



St. Vincent de Paul School

665 Willowbank Trail Mississauga, Ontario L4W 3L6

Tel: (905) 848- 5397 Fax: (905) 848-0738

Principal: Mr. Tony McLoughlin
Secretary: Ms. Susan Ferenc

Trustee: Mr. Mario Pascucci (905) 302-3096
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Fax: 905-890-0888
Office Telephone:
905-890-0708 ext. 21061
mario.pascucci@dpcdsb.org
www.TrusteePascucci.ca

Pastor: Fr. John Facey (905) 270-2301

Superintendent: Mr. C. Blanchard (905) 890-1221

February 2012

Mid-Winter Prayer

Dear Lord, every winter I think spring
will never get here.
I can't wait until I see the green leaves
and the daffodils.

Even during the coldest times,
I believe in the promise of spring to come.
Help me to be patient while I wait
for things to get better.

The people of Samaria had faith that the
food You promised would arrive,
even though it seemed impossible.

Thank You for being constant like the
seasons, dear Lord. You won't let us down.
Amen

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS: PEEL HEALTH



Please have your child's
immunization records up to date.
Please adhere to the direct quote
from the Region of Peel Health
Department:

"Peel Public Health is conducting a review to ensure that immunization records of school students in Peel are up-to-date. The review of immunization records is a routine process mandated by the Immunization of School Pupils Act. Please note that the first letter will be sent out on February 2, 2012 and we will notify you when the second and third dates are confirmed. Students who do not provide immunization records after receiving several notices during an eleven-week period will be issued an order of suspension from school by the Region of Peel's Medical Officer of Health." It is the parent's responsibility to report all Immunizations your child receives to the Peel Public Health. (905- 799-7700 or www.immunizepeel.ca)

Bus Cancellations / School Closure due to Weather

Please be advised that during the winter months, inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 am, and will be announced on the following radio and television stations:



CKFM 99.9	CHUM 1050	CFTR 680
CFNY 102.1	CFTO	CBC
CJCL 590	CHFI 98.1	CFRB 1010
ENERGY FM93.1		CJEZ EZ ROCK
CJBC (FR) 860 AM		1540 AM
Z103.5	CJMR/CHWO 1250	GLOBAL NEWS
THE WEATHER NETWORK	CITY PULSE	88.5 FM

Attendance Verification –St. Vincent de Paul: 905- 848-5397

Reminder: Please notify the school when your child is going to be late or absent. You may call before or after school hours and leave a message on the answering machine, if necessary. Please clearly state your child's name, the name of his/her teacher and the reason for absence. We are required to make numerous phone calls each day to verify student absences. Thanks for your help in avoiding this time consuming procedure.

Electronic Newsletter

Hopefully this will be the last newsletter that is printed as a hard copy. We are still ironing out a couple of issues related to sending out the Newsletter via email. Parents: Please make sure you print your email as neatly as possible when presenting it to the office.

SMARTBOARD TECHNOLOGY!

Thank you very much to our School Council who generously supported the project to have another two SMARTBOARDS installed in our classrooms!!! What is a SMARTBOARD???

An interactive whiteboard (IWB), is a large interactive display that connects to a computer and projector. A projector projects the computer's desktop onto the board's surface where students control the computer using a pen, finger, stylus, or other device. The board is typically mounted to a wall or floor stand. In some classrooms, interactive whiteboards have replaced traditional whiteboards or flipcharts, or video/media systems such as a DVD player and TV combination. Even where traditional boards are used, the IWB often supplements them by connecting to a school network digital video distribution system. In other cases, IWBs interact with online shared annotation and drawing environments such as interactive vector based graphical websites.

The software supplied with the interactive whiteboard will usually allow the teacher to keep notes and annotations as an electronic file for later distribution either on paper or through a number of electronic formats.

In addition, interactive whiteboards allow teachers to record their instruction as digital video files and post the material for review by students at a later time. This can be a very effective instructional strategy for students who benefit from repetition, who need to see the material presented again, for students who are absent from school, for struggling learners, and for review for examinations. Brief instructional blocks can be recorded for review by students — they will see the exact presentation that occurred in the classroom with the teacher's audio input. This can help transform learning and instruction.

One recent use of the IWB is in shared reading lessons. This can allow teachers to project children's books onto the interactive whiteboard with book-like interactivity. The research shows that interactive whiteboard technology led to consistent gains across all key stages and subjects with increasingly significant impact differentiating instruction indicating that embedding of the technology into the classroom and teacher experience with the technology are key factors.

For more information...visit...

www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/08/23/earlyshow/main1931179.shtml

VALUABLES

A reminder that AS PER BOARD POLICY, students are not allowed to bring PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES like cell phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, cameras, etc, to school. **These items, especially cell phones, will be confiscated and parents will be required to pick them up from the office.**



Please keep your child's valuables at home. Staff cannot be responsible for any valuables that your child brings to school. Money, jewellery, Pokemon cards, electronics, toys, etc., should be kept at home. "Wheelie shoes" and "Beyblades" are not allowed at school.

Special Assignment Teacher

This year the Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board has assigned a Special Assignment Teacher who visits our school and assists in the implementation of the Junior Balanced Numeracy curriculum. Ms. Jennifer Poirier works with our Junior teachers and assists teachers in meeting the assessment needs demanded of the Junior curriculum and is a valuable resource in determine what materials should be in the classrooms to teach Mathematics.

Student Arrival



Classes begin at St. Vincent de Paul at 9:00 am. We have a number of students who are regularly late for school. Please ensure that children arrive at the school shortly before 9:00 am. to line up with their class. During these cold winter months, please ensure that your child wakes up a little bit earlier to make sure they are ready to leave for school after a good breakfast, with hats and gloves suitable for the weather.

Many teachers have made phone calls to the parents of children who are habitually late or absent and made references to how much lateness effects student progress and the entire classroom atmosphere.

Pizza Days



We continue to hold our Tuesday Pizza Days. A huge thank you for parents will fill out the envelopes so your child can have a hot slice of pizza. The office works tirelessly to support this initiative.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Excursions.

Students will have the opportunity to take field trips and participate in a number of extra-curricular activities. Permission forms will be sent home to be filled out, signed and promptly returned to school.

No student will be allowed to participate on a trip or extra-curricular activity without written consent from their parent/guardian. Verbal consent over the telephone will not be accepted.

No exceptions will be allowed. Teachers give ample notice for trip consent forms. We encourage parents to support these educational opportunities by volunteering to assist and supervise these discussions. For the safety of your child, excursions lacking appropriate adult supervisions will be cancelled.

After Hours School Access

Please be reminded that access to the students' classrooms after school is prohibited. Our custodial staff is under strict orders not to allow students and parents to enter classrooms for the purpose of picking up forgotten books or homework. This is to ensure safekeeping of the students', teachers', and the schools' property.

Sacramental Preparations

A huge congratulations to Mrs. Costa's and Mrs. Harmon's Grade 2 classes who recently received the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Our Grade 2 and Grade 8 students are actively preparing to receive the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation this spring at St. Patrick's Parish.



School Website



We continue to update our school website.

This site is continually updated with our newsletters, calendar information, School Council information, and educational websites. A special thank you to Ms. Ricardo for overseeing this site. Please visit us at: www.dpccsb.org/VPAUL



Safety Reminders

Parents/guardians are reminded to follow the parking signs and safety guidelines when accessing our school grounds: Our school driveway is a **one way zone**, the parking lot on the south side of the school is designated for **staff parking only**, and children should not be exiting cars unless they are using the Kiss and Ride circular lane located close to John Cabot High School. To ensure the safety of students please follow these guidelines:

- Use the Kiss „N Ride lane **only**; do not drop off your child in the Drive-Thru lane.
- Drop off children only when you reach the front of the line or under the direction of the supervisor on duty.
- Please **wait** your turn.
- Your child **must** exit the car on the **right** hand side only.

Remember: You may not leave your car unattended, in the driveway of the parking lot, at anytime.

Security Issues in the school



Due to a number of security issues in several schools in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, we have been advised to strictly enforce our security procedures. Please be advised that **ALL** visitors to the school – including parents – **MUST** sign in at the office. Visitors to the school are required to enter and exit the building through the front doors **ONLY**. Access to the hallways and classrooms **will not** be permitted after school hours. We appreciate your support in ensuring the safety of the children and staff at St. Vincent de Paul.

JK/SK Registration

Registration for children NEW to kindergarten will take place on the evening of **Monday, February 6 from 7-9 pm.** and on **Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8, 9, 10 at 9:00-11:00 am. and 1:00 -3:00 pm.** Students who were born in 2008 will be eligible for Junior Kindergarten, and students who were born in 2007 will be eligible for Senior Kindergarten. Please note, if your child already attends Junior Kindergarten at St. Vincent de Paul and wishes to enroll in the full day program, a further new registration is not required.

It's Cold Outside—MAYBE????



Parents, please remind your child(ren) of the importance of dressing appropriately for the cold weather. With temperatures regularly below freezing, winter coats, hats, boots, and mittens are necessary to insure warmth, protect against illness and prevent frostbite. We regularly have to remind students to put on coats, hats, and gloves and to do up coat zippers. Your support is appreciated. In accordance with the Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board Policy, we will review recess time outside, and or call inclement recess if temperatures drop below the -20 degree range.

Snow and Ice

Snow is part of our winter life in Canada. We all like to play in it. However snow and ice can be very dangerous. For safety reasons the school rule must be that snow stays on the ground - no snowballs, kicking snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful. It is important that all students are aware to also keep off all hills, no matter how small. By staying off the hills allows all children to play in a safe, playful manner.



QSP MAGAZINES!!!!

Thank you to the St. Vincent de Paul School community for supporting literacy through our magazine fundraiser. While the direct cash or cheque envelope process has concluded, you can still continue to support our schools by on-line orders throughout the entire school year. Simply go to www.qsp.ca and follow the prompts. Our school code is : 8388. Profits will be applied all year long to our school.

Chess Chess Chess!!!



Our Chess Club has been having practices Tuesdays and Fridays for all grades for the past two months. Ms. Ricardo and her Intermediate Supervisors have now picked their team and will continue to practice to get ready for our Family Tournament. We continue to expand this program and look to teach our students other thinking games.

If you have any games, such as: Checkers, Connect Four, Stratego, Trouble, etc. that are intact and complete and you no longer need... our school would definitely love to have them. They are also great method to help the students keep busy during indoor/inclement weather days.

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 31 Report Cards Go Home
- February 2 Interview Night
- February 3 PA DAY- Interview Day
- February 6 Rosary Apostolate visits
- Feb. 6- 10 JK Registration Week!!!!
- February 7 School Council 6:30pm
- February 9 Subday
- February 14 Valentine Dance- details to follow!!
- February 20 Family Day- no school
- February 22 RAID Program begins –details to follow
- February 23 Subday
- February 27 Grade 6-8 to Hershey Centre
- February 29 Holy Communion Parent Meeting at St. Patrick's Church—7 pm
- February 29 RAID Program continues
- March 1 EQAO Night—Grades 3/6—details to follow
- March 5 Rosary Apostolate visits
- March 7 Confirmation Parent Meeting at St. Patrick's Church- 7pm
- March 14-18 March Break

