



# Holy Family School

61 Allan Drive, Bolton, ON L7E 1P7

Phone: (905) 857-1300 Fax: (905) 857-9432

Newsletter #5

www.dpcdsb.org/HOFAM

February 2012

Principal: C. Howard  
Secretary: M. Proctor

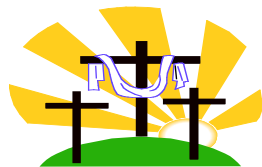
Catholic School Council Chair: T. Frank

Holy Family Church - (905) 857-1938

Pastor: Fr. L. Leger

Associate Pastor: Fr. D. Young-Sam-You

Trustee: F. Di Cosola - (905) 951-8898



## Prayer For Lent

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
You gather your people  
during this Holy Season of Lent  
and call us to repent.  
As we turn back to You once again,  
open our hearts  
so that we might be transformed in Your image.  
Remove any barriers that keep us from You,  
so that we might live fully  
the life we received at Baptism  
and carry our cross each day.  
By your grace,  
may we turn to You in our abundance,  
and share Your love  
with the world around us.*

*Amen.*

## Black History Month

"The ultimate measure of people is not where they stand in the moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy."



*Dr. Martin Luther King, P&J #111 Quoted in Henry Oertelt's "An Unbroken Chain" Lerner Publications, 2000.*

In facing the challenges and tribulations of today's society, Dr. Martin Luther King's words call us to strength of character, morality and conviction. Let us use Dr. King as an inspiration to live with conviction to our faith and to strive for a just society, where all are equal.

February is Black History Month. During this month, Holy Family School is recognizing and celebrating the many contributions of Black Canadians and famous black people from around the world. Various activities and fascinating Black history facts will be shared throughout the month.

As part of the celebration of Black History Month, we welcome Loretta Penny to our school on February 23<sup>rd</sup> for two presentations; one for our Gr. 4 – 8 students entitled "Black History: An Ancestral Journey", and the other entitled "Land and People of Kenya" for our entire school. We welcome parents to join us for these presentations.

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## Welcome

We would like to welcome Fr. Damian Young-Sam-You to our community. Fr. Damian will visit our classes every second Monday beginning on January 30<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to our working together.

We welcome Mrs. R. Bukumirovic back from maternity leave and wish to thank Mrs. Ciavoliello for her work here at Holy Family. We wish her all the best.

## Family Day

Just a reminder that the Family Day holiday is on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The school will be closed on this date.



## March Break

March Break this year falls during the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. The last day of classes before March Break is Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, and school resumes on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Valentine's Day

Once again we are asking parents to **not** send any food on Valentine's Day. If your child would like to bring something to share with his/her classmates, we ask that alternatives such as stickers, pencils or other non-food items are considered. We also ask that students not share their lunches, snacks or treats with other students as a further prevention measure. We look forward to your co-operation in continuing to keep our school a safe environment for all.



## Pancake Supper



Just a reminder that our bi-annual Pancake Supper is fast approaching. Keep Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 open to join us for a delicious supper of pancakes, sausages, juice and

dessert. The cost remains at \$10 per family and there will be two seatings; 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Please join us. All proceeds will go to our sponsorship of Baraka, our sponsor child from Kenya, ShareLife and Sick Kids Hospital. Thank you to our Parent Council for subsidizing the food and decorations. More information about this fun night will follow soon.

## Parent Council

Happy February to all. The Council would like to thank all the parents who greeted us and took part in the cookies and hot chocolate we were serving after the advent mass. Please feel welcome to attend any council meeting that you see upcoming - our next one is Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. We are always looking for new feedback and ideas.

This spring should be a great one for all students as we have allocated funds for math manipulatives, Arts in the Schools, as well as the PALS program and in the spring look for new lines and games painted outdoors all thanks to the monies we have raised through fundraising.

Please note the date of Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> as we are hosting an information evening for you, the parents, on "Facebook Safety" at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you all at the pancake supper!!! A great evening that shows how our children demonstrate their catholic beliefs through their work of caring for others!!! Let us show our support by attending.

## Online Social Networking Safety 101 for Parents

facebook

Date: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Location: Holy Family School

Time: 7:00 p.m. / Duration: 90 min. plus Q&A

Guest Speaker: Paul Davis from [socialnetworkingsafety.net](http://socialnetworkingsafety.net)



twitter

Topics: FACEBOOK, CyberBullying, HandHeld Devices, Texting, Legal Matters, and a Common Sense Approach to dealing with the technology your children have, or are asking you for! This presentation is targeted for adults only. Your children (Grade 4 onwards) will have an age appropriate presentation given to them during the school day.



## Registration for Full Day

### ELP



Registration for the Full Day Early Learning Program for 4 and 5 year olds, for the 2012 – 2013 school year

will be held at Holy Family School on the following dates:

- Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.\*  
\*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. / 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*For first year ELP - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012*

*For second year ELP - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012*

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

- proof of age
- original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent and child) or Baptismal Certificate of other rite in communion with the Holy See of Rome (if the child has not been baptized, and the parent or guardian is a baptized Roman Catholic or is baptized in another rite in communion with the Holy See of Rome, the parent/guardian should bring their own certificate).
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)

For more information, contact Holy Family School or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24500 or visit the board web site at [www.dpdsb.org](http://www.dpdsb.org).

Registration packages will be available for pick up from the office the week before registration; however, completed registrations cannot be accepted prior to the official start of registration.

## Gr. 8 Grad Photo Day



Grad Photo Day for our Gr. 8 students is Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012. More information will follow shortly.

## Extended French Program

In order that you have all the necessary information in making a decision as to whether this program would be beneficial for your son or daughter, St. Cornelius School has provided our school with some copies of the application form and some general information about the program. Please note that the deadline for the Extended French application form, as well as a copy of the Grade 4 First Term Report Card (sent home Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>) is February 8<sup>th</sup> by 3:00 p.m. and *must* be received at the St. Cornelius School Main Office. We hope that you and your son/daughter will take the time to discuss the merits of this program and consider the benefits of receiving a bilingual education. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call the Principal at St. Cornelius School at (905) 584-2245.

## Message from Peel Public Health



Peel Public Health will be reviewing immunization records of all students at our school. Peel Public Health must have proof that your child has been fully vaccinated (immunized) according to the Ontario immunization schedule. If you receive a letter from Peel Public Health, please ensure that your child has received the required vaccine(s), then give the date(s) your child received these vaccine dose(s) to Peel Public Health immediately to update your child's record. Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, the Health Department has the authority to suspend students from school if they do not meet the immunization requirement. Students whose immunization records are incomplete may be suspended from school. For more information, please call Peel Public Health at 905-584-2216 or visit [www.ImmunizePeel.ca](http://www.ImmunizePeel.ca). Translation services are available.

## E.Q.A.O. Testing Grades Three and Six

Each year, all Grade 3 and 6 students in Ontario are assessed in reading, writing and mathematics. Developed by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) after consulting with more than 1,000 teachers, as well as parents and the broader community across Ontario, these assessments go beyond traditional tests of the past. Their ultimate purpose is to improve student achievement.



The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has developed the assessment that will be used in all schools in the province. This office is independent from the Ministry of Education and Training and the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. It was established through legislation by the Government of Ontario in 1996. The mandate of EQAO is to design and oversee a fair assessment, based on the provincial criteria. Every student in Grade 3, 6 and 10 in the province will take this assessment. Provincial assessment in reading, writing and mathematics will take place during five days that occur between May 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup> for all students in grades 3 and 6. Kindly avoid booking dental, doctor, etc. appointments during that time period.

Visit DPCDSB on the web for Board and School profiles <http://www.dpcdsb.org/EQAO>

## Environment Team News

Midwinter greetings from the **Eco-Team!** We are definitely out of our gardening phase at this time and are currently involved in looking for improvements in our day-to-day uses of energy and resources. We would like to congratulate **Mrs. Rende's class** for being the second recipient of the Eco Trophy: the award went to her class because it was noticed that her students were active participants in the **Terracycling program**, remember to turn off their lights when out, and close their blinds at night, thus saving heating energy costs.

We would also like to congratulate a number of students for showing commitment to the **Walk to School** reward program. The following students

walked more than 50 times to or from school: Mikayla (Gr. 5), Brittney (Gr. 6), Dante (Gr. 4), Kyle (Gr. 3), Dylan L. (Gr. 3), Veronica (Gr. 4), Anthony M. (Gr. 5), and Noah I. (Gr. 5)! They have been rewarded with pedometers! Great job, folks!



January gave us an opportunity to do a close study of our over-dependence on store bought bottled water. It was EYE-OPENING, to say the least! Please check out the following statistics:

	January 9 – 13	January 17 - 20	January 23 - 27
Total Water Bottles	206	135*	149
FULL Water Bottles	35	10	16

(\* Note: After our first week, and a “We can do better!” pep talk on the P.A., we made a big improvement... but we still have a long way to go!)



During the parent-teacher interviews, we encourage parents and students to come and see what more than **490 water bottles** look like... and to consider, especially for the Grade 6, 7 & 8 students, to bring in refillable water bottles to school.

We would like to thank all students and staff for their enthusiastic reception of the **Earth Rangers** visitors, both animal and human. Two days into the Earth Ranger button sales, we have already collected over \$300 to be used in preserving the homes of endangered species. Thank you one and all!

Finally, we would like to tell everyone that **Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> is National Sweater Day.** On this day people are encouraged to reduce the temperature in their homes and offices by a couple of degrees and bring a sweater to help keep warm for the day. Can't wait to see who has the “coolest” sweater!!

## Youth Faith Ambassadors

Our Youth Faith Ambassadors visited Dr. Simone's warehouse on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, in the morning. They had a wonderful time volunteering to pack boxes and skids. They had a short presentation by the volunteers there and were put to work. We are very proud of our Ambassadors and hope that they continue the good work here in our community and at large.

## Holy Family Parish Speech Contest



We want to thank all of the contestants who participated on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, in our annual Holy Family Intermediate Speech Contest. The topics were diverse, well presented and quite entertaining. The Intermediate Division teachers are proud of all of the efforts put forth into the speech writing and presenting by our intermediate students. Congratulations to our top two finalists, Alana G. and Bronte K., who will now compete at Holy Family Parish's CWL Speech Contest on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## Winter Reminders                      Weather

### *Snow and Ice*

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 in our schoolyard. Most student injuries happen during the winter time. Snow is always to stay on the ground. The safety of your children is of the utmost importance to us. Therefore, snowball throwing, kicking snow or ice, or throwing snow at anyone is not tolerated here at Holy Family School.

### *Indoor Footwear*

Students are expected to wear shoes in the school building at all times. Once students are at their classrooms, they are expected to remove their winter boots and replace them with



indoor shoes. Please ensure that your child has indoor footwear to be worn in the school. Wet floors and hallways can result in possible slippery conditions, which may result in injuries. 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 a pair of shoes at school, to keep their feet dry and warm during wet and/or snowy weather.

### *Appropriate Dress*

Please listen to weather reports and ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Students should be wearing winter coats, boots, hats, gloves and scarves. Younger students are also encouraged to wear snow pants. If your child is prone to getting wet during recess or lunch hour, please send a change of clothes, especially socks and pants. We want our students to feel comfortable outdoors and not get chilled because of inappropriate winter dress.

## Weather School Closures

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 a.m. and will be announced on the following radio stations:**



VIRGIN RADIO 99.9	CHUM 1050	CFTR 680
CFNY 102.1	CJCL590	CHFI 98.1
CJBC (FR) 860 AM	EZ ROCK 97.3	93.1 FM
CJMR/CHWO 1250	CFRB 1010	Z103.5
CJBC (FR) 860 AM	FM/1540 AM	CHIN 100.7
FOXY 88.5 FM	CITYPUL	CBC
GLOBAL NEWS	CFTO	
THE WEATHER NETWORK		

## Are You Moving



If you know your family is moving out of our boundary, we would like to know. Each year, a number of families move out of the area and it assists us in

our planning purposes to know whether students will be attending our school next year. Please inform the office at your earliest convenience.

## Respect

In February we celebrate the virtue of respect. God has given us the virtues of friends and companions to keep us company and to help us out along the way. Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God – and so every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ. As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness, which are different ways of saying respect. That respect should come first and foremost from ourselves. We have to respect ourselves and then we will be able to respect others. We should also expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet – our brothers and sisters in Jesus. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at respecting ourselves, as well as respecting those around us.

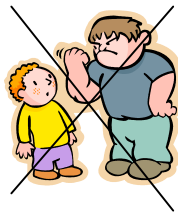
A respectful person...

- Treats himself/herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs, and inappropriate gestures
- Says “Excuse me”, “Please”, “Pardon me”
- Avoids gossip

## Bullying Prevention Corner.

### *Telling an Adult about Bullying is Not Tattling*

February’s in class lesson focuses on the difference between tattling and telling. In dealing with bullying situations, students are encouraged to use the strategy, ‘telling an adult’. Although this sounds simple and logical, there are many difficulties and roadblocks associated with this strategy. Younger children struggle to understand the difference between telling and tattling, while older children struggle with their desire to deal with situations independently. The goal of telling an adult is to keep people safe. Students will learn to identify the difference between telling and tattling (reporting and ratting), explore reasons students



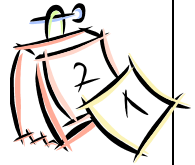
don’t report bullying and understand how to effectively and safely report to an adult.

**Tattling/ratting** is defined as telling in order to get someone into trouble, or telling when there is no one being hurt and no rule being broken that could result in a dangerous situation.

**Telling** is defined as reporting unsafe behaviours to an adult in order to get help for someone – to get someone out of trouble.

Tips for parents:

- use incidences where one child is telling you about sibling behaviour to help children identify whether they are tattling or telling
- practice with your child how to ‘tell an adult’ about bullying (what happened, how they feel, what help they desire)
- develop awareness of the ‘reasons’ children state for not reporting bullying to adults



## Dates to Remember

Mon. Feb. 6	Registration for ELP -- 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 7	Hep B/Men/HPV Clinic Grs. 7 & 8
Wed. Feb. 8 - Fri. 10	Registration for ELP – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. / 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Thurs. Feb.9	PIZZA DAY
Thurs. Feb. 9	National Sweater Day
Thurs. Feb. 16	PIZZA DAY
Fri. Feb. 17	Skating – Grs. 3 & 4
Mon. Feb. 20	Family Day – School Closed
Tues. Feb. 21	Shrove Tuesday
Tues. Feb. 21	Pancake Supper – 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday – First day of Lent Mass @ 10 a.m.
Thurs. Feb. 23	PIZZA DAY
Fri. Feb. 24	Skating – Grs. 5 & 6
Wed. Feb. 29	Gr. 8 Grad Photo Day
Thurs. Mar. 1	PIZZA DAY
Fri. Mar. 2	Skating – Grs. 7 & 8
Thurs. Mar. 8	PIZZA DAY
Mon. Mar. 12- Fri. Mar. 16	MARCH BREAK – No School
Mon. Mar. 19	GREAT Program – Grs. 7 & 8
Thurs. Mar. 22	PIZZA DAY
Wed. Mar. 28	Curling – in gym
Thurs. Mar. 29	PIZZA DAY
Fri. Mar. 30	Silvercreek Outdoor Ctr. – Gr. 3/4
Thurs. Apr. 5	PIZZA DAY
Fri. Apr. 6	Good Friday – No School
Sun. Apr. 8	Easter Sunday
Mon. Apr. 9	Easter Monday – No School
Wed. Apr. 11	Curling – in gym

Thurs. Apr. 12 PIZZA DAY  
Thurs. Apr. 19 PIZZA DAY  
Thurs. Apr. 26 PIZZA DAY