

St. Pio of Pietrelcina Elementary School

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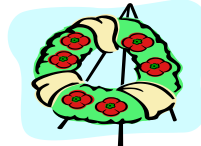


November, 2011 Newsletter

Principal's Message

The month of November includes three very significant days: All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance Day. These days serve to remind us to pray for our saints and for the souls of our family members and friends who have passed away. We remember those who have fought for peace in the wars around the world.

The students of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will gather in the gym on Friday, November 11th at 10:40 to commemorate Remembrance Day. We wish to ensure that today's young people understand and appreciate the sacrifices that others have been called upon to make in defense of the freedom and democracy that we enjoy today. Parents/guardians are welcome to join us.



NOVEMBER P.A. DAY

There will be no school for students on:
Friday, November 18th

St. Pio of Pietrelcina School Website

Parents and students are encouraged to check out the St. Pio of Pietrelcina School website. You will find valuable information including school news, School Council items, updates and upcoming events. The site's address is www.dpcdsb.org/PIOPI

Remembrance and Peace

*Lord Jesus Christ,
Those whom we remember this
month are examples of your
words.*

*"Greater love than this no one
has than to lay down one's life
for a friend."*

*This month we remember all
those who lived and died for us;
their energy and their effort to
defend our freedom for our loved
ones and for our country.*

*Teach us to appreciate the value
of patriotism... a true and
Christian love of country.
Let us grow in a love for our
country that consists not of
following blindly, but of working
together to make it the land of
goodness that it should be.*

*Let our patriotism be such that it
will not exclude the other
nations of the world, but include
them in a powerful love of
country that has room for all
others too.
Amen*

Pray, hope and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer. St. Pio of Pietrelcina

*This month we celebrate the
Virtue of*
CONSCIENCE

A person of conscience...

- chooses to do the right thing, even when it is hard
- takes time to think and pray before making decisions
- knows that their actions and decisions affect all those around them
- thinks of others before themselves

God has given us the ability to know the right and decent way to act and then to act that way. We trust that the common Spirit we share inspires us and guides us to make good decisions if we allow our conscience to be well-formed.

St. Pio Stars

A school-wide assembly took place on October 14th to introduce students to our Community Building Theme for the school year. Our Safe School Action Team put together lyrics from the song “Born This Way” along with the STAR acronym:

S—speak up against bullying

T—together we can (make a difference)

A—accept all (celebrate our differences)

R—reach out to others

It is our hope that all students will be inspired to become the best they can be by remembering the song and the meaning of STAR. The message is that every student is special in their own way and every student can spread the light by demonstrating the virtues in their class, in the yard or at home. Students will be recognized for demonstrating a virtue by receiving a star with their name on it, which will be placed on our central bulletin board in the front hall. The Catholic Education Theme for this year is Walking in the Light of Christ. The light from our many “stars” is sure to shine brightly at St. Pio of Pietrelcina School this year!

Circles of the Rosary

Again this year, we welcome volunteers from the Circles of the Rosary, Sts. Peter and Paul Church who will be visiting every third Wednesday to pray the rosary with our students. We are thankful for this initiative which brings school, home and parish together. Please encourage your child to pray the rosary at home with you.

Advent Mass

Our Family Advent Mass will be held on **Monday, December 5th at 9:15 a.m.** in the gym. Parents are welcome to attend.

Youth Faith Ambassadors

Approximately 15 Youth Faith Ambassadors will be attending a Commissioning Ceremony at Cristo Rei Church on November 15th at 10:00 a.m. The Youth Faith Ambassadors have been busy encouraging the students of St. Pio to share their Halloween candy by donating it to Dr. Simone’s Candies for Kids Campaign.

Athletic Leadership Council

This year, St. Pio will again have an Athletic Council. Our mission is to build school spirit and support our sports teams. The Athletic Council consists of a teacher and grade 7 and 8 students. This council will be responsible for running the Intramural program, as well as various other athletic events at St. Pio. This year’s council consists of Raquel L., Jahnay P., Thenuk M., and Miss Naccarato.

Huddle Up Bullying Prevention Program

This year, St. Pio of Pietrelcina is pleased to be partnering with the Toronto Argonauts for a bullying prevention program. Last week, Miss Naccarato, along with 10 students, met with a representative from the Toronto Argonauts to discuss and make plans for ways to prevent and reduce bullying incidents in our school. In addition to a school wide assembly in March with an Argonaut player in attendance, there will be an opportunity for parents to attend an evening information session sponsored by our School

Council in February. This is just one of the ways we are making St. Pio of Pietrelcina School a safe, healthy, caring and inclusive community.

The LION Project

Every Thursday, the **LION**, “Learning in our Neighborhood” bus is parked at the front of our school. This is a mobile early learning resource centre for children up to age six and their families. LION offers free parent/child interactive play-based programs that focus on language, literacy and numeracy, supported through play, songs and stories. A classroom in the school is used each Thursday by the LION project. For more information about this free program, please call 647 929 5466.

Safe School Initiatives Reminder

a) Before School Hours Supervision

For your child’s safety, we request that he/she not be on school property until 8:30 a.m. This is when supervision begins. Thank you!

b) Visitors to the School

Our first priority for all students is their safety. Board and Provincial guidelines clearly outline the process that all visitors must follow upon their arrival on school property. The process begins with reporting to the Main Office. You will be issued a Visitor Sticker, which must be worn visibly during your stay. All visitors must sign in and sign out.

c) Attendance and Punctuality

All students are expected to attend school regularly and punctually. In the event that your child will be late or absent, please call the school and follow the prompts to leave a message. This can be done 24 hours a day. For students who are absent and for whom a call is not received, we will attempt to contact you.

d) Kiss and Ride

Thank you to the majority of parents/guardians who continue to follow the rules as they use our Kiss and Ride. When even one driver does not follow the safety rules, students and adults are then at risk. **A reminder that the parking lot in Kiss and Ride is for staff members only.** If you must park, please do so on the road or at the Huron Heights Park parking lot. Please remember that the safety of our students is our main concern.

Cold Weather

With the cold weather upon us, heavier coats, hats, gloves, scarves and all other winter paraphernalia are definitely the order of the day. When students are at school they are expected to fully participate in all aspects of the program, which includes outdoor recess. At this time, it is also advisable that students bring an indoor pair of shoes that may be left at school. This is also important as in the event of an emergency evacuation, we are not able to take the time to put boots/outdoor shoes on before leaving the building.

Cross Country Team

Congratulations to the Cross - Country Team for their superb showing at the Mississauga East Cross - Country Meet on Thursday, October 13th at Centennial Park in Etobicoke. A total of 38 athletes competed at the meet and everyone ran a personal best in his/her respective races. The Grade 6 Boys’ Team captured Gold in team competition and together with five others who finished in the top 15 in their races, advanced to the Board Cross – Country Meet on Tuesday, October 25th at Heart Lake Conservation Area. They all finished well and provided the much needed challenge to their fellow competitors at the finals. Members of the Grade 6 Boys' Team are Nathan T., Nicholas L., Ivan G., Antoine B. and Keegan D. Other top finishers at the Family Meet were Thevin M. (5th.); Kyla S. (5th.); Diego de J. (11th.); Christian B. (7th.) and Jahnay P. (13th.) Members of the team:

Antoine B., Christian B., Jayden B., Desmond B., Joshua B., Aldemar C., Julia C., Ryan C., Dylan C., Brian C., Joshua C., Lucas C., Matteo C., Alexander D., Diego de J., Claudia D., Keegan D., Leah F., Ivan G., Brandon H., Jacob K., Raquel L., Mark L., Matt L., Nicholas L., Tristan M., Josuha M., Kieon M., Thevin M., Joseph N., Desmond O., Jahnay P., Malachi P., Alexander R., Glory S., Kyla S., Nathan T., Aidan Y.

Intermediate Girls Volleyball

Congratulations goes to the Intermediate Girls’ Volleyball Team for a wonderful season. They finished with a 2 and 2 record and put forth an excellent effort towards their much stronger opponents throughout the entire season. Team members are Viktoria C., Sunni O., Jahnay P., Raquel L., Talia H., Kathy T., Kalli T., Sherina S. and Patricia U. **GO PHOENIX!!!!**

Thanks to the coaches, Mr. Fahn and Mrs. Curran.

Intermediate Boys Volleyball

This year's Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team consisted of John B., Ryan C., Thenuk M., Christian B., Tristan M., Michael U., Brian R., John N., and Desmond B.. The boys put forth a great effort in all their games and showed good sportsmanship.

Thanks to their coach, Miss Naccarato.

Catholic School Council Update

Thank you to our parent and school community for their support of our QSP Magazine Fundraiser. Please remember that you are able to order throughout the year and our school will benefit. Our group number is 32027. Our School Council has been busy planning additional events for the St. Pio community. We would like to thank the members of our School Council for their continued dedicated efforts and their child-centred approach to all that they do at St. Pio of Pietrelcina School. Please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

New Roman Missal...The New Translation

Until the early 1960's, Mass was celebrated in Latin throughout the world. At the Second Vatican Council, it was agreed that Mass could be said in the language of the people where it was being celebrated. There would be no fundamental changes to the Mass itself, just the language being used. This would enable us to understand fully what was being said and help us to participate more fully.

An English translation was made available as quickly as possible, but it was intended to be temporary. A more considered translation would be issued later. Now, some 40 years later, this translation has been approved by the Vatican. It will be used in our parishes beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27th, 2011 throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto. You will notice changes in the words that the priest uses when he celebrates Mass. There are also a few changes to the words that the congregation will use when they respond. For more information, please visit: www.archtoronto.org/romanmissal.

EQAO - School, Board and Provincial Achievement Results: 2010 - 2011

Percentage of all students at or above the Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4), 2010-2011

Grade 3	Reading	Writing	Math
School	57	51	59
Board	68	76	69
Province	65	73	69

Grade 6	Reading	Writing	Math
School	81	84	55
Board	77	78	62
Province	74	73	58

A school wide emphasis on literacy and numeracy has produced improvement of our students' results over time. Staff and students will continue to focus on reading and writing strategies, as well as mathematical skills.

Kids Type 2 AWARD (Actions to Win at Reducing Diabetes)

It is estimated that Type 2 Diabetes in children will increase by up to 50% around the world in the next 15 years. Many children in our region are considered high risk for developing Type 2 Diabetes. Unlike Juvenile Diabetes (Type 1), the onset of Type 2 Diabetes can often be delayed or prevented.

Now a new **FREE** program, [Kids Type 2 AWARD](#) (Actions To Win At Reducing Diabetes) is available to screen our children for this disease. It's simple – just go online at www.kidstype2diabetes.ca or call **905-813-1100 extension 5098**.

If your child is found to be at risk or has Type 2 Diabetes, just spending 24 hours this year (one two-hour evening session for 12 weeks) can help reduce your child's risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney, eye and nerve problems. Don't miss out on this "limited time" provincially-funded program now operating in Mississauga and Brampton community centres by trained health care professionals. This Program is jointly operated by The Credit Valley Hospital, Trillium Health Centre and William Osler Health System

Sts. Peter and Paul Parish

Grade 8 Confirmation Preparation:

Reception of the Cross: Thursday, December 1st at 7:00p.m.

Parish Based Retreat: Saturday, May 5th **or**
Saturday, May 26th
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Confirmation: Sunday, May 6th, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. **or**
Sunday, May 27th, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Grade 2 First Communion Preparation:

First Reconciliation: March 19th **or** March 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Parish Based Retreat: Saturday, April 14th **or**
Saturday, April 21st
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

First Communion: Sunday, April 15th, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. **or**
Sunday, April 22nd, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Please find attached:

Stakeholder Responsibilities Breakdown in
the City of Mississauga

The document illustrates jurisdictional
responsibility related to student transportation and
students walking to school in Mississauga.

