



FATHER CLAIR TIPPING CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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Home of the Titans

DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

*Excellence
Every Day
Every Chance
Every Way*

SUPERINTENDENT

Paul McMorrow
Tel: 905-890-1221

TRUSTEE

Scott McLauchlan
Tel: 905 -890 -0708
Ex# 24295



PARISH

St. Marguerite d'Youville
Tel: 905-792-7497

PASTOR

Fr. Patrick O'Dea

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Fr. Steven Dickson
Fr. James Tobin

PRINCIPAL

Brian Coulson

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Kevin Dolan

SECRETARIES

J. Burgoyne

December 2011

The Meaning of Advent

Advent comes from a word meaning "the coming" (the arrival of an important person). So someone is arriving. Who will welcome him, that is, who will go out to meet him? What is welcoming the One who is coming also means opening up to our inner self.

Welcoming someone, and therefore discovering that person, means we will receive in return, we will be awed, we will ask ourselves questions. But it also means we will need to take risks and give of ourselves, in order to reach out toward someone new.

Advent is a time given to us by the Church, a time for taking a journey on a life-giving path.

(Excerpt from Novalis—Advent 2003)



*Merry Christmas and Season's Greetings From
All of Us
To All of You!*



Best Wishes for 2012!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The Advent season is such an amazing time of year. This period before the birth of Christ is a preparation time for us. It is a time when we are called to take stock of ourselves and prepare the way of the Lord in our heart.

This season of Advent is very alive and active here at Father Clair Tipping School. The following summary of school Advent activities highlights how God is alive and active in our daily routines here at school. These activities include:

- Daily Advent prayers as part of opening exercises
- Advent Mass on December 12th at 9:30 a.m.
- Classroom Advent celebrations and activities
- Primary Christmas Play on December 14th
- Christmas Food Drive for Helping Hands

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and extend our best wishes to Scott McLauchlan, our trustee, for his leadership, support and commitment to Catholic Education.

During the busy holiday season it is easy to sometimes get so caught up in the preparations and festivities that we forget to take time to reflect and give thanks. I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks to:

- Our students for their gifts and talents!
- Our school staff for their dedication and hard work!
- Our parents/guardians for their support and cooperation!
- Our Superintendent of Schools, Paul McMorrow
- St. Marguerite d'Youville Parish Team: Father O.Dea, Father Dickson, Eliza Albano & Michael Simoes
- Our Catholic School Council for their continued support!
- Our Police Education and Community Officers; Constable Christine Lyons and Constable Catherine Kulis
- Our parent volunteers who support student learning, school activities and the office
- Our lunchtime monitors; Mrs. Cun, Mrs. Eskadjian, Mrs. Rafeiro
- Our school bus drivers

On behalf of all the staff at Father Clair Tipping Catholic School, we send our best wishes to you and your family for a truly Blessed Christmas!

ADVENT MASS

You are invited to attend our school's Advent Mass to take place on **Monday, December 12, 2011 at approximately 9:30 am** at Father Clair Tipping School. Please join us to celebrate our faith, pray as a community and have an opportunity to wish each other a blessed and joyful Christmas.



VIRTUE FOR DECEMBER: HOPE

This month we will celebrate the virtue of Hope.

We believe that God comes to us as a real human who can show us the way of life. We understand that both the world and its people are from God and so are essentially good. Furthermore, God has given us this Advent season year after year in order to focus our minds and our hearts on the good around us. Year after year we are reminded that God chose to send his Son to us because we are worth it. God knows how great we can be when we all come together.

When we look at the world through the eyes of God we see it becoming more and more like the reign of God that Jesus describes.

People of hope....

- **Keep up a positive attitude**
- **Can bounce back from tough situations**
- **Set and stick to their goals**
- **See the good in others even when they make mistakes**
- **Work to include others**
- **Let others know that they are good people**

Advent began on Sunday, **November 27, 2011**. It is a period of simple living and extra prayer. It is a time to prepare for a new coming of Jesus, our Saviour. Advent means 'coming' a time when we remember Jesus' first coming, and prepare our hearts for a new coming. Jesus is a loving and peaceful Saviour. He calls his followers to make the whole world loving and peaceful.

During Advent, we prepare our homes and our lives for Jesus, the King of Glory and the Prince of Peace. Advent is also a time to reevaluate our priorities, to 'wake up' and to walk with God.

Advent is not only a time for meditation and prayer, but also a time for active service towards those who are poor in body and poor in spirit. It is a time to set aside differences and unite in peace and love.

RECONCILIATION

We would like to congratulate all the Grade two students and students in a other grades who celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Wednesday, November 30th at St. Marquerite d'Youville Parish. May God bless them as they continue on in their journey of faith! A special thank you for the ongoing support of their teachers, Mrs. Fusca, Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. Bastasin and Mrs. Bowles and our Parish Team; Father O'Dea, Father Steve, Eliza Albano and Michael Simoes



REMEMBRANCE DAY

On November 11th at 11:00 a.m. our whole school community paused to reflect on the sacrifices of our fellow Canadians during a beautiful and respectful liturgy. Thank you to both our student and staff faith ambassadors who led our special Remembrance!

HELPING HANDS CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Once again Father Clair Tipping is supporting the **Helping Hands Christmas Program** with St. Marquerite D'Youville Parish. This ministry is dedicated to helping those in need within the community. Our school is sponsoring 5 families in need to ensure that they have a wonderful Christmas. Thank you for your continued support in providing donations of food, stocking stuffers, hygiene products, as well as age appropriate gifts. We are also asking for financial donations in order to purchase gifts. Canadian Tire money is accepted as well.

If you are willing to help wrap and sort our items during the last week before the Christmas Break, please contact Mrs. Sorochan.

SCHOOL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our School Council is sponsoring a Christmas Raffle in support of our Helping Hands Christmas Program.

First Prize - \$150 Gift Basket of Chocolate & Biscuits

Second Prize - \$50 Swiss Chalet Dinner Coupon

Third Prize - Cineplex Pass for two / popcorn & drinks

Tickets are \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00. Tickets are available at the school and will be sold at our December 14th Primary Christmas Concert.

BRING A LOONIE or TONNIE! HELPING HANDS EVENTS AT FCT

The following events have been organized to help fund-raise for the purchasing of food vouchers and gifts for our adopted families.

Popcorn & Ice Cream Days – Dec 5th, 12th, 19th

Students purchase a bag of Smart Food popcorn (tonnie) or ice-cream bar (loonie) (all food products are peanut-free)

Staff-Police-Student Volleyball Games - Dec 20th

Students in grades 4-8 bring in a loonie to have their name drawn to be part of the student team!

JUNIOR GIRLS & BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

Congratulations to our Junior Girls and Boys Volleyball Teams for their efforts positive team spirit in representing our school this year. We are proud of both teams and excited that our Junior Boys won the Family tournament. Good luck in the Board wide tournament next week! A special thank you to their coach, Mrs. Capone & Ms. Sassine who are truly proud of your efforts. The Junior Boys team advanced to the Family of School's Tournament. We also would like to thank Mr. Simunec for organizing the tournament for all the schools participating in this event.



Girls Team: Alessia C., Megan F., Stephanie D., Osasu I., Angeli G., Nnenna I., Naomi V.P., Jessenia C., Danielle W., Racquel B., Amanda B., Lynette A. Marissa U.

Boys Team: Dylan C., Jerome S., Chris F., Daniel F., Ian V., Peter A., Alex K. Joey S., George M., Reese G., Kojo A., Joseph Mario D.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for Junior and Senior Kindergarten for the 2011-12 school year will be held at Father Clair Tipping School on the following dates:

Monday, February 6, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

***Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8-10, 2012

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2012

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2012

Parents/Guardians should bring the following documents when registering their child:

- proof of age of the child (birth certificate or passport)
 - original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent/guardian and child) or Baptismal Certificate of other rites in communion with the Holy See of Rome (if the child has not been baptized, a letter of counseling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted)
 - updated immunization records
 - proof of Canadian Citizenship or Landed Immigrant status
 - proof of home address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)
 - for schools in Caledon and Dufferin County: emergency rural address numbers for identifying your property
 - proof of English Separate School Support (may be done at the time of registration by completing an *Application For the Direction of School Support* and/or a *Separate School Lease Agreement* available at FCT)
- For more information, contact the school office or www.dpccsb.org**

Information Night for Parents Children (entering JK or SK) with Special Needs - January 17, 2012

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will present an Information Night for Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of new students entering Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten in 2012 with Special Needs in the areas of Vision, Hearing, Autism, Physical/Medical and/or Developmental Delays in the cognitive and/or motor areas. The session will run from **7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** and will be held in **Room 301** at the **Catholic Education Centre at 40 Matheson Boulevard West, Mississauga.**

FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM – GRADE 1

An information meeting about the French Immersion Program for Grade 1 in September 2011 is being held at

School: St. Joachim School in Brampton

Address: 435 Rutherford Road North

Date: Tuesday January 10, 2012

Time: 7:00 p.m.

The deadline for submission of Applications will be **2:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.**

EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION MEETING

Parents of grade 4 students interested in the Extended French program are invited to attend an information meeting.

School: St. Jean Brebeuf in Brampton

Address: 63 Glenforest Road

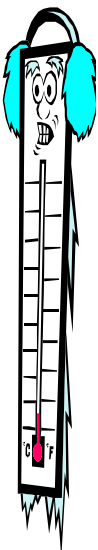
Phone: 905-791-8529

Date: Wednesday January 18, 2012

Time: 7:00 p.m.

The deadline for submission of Applications will be **3:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.**

WINTER WEATHER



The days are starting to get colder and winter will soon arrive. We ask that students dress appropriately; i.e. coats, hats, mitts, boots etc. When students are dressed warmly, they are better prepared to participate in outdoor activities during recess.

In the colder weather we receive requests to allow children to remain indoors when students have a cold, flu, etc. Please note that we cannot comply, as we neither have the facilities or the staff to supervise the students.

On extremely cold days when the wind chill factor lowers temperature considerably, we will limit the amount of time that students spend outdoors. With the exception of these occasions, we expect that all children will go outdoors for recess and lunch break. Students are expected to wear shoes in the school building at all times.

Please note that in the event of an emergency evacuation, students will not have the opportunity to put on shoes, boots, clothing articles, etc. Please ensure that your child has an extra pair of shoes at school, to keep their feet dry and warm during wet and/or snowy weather.

SNOW & ICE

When the cool months arrive and snow and ice on the ground are plentiful, we all like to play in it and with it. Throwing snowballs and sliding on ice is fun; however, as much fun as it is, snow and ice can be very dangerous when there are many people around. Many times, student injuries happen during the winter time. In order for our school to be as safe as possible, we expect that snow stays on the ground—no snowballs, kicking snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful.

PRIMARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please join us on December 14th for a fun and enjoyable evening as our Primary Students present various Christmas songs. We are inviting families to donate can or dry food as entrance to the Christmas Concert. Thank you for your generous support. A letter will be sent out this week to parents with more information.

SANTA CLAUS IS VISITING OUR SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 15TH !

SING-A-LONG

Our school Sing-a-long will take place on, **Thursday December 22nd, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the gym.** The students are very excited to be performing a variety of Carols. As always, all families are invited to attend this special event.



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The last day of school for students will be December 23, 2011.

School Resumes on Monday January 9th, 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec 3	International Day for Persons with Disabilities
Dec 4	Second Sunday of Advent
Dec 8	Students Wear Father Clair Tipping Colors (Blue and Teal)
Dec 9	Pizza Friday
Dec 11	Third Sunday of Advent
Dec 12	Advent Mass @ 9:30 am
Dec 14	Primary Christmas Concert
Dec 15	Junior Classes visit St. Marquerite D'Youville Secondary for Concert (AM) Santa Visits FCT
Dec 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dec 22	Christmas Sing-A-Long
Dec 23	Pizza Friday
Jan 9	Last day of classes for the Christmas Break
Jan 10	First Day Back From Christmas Holidays
Jan 10	Parent Information Night– Grade 1 French Immersion@ St. Joachim 7:00 pm
Jan 13	Pizza Day
Jan 18	Parent Information Night for Grade 5-8
Jan 16	Extended French @ St. Jean de Brebeuf 7:00 pm
Jan 25	School Council Mtg, 7:00 pm
Jan 27	PA Day for Assessment & Evaluation
Jan 31	Graduation Pictures for SK and Grade 8
Feb 2	Pizza Day
Feb 3	Term 1 Report Cards sent home
Feb 6	Report Card Interview Evening
Feb 6	PA Day Report Card Interview
Feb 8	Kindergarten Registration Evening
Feb 8	French Immersion and Extended French Applications are due

Check out our school web site. Access the site through the School Board's website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/cec>

