



THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP
Champions of Public Education Across Canada

presents

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN™

New to JK for the school year 2010-2011

JK Parents and caregivers are invited to attend a parent/child orientation workshop at St. Mark School May 17 from 6:00 pm—7:00 p.m.

At the workshop, Kindergarten, early literacy teachers and community agency early years educators provide the parents and their newly registered pre-kindergarten children with the early literacy and numeracy resources in the **Welcome to Kindergarten Bag** and demonstrate strategies and activities for using the resources at home.

Please join us with your new JK student on **Monday, May 17 at 6:00 pm.**

Mission statement: "To provide pre-school children and their families with the resources and experiences to begin formal education with a foundation in early learning that is nurtured within the home."

Animals on School Property—Please be considerate!

As you know, we share the yard with Sawmill Valley school. Please clean up after your pet. Children coming in contact with the bacteria can become ill. Young children often roll on the ground or dig in the yard.

Parents and staffs have expressed concern that dogs are off leash in the yard before or after the bell in the morning and after school. Please be considerate, many people are allergic or are afraid of dogs.

Police Clearance for Volunteers/Parents

There is no cost involved for processing a CRC (Police Clearance for Volunteers/Parents) for Volunteers/Parents. The information provided is only for Peel Police only.

If you have a valid CRC for a volunteer/parent it is not required to get a new one done as long as you have been volunteering at least once or twice during the current year.

Criminal Reference Checks (CRC) for Volunteers MUST be kept at the school followed by an Annual Declaration every year. If you require a form, please ask for one at the office.

Dates to Remember

Catholic Ed. Week May 2-7 "Good News for All"

- May 3-** Lunch lady
- May 4-** Intermediate Opera
- May 5-** Ballroom Competition Primary 9:30-11:30am
Ballroom Competition Junior 1:00-3:00 pm
Grade 8 Confirmation 7pm
- May 7 -** Social Justice Elementary Conference
Pizza Day
- May 10 -** Lunch Lady
- May 11 -** Junior Symphony Trip
Opera Show @ 7:00pm
- May 12 -** Mississauga South "Heads Up" Intermediate Division Competition @ St. Francis of Assisi
Mrs. Paquin's class: Evergreen @ Erindale UTM
- May 14-** Grade 7/8 Crack Pot Studio (at school)
- May 17 -** Mrs. Paquin—Erin Mills Lodge A.M.
Welcome to Kindergarten (New JK Registrants) 6:00 to 7:00pm
Lunch Lady
- May 18 -** Junior Mathletes Day
- May 21 -** Pizza Day
- May 24 -** **Victoria Day—No School for Students**
- May 25-** Peel Police Presentation
- May 27 -** Grade 8 Machines Presentation—Gym
- May 28 -** Assembly with Ms. Pereira and Ms. D'Ettore
Parents welcome
Miss. South Youth Rally @ St. Joseph S.S.
- May 31-June 1st and 2nd EQAO dates for Grade 3 students**
- May 31- June 1st and 2nd EQAO dates for Grade 6 students**
Lunch Lady
- June 4-** Pizza Day
Peel Police Presentation
HPV Grade 8 (3rd shot)
Grade 7 Trip to Stoney Creek
- June 9, 10 and 11 Gr 8 Trip to Ottawa**
- June 17-** Volunteer Appreciation Tea @ 2pm—Library
- June 18-** Pizza Day
- June 23-** Grade 8 Graduation at LeDome
- June 25-** Assemblies with Ms. Legere and Ms. McNeilly
- June 28-** Report Cards go home JK to Grade 8
- June 30-** Last day of school



PRINCIPAL

C. GALE

SECRETARY

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SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIR

A. WONG

SUPERINTENDENT

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St. Mark School

St. Mark School

May 2010

A Marian Prayer

Elizabeth exclaimed with a loud cry,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
He has looked with favour on the lowliest of
His servants.

Surely from now on all

generations will call me blessed for the Mighty One has
done great things for me and holy is His name."



Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

The beautiful month of May is upon us. April showers have brought us May flowers. May is a very special month, the month to honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Mary symbolizes the love we have for all of our mothers. When we celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 9 we connect our mother's love to the love Mary has for Jesus. The rosary is a wonderful way to reaffirm our devotion to Mary. This month we also celebrate Catholic Education Week, beginning on May 2 through May 7. We have a variety of activities to show how special St. Mark School is as a Catholic School. We will culminate our activities with assemblies on Friday, May 28. I hope you will all join us at the assemblies.

We also celebrated the sacraments of First Holy Communion for Grade 2 students and Confirmation with Grade 8. We worked with St. Ignatius Loyola Parish to prepare our students for this sacrament. Thank you to Monsignor Joe and Fr. Joe for all your guidance. The year is passing quickly and I really appreciate the partnership we have seen with home, school and parish. Continue to make your own sunshine and see the positive in each day.

God Bless,

Connie Gale

**Catholic Education Week
May 2– May 7, 2010**

Rejoice in the Lord always...and the God of peace will be with you. (Phil 4:4,9)

In a world that often fixates on the negative, divisive and cynical, the goodness and giftedness that comes from our school and other Catholic schools can be overlooked. This year's Catholic Education Week (May 2-7) celebrates our schools with this theme: *Catholic Education: Rejoicing in Hope*. The scriptural text comes from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians where he writes, "Rejoice in the Lord always...and the God of peace will be with you." (Phil 4:4,9) We have accomplished many wonderful things this year; let's take some time during Catholic Education Week to celebrate them!

Five sub-themes, one for each of the five days of Catholic Education Week, help students to understand the rich meaning of this year's theme::

- Monday: Hope in Our Hearts
- Tuesday: Hope in Our Homes
- Wednesday: Hope in Our Schools
- Thursday: Hope in Our Communities
- Friday: Hope in Our World

Catholic Education Week begins on a Sunday to highlight the partnership that remains the foundation of Catholic education between our Catholic schools and local Catholic parishes. Throughout Catholic Education Week, we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic education's presence and contribution in our Church, and in our society. We invite all members of our community, to participate in the celebrations and activities that will mark the celebration of Catholic Education Week 2010 in our school.

- May 3 1:00 pm** "Do Respect" Presentation by Gerry Mitchell Grades K-6
- May 4** Intermediate Division Opera Workshop
- May 5 9:30 am** Primary Ballroom Dance Competition
- 1:00 pm** Junior Ballroom Dance Competition
- May 6 9:30 am** JK/SK Song/Play Presentation
- 1:30 pm** JK/SK Song/Play Presentation
- May 3—7** Book Fair—Library

PEOPLE OF ACCEPTANCE...

- ARE FRIENDLY AND OPEN TO ALL GOD'S PEOPLE
- SENSE GOD'S PRESENCE IN PEOPLE OF ALL AGES, BELIEFS, GENDERS, CULTURES, AND/OR ABILITIES
- AVOID THE TEMPTATION TO JUDGE OR NEGATIVELY STEREOTYPE OTHERS
- LOOK FOR POSITIVE TRAITS IN OTHERS
- UNDERSTAND THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE WAY OF DOING THINGS
- STICK UP FOR THE DISADVANTAGED
- NOTICE WHO IS LEFT OUT AND INCLUDE THEM

ACCEPTANCE



Virtues

This month we will celebrate the virtue of Acceptance.

One of the great wonders of the world we live in is that no two people are exactly alike. We may share biological families or national identity or cultural and ethnic identity but we are all very unique and distinct creations. God breaks the mold every time! And that is a fantastic fact of life!

An accepting person....

- Is friendly and open to all God's people, regardless of age, beliefs, gender, culture or ability
- Sees the positive traits in all people even if s/he disagrees with them
- Avoids judging or stereotyping others
- Understands that there may be more than one way to do things
- Sticks up for the 'underdog'

Sacramental Celebrations at St. Mark



Congratulations to our Grade 2 students who received their First Communion on April 11 and April 18. In preparation, they participated in a Retreat Day to enhance their understanding of the sacrament of communion.



Our Grade 8 students will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, May 5, at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish at 7:00 pm



Book Fair

Mrs. Tinkham is having a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library during the week of May 3 – May 7, 2010. Children will have an opportunity to browse and buy books during the school day.



**EQAO Assessments
Reminder**

Again, we wanted to remind the parents of the dates for EQAO. It will be completed by students in Grade 3 and 6 on:

May 31, June 1, and 2 from 8:30 am—11:30 am

Kindly avoid booking dental, doctor and other appointments during this time period in order to support maximum participation by all students, also please ensure that your child attends school on time. We want to provide optimum opportunity for success for all students.

Appropriate School Attire

Please refer to the St. Mark Student Code of Conduct for appropriate dress guidelines. Modesty is the most important element of the guide line. Teachers will be reviewing appropriate dress expectations with their classes. Ripped or torn clothing is not acceptable school attire. All students are reminded that the midriff must be covered at all times. While we want our students to be comfortable in the warmer weather we must also maintain a learning environment that reflects our primary focus.



Flip flops are not appropriate attire for the schoolyard, as they do not support the foot properly. We would ask parents to monitor the footwear selections of their children. Please ensure also that your child has protection from the sun by using sunscreen and wearing a hat on hot sunny days. **Water bottles are not allowed in the yard, but students are encouraged to have regular drinks.**

COUNCIL CORNER

Mississauga South is involved in collecting soap during the week of May 17 to May 28 for Dr. Simone. He runs a non-profit organization called "Canadian Food for the Children and Silent Children". All of the donations he receives are shipped to people in Developing Nations. Over the years, the St. Mark community has supported Dr. Simone. He has expressed a need for bars of soap. He stated that before many of these individuals in the Developing Nations were willing to eat, they expressed a need to be clean first. Please help us spread the message, that a simple action can make the world of difference. During the week of May 17 to May 28, please send your child to school with a bar of soap for this cause. Thank you for all your support.



Are you moving?

To help us with our planning for next September, it would be appreciated if you could let us know now, if you will be moving out of our school area over the summer. In the absence of accurate information, schools often have to reorganize classes in September due to unexpected fluctuations in population. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Safe Arrival Program

A call notifying us if your child is absent or late is appreciated. Our answering machine is in operation 24 hours a day (905)-820-9477, press (1). Messages will be retrieved between the hours 8:30 am. and 3:30 pm by office staff. Provincial protocols require that schools exhaust all emergency contacts prior to calling the police in the event of a missing child. Please ensure that your information is accurate.

Assemblies at St. Mark

The Primary April Assembly was hosted by Ms. Ramelli and Mrs. Kuta's classes. It opened with Mrs. Jackson and her musical group. Mrs. Jackson coordinated and directed the children in a wonderful black-light show, done to Put A Little Love in Your Heart, in honour of April's Virtue, Love. The grade 2 and 3 students performed a couple of musical numbers, I'm A Believer, followed by Waving Flag. They also performed a rap, with Mrs. Legere's help, all about love.

The Junior Assembly was hosted by Mrs. Johnson. They did a dramatic and musical presentation on the virtue of Love, using Waving Flag and the Beatles "All You Need Is Love."