the responsibility of the parents and the parish. **REGISTRATION FOR SACRAMENTS TAKES PLACE AT MEETINGS AT THE CHURCH.**

Grade 2 & up - FIRST COMMUNION & FIRST RECONCILIATION INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR PARENTS ONLY-

Sunday, September 13, 2:30 p.m. *or* Tuesday, September 15, 7:30 p.m.

Older children than grade 2 students who have not received one or both of these sacraments are welcome to join the preparation program.

Grade 8 - CONFIRMATION - INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR PARENTS AND CANDIDATES-

Sunday, October 4, 7:30 p.m. *or* Tuesday, October 6, 7:30 p.m.

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to our custodial staff, Mr. Dias, Mr. Mills and Mr. Dizon. They have worked very hard over the summer and have the school looking amazing!

EMERGENCY INFORMATION/

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

As is the practice every September, we plan to update our emergency contact information for your child(ren). Attached is a printout and attendance card, for each of your children, containing the most current emergency contact information we have for them in our database. Please review the information contained on your child(ren)'s documentation and return it to school no later than Monday, September 14 indicating any changes. Please return the form marking 'no changes necessary' if all the information is accurate. This information is kept strictly confidential. It is critical we have current and accurate contact information on file in the event your child becomes ill.

Also attached to the Student Verification Form, is a standard 'Permission Form'. This form details, and gives parent permission, for things such as lunch hour arrangements, walking excursions, early school closings and student photographs and videos. Please complete a 'Permission Form' for each of your

children and return it to your child's teacher by Monday, September 14. Thank you!!



ABSENTEE REPORTING 905-785-0066

Parents are asked, to continue, to phone the school when your child(ren) is going to be absent from school. An answering machine is available for your convenience so that you can call as early as possible or, the night before if you are able to forecast the absence. Parent participation in this process is essential to ensure safe arrival of all students.



2009/10 PIZZA LUNCHES- WE ARE CONTINUING PAST PRACTICE

First term, September to November, we are continuing to provide pizza lunches for students. Students will have the opportunity to purchase pizza slices **every** Thursday starting on September 17. Slices will be \$2.25 each. Pizza lunch dates for first term include September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, 26. **NO DRINKS, CHIPS or COOKIES WILL BE SOLD.** Students will be responsible to bring their own drinks and dessert on pizza lunch days. **ONE ADVANCE ORDER FORM, FOR ALL TERM ONE PIZZA LUNCH DATES IS INCLUDED AND DUE BACK, WITH FULL PAYMENT, ON SEPTEMBER 14.** No late orders will be accepted. If the September 14 deadline is missed you will not have another opportunity to order until late November. Make student lunches easier and tastier. Avoid disappointment. Order by September 14!!



2009/10 LUNCH MOMS

We will also be continuing our Lunch Moms Program which is initiated by our School Council. Lunch Moms provide a nutritious, hot or cold lunch. Lunch Moms will be available on Mondays and Wednesdays. You will be receiving an order form in

the next couple of weeks. If you would like any information, please call Lunch Moms directly at 905-461-5437.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Our Director of Education is J. Kostoff and Associate Directors of Education are R. Borelli (Instructional) and J. Hryniak (Corporate).

St. Therese of the Child Jesus School belongs to the Mississauga North Family of Schools. We warmly welcome Ms. D. Oude-Reimerink our new Superintendent of Schools for Mississauga North. A fond farewell to Mr. M. Prospero our former superintendent who has recently retired.

The Director, Associate Directors or Superintendent may be contacted at:

The Catholic Education Centre
40 Matheson Blvd. West
Mississauga, Ontario
905-890-1221

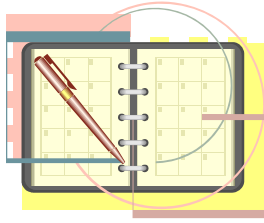
TRUSTEE

Your representative on the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is Esther O'Toole. She may be contacted at phone: (905) 812-5163 or fax: (905)812-5164.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Attached please find an application for Student Accident Insurance. Although voluntary, it is strongly recommended that you consider this coverage offered by Reliable Life. 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. The most commonly made claim under this policy is for dental work. Only with this insurance, in the unfortunate case your child has an accident on a school trip, in the playground or while involved in interscholastic athletics, could you claim coverage for out of pocket expenses incurred. If you decide to take advantage of this insurance, send your written application form directly to Reliable Life. For more information Reliable Life can be contacted at 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

**Picture Day is on
October 14,
2009**



AGENDAS

Agendas will be distributed the first week of school. Students who did not order agendas in June may purchase one now for \$6.00. Please note that it is first come first served. It is our expectation that all students from Gr. 1 to 8 use our customized agendas to encourage development and enhancement of time management skills.

SABRINA'S LAW

On May 16, 2005, the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed a bill to protect anaphylactic students that became effective as of January 1, 2006. The Act, referred to as Sabrina's Law, is named after Sabrina Shannon, a Pembroke student who died in 2003 from an anaphylactic reaction after eating French fries contaminated with a dairy product at her high school cafeteria.

Anaphylaxis is a severe reaction most often triggered by certain types of foods, such as peanuts, tree nuts, seafood and egg and milk products. Insect stings, medicine, latex and exercise may also trigger an anaphylactic reaction. Anaphylactic shock involves a severe overreaction of the body's immune system to a triggering agent (the allergen). The reaction can be characterized by swelling, difficulty breathing, abdominal cramps, vomiting, diarrhea, circulatory collapse, loss of consciousness and sometimes death.



ALLERGEN AWARENESS ALERT

In addition to our Board Policy, the passing of Sabrina's Law serves as a reminder of the seriousness of anaphylactic reactions. It compels a continued call for action, and ongoing monitoring of existing practices to support the safety, health and welfare of all of the students at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School. As there are a number of students in our school who have a severe life threatening allergy to nuts we continue to encourage our families to refrain from sending to school, any food, etc., that contains nut products, e.g. peanut butter sandwiches, snacks with nuts or any product that has "may contain traces of nuts" on the label. While we cannot guaran-

tee a "nut free" environment, you can help to reduce the risk to our students by not sending in peanuts and/or products containing nuts. As in the past, a written communication is sent home to parents of children notifying them of the nature of a life threatening allergy when it is specific to their child's classroom. Your continued cooperation in support of our efforts to create a safe and healthy learning environment for all is appreciated.



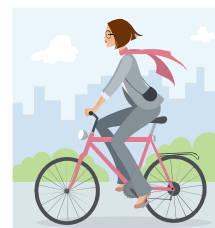
PEANUT/BEE STING--LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

If your child is at risk for severe life-threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) please ensure that the office and teacher are aware and that the proper medication and emergency procedures and forms are in place and up-to-date.



MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

For safety reasons, children are not permitted to come to school with medication in their school bags. Parents must bring any medication that is required for students to the office to be administered there. There are forms which must be filled out by parents and/or physician.



BICYCLES

Students who ride bicycles to school must abide by the standard safety rules. For their safety and the safety of all students, when on school property, students are asked to always walk their bike to the rack provided. The school cannot assume responsibility for private property. Please remind your child to ensure that if they are going to ride their bike to school that it is properly locked in the bike racks provided. This protection will help avoid the disappointment and expense of theft.



RECESS BREAKS

Recess breaks serve a special purpose in the daily life of a school. Students, other than under extraordinary circumstances, should not be excused from going outside. If your child is sick, he or she should be at home recuperating and not spreading their flu or cold virus etc., throughout the classroom. Remember, there is no indoor supervision at recess as staff are occupied elsewhere or on duty outside.

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters will be sent home usually the first week of each month.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Outlined below is our current School Council. Thanks to all the council members for their dedication and contribution for the 2008-2009 school year. Elections for the new 2009-10 School Council will take place during the month of September, 2009. Dates and details will be set shortly. Once they are set, information will be sent home and nomination forms available. Keep your eyes open for these. We encourage all parents to consider running for the School Council. It is a great opportunity for you to become involved in your child's education.

2008-2009 School Council

Co-Chairs	A. Hill, /I. Holmes
Treasurer	E. Guinyou
Secretary	P. Lattimore
Principal	T. DeClerico
	M. D'Andrea
Teacher Rep.	L. Austin/T. Singh
Non Teacher Rep.	J. Lusk
Parish Rep.	M. Portelli
Fundraising Chair	K. McElhone/K. Matzko-Kuryluk
Parents at Large/	J. Dean, M. Shore, E. Fenech,
	S. Haley and A. Haley
OAPCE Rep.	Patrick Mendes

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

We'd like to thank all parents and other visitors to the school

for respecting the designated waiting areas outside your child's exit door. Your co-operation, picking up your child(ren) from these designated areas helps to protect the security of all students as well as helping to reduce congestion at busy dismissal times.

In the event you have an appointment or are volunteering, we'd like to remind all visitors to report to the office and sign in. This once again, helps to ensure the safety and security of all students.

If you would like to meet with a teacher or the principal it is always good advice to call ahead to make an appointment. We know your time is valuable and we don't want to disappoint you in the event that we are unavailable.



PED POLICY

As part of our efforts to promote and maintain a positive Catholic climate in our schools, the Board recently approved a new policy regarding Personal Electronic Devices (PEDS) on school property. In this regard, effective immediately, all PEDs (this includes cell phones) must be kept out of sight, turned off and not used within school premises or during school-sanctioned activities. To prevent the loss or damage of PEDs, we encourage students to leave their PEDs at home as the school cannot be responsible for their safe keeping.

Parental support is requested and greatly appreciated.

NEW HOMEWORK POLICY

Effective as of September 2009, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has adopted a new homework policy. As a faith-based system, our school board approaches all issues from a Catholic world view that recognizes the importance of family time and honours the bonds between school, family, and parish in all that we do. The stronger these bonds, the more effective our students are able to learn and to develop the unique talents and gifts with which they are blessed.

Please refer to the board website for specific details of our new homework policy at www.dufferinpeelcdsb.org



TRANSPORTATION/BUS ELIGIBILITY

Refer to the attached Transportation Information document to get details about student bussing. If you have specific questions about transportation you may call the Transportation Department at (905)890-0614 directly or M. D'Andrea, the Vice Principal, at (905)785-0066.

Please ensure that your child rides the bus to which they have been assigned by the transportation department. If you wish to change the bus please make your request in writing. It is Board policy that students ride the bus to which they have been assigned based upon the home address. Students **must** have written permission from a parent, handed in to the office the day prior, if they wish to walk home or take a bus other than the one assigned. **Parents are reminded that it is a parental responsibility to ensure that kindergarten and grade one students are met at the bus.** If the bus driver does not see a parent or sitter at the scheduled bus stop, the child will be returned to school.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Please think about volunteering. Later this month, under separate cover, we will distribute a volunteer letter and survey to solicit your help. Why? Children benefit! Please be reminded that all parent volunteers **MUST** have a valid, up to date, Criminal Reference Check. This means that parents and guardians cannot volunteer in the school without a CRC. There is no charge for this and forms are available from the school.

LUNCHES BROUGHT TO THE OFFICE

If you are bringing a lunch for your child to pick up from the office, please ensure that it is labeled with your child's name and room number and teacher. Please instruct your child to come to the office and **pick it up at 12:00** and not sooner. In order to avoid classroom interruption, students **will not be called from class before 12:00**. Your cooperation is appreciated.

EARLY PICK-UP

If you are picking up your child earlier than 3:45, please send a note with your child advising the teacher when to send him/her to the office.

PIANO LESSONS 2009-2010 AT ST. THERESE

This year Mrs. Skarecky (M. Mus. A.R.C.T.) will be offering piano lessons at the school after the regular instructional day and in the evenings. Lessons will be available Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are some openings for new students. For more information or to register please contact her directly at (905) 855-0582 or at jana.skarecky@utoronto.ca.



ATTACHMENTS

1. September Calendar of Student Activities
2. 2009/2010 School Year Calendar
3. 2009/2010 P.A. Day & Early Release Day Schedule
4. Meet the Teacher/Family BBQ Estimate Form (Due September 14)
5. 2009/2010 Student Verification Form, Attendance Card and Permission Form (Due September 14)
6. Term 1 Pizza Lunch Order Form
7. 2009/2010 Student Accident Insurance Application
8. Student Transportation Information