

# St. Therese of the Child Jesus School

Vol 3 Issue 3

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:**  
**Esher O'Toole**  
905-812-5163

**November 2011**

## In Flanders Fields



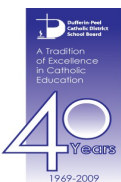
In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

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



# *Virtue of the Month*

## **November—Conscience**

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

There is an inner voice God has given us that lets us know when we are not acting in the right and decent way. This 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 host Virtues Assemblies to recognize students who demonstrate the virtue of the month in an exemplary way.

## *Around the School*

### **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 19 boxes of non-perishable food for needy families. Thanks also to Mme Trinca and Ms. DaCosta for organizing this important school charity.

### **Milk Bags 4 Haiti**

What a great success! Thank you so much to all the families that have contributed to our Milk Bag Initiative this year. We collected a total of 20 boxes of milk bags which will be used to create sleeping mats for citizens of Haiti. Thank you to Ms. Timpano-Cetra and Ms. Viola and a special thank you to Starbucks, Mrs. Koss who provided us with a lot of the milk bags.

### **Candy Drive**

We are inviting your family to participate in our school's 3rd 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. Thank you to all those parents who volunteered to be drivers. If you would like to participate, please send candy with your child from Tuesday, November 1 to Wed. November 9.

### **The giving continues...**

#### **Eden Food Bank Toonie Tuesday- November 15**

On Tuesday, November 15 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. With this money, perishable foods are purchased; milk, bread, fruit and vegetables, bread etc.

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

### **Canadian Tire \$ Collection**

During the month of November, our school will be collecting unwrapped new toys and Canadian Tire money in order to continue the tradition of helping needy families in the Meadowvale area. Last year, through your generous support, we were able to give families a Christmas hamper piled high with clothing and toys. Once again, with the help of your generosity, we would like to reach this goal. All of the money collected will go directly towards the purchase of hamper gifts.

The Christmas hamper drive runs from Nov. 4 to Dec. 12. If you have any questions or contacts through your employment that you feel would enhance our Christmas Hamper Drive, please leave a message at the school and we will gladly call you back.

Thank you to Mrs. Armstrong for running this important Christmas drive.

### QSP Magazines

Thank you to all parents who purchased QSP magazines. This minor fundraising event helps support the purchase of resources that support literacy and school programs. Magazine order forms are available throughout the year.

### Scholastic Book Fair

This year's Scholastic Book Fair will run from December 5-8 in the library. Hope to see you there!

### Eco Schools

St. Therese of The Child Jesus is becoming a certified Eco School this year. In order to achieve certification, the Eco Schools Committee has to obtain points by demonstrating that the school has undertaken green initiatives. To this end, there will be an audit of existing practices within the school (i.e., the production of waste, use of electricity, conditions of school grounds). Then the committee will establish goals and initiatives that will make concrete environmental improvements. Many ideas are currently being floated, and one initiative is already underway: Mr. Bortolotto's grade 7 class and Mr. Dias have weeded and improved the condition of the peace garden behind the school. To further the cause, **we are accepting any donations of bulbs or trees that will enhance the condition of our grounds. Thank you.**

## For the Parents



### JK/SK Christmas Concert

Jr and Sr. Kindergarten students will participate in a Christmas concert at the school. Time and date will follow shortly.

### The Advent Mass for Families

Our school community Advent Family Mass is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13 at 7p.m. at St. John of the Cross Church. Please mark your calendars and join us for this Advent celebration.

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!

### School Council

There is training for School Council Executive Members on Saturday, November 5 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 **Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m.** in our library. All parents are welcome!

### 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 note: Due to the risk to walkers posed by cars pulling in and out of the JK/SK lot, traffic will be blocked from entering or exiting the lot after the dismissal bell rings at the end of the day until all the busses have left the premises.**
- **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.**

Student safety is our utmost concern and must supercede parent convenience. Thank you for helping to keep our kids safe.

### 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. Level 3 represents grade level.

School results from the most recent EQAO Grades 3 and 6 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics indicate levels of student achievement that surpass Provincial averages in every category, and Board averages in every category except Grade 3 Reading. 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 results.

Students, now in grades 4 and 7, who participated in the May-June 2011 EQAO provincial assessments deserve to be congratulated on a job well done!!

<b>GRADE 6</b>	School	Board	Province
Reading	92	77	74
Writing	97	78	73
Mathematics	80	62	58

<b>GRADE 3</b>	School	Board	Province
Reading	67	68	65
Writing	91	76	73
Mathematics	70	69	69

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

**Administration of EQAO for grade 3 and grade 6 students this year will be May 23- June 5, 2012.**

### 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 on the EQAO website. Individual school profiles will also be posted on the Dufferin Peel C.D.S.B. & school websites.

### Picture Retake Day is Thursday, November 3.

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](http://www.insuremykids.com).

### 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 cannot 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 non-edible 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. 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 nearby strip mall.

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

place on Thursday, November 10 at 9:45 for Grade 7s and 1:15 for Grade 8s in the library. Parents are welcome!

### 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.



## For the Students

### Junior and Intermediate Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the Cross Country participants who qualified for the Board Meet at Heart Lake.

Honorable mentions go out to our top 20 finishers: Mariska (15th place), Jozef (19th place), Melissa O. (17th place), Melissa S. (20th place), Russel (17th place), Mackenzie (10th place), and Sofia (8th place).

Thank you to coaches Knapp, Fazzari, and Salinas for all of your time and guidance.

### Anti-Bullying Initiatives: The Bully Show, Grade 5 Intramural Soccer, and Peel Police Education Programs

Gr. 1-6 students enjoyed the October 14 interactive performance from Second City, "Stop Punching Judy." The show gave examples of ways to resolve bullying and conflict. Peel Police presentations are underway for all grades, and cover important safety issues like street-proofing and drug awareness. As a means of making new Extended French students feel like part of the community, grade five students have the opportunity to participate in intramural soccer at lunch.

### 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! In keeping with our Catholic tradition, during the month of November, our school community will offer prayers for the faithfully departed. This year we invite you to submit names of departed family and friends for our 'Wall of Remembrance.' The students will be receiving a memorial sheet, which we will post on the bulletin board on the north side of the school. We also have a memory book displayed in the front foyer with pictures of student's relatives who were involved in WWII.

We are also having a presentation from Peter Hurley who will be giving a retrospect of a WWI Soldier's life. This will take

### Junior Volleyball

Try-outs have begun for the junior girls and boys volleyball teams. Mr. Bortolotto, Mrs. Mills, and Mr. Gibson will be coaching the boys, and Mrs. Fazzari, Mrs. Brito, and Ms. Rainaldi will be coaching the girls. Practices and games will be announced soon. Good luck to both teams. We look forward to an exciting season.

### Congrats to the Intermediate Volleyball Teams!

Congratulations to all the Intermediate Girls volleyball players representing St. Therese of the Child Jesus School. We were so proud of your accomplishments. We made it to the Family Tournament. We were 5 points away from reaching the Board Tournament. Wow! Thanks to our superstar team: Averil, Megan, Ania, Megan G., Michelle, Sofia, Kaitlin, Melissa, MacKenzie, Cassandra, Sarah, Anna, and Lana. Way to go!

Coaches Bortolotto and Knapp are very proud of the Intermediate Boys Volleyball 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., Noah C., Bradley H., Stefan M., Youssef L., and Leander R. The players displayed excellent skill and team play throughout the season. They finished third at the Family Tournament at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, showing excellent determination, winning sets after losing opening matches. Good luck to our Grade 8 players next year when they try out for their high school teams.

### **P.A. Day in November**

**On Monday, November 18 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.**

### **Holy Name of Mary C.S.S. To Hold Grade 8 Information Night**

On November 24th, beginning at 7:00 p.m., Holy Name of Mary C.S.S. will be holding a Grade 9 Information & Registration Night for current Grade 8 students, and their parents, in the school's gymnasium. As a regional all girls school, we would like to invite all eligible Region of Peel girls to apply to Holy Name of Mary C.S.S. Please visit our website for further updates: [www.dpcdsb.org/hnmry/guidance](http://www.dpcdsb.org/hnmry/guidance). Registration packages will be available on our website by November 7th, 2011. Location: Holy Name of Mary C.S.S., 115 Glenvale Blvd., Brampton, Ontario. For further information please call 905-458-5541 X 64104.

### **Iona Arts Program**

Iona Catholic Secondary School is hosting *its Arts Program Information Night* on Wednesday, November 16 from 7:00PM -9:00PM in the school cafeteria. Grade 8 students who may be interested in enrolling in this program are invited, along with their parents, to attend.

### **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme**

On November 3, 2011, St. Francis Xavier Secondary School will be holding an International Baccalaureate (I.B.) Information Night for Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians, who are interested in enrolling in the Pre-I.B. program at the school. It will be in the cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. All Mississauga students residing south of Highway 401 and those in the catchment area of St. Marcellinus Secondary School are eligible to apply to the Pre-I.B. program at St. Francis Xavier S.S. The IB Diploma Programme is a comprehensive and rigorous two-year curriculum. Grades 9 and 10 (Pre-I.B.) prepare students for the challenges of the I.B. Diploma Programme in Grades 11 and 12. Students who successfully complete the I.B. program are awarded both the I.B. Diploma and the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). More information regarding the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme can be found at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) or at the school's website: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/STFXS>.

### **Extended French Information Night**

The tentative date for the EF Information Night is **Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00pm** at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School.

### **Rosary Rally**

On Saturday, November 5, families are invited to St. Paschal Baylon Church for prayer and activities centered around Mary. This is a great opportunity to extend the program offered by the Holy Rosary of the Apostolate to the whole school community (see insert).

### **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 24 to January 8, inclusive. Students return to school on Mon. Jan. 9, 2011.

### **Dates to Remember**

- Nov. 1-4—Dr. Simone's Candy Drive begins
- Nov. 3—Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 5—School Council Executive training at St. Joseph S.S. at 8:30 a.m.
- Nov. 5—Rosary Rally at St. Paschal Baylon Church
- Nov. 11—Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 15—Toonie Tuesday for Eden Food Bank
- Nov. 18—P.A. Day
- Nov. 23—School Council Mtg. at 7 p.m. in library
- Nov. 24—Holy Name of Mary Information night
- Dec. 5-8—Scholastic Book Fair
- Dec. 13—Advent Mass 7 p.m. at St. John of the Cross Church

### **Attachments**

- Eden Food Bank Toonie Tuesday drive.
- Home and School Connection
- November calendar
- Rosary Rally
- "From the Board of Trustees"
- Wall of Remembrance