



Virtues Program

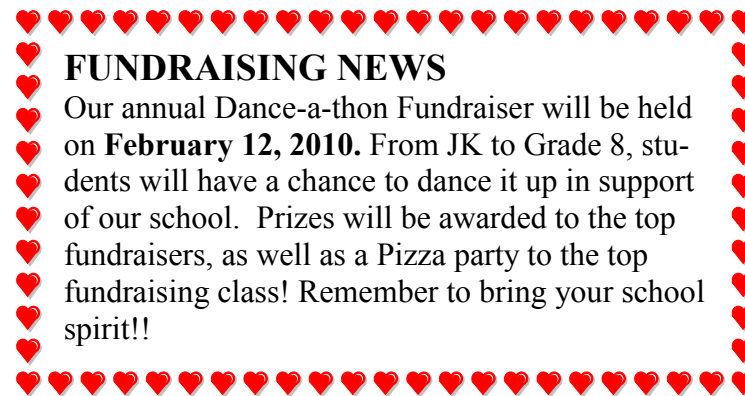
This month we will celebrate the virtue of respect.

God wants us to treat all people with the respect they deserve.

A respectful person...

- Uses a positive tone and body language
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, and put-downs
- Says "Excuse me", "Please", "Pardon me"
- Avoids gossip

We all deserve to be treated respectfully by others. However, in order to be respected we also have to respect ourselves. Everyone has a right to go to a school free of gossip, name-calling, and put-downs. We should expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet.



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Our annual Dance-a-thon Fundraiser will be held on **February 12, 2010**. From JK to Grade 8, students will have a chance to dance it up in support of our school. Prizes will be awarded to the top fundraisers, as well as a Pizza party to the top fundraising class! Remember to bring your school spirit!!

EXTENDED FRENCH APPLICATIONS

St. Christopher School will be accepting applications for our Extended French Program until March 4 at 3pm. The decision regarding the need for a lottery will be made based on the number of applications received by the deadline. Should a lottery be required, it will be held on March 23. This information will be posted on the school website.

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/CHRIS/>
Time to be determined

Adult and Continuing Ed.—DPCDSB Elementary Program—International Languages

Elementary International Saturday morning classes are available to students in grades JK to 8. 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 IL Sites and registration information as well.

ESL Programs for Adults

A variety of ESL, Citizenship and Co-op Programs for Adults are offered in Mississauga and Brampton. Registration is on-going for many of our programs. Please see our Winter Flyer posted on the

board website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org>. or call us a 905-891-9263.

Council Corner

*Central Committee for Catholic School Councils
is proud to present an evening with
Carol Bertuzzi*

*Wednesday February 10, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
keynote address at Mississauga Convention Centre
(Derry Road and Hurontario)*

Please return any tickets you cannot use to the school.

Council Meeting

Please come out and support our School Council at our meetings. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, February 22, at 6:30 pm in the school library**. Babysitting will be available at all meetings. Please plan to attend the meeting.

Dates to Remember

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| Feb 5- | Pizza day |
| Feb 8- | JK/SK registration 7:00-9:00pm , Global Village Gift shop, In school Speech Contest |
| Feb 9 | Primary Speech Contest in the library |
| Feb 10- | JK/SK Reg. 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00 , Carole Bertuzzi Miss. Conv. Centre at 7pm |
| Feb 11- | JK/SK Reg. 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00 , Family Speech contest at St. Francis of Assisi |
| Feb 12- | Dance-a-thon! , Shiny Hockey @4pm, Meadowvale 4 Rinks |
| Feb 15- | JK/SK Reg. 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00 |
| Feb 17- | Family Day—No School for students |
| Feb 19- | ASH WEDNESDAY |
| Feb 22- | Pizza Day, Swim to Survive Gr 3, Family Chess Tournament
Mrs. Paquin's class to Erin Mills Lodge (morning)
School Council Mtg. at 6:30pm in the Librairie |
| Feb 23- | First Reconciliation @ Loyola Parish, @ 7:00pm
Hockey tournament (jr. int.) @ Erin Mills Twin Arena (daytime)
Hockey tournament @ Erin Mills Twin Arena |
| Feb. 25- | Country Heritage Park, D'Ettore/Colaco gr. 4/5
Gr 8 Grad photos (change of date) |
| Feb. 26 | Assembly— Primary hosted by Ms. Seyarto
- Intermediate hosted by Ms. Keddy
Shiny hockey @ 4pm, Meadowvale 4 Rinks
Swim to Survive Gr 3, Board Chess Tournament |
| Mar 1 - | P.A.DAY—no school for students |
| Mar 2 | Hockey Tournament, |
| Mar 3 | Primary Ballroom Dancing |
| Mar 4 | Gr 1 French Immersion Applic. Due
Gr 4 Johnson—South Common Library |
| Mar 5 | Junior Ballroom Dancing, Pizza Day, Shiny Hockey,
Ms.Colaco South Common Library, Swim to Survive Gr 3 |
| Mar 8 | Lenten Mass @ 10:30 am |
| Mar 10 | Primary Ballroom Dancing |
| Mar 11 | Shiny Hockey |
| Mar 12 | Junior Ballroom Dancing |
| Mar 15-19 | March Break No School for Students |
| Mar 22 | Junior Ballroom Dancing |
| Mar 23 | Term 2 Reports sent home |



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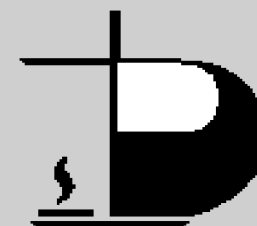
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School Website:
www.dpcdsb.org/schools/MARKE



St. Mark School

February 2010

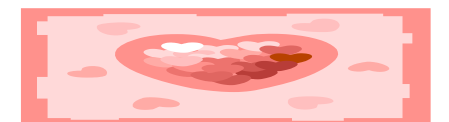
*A valentine Prayer
I said a valentine prayer for you
And asked the Lord above
To fill your heart and bless your soul
With the precious gift of love.*

*I asked Him for sincerer love
The kind that's meant to stay
Just like the generous love
You give to those you touch each day.*

*I prayed love from family
And from every cherished friend
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end.*

Author Unknown

Principal's Message



February has arrived! It is a very eventful, month. Most importantly we begin our Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. We honour February as Black History month. We have lots of activities planned for this month starting with the Public Speaking Contest, our annual Dance-a-Thon Fundraiser and our monthly assemblies on Friday, February 26. Parents are most welcome to attend. During this wet and cold season we remind our students that they should have a change of shoes for indoor use. Students should not be in stocking feet for Health & Safety reasons. February continues to be cold, please ensure your child dresses appropriately for the weather. We continue to work in partnership with home, school, and parish to provide an outstanding Catholic Education for your child. Make your own sunshine!

*God Bless,
Connie Gale*

Kindergarten Registration

JK/SK registration for 2010 school year takes place on

February 8, 2010 from 7:00—9:00 pm
(if cancelled due to weather date is Feb. 9)

And **February 10, 11 and 12, 2010**
from 9:00 —11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Required Documents:

- Proof of Age
- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or Baptismal Certificate of other rites in Communion With the Holy See of Rome)
- Immunization Records
- Proof of Citizenship
- Proof of Address

Shrove Tuesday, February 16

Mrs. Paquin's Grade 5/6 class will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast for the Primary Division Grades 1-3 on Shrove Tuesday.

Students are asked to donate \$5.00 to participate in the breakfast and activities. Activities are based on "bringing the Olympics to St. Mark School" will be provided by the Grade 5/6 class. The money will go to Hod's Hope, a breakfast program to keep children in school in St. Lucia.

This initiative is part of the Learning Partnership Business Venture Mrs. Paquin and her business partner from BMO have organized for St. Mark.

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- **Ash Wednesday, February 17**
 - **Please join us for a liturgy in the gym at 10:30 am**
 - Praying. Fasting. Giving to the poor. These are three ways to help us love God and others more. When we pray, we can get closer to God. When we fast, we give up food or activities or privileges; fasting helps stop selfishness. When we give to the poor, we share the good things we have with those in need. The Church asks us to focus on all three activities during the season of Lent. The forty days of Lent help us to prepare for Easter, the greatest Sunday of all!
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First Reconciliation

Grade 2 students will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish on **Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 pm.**

THE GLOBAL VILLAGE GIFT SHOP

Monday, February 8th, **Down to Earth Conservation Education** will bring their Global Village Gift Shop to our school. Staff, students, parents, grandparents and caregivers will have an opportunity to purchase hand crafted items from around the world. These affordable fair-trade items will support Haiti Victims and our school.

Curriculum Initiatives

During the Early Release day, on Monday, January 11, the teachers were involved in professional development. Teachers further explored how to address the needs of all learners by delving deeply into the latest learning theories and then exploring hands-on, relevant activities to use in the classroom

The next PA Day is March 1. It is set aside for Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress. There is **no school** for students on that day.

Junior Teachers are receiving ongoing professional development on improving student achievement in the areas of critical thinking and higher order thinking skills. They are focussing on the skills of inferring, extending and demonstrating understanding

Our Educational Resource Workers and teachers have received professional development as well.

Grade 3 and 6 students will be involved in EQAO testing during the first two weeks of June. More information will follow.

We have added two more Smart Boards to our Integrated Arts Program in Mr. Kennedy's and Mr. Scicluna's Grade 8 classes.



St. Mark Assembly—Friday, February 26

We hope you had an opportunity to attend our monthly school assemblies. This month, Ms. Seyarto's class will be hosting the Primary Assembly at 9:00 am for Gr JK-3 and Ms. Keddy class take responsibility for organizing the Junior/Intermediate assembly for Gr 4-8 at 10:15 am.

We hope that you will have an opportunity to join us.

Speeches

"Speech, speech!" It is that time of year again. Students from Grade 4-8 will be selected to enter a competition held at St. Mark School on **February 8 at 8:30 am Grades 4-6 and at 10:15 am for Grades 7-8.** The winning candidates are invited to move on to the Mississauga South Public Speaking contest held at St. Francis of Assisi School on February 11. The students from the Primary Grades 1-3 will be selected to read their speeches or poems on **February 9th at 12:30-1:30 pm** in the Library.

Peanut Allergies



We have a number of students enrolled here at St. Mark School who have allergies to peanuts and peanut by-products. Please note that while one of these children may not necessarily be in your child's class, we all use communal areas where traces of peanuts may be left. For this reason we ask for your cooperation to ensure that peanut products are not sent to the school. Please be aware that "Tim-Bits" are **NOT** peanut/nut free and thus should not be sent into the school to share. We encourage you to send treats such as stickers, pencils, erasers etc. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to keep our children safe. **Please do not send food treats for Valentine's Day.**

Late for School

School begins at 8:30 a.m. Please ensure your child is on time for school. When a child is late, she/he misses valuable teaching time and causes a disruption to the lessons being started in the class. Developing excellent work habits and time management skills can maximize a child's learning potential! For students that are constantly late, the Principal or Vice Principal will be contacting parents at home. If it becomes a major concern the school will forward the information to the Attendance Officer at the Board.

Student Absences

Thank you for being so diligent in calling when your child is going to be absent or late. Please remember to leave a reason why your child is absent or late for the day.

Medication



If it is necessary for your child to take medication at school on a short-term basis, eg. antibiotics, please remember that **all medication must be stored for the day at the office. Also, we need a written note from you for your child to be able to self-administer the medication.** School personnel are not permitted by Board policy to administer any medication, but we can oversee your child self-administering the medication.

Indoor Shoes/Extra Clothing

With the arrival of colder weather, and increased precipitation, we would like to ensure all students are dry and comfortable when indoors. We ask that you ensure your child has a pair of shoes or slippers that he/she wears only when indoors at school. You may wish to have your child keep a change of clothing at school, including extra socks and mittens. Be sure such clothing is labeled and easily identified by your child.

Snowballs

Just a reminder... Please emphasize to your children that School/Board policy **DOES NOT ALLOW THROWING SNOWBALLS, KICKING SNOW, OR "SNOWING" OTHERS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.** Please remind your children of the seriousness of these activities and the possible danger, for those who are hit.

Electronic Devices

A reminder to parents that school trustees have determined that personal electronic devices are not permitted by students or visitors on school property. Cell phones, camera phones, beepers and paging devices are not allowed to be used on school property by students or parents.

