

# St. Therese of the Child Jesus School

Vol 2 Issue 5

January 2011

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/and Guardians, My hope is that you were able to celebrate with your families this past Christmas season with joy and comfort. As we know this is not the case for some families in our community and many throughout the world. It is incumbent on those of us who are fortunate to make sure that those who are not are provided with compassion and the necessities of life. At St. Therese of the Child Jesus we encourage our students to reach out to others in need and we provide students with the skills necessary to accomplish this goal. With this spirit in mind I bring to you this prayer for the New Year:

Loving God, thank you for the gift of the New Year  
May it be a time to grow in faith and love  
And a time to cherish family and friends.  
Walk with us each day and  
Grant a happy new year to all the world.  
May the light of Christ shine through us  
For others now and forever.  
Amen.

### PRINCIPAL:

**T. DeClerico**

### V. PRINCIPAL:

**M. Gibson**

### SECRETARIES:

**J. Lusk**

**M. Williamson**

**St. John of the Cross  
Parish  
Father Leo Huard,  
Pastor  
905-821-1331**

### SUPERINTENDENT:

**D. Oude-Reimerink**

### TRUSTEE:

**Esther O'Toole**

**905-812-5163**

## Virtue of the Month— Self Control

**Self Control**— I have self control. I know how to get things done on my own. I have control over my feelings. I make good decisions in the way I act and speak.

What is Self-Control/Decision Making?

Self Control/Decision making is a set of behaviours that help you:

- Understand that the only thing in life which you can change and control is yourself;
- Keep in check any unacceptable behaviours that may hurt yourself or others.;
- Realize that you are the master of your own destiny .
- Keep your life in balance and focused by helping you cope with new challenges that come your way.
- Keep your emotional responses in check or help you use moderation;
- Accept personal responsibilities in life and
- Reflect on your inner desire to grow up into a mature, responsible adult

Self Control is restraint practiced over one's own emotions, impulses or desires.



# Charities



2011 at 7:00 p.m.

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

## CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE

A special thank-you to the St. Therese of the Child Jesus community. We've had a very successful Christmas gift drive. Over \$300.00 in Canadian Tire money and many toys were donated (18 packages) for children of all ages. We extend our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Tilson, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Matuszek, Mrs. Christou, and Mrs. Lo for wrapping all the toys. They dedicated hours of their time, which we know will be appreciated by St. Vincent de Paul. Toys were distributed prior to Christmas, bringing a lot of bright smiles to little ones' faces. A sincere thanks to all staff who helped make this endeavour successful.

## HELPING HANDS...HELPING HANDS TO KEEP WARM

Students worked very hard creating Christmas cards to help raise funds to purchase gloves for needy children. Students enjoyed helping other students in our Board who are in need. Thank you for your contributions in purchasing our unique, student-made Christmas cards. Thanks to Mrs. DaCosta, Mme. Trinca, and Mr. Gibson for donating their lunch time for this endeavour.

## CHRISTMAS DANCE FOR SHARELIFE

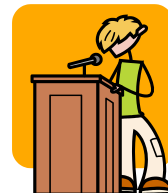
On December 17, intermediates participated in a Christmas dance, donating toonies to Sharelife as the price of admission.

## JK/SK REGISTRATION

Registration for JK/SK will take place on Monday, February 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the registration date will be Tuesday, February 8, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Daytime registration will take place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:30-11:30 a.m., and 1:30-3:30 p.m.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITIONS

The English public speaking contest for grades 4 to 8 will take place in the school on February 9. The Family of Schools competition is on February 17 at St. Albert of Jerusalem. The Extended French school public speaking contest will be held on March 1.



## ENGINEERS-IN-RESIDENCE

Our Engineer-In-Residence partners are working closely with our Science Club under the direction of Mr. Bortolotto. The program will soon be underway. Remember, Science Rules!

## PIANO LESSONS

There are currently openings for piano lessons offered in the evenings at St. Therese. Contact Mr. Jana Skarecky, M. Mus., A.R.C.T., at (905) 692-9696 for details.



# Programs



# Fundraisers



## QSP DRIVE

Thank you to all parents who renewed their subscriptions for our minor fundraising efforts.

# Reminders



## **FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 AND FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4 ARE PA DAYS**

January 14 is an Assessment and Evaluation Report Card Writing day for teachers. February 4 is a Reporting to Parents day. Students do not come to school on PA days.

## EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION MEETING

Grade 4 parents who may wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for September 2011 are invited to attend an information meeting at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School on Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 7 p.m. As you know, St. Therese of the Child Jesus is the designated Extended French Centre for our area. Admission is based on a lottery system. The Extended French application deadline is February 9, 2011. The lottery for selection into the program is on February 14, 2011. More information and application details will be provided at the meeting.

## 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,

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our next scheduled meeting for School Council is at 7:00pm on Wednesday, January 12.

### MN CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS PRESENTATION

All parents in the St. Therese community are invited to a presentation, "Reflecting on the Parish/School/Home Connection," facilitated by Father Jim Roth at 6:30 p.m. on January 26 at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Secondary School (see insert).

### PEEL HEALTH IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Peel Health nurses will be in the school providing Meningitis, HPV, and Hepatitis B shots on Thursday, January 20.

### REPORT CARDS AND INTERVIEWS

Report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, February 1. Parent-teacher interviews will take place on Thursday, February 3 in the evening and during school hours on Friday, February 4.

### SNOWY AND COLD WEATHER CONDITIONS

Students are reminded to dress for the weather, and to bring indoor shoes in an effort to keep our floors clean and safe. We remind you that if the paths behind the school, accessed from Summer Heights Dr., are not clear, students are to use the paths and sidewalks at the front of the school, which are prioritized for clearing and salting.

### FLU AND COLD SEASON

For the health and safety of all students, sick children need to stay home from school. Students should be well enough to participate in all classes, recesses, and school activities when they return. If they are well enough to come to school, they are well enough to go outside. There is no supervision available indoors.

### PED POLICY

As part of our efforts to promote and maintain a positive Catholic climate in our schools, we remind the St. Therese community that the Board has a policy regarding Personal Electronic Devices (PEDS) on school property. All PEDs (this includes cell phones) must be kept out of sight and turned off on 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. PEDS that are used on school property will be confiscated and kept at the office until the end of the day to be picked up by a parent. Parental support is requested and greatly appreciated.

### CATHOLIC RATEPAYERS - CHECK YOUR TAX BILL TO ENSURE PROPER TAX SUPPORT

If you are a Catholic ratepayer, we urge you to check your property tax bill to ensure that your support is directed to your local Catholic school board, in our case, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. If you are a tenant, you can verify your support by contacting our Admissions Department at (905) 890-0708, ext. 24511, 24512, or 24519, or your local municipal office. By ensuring that you are accurately recorded as a Catholic school supporter, you can help deliver a powerful

message to the government about the level of support for publically-funded Catholic education in Ontario. In order to be eligible to vote for your local Catholic school board trustee, you must be registered as a separate school supporter.

### KISS 'N RIDE AND PARKING IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL

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:

- 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 and is used by emergency vehicles.**



### INTERMEDIATE BASKETBALL

Tryouts were underway in December for intermediate basketball teams, and teams are currently being selected. Thanks to Mr. Murray, coach of the girls' team, and to Mr. Bortolotto, the boys' team coach, for contributing their time and guidance. Good luck to our 2010 team players.

### INTRAMURALS

One of the initiatives to improve school climate is providing fun, healthy, challenging activities for students to enjoy outside of classes. Prior to Christmas break until the end of February, students from grade five are participating in intramural soccer once a week. Involving grade fives from both the English and Extended French programs helps build connections between students in the two streams and fosters school spirit.

### DANCE WORKSHOPS

Dance workshops took place for many of our classes from Grades 1-8. **BOLD DANCE COMPANY** provided lessons in Jazz and Hip Hop. Danielle, Stephanie and Sandra from Bold Dance Company taught the students a routine which they eagerly presented. Students as well as their teachers enjoyed learning new dance steps in the workshop. Hip Hop was a big hit, especially with the boys!



# Something To Think About

Ontario has a proud history of Catholic Education. However, the continued existence of a separate Catholic school system in Ontario must not be taken for granted. The following questions are excerpts from *An Historical Understanding of Key Issues Related to Catholic Education*:

***What effect did the Canadian Constitution, created in the British North America Act (1867) (now entitled either the Constitution Act or the Canada Act), have on separate schools?***

When the Fathers of Confederation came from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada East, and Canada West to meet in Charlottetown and Quebec, they quickly concluded, in the words of one of the Fathers, Sir Charles Tupper, that "Without this guarantee for the rights of minorities being embodied in that new constitution, we should have been unable to obtain any Confederation whatever."

***What guarantee for separate schools does the Canadian Constitution still contain?***

In 1867 the Fathers of Confederation made section 93(1) part of the Constitution. It states:

Nothing in any such [provincial legislative] Law shall prejudicially affect any Right or Privilege with respect to Denominational Schools which any Class of Persons [i.e. separate school supporters] have by Law in the Province at the Union.

## **Attachments**

1. January Calendar of Activities
2. MN Catholic School Councils Presentation
3. Student Transportation - Bus Cancellations
4. STOPR Integrated Ridership