

St. Therese of the Child Jesus School

Vol 3 Issue 2

6930 Forest Park Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
L5N 6X7
905-785-0066 Ph.
905-785-0075 Fax

PRINCIPAL:
T. DeClerico

V. PRINCIPAL:
M. Gibson

SECRETARIES:
J. Lusk
M. Williamson

PARISH:
St. John of the Cross
Church
Father Leo Huard,
Pastor
905-821-1331

SUPERINTENDENT:
D. Oude-Reimerink

TRUSTEE:
Ether O'Toole
905-812-5163



October 2011

Happy Thanksgiving

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

*We thank You good Father for Your abundant gifts;
For food and drink in plenty.
For freedom to think and pray,
to run, to dance.*

*Mostly we thank You for Your love,
for thinking of us,
for making us Your own.*

*We ask Your blessing this day
on our loved ones near and far,
on all who yearn for peace,
on all who are in need.*

*May Your abundance teach us to give,
your reaching out teach us to care,
your universal love teach us to see
so that we may be one.*

Amen

Virtue of the Month-Empathy

This month's virtue is Empathy....

In our busy lives, we sometimes forget what challenges other people face as we are consumed by our own needs and wants. Being empathetic means tuning into what other people are going through, walking in their shoes.

People of Empathy....

- Can understand and name their feelings
- Care about others' feelings
- Listen carefully to others
- Listen for clues in tone of voice
- Watch expressions and body gestures for messages
- Notice when someone is upset
- Can see and respect how others look at things
- Know that others may feel differently about things than they do
- Respond generously to help others

ST. THERESE TEACHING STAFF

C. Firhoj	JK/SK
S. Viola	1
T. Armstrong	1/2
N. Zeehuisen	2/3
M. Rainaldi	3/4
M. Mills	4
S. Murray	5
J. Donnelly	5/6
K. Silva	6
B. Fazzari	7
J. Bortolotto	7
D. Salinas	8
M. Timpano-Cetra	8
M. Keough	SERC
L. Davis	SERT/ELL
T. Spadafina	SERT/E.P.T.
A. DaCosta	Art
C. Hedjes	E.P.T.
N. Brito	French/F.P.T.
M. Samaniego	French/F.P.T.
E. Pugliese	French
C. De Bono	5EF
R. Jusys	5EF
J. Trinca	5EF
G. Parent	6EF
M. Ramlogan	6EF
D. Knapp	7EF
E. Abbott	7EF
G. Balan	8EF
T. Singh	8EF
J. O'Neil	Library
M. Hatch	ERW
T. DeClerico	Principal
M. Gibson	Vice-Principal
J. Lusk	Head Secretary
M. Williamson	Assistant Secretary
L. Dias	Head Custodian
N. Dizon/R. Mills	P.M. Custodians

STAFF—SPECIAL SERVICES

Special Services staff provide resources to the school for a variety of services. We are pleased to have available the following personnel:

Speech Language	M. Montini
Social Work	D. Thompson
Psychology	A. Burhanpurkar
CYW	B. Rivers

(Child & Youth Worker)



Happy Thanksgiving

Faith Community

Parish News

St. John of the Cross Church
6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga
905 821-1331

Reconciliation and First Communion

Students in grade 2 and up are invited to the parish preparation program for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Please note the following dates:

Reconciliation	Tues. Nov. 15 - 7:00 p.m.
Reconciliation	Thurs. Nov. 17 - 7:00 p.m.
Reconciliation	Thurs. Nov. 24 - 7:00 p.m.
First Communion Par. Mtg.	Sun. Jan. 15 - 3:00 p.m.
First Communion Par. Mtg.	Sun. Jan. 22 - 3:00 p.m.
First Communion Par. Mtg.	Sun., Jan. 29 - 3:00 p.m.
First Communion Par. Mtg.	Sun., Feb. 5 - 3:00 p.m.
Enrolment	Feb. 18 & 19 - all masses
Enrolment	Feb. 25 & 26 - all masses
FIRST COMMUNIONS	April 15 - May 6 - all masses

Confirmation

Students in grade eight are invited to join the parish preparation program for Confirmation. The schools will continue to do the initial preparation in the religion classes, but immediate preparation will take place in the parish. Information meetings for **parents and candidates** to learn about the preparation process at St. John of the Cross Parish were held at the church in September and continue in October.

Please note that students do not celebrate sacraments 'automatically' because they are in a particular grade. Registration for all sacraments takes place at meetings at the church.

There are **Parent/Sponsor & Candidate Meetings** **Sunday, Oct 16 and Tuesday, Oct 18 7:30 p.m.**

Please see the Parish website for further dates.

Around the School

Welcome

A warm welcome to the teachers who are new to St. Therese: Ms. Hedjes, our English Planning Time teacher; and Mlle Samaniego, our FSL/French Planning Time teacher; and Mrs. O'Neill, our Teacher/Librarian.

Progress Report

The Progress Report Card will be sent home on October 25, 2011. This report shows a student's development of the learning skills and work habits, and general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum. Two Elementary Provincial Report Cards will be issued later in the school year, one between January and February for Term One, and another towards the end of June for Term Two.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

The annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul is underway. Thank you to Mrs. Trinca and Mrs. DaCosta for organizing the collection of canned foods

for needy families in our community. We are making an extra effort to help replenish food bank shelves, which are emptier than usual. The final day for donations is Thursday, October 6.



School Picture Day

Edge Imaging will be at St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Picture Day on October 12. Any student who misses picture day can have their picture taken on Picture Retake Day on November 3.

**Grade 8 Ottawa Trip
Parent information meeting was on October 5
If you did not receive a package, please contact the school office.**

Scent Awareness

While the Board does not have a formal Scent Awareness Policy we ask for your co-operation. As you can appreciate there are children and adults who are sensitive and may be allergic to scents and fragrances. It would be appreciated if students and parents could reduce their use of these strongly scented perfume and deodorant type products in the school building. Thanks.

PALS—Playground Leaders

The Playground Leaders are once again inviting all Grades 1 to 4 students to join them in some organized fun during lunch recesses. This year, the PALS leaders are Kellyann R., Hannah M., Julia F., Summer M., Eunice A., Maria P., Jessica B., Hailey C., Morgan N., Carol R., Sarah A., Veronica K., Paula M., Adrianna C., Amelia M., Ania F., Kaitlyn D., Elizabeth C., Kristen K., Veronica S., Lauren L., Meighan A., Mika P., Rachael D., Maya R., Jaclyn C..

Thank you to Mrs. Firhoj and Mme Trinca for organizing this initiative.

Terry Fox

The St. Therese of the Child Jesus community has once again been awesome in their generosity. On Wednesday, September 28, students, staff and parents enthusiastically participated in our annual Terry Fox Walk/Run. A final tally of donations is still being calculated as additional pledges trickle in, but early indications show donations in excess of \$4100.00. This is very impressive! A huge thank you goes out to everyone!! Special thanks to Ms. Donnelly for co-ordinating this initiative, Ms. Hatch for help with organization, and to Mrs. Bernt, parent volunteer for collecting money every day.

Intermediate Hallowe'en Dance

On Thursday, October 27, there will be a dance for grade 7 and 8 students in the gym in the afternoon. This is not a costume dance, as students from all grades will have the opportunity to dress up on Hallowe'en on Monday, October 31.

Orange and Black Day

Students are invited to dress up in orange and black colours for Halloween on Monday, October 31. Students may choose to wear costumes instead, but please ensure all costumes are age and Catholic school-appropriate, and that there are no masks or fake weapons.

Additional Halloween Activities

Individual classes will communicate with parents about any special Halloween activities planned. Please remember many of our students have life threatening allergies to nuts and nut byproducts. No treats with nuts will be allowed into the classrooms. Any edible treats must have a list of ingredients available. If you are considering sending treats to school with your child to share with their class, it is recommended non-edible items be sent instead (i.e. stickers, etc.). Thanks!!



Black Creek Pioneer Village Trip

We wish the Grade 3's a fun day of learning — with agreeable weather — when they go to Black Creek on Oct. 21

Second City 'Stop Punching Judy' Show

On Friday, Oct. 14, the famous Second City comedy troupe is coming to St. Therese to present an anti-bullying puppet show to all classes from Kindergarten to grade 6. This is a Catholic Community of Culture and Caring (CCCC) initiative to improve school climate.

Additional CCCC programs will be announced throughout the school year. Sessions have been booked with the Peel Police to provide educational programs on anti-bullying, drug-awareness, street-proofing, and other topics pertaining to school safety.

Indoor / Outdoor Shoes

All students should have a pair of indoor shoes to wear at school in class and for gym. Outdoor shoes/boots will be kept for outdoor use only and out of the classrooms in order to reduce the amount of dirt and mud brought indoors. This will assist Mr. Dias and staff in keeping the school clean. Thank you for your co-operation.

Eco Club

The Eco Club met twice this September to weed and spread mulch onto our reading gardens. Mr. Dias and Mr. Bortolotto are pleased to see our new club up and running. We look forward to getting more ideas from club members to undertake more Eco activities throughout the year. Go Eco Club!

Dance Workshops

BOLD Dance Company is once again providing the students with dance workshops in Jazz and Hip Hop. The students from grades 1—8 are having fun learning new dance combos to current music. Danielle Venditillo and Stephanie Macri from Bold Dance are bringing out the creativity in the students through dance.



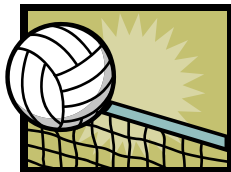
Tae Kwon Do Sessions

Due to the success of last year's Tae Kwon Do fundraiser, the school is using fundraising money to provide each class in grades 1-8 with two one-hour Tae Kwon Do lessons as part of the Health & Phys. Ed. program. Last year Master Kim's OMAC provided four sessions to the school free of charge in exchange for \$20.00 donations from parents. This year students will experience martial arts free of charge. This program, like curling, skating, golf, and dance, supports our Healthy Schools designation.



Golf in the School

On Monday, Sept. 26, Intermediate students got the opportunity to learn golf, provided by the Golf Association of Ontario.



Intermediate Volleyball Teams

The Intermediate Boys' and Girls' Volleyball teams have completed try-outs. Congratulations to all the boys and girls who tried out.

Boys' Team: Noah B., Matthew C., Kyle D., Linden L., Kieran C., Lyle F., Jonas K., Justin M., Robert S., Dylan M., Matthew I., Alfonso D., Joshua P., and Noah C., Bradley H., Stefan M., Youssef L., and Leander R..

Boys' Team Practices: Mondays and Wednesdays after school, Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch recess, and Friday mornings.

Girls' Team: Averil S., Megan C., Ania S., Megan G., Michelle V., Sofia M., Kaitlin L., Melissa D., Mackenzie D., Cassandra R., Sarah M., Anna Y., and Lana D..

Girls' Team Practices: Mondays-Thursdays at 8:00 am and Fridays during lunch recess

Mississauga North Family Tournament: Oct. 28 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Thanks to coaches J. Bortolotto, D. Knapp, T. Armstrong, S. Gloutnez, M. Dell'Anno, and M. Hatch

The Intermediate Volleyball Family Tournament will be held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on Oct. 27. Girls play in the morning, boys in the afternoon.

Cross-Country Team is Off & Running!

The Cross Country Team has been selected and is practicing hard for the Family Meet on October 13. Thank you to the coaches: B. Fazzari, D. Salinas, and D. Knapp. Good luck to all the participants.

HOLY ROSARY APOSTOLATE

The Holy Rosary Apostolate in the Schools program was initiated by Sister Marilina Cinelli C.P. and the directors of the Rosary Apostolate. The Archdiocese of Toronto lends its full support to this program ministered by a group of volunteers. Love and reverence for the Mother of God and teaching students how to pray the Holy Rosary constitutes an essential part of Christian formation. The Rosary Apostolate in the Schools strives to fulfill this essential need. Once a month, from the month of October to May, the Rosary Apostolate will visit every classroom in our school. We had this program in the school last year. Each student received a rosary and learned about its significance and how to pray it. Students were also involved in a very meaningful year-end celebration.

All the volunteers have had a criminal reference check conducted as required by the Ontario Government. All volunteers are given proper training and all presentations have been approved by the Archdiocese of Toronto. The visits will be from 15 to 20 minutes for SK to Gr. 3 students and 45 minutes for Gr. 4-8 students.



Lock Down & Fire Drills

During the month of September and October we have been rehearsing and will continue to rehearse with students a number of emergency response situations including lock down and fire drills. All schools are required by Board policy to practice these procedures throughout the year. We have these 'rehearsals' for precautionary purposes only so that in the event of an actual emergency, students will be prepared to respond in a safe and responsible manner. Our Lockdown drill date is November 16 (in the morning). The outer doors will be locked for the time of the drill, not allowing anyone to enter, and an emergency protocol will be followed. The day will continue as normal following the drill. Thank you for your patience.

For the Parents

School Council

The 2011-2012 School Council members are:

Co-Chairs	I. Holmes, V. Tonan-Clugston
Treasurer	K. McElhone
Secretary	E. Cardoso
Principal	T. DeClerico VP: M. Gibson
Teacher Rep.	S. Murray
Non Teacher Rep.	J. Lusk
Parish Rep.	L. Machado
Fundraising Chairs	A. Haley
OAPCE Rep.	Patrick Mendes
Parents at Large/Community Reps	Anita Hill, Dilkie Wijesinghe, Ritu Wynne

School Council Meetings are scheduled for Oct. 18, Nov. 23, Jan. 19, Feb. 27, Apr. 17 & May 16. All parents are welcome to attend. Meetings start at 7p.m., unless otherwise stated, and are held in the school library.

Visitors to the School

For safety's sake, please respect school protocol for school visits. All parents, volunteers, and other visitors must sign in at the office and inform the office of the purpose of the visit. Meetings with teachers must be scheduled in advance outside of instructional time. No drop-ins, please.

Mental Health Presentation

Loyola Catholic School Council is inviting parents to a Mental Health Presentation by Barry Shainbaum on Monday October 24 at 7:00 pm. This event is paid for by the Ministry Parent Engagement Grant.

Continuing Ed Courses

As you know, the Adult & Continuing Education program offers a wide variety of programs, including General Interest and International Language programs. Call the Adult & Continuing Education department at 905-891-9263 for further information.

Facebook 101 Presentation

On October 18, 2011 at 7 pm Chris Vollum will be presenting Facebook 101 at St. Sebastian School. He is a recognized authority on Facebook, Twitter and Formspring. Please RSVP to St. Sebastian School. 905-607-0107.

International Language Classes

Language ability is of growing importance in our international community! International Language classes are available Saturday mornings to students in grades JK to 8 (non-credit courses) and grades 9 to 12 (credit courses). No prior language experience is necessary. International Language programs comply with the Ministry of Education curriculum. Please contact the Adult & Continuing Education office at 905-891-9263 for information regarding language offerings at specific International Language sites. It's not too late to join.

Pupil Progress

Parents and teachers are encouraged to contact each other immediately if there are problems or areas of concern. **Do not wait for interviews!** Please make an appointment by phone or using the agenda.

Student Dress Code

The Board's Appropriate Dress Code Policy charges all schools, within the jurisdiction of the Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B., to adopt a dress code for students, which is in keeping with the Board's Mission Statement and Catholic social teachings. Students are expected to dress in a manner suitable for the occasion and appropriate to the school environment.

Clothing which portrays any unsuitable or offensive logos and/or language will not be permitted. Proper footwear must be worn at all times i.e. running shoes for gym, indoor shoes for class, boots for rain and snow. It is unsafe for students to walk around in socks or bare feet. Hats and sunglasses should be removed upon entering the building. The use of make up is discouraged and, if worn at all, should be natural looking. Student dress code expectations were reviewed with all students at Behaviour Assemblies held the first week of school. Your support in encouraging compliance is much appreciated.

Leaving School Property at Lunch Time

Please note that at recess (a.m. & p.m.) no student is permitted to leave the school grounds at any time. At lunch time the expectation is that all students in grade 1 to 6 stay at school for lunch unless they have written permission from their parents stating otherwise. Parents must sign their child out and in when taking them for lunch. In grades 7 & 8 some parents checked the "No" option on the annual permission form. Please remember, if you have given your child blanket permission to leave the school property at lunch time, or give them specific permission in writing on individual days to leave school property at lunch time, the school cannot assume responsibility for their supervision once off school grounds. Some intermediate students choose to go to the plaza at the corner of Forest Park and Derry for lunch, necessitating that they cross a very busy intersection. Safety tips have been reviewed with the Grade 7 & 8's so that they can remain alert and safe while off school property. Your help in reviewing your lunch hour expectations with your children and discussing safety issues would be helpful.



Looking Ahead to November

As you are well aware, November is traditionally the month we remember all those who have defended freedom in our country and around the world. We will have our annual Remembrance Day Assemblies on Wednesday, November 11. If you have a parent, grandparent or great grandparent who is a war vet and who might be available to join us at St. Therese on November 11 please contact Ms DeClerico for more information. In addition, we will continue the tradition of displaying the St. Therese of the Child School **'Memory Book' in the front foyer**. Students and their parents are invited to submit stories and pictures of themselves, relatives and/or friends who have been touched by war or participated in war. Submissions can be brief and are best if accompanied with a photograph.



School Website

Make sure to visit our school website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/TCHLD>. Newsletters and a variety of other school related information is posted monthly. Have a look!

School Property

If you are driving your child to school, please use the Kiss and Ride program at the north side of the school and exit on the north side. The parking lot at the south side is for Kindergarten parents. Please be sure to honour the one way signs for student safety. Please do not use the front of the school as a drop off. It is a bus loading zone as well as a fire route. There are 30 minute parking spaces at the front of our school for your convenience if you need to come in for an appointment. During inclement weather, the Kiss and Ride area for drop off is ideal. There is a door for students to enter close to the drop off zone. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Safety is our utmost concern.

Pediculosis

Although it may seem early in the school year, we would like to bring to your attention a problem which occurs from time to time in each school. This problem is an infestation of head lice also known as pediculosis. Pediculosis is in no way connected with poor hygiene or dirt. Anyone can become infested. In order to control these pests we will follow these procedures and request your full cooperation and understanding. If cases are found in the classroom, we shall inform the parents of that class. We would ask that you check your children's hair and if you find it to be infested, please notify the school and we will advise as to the appropriate treatment. If a child is infested he/she will be kept out of school until they have been treated with the correct shampoo and their hair is entirely clear of both lice and nits (eggs). Information on head lice may also be obtained from your family doctor or pharmacist.

Dogs on School Property

Please do not bring your dogs, or other pets, onto school property. Even if on a leash and normally passive/friendly, your pet may respond in an unexpected manner if surrounded by a large group of curious children. While most of us are pet lovers, some youngsters are frightened by animals and may get nervous or anxious when approached by one. Also, other children in our community suffer from allergies that are often triggered by pet fur or pet dander. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

For the Students



Executive Catholic Youth Faith Ambassadors

The Executive Catholic Youth Faith Ambassadors is a student leadership body that performs all the func-

tions of a student council, but with an emphasis on activities that create a safe and positive school climate centred around Catholic values.

The students from Grade 7 and 8 ran and voted for candidates. Thank you to all of the students who ran, and congratulations to the elected members of our new Executive YFA:

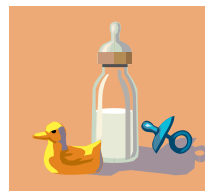
Grade 8: Matthew F. and Zoe F.
Grade 8EF: Martin B. and Linden L.
Grade 7: Daniel B. and Noah C.
Grade 7EF: Rohan N. and Sandra S.
Prime Minister: Annesha M.

Last year we had students in Gr 6 to 8 fill out an application to be a faith ambassador and we are doing that again. The students will be involved in *head* (inform), *heart* (form), and *hands* (transform) leadership and outreach opportunities.

The Youth Faith Ambassadors will be involved with the safe schools initiative, virtues assemblies and other activities around the school. The executive will take the lead in all these various roles. We are attempting to demonstrate to the student body through the ambassadors' leadership initiatives that one can have strong faith and have fun. Students in grades 6 to 8 can be very much a part of the program without taking a leadership role.

Babysitting Course

Students 11 years of age and up have the opportunity to participate in a Canadian Red Cross babysitting course. A letter will be distributed soon with more details about this workshop that includes everything from first aid to safety tips and the responsibilities of a good babysitter. The workshop will take place in November.



Kids Safety First At Home All By Myself Course

The Red Cross First Aid Course for kids in Gr. 4 and 5 is called "People Saver" level 3 and is combined with Kids Safety First. The "At Home Alone By Myself" Workshop will be offered at St. Therese once again this year. The lessons will be taught by a Canadian Red Cross First Aid Instructor. More information as to date and cost will be coming home in a letter soon. This course will take place over five weeks beginning in November and ending in December. Please watch for this letter if your child is in Gr. 4 or 5.

Change in Dismissal or Lunch Routine

If your child is changing his or her routine for dismissal or lunch time, (i.e. they are not taking the bus or someone else is picking them up), please inform your child's teacher in writing. Older students can use their agendas and kindergarten parents can use a letter. It is too difficult to recall verbal instructions amidst the many bits of information processed during the school day. If it is in writing, the new routine can be addressed more effectively. Also, phone calls are not the best way to communicate this information. Not only are there interruptions to important instructional time but often it is time consuming to locate a student who may be in the gym, library, computer lab or outdoors. Arrangements for dismissal and lunch time should be made in advance if possible. Emergencies are different and we will try to accommodate as best we can. Thank you for your cooperation.

HAVE YOU RETURNED YOUR CHILD'S UPDATED STUDENT VERIFICATION FORM? Please ensure we have accurate and up-to-date contact information. We must have a number that is available during the day to contact you in case of emergency. Please give alternate numbers of someone you trust (i.e. other family member, neighbour, babysitter) in case you are not available for a call. We should have a minimum of 3 numbers.

Calendar of Events

October 5—World Teacher's Day Tell your teacher how much you appreciate her/him.
October 5—Ottawa Trip Parent Information Mtg.
October 10—Thanksgiving—no school
October 12—Picture Day
October 13—Cross Country Meet
October 14—Second City 'Stop Punching Judy' presentations for K-6's in gym
October 16—Parent/Sponsor & Candidate Meeting
October 18—Parent/Sponsor & Candidate Meeting
October 18—School Council Mtg. 7:00 p.m. library
October 24—Grade 3 Trip to Black Creek Pioneer Village
October 25—Progress Report sent home
October 27—Intermediate Halloween dance
October 27—Family Intermediate Volleyball Tournament at Mt. Carmel
November 3—Picture Retake Day
November 11—Remembrance Day, regular school day
November 15—Reconciliation at 7:00 p.m.
November 16—Picture Retake Day
November 17—Reconciliation at 7:00 p.m.
November 18—PA Day—no school for students
November 24—Reconciliation at 7:00 p.m.

Attachments

- Calendar of Events