

St. Therese of the Child Jesus School

November 2010

Volume 2, Issue 3

THE THERESE TIMES

November 2010



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead, Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, tho poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Lt. Col. John McCrae

Remembrance Day – November 11th

PRINCIPAL:

T. DeClerico

V. PRINCIPAL:

M. Gibson

SECRETARIES:

J. Lusk

M. Williamson

PARISH:

St. John of the Cross
Church
Father Leo Huard, Pas-
tor
905-821-1331



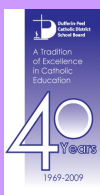
SUPERINTENDENT:

D. Oude-Reimerink

TRUSTEE:

Esther O'Toole

905-812-5163



November—Conscience

During the month of November, we will celebrate the virtue of **Conscience**.

God has given us the ability to know the right and decent way to act and then to act that way. We trust that the common Spirit we share inspires us and guides us to make good decisions if we allow our conscience to be well-formed. A person of conscience allows prayer and scripture to influence him/her.

A person of conscience...

Chooses to do the "right thing" and feels good about it
Can see how his/her actions may hurt others
Admits his/her wrong-doing and feels badly
Says "sorry" and tries to make up for mistakes
Keeps promises

Gracious and merciful God of all creation, During this season of remembrance, we remember how you have gifted us with free will. You have given us the virtue of conscience to ensure that we will know the good and decent way to act and then choose to act that way.

We come to you now asking for the grace and strength to form and to follow our conscience in order to bring to life your plan for a safe, caring, inclusive community here at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School. May your virtue of conscience free us to make decisions that serve the good of all your people. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lived to show us your way. Amen.

When we act out virtues, we are making the presence of God visible in the world around us. As a promotion of Catholic Virtues, we are hosting Virtues Assemblies to recognize students who demonstrate the virtue of the month in an exemplary way.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you to the school community for your generous contributions to the Thanksgiving Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul Society. We sent approx 25 boxes of non-perishable food for needy families.

Candy Drive

We are inviting your family to participate in our school's 2nd annual 'Candy Drive' beginning next week to benefit Dr. Simone's *Canadian Food for Children* in Mississauga.

This initiative is being organized by our Catholic Community Culture and Caring Action Team. The newly elected Youth Faith Ambassadors Executive will also be assisting to help make this candy drive a success. Please join them in their efforts by providing candy to those in need. Hard candy is collected and

sent to countries where children are suffering from severe malnutrition. The candy is consumed to start their bodies to accept solid food. If you would like to participate, please send candy with your child from Monday, November 1 to Thursday, November 4. Thank you to the wonderful response for volunteer drivers. It has been appreciated. We have all the help we need.

The giving continues...

Eden Food Bank Toonie Tuesday-

November 23

On Tuesday, November 23 all Dufferin-Peel Catholic and Peel Public schools in the area are once again holding a Toonie Tuesday to raise funds for the Eden Food Bank. The money raised will be used to supplement food donations received by the Food Bank.

Together we can make a difference in our own neighbourhood!! If everyone helps a little, we can make a big difference. (see insert)

Halloween Dance-a-thon

Thank you to School Council for organizing a fun and exciting dance fundraiser on October 28. Donations are still coming in. It's not too late to fill out a pledge-lope and make a donation. Pledge-lopes are available in the office. Thank you to families and friends of the St. Therese community for your generous donations. Our School Council is considering whiteboards for classrooms, literacy and numeracy materials and other needs for our school. We will keep you informed as to how our funds will be allocated.

Canadian Tire \$ Collection

During the month of November, our school will be collecting unwrapped new toys and Canadian Tire money to help purchase and contribute to Christmas gift baskets for our needy families in the Meadowvale area. Last year, through your generous support, we were able to give many families clothing, books, and toys. Thank you in advance for your generosity. The Christmas hamper drive runs from Nov. 3 to Dec. 12. Thank you to Mrs. Armstrong for organizing this charitable event

Anti-Bullying Initiatives: The Bully Show, Fire Services Education, Peel Police Education Programs, and Facebook 101

The Mixed Theatre Company will be performing "The Bully Show" for grades 2-5 students on November 10. In addition, Peel Police Education sessions on bullying and cyber-bullying have been scheduled for students of all grades in November and later in the year. Peel Police are also providing seven weekly hour-long sessions on drug awareness for grade 6's. Fire Services will be providing Fire Safety sessions for Gr. 7's.

There will also be a presentation on the dangers and benefits of Facebook in the spring (April 6).



Remembrance Day Assembly

An assembly to mark the importance of Remembrance Day will be held in the gymnasium on Wednesday, November 11 at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome to join us! We also have a memory book displayed in the front foyer with pictures of student's relatives who were involved in WWII.

JK/SK Christmas Concert

Jr and Sr. Kindergarten students will participate in a Christmas concert. It will be held at the school on December 15. Further information to follow.



The Advent Mass for Families

Our school community Advent Family Mass is scheduled for Monday, December 6 at 7p.m. at St. John of the Cross Church. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Please note students participating in the choir will have to commit to full attendance at all practices.

Students from grades 1–8 will be participating in some capacity. It is truly a community event. It is guaranteed to get you in the 'spirit' and help all of us remember the primary 'reason for the season'. Hope to see you there!

Kiss 'N Ride Safety Reminders

We encourage parents to drop off and pick up children at the designated area in the north parking lot. For the safety of all please respect the rules of the Kiss 'N Ride Program as follows:

- the curb lane is for drop off/pick up only. Students must be dropped off at the sidewalk for safety. Do not park your car or leave it unattended in this lane;
- drivers, do not get out of your car;
- children should enter/exit the car on the passenger/curb side only;
- the outside lane is for passing/exiting only.
- When you are exiting please use the Kiss and Ride lane

only and do not drive by the front of the school

- Only kindergarten parents use the parking lot at the south end of the school. **All other students must use kiss n'ride. Please do not drop your child off at the front entrance to the school as this is a bus loading/unloading zone as well as for emergency vehicles.**

Progress Reports for Parents

Letters have been distributed regarding Parent-Teacher interviews. This year, due to the nature of the new Progress Report Card, the format for the first round of interviews has changed. Interviews will only be conducted with the parents of students where a special request is made by either the teacher or the parent on an as needed basis. Parents who have more than one child in the school will have their interviews booked through the office. Confirmation slips will be included with your child's report card so that you have a record of your scheduled interview time.

Your child(ren) have brought home their progress report on Tuesday, November 2. Interviews will be held during the evening on Thursday, November 4.

A copy of the Progress Report will be placed in their child's Ontario Student Record (O.S.R) file.

EQAO Results

The Grades 3 and 6 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. The results are reported in terms of achievement from levels 1 to 4 with level 3, which represents a high level of achievement, as the standard.

School results from the most recent EQAO Grades 3 and 6 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics indicate levels of student achievement that surpass both Board and Provincial averages. Our main focus for school improvement is reading. Teachers are meeting in their divisions throughout the year to develop targeted assessments and teaching strategies to improve reading.

Students, now in grades 4 and 7, who participated in the May 2010 EQAO provincial assessments deserve to be congratulated on a job well done!!

GRADE 6	School	Board	Province
Reading	91	73	72
Writing	99	76	70
Mathematics	90	63	61

GRADE 3 School Board Province

Reading 73 62 62

Writing 89 71 70

Mathematics 82 71 71

(% Students Achieving the Provincial Standard Levels 3 & 4)

Administration of EQAO for grade 3 and grade 6 students this year will be May 30- June 10, 2011.**EQAO- Individual Student Results (ISR)**

The Individual Student Results (ISR) for grade 3 & 6 students who participated in last May's Provincial EQAO Assessment were sent home in October. Parents who have questions about their child's individual results may contact Vice-Principal M. Gibson.

School wide results are available to the public at large, now, on the EQAO website. Individual school profiles will also be posted on the Dufferin Peel C.D.S.B. & school websites in November.

Junior and Intermediate Cross Country

Congratulations to the Cross Country Team for its fine effort at the Mississauga North Family Meet on October 19 at Meadowvale Secondary School. The team brought back banners for the following teams: Gr. 6 Girls (1st), Gr. 6 Boys (2nd), Gr. 7 Girls (2nd), Gr. 8 Boys (2nd), and Gr. 8 Girls (2nd). Mackenzie D. came in first, Melissa O. came in third, Sophia M. came in third, and Avery G. P. came in second.

Congratulations to all those who advanced to the Board Meet on Thursday, October 28 at Erindale Park. Melissa O. finished third, Sofia M. finished third, and Avery G.P. finished third. The Grade 6 girls team consisting of Melissa O., Kaitlin L., Mackenzie D. and Lana L. finished third. Attending the boards were the four Grade 6 girls mentioned above, as well as the following runners:

Grade 6 boys — Lucas S., Bradley H., Christopher Z. and Matthew F.

Grade 5 girls— Kelsey A.

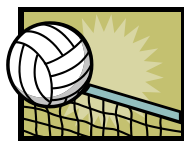
Grade 7 girls — Sofia M., Lilian T., Mya P., Ania S.

Grade 7 — Justin H.

Grade 8 girls — Avery G. P., Katie H., Rebecca L., Shannon F.

Grade 8 Boys — Reuel L, Saleem N., Matthew M., Spencer G.

Thank you to coaches Silva, Knapp, and Spadafina, and all athletes on the team for your dedication this season.

**Junior Volleyball**

The junior girls and boys volleyball season is upon us. Mrs. Ramlogan and Mrs. Spadafina will be coaching the boys and Mrs.

Mills, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Dacosta will be coaching the girls. Tryout forms are available in Mrs. Mills room. Practices and games will be announced soon. Good luck to both teams. We look forward to an exciting season.

Congrats to the Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team!

The Intermediate Boys Volleyball team won the Family of Schools tournament at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Secondary School on October 28. They won a nail-biting two sets to one over St. Edith Stein after losing to them in the round robin. The boys finished 4-0 during the season, first in the division. The team advances to the Board tournament at St. Augustine on Tuesday, Nov. 2 at St. Augustine Secondary School from 12:00-6:00 p.m.. Go Thunder!

The boys have displayed excellent sportsmanship, skill development, and team camaraderie. Thank you to coaches Mr. Bortolotto and to Mrs. Morandin, parent volunteer for all of your hard work with the boys this season.

School Council

There is training for School Council Executive Members on Saturday, November 6 at St. Joseph High School from 8:30am-11:30am. Come and meet other council members and learn what is required in your role on the Council.

The next School Council meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m.** All are welcome!

Youth Faith Ambassadors and Executive YFA

Grade 7 and 8 students campaigned hard in the election of the Executive Youth Faith Ambassadors. The Executive YFA will be involved in activities throughout the year that contribute to a positive school climate.

Congratulations to the newly elected representatives: David P. (Prime Minister), Natalie M. (Gr. 8 Rep.), Adam H. (Gr. 8 Rep.), Althea F. (Gr. 8 Rep.), Amy A. (Gr. 7 Rep.), Jordan F. (Gr. 7 Rep.), Annesha M. (Gr. 7 Extended French Rep.), Monika K. (Gr. 7 Rep.), and Mya P. (Gr. 7 Rep.).

Our Youth Faith Ambassador program is officially underway. Thank you for the overwhelming response from our Gr. 6, 7, and 8 students who are dedicated to promoting our Catholic virtues this school year.

Extended French Information Night

The tentative date for the EF Information Night is **Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00pm** at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School.

French Immersion Information Night

All Senior Kindergarten parents/guardians are welcome to attend one of the following French Immersion information nights:
St. Joachim (Brampton FI sites) - Thursday, January 12,

2011 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Gertrude (Mississauga FI sites) - Thursday January 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

The deadline for French Immersion applications is Wednesday, February 9, 2011.

Picture Retake Day is Tuesday, November 16.

If any students wish to have individual pictures retaken they must send a note to request a retake, with their child's original photograph/proof to your child's teacher, prior to retake day.

Reminder to Buy Student Accident Insurance

With all the activities that take place at school, in the playground, in the gym and in sports, accidents happen. Dental injuries can occur when two children accidentally bump heads or fall in the playground. Parents should understand that the school board does not carry accident insurance for students.

You are encouraged to purchase student accident insurance for your children, if you have not already done so. Apply on line through Reliable Life Insurance Company at www.insuremykids.com.

Canadian Red Cross First Aid and Babysitting Courses

Grade 4 and 5 students have the opportunity to participate in a Canadian Red Cross First Aid Course and Kids Safety First At Home All By Myself Course. These courses develop children's knowledge of how to deal with emergencies and situations at home. The courses take place at lunch at St. Therese on Thursday, Nov. 18 and 25, and Dec. 2, 9, and 10. The cost to enroll is \$30.00. Spots are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

The Canadian Red Cross Babysitting Course is available for anyone 11 years of age and up at a cost of \$40.00 dollars. This seven hour course will be held on Friday, November 26. Please return the permission form by Nov. 12.

Piano Lessons

There is still one opening for piano students wishing to take lessons in the evenings at St. Therese. Contact Mrs. Jana Skarecky, M. Mus., A.R.C.T., at (905) 692-9696 for details.

Holy Name of Mary Registration

Holy Name of Mary Secondary School invites grade eight girls and their parents/guardians to an information and registration meeting on Nov. 18 at 7:00 p.m. at 115 Glenvale Blvd., Brampton.

P.A. Day in November

On Monday, November 26 there will be a Professional Activity Day for teachers.

There will be no school for students. Teachers will be engaged in provincial priorities and faith activities.



Birthdays Are Special!

Many parents like to bring treats to school to celebrate their child's birthday. Often this includes a cake, plates, forks, drink boxes, loot bags, etc. While we understand birthdays are a special time, we have had to refuse entry of these special birthday treats due to allergies in a specific class, lack of awareness of food contents, or absence of advance notice. Without advance notice and conversation with your child's teacher, distribution of food can not always be accommodated as the class may be engaged in a specific learning exercise, test or activity that cannot be rearranged. We ask that you use the following guidelines when planning to bring treats to school to celebrate a birthday :

- i) Consult with your child's teacher at least a day prior to bringing special occasion treats to school;
- ii) Consider bringing nonedible treats. There are many alternatives to bringing in food for birthdays and special occasions. Some suggestions are stickers, gift certificates, pencils, stuffed toys, etc.
- iii) If you insist on bringing edible treats do not bring an item like a cake, that requires plates, forks, cutting, and serving. Bring individual items such as peanut free "Smarties, Aero bars or Kit Kat bars"
- iv) **If you insist on bringing food, it must be accompanied by a list of all ingredients for the classroom teacher to ensure that the food is free of allergens or it will not be permitted for distribution.**
- v) Students with anaphylactic reactions will not share in the food without advance parental consent even if the ingredients are free of potential allergens.
- vi) Students with an anaphylactic allergy are encouraged to bring in their own treats for special occasions.



Cold and Flu Season

Please use discretion in keeping your child home to recover if they are ill. A child who is coughing, wheezing, etc. is not in a state to learn and will only infect others. As well, please understand that if your child is well enough to attend school, they should be well enough to go outside at recess. It is impossible for supervision and safety to have some students inside and the others outside. Please be sure to continue to encourage your children to wash their hands frequently. Good hygiene is the best preventative measure. Also use a tissue when coughing or sneezing, or your sleeve if without a tissue. Refrain from sharing pencils, erasers, scissors and snacks.

Safe Arrival

If your child is late in arriving, please send them through the front doors to check in at the office.



Lunch time routines

All children grades 1-6 are to stay at school for lunch unless being picked up by a parent to take out. Students in grade 7 and 8 may be permitted with parent permission to go home for lunch. Only students with written permission will be permitted to go out for lunch. No permission will be granted over the phone with last minute plans. If your child brought a lunch, changing plans because friends are leaving is not appropriate. These plans need to be established in advance. Please remember you are assuming responsibility for your child leaving school property if they do so for lunch. The school resides close to a busy intersection and there are many high school students at the Tim Horton's and other establishments at the near by strip mall.

No students should be returning to the schoolyard with treats, lunches, drinks due to allergies by other students.

Missing Lunches

Many students have been arriving to school recently without lunches. Please ensure your child comes to school with a healthy lunch each day.

Phone Messages

If there is a change to your child's routine, please note it in the child's agenda or send a note to the classroom teacher. Trying to process phone messages for families that have multiple siblings is very difficult and takes away office staff from possible emergencies.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a rigorous 2-year programme that begins in Grade 11 and continues in Grade 12. Grades 9 and 10 are preparation for the Diploma Programme (called Pre-IB). Instruction in core subjects during Pre-IB takes place in congregated classes.

There is an information session on November 4 at 6:00 pm at St. Francis Xavier Secondary School (50 Bristol Rd. W., Mississauga) for all grade 8 students interested in applying to the Pre-International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. The application is available online as of November 2 at www.dpcdsb.org/STFXS. The application submission deadline is January 15, 2011.



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 with hats, scarves, gloves, winter outerwear and boots. As well, all students should have indoor footwear at school. This is imperative in case of an emergency evacuation since the students will not have time to put on their boots if they need to evacuate the building in a hurry.

Christmas Holiday Reminder

The dates for the Christmas Holiday this year are: December 20 to January 3, inclusive. Students return to school on Mon. Jan. 3, 2011.



Dates to Remember

- Nov. 1—Dr. Simone's Candy Drive begins
- Nov. 2—Progress reports sent home.
- Nov. 4—Parent/teacher/student interviews
- Nov. 6—School Council Executive training at St. Joseph S.S. at 8:30 a.m.
- Nov. 11—Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 16—picture retake day
- Nov. 18—Home Alone & First Aid Course begins
- Nov. 18—Holy Name of Mary Information night
- Nov. 23—Toonie Tuesday for Eden Food Bank
- Nov. 26—P.A. Day
- Nov. 26—Babysitting course Day
- Dec. 6—Advent Mass 7 p.m. at St. John of the Cross Church
- Dec. 15—JK/SK Christmas Concert



Attachments

- Eden Food Bank Toonie Tuesday drive.
- Home and School Connection
- November calendar