



Holy Family School

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Newsletter # 4

www.dpcdsb.org/HOFAM

December | January 2011/12

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Holy Family Church - Pastor: Father L. Leger
Associate Pastor: Fr. S. Holandez (905) 857-1938
Trustee: F. Di Cosola (905) 951-8898

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angel is stilled,

When the star in the sky is gone,

When the kings

and the princes are home,

When the shepherds

are back with their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost.

To heal the broken.

To feed the hungry.

To release the prisoner.

To rebuild the nations.

To bring peace

amongst brothers and sisters.

to make music in the heart.

(Howard Thurman.)

Christmas Break

Christmas Break will commence on Monday, December 26th, 2011. The last day for school before the break is Friday, December 23rd. School will commence in the New Year on Monday, January 9th, 2012.



The Gift of Giving

As we approach Christmas, the staff at Holy Family School would like to ask our families if you are wishing to purchase a gift for a staff member to consider making a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society, the Sick Kids' Hospital Foundation, the Make-a-Wish Foundation or any charity of your choice in lieu of this gift. Thank you for this consideration.



Santa Photos

Thanks to all of you for your support with our Santa Photo fundraiser for Sick Kids. We raised over \$600.00 for the Sick Kids' Hospital Foundation. Photos will be sent home in the next week.

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Upcoming December Events

Advent Retreat

We will be holding our Advent Retreat all day on Wednesday, December 14th. Students will participate in a number of activities in their Holy Family groups consisting of students from ELP to grade 8. The afternoon will conclude with our Advent prayer service.

Pajamas and Movie Day

We will be having our annual Pajamas and Movie Day on Tuesday, December 20th from 1:15 to 3:30. Students are invited to dress in their favorite pajama while enjoying a traditional Christmas movie.

Christmas Sing- a-Long

We will hold our sing a long on Friday, December 23rd in the a.m. Parents are welcome to join us.

Holy Family Parish Christmas Schedule



All are invited to attend Christmas Services at Holy Family Parish.

Advent Reconciliation Service:

Tuesday, December 13th -- 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services:

Saturday, December 24th – 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day Services:

Sunday, December 25th – 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

Feast of the Holy Family

Friday, December 30th – 10:00 a.m.

There will be blessing of families and refreshments.

Feast of Mary – Mother of God

Saturday, December 31st – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1st – 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon (Regular Schedule)

P. D. Days

Please note that Monday, January 16th, 2012 is a PD Day. This day is for "Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress". As well, Friday, February 3rd, 2012 is "Reporting to Parents on Evaluation and Pupil Progress" Day. There will be no school for students on either of these days.

QSP On-Line Magazine Fundraiser

Thank you to all who have already ordered magazines or renewed subscriptions through our QSP on-line magazine fundraiser. Please note that this fundraiser continues and you can access the website at any time. Make sure to use our school code which is #8318. Give the gift of reading and support our school at the same time! Remember, you can order new subscriptions or renew current subscriptions on-line. On-line gift cards are also available making gift-giving easy. You can also email the www.qsp.ca link to family and friends so that they too can enjoy great savings and help support Holy Family School.



Registration for ELP

Please note that registration for the Early Learning Program for four and five year olds will take place on the following dates:

Monday, February 6th, 2012 7:00—9:00 p.m.
(Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7th 7—9:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, Feb. 8th, 9th, & 10th, 2012 9:00 — 11:00 a.m.
1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

For first year ELP - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31st, 2012

For second year ELP - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31st, 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.dpccdsb.org.

2012 Entry Planning for Students with Special Needs

There will be an information session for parent(s)/guardian(s) of children with special needs such as vision, hearing, autism, physical/medical and/or developmental delays who are entering the Full Day Kindergarten program in September 2012. The information session will be held at the DPCDSB Catholic Education Centre, Room 301, on January 17th, 2012 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Parent(s)/Guardians(s) are also reminded to register their child at our school during the registration dates outlined above.

Extended French

Grade 4 parent(s)/guardian(s), who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for September 2012 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

St. Cornelius School
16066 Innis Lake Road, Caledon East
Wednesday, January 18th, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.

At the present time, the above mentioned school is the designated centre for our area. Applications will be accepted at that centre until **3:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.**

French Immersion

Senior Kindergarten parents/guardians, who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 1 French Immersion class for September, 2011 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

St. Joachim School
435 Rutherford Rd. North, Brampton
Tuesday, January 10th, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Registration for Secondary Winter Night School

Classes run from February 8th to May 23rd, 2012, Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Night School Locations:

St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S. (Mississauga)
Philip Pocock S.S. (Mississauga)
Notre Dame S.S. (Brampton)

Registration forms are available from your Guidance Department or online at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/CNE/Night+School/> Registration closes Wednesday, February 1, 2012. The **Winter 2012 Adult and Continuing Education Flyer** (with program descriptions) will be delivered to the community by the week of January 2, 2012 and posted online at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/CNE>.



Snow and Ice

Please remind your children that their safety is of the utmost importance to us. Snow is always to stay on the ground. Snowball throwing, kicking snow or ice, or throwing snow at anyone is not tolerated here at Holy Family School. The playground climber is also now closed for the winter to ensure the safety of our students.

Winter Weather Reminders

Please assist us in encouraging your children to dress appropriately for the cold weather. Please ensure that your child is wearing his/her boots, hats, gloves and scarves. Except under unusual conditions, students will go outside during recess and lunch hour.

For our younger students, **please ensure that your child has an extra change of clothing (socks and pants) stored in their back pack. This will help prevent phone calls home when your child comes to the office with wet clothing.** All items of clothing should be labeled so that each student can more easily locate his/her own clothing from the class coat rack area. Each term many items make their way to the "Lost and Found" bin and are never claimed. Labelled items can be returned more easily and mixed up items sorted out more readily. If your child brings home any clothing item by mistake, please return it to the school so that this mix up may be corrected.



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.

Please note that we will be walking over to the arena for our skating program over the course of the next few months and would kindly ask that you ensure that the students are dressed for the weather. We will only cancel in extreme weather conditions.

Weather Cancellations

A decision to cancel bus transportation and/or to close schools is made by 6:00 a.m. Decisions are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature and road conditions. A decision to cancel bus transportation may be system wide (where all buses in Dufferin County and the Region of Peel are cancelled) or municipality specific (where buses in one or more municipalities are cancelled).

If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents require the same transportation home. **Notification:** Parents/guardians, students and school staff are asked to monitor the following radio/television stations after 6:00 a.m. for bus cancellation/school closure information.

Radio:

CKFM 99.9	CHUM 1050
CJCL 590	CJBC (FR) 860 AM
CHFI 98.1	CJEZ EZ ROCK 97.3
CFTR 680	CFRB 1010
FOXY 88.5 FM	Z103.5
CFNY 102.1	CHIN 100.7 FM / 1540 AM
93.1 FM	CJMR/CHOW 1250
102.7 FM (Caledon)	

TV:

CFTO Global CP24 CBC The Weather Network

A bus cancellation and/or school closure message will also be available online at www.dpcdsb.org or by calling 905-890-1221.

We will be communicating one of four standard messages to the radio stations. The four announcements and their effect on the transportation system are as follows: (Please note that the **highlighted text only** will be communicated by the radio stations).

1. **“Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board buses serving St. Andrew, St. Benedict and St. Peter Elementary Schools and R. F. Hall Secondary School are cancelled for today”.**
2. **“The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board buses and The Peel District School Board Buses in The Town of Caledon and The County of Dufferin are cancelled”.** This means that all runs listed under announcement #1 PLUS the following are cancelled:
 - All schools in the Town of Caledon and all school runs that begin in the Town of Caledon.

- Individual schools will be notified if this cancellation affects their school.

3. **“The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board buses are cancelled.”** *This means that:* **ALL** Transportation services provided by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and The Peel District School Board, including buses, vans, and taxis have been cancelled for the entire day.

4. **“The Schools and Offices of both the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board schools and offices are closed to all students and staff.”** *This means that:* **ALL** Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School board and Peel District School Board schools and offices are closed to all students and staff.

Safe Kids Canada



Looking to purchase helmets? Safe Kids Canada and Canadian manufacturer, Seven Star Sports, announce a new relationship to provide low-cost helmets for all sports, including cycling, skiing, snowboarding and hockey. A portion of all sales will go to supporting Safe Kids Canada. Visit our website, www.safekidscanada.ca to download an order form and view the models available. Please share this with your family, friends and colleagues!

PALS Leaders

The PALS program has officially started here at Holy Family School. We have about 23 students from grades 4 and 5 who will be out each lunch recess ready to lead some fun games with our primary students. They are presently being trained and we are learning some new games. We hope to start the week of December 12th and will be in full swing in January 2012. Thank you to our students for their commitment to this great program.



Thank you to all our families for your generous donations for our Advent Jesse Tree of Hope. We still have some tags left but our front foyer is filling up daily. We will be dropping off the gifts the week of December 12th to Caledon Community Services who will distribute them to needy families in our community.

Youth Faith Ambassadors

Our Youth Faith Ambassadors were officially commissioned on Wednesday, November 30th, 2011. Father Larry joined Mrs. Howard, the Adult Faith Ambassadors and the Youth Faith Ambassadors for a short liturgy in the library at lunch time. We enjoyed some refreshments and talked a little about our plans this year. Congratulations to all our students!!

December is a busy month for everyone. Even for our Youth Faith Ambassadors. We are going over to the Davis Center on Friday, December 9th to do a Christmas craft and have lunch. This is a great opportunity for the students to bond with their Grandfriends. Also, our Advent collection is going along beautifully. Many students have come down to choose tags from our tree. There will be many happy faces this Christmas. Thank you for all your generosity and support. Also, on January 18th, 2012, our Youth Faith Ambassadors will be returning to Dr. Simone's warehouse, The Canadian Feed the Children charity. We will be going down in the morning and returning by 12:00 p.m. We will be helping volunteers load up skids ready to be shipped across the world. We really enjoyed it last year and we are continuing this year with two visits. The next one will be towards the end of June.

Library News

Thank you to parents and students for making our book fair a success once again this year. The four day event featured a special celebrity visitor - none other than author Geronimo Stilton himself. We were very honoured. Money raised by the fair will be used to purchase library books. Remember, reading is for life!



The Forest of Reading book clubs will be starting up shortly. Students from grades 3 to 8 are invited to join and participate in reading books selected by librarians as the best Canadian books of the year. Students then vote for their favourite author and awards are given out at Harbourfront. Thanks to Parent Council for supporting this program each year.

ECO-School Team

The last couple of months have been busy as we continue to put inroads into various Eco-friendly projects. Because we experienced a very mild November, we took a couple of days to get some bulbs in the ground. We hope to see these new additions next spring! Many of our EcoTeam members chose to participate in a

colouring contest sponsored by the Canadian Plastics Industry Association of Ontario, which is putting together a calendar on Recycling. Winning entries will have their drawing featured on one of the monthly pages of this calendar. Our participation in the Waste Free Lunch Challenge was acknowledged by the organizing team and they will be using some of our photos to promote next year's challenge. We have also put together a submission to be considered for a WWF bursary which would allow us to expand our Green School initiatives in our school yard. Decisions regarding these contests are all to be finalized soon and we keep our fingers crossed! In the meantime, the team has begun working on a new set of letter posters which will replace our fading "IDLE FREE ZONE" posters. We hope to have them up soon as cold and winter conditions tend to cause drivers to forget that idling is idling regardless of the season!



Our Eco School registration process is underway meaning that we are doing auditing of Electricity use and Waste bin usage within the school. As usual we will be promoting better uses of both. We have recently purchased, thanks to parent council budgeting, small collection bins for each classroom to aid in our TERRACYCLING collections of Kool-Aid Jammers and Delmonte drink pouches, as well as all cookie and cracker packaging, which will bring in some cash towards our future projects. In the New Year, we look forward to hosting the Earth Rangers and their animal ambassadors. We hope to raise funds through the sale of Earth Ranger buttons to support their work in saving animal habitats in Canada. At this time we would like to wish all Holy Family community members a blessed Advent Season and a Merry Christmas!

Virtue of the Month

December -- Hope

During the month of December, we will be focusing on 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 all 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

Conflict is a part of our daily lives. It happens to all of us. It is inevitable, and will occur whether we like it or not. Conflict is a disagreement where equal power is present. Conflict changes to bullying when there is an imbalance of power and there is intentional hurt that is repeated. The key message in January is “**conflict is inevitable, bullying is not**”. Everyone faces conflict in daily life and through it can learn to negotiate and build relationships. Bullying is a form of violence that leaves no room for negotiation and seeks to tear others down rather than build relationships.

January -- Self-Control

During the month of January, we will be focusing on the virtue of self-control. God has given us the ability to choose. We are able to control how we react to what happens around us. We've all “lost it” at one time or another. We are never proud of those moments. As soon as they happen we make a promise that they will not happen again. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at controlling our reactions. We can get better at showing *self-control*.

Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret. Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that will harm ourselves or others. Self-control is one of the marks of a spiritually mature person. When we all use self-control, we can be sure that our school will be a safe, caring and inclusive place to live and to learn.

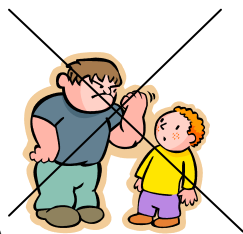
A person with *self-control*...

- is patient
- knows how to wait his/her turn
- can calm him/herself down and think before reacting to situations
- knows how to avoid physical aggression (hitting, kicking, pushing, fighting, etc.)
- can think things through and do what is best for everyone

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Fri. Dec. 9 | Skating – Grs. 7 & 8 |
| Fri. Dec. 9 | Kortright Ctr. – Grs. 1 & 2 |
| Fri. Dec. 9 | Black Creek Pioneer Village – Gr. 3 |
| Wed. Dec. 14 | Advent Retreat – all day |
| Thurs. Dec. 15 | PIZZA DAY |
| Fri. Dec. 16 | Skating – Grs. 1 & 2 |
| Tues. Dec. 20 | Pajamas and Movie Day – p.m. |
| Thurs. Dec. 22 | PIZZA DAY |
| Fri. Dec. 23 | Christmas Sing-a-long |
| Fri. Dec. 23 | Last day of school before break |
| Sun. Dec. 25 | MERRY CHRISTMAS! |
| Mon. Dec. 26 | Christmas Break |
| --Fri. Jan. 6 | |
| Sun. Jan. 1 | HAPPY NEW YEAR! |
| Mon. Jan. 9 | First day back after break |
| Tues. Jan. 10 | French Immersion Meeting – 7 p.m.
@ St. Joachim School |
| Thurs. Jan. 12 | PIZZA DAY |
| Fri. Jan. 13 | Silvercreek Outdoor Ctr.
– Mrs. Angelosante’s class |
| Mon. Jan. 16 | P.D. Day—No School for students |
| Tues. Jan. 17 | Silvercreek Outdoor Centre
-- Mrs. Posteraro’s class |
| Tues. Jan. 17 | Entry Planning Meeting for Students
with Special Needs – 7 p.m. @ Board |
| Wed. Jan. 18 | YFA to Dr. Simone’s Warehouse—p.m. |
| Wed. Jan. 18 | Extended French Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
@ St. Cornelius School |
| Thurs. Jan. 19 | PIZZA DAY |
| Wed. Jan. 25 | Earth Rangers visit H.F. |
| Thurs. Jan. 26 | PIZZA DAY |
| Thurs. Feb. 2 | PIZZA DAY |
| Fri. Feb. 3 | P.D. Day – No School for students |
| Mon. Feb. 6 | ELP Registration – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. |
| Tues. Feb. 7 | Snow Day -- ELP Registration
– 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. |
| Tues. Feb. 7 | Hep C / HPV clinic |
| Wed. Feb. 8 | ELP Registration – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. |
| -Fri. Feb. 10 | & 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. |
| Thurs. Feb. 9 | PIZZA DAY |
| Thurs. Feb. 16 | PIZZA DAY |
| Fri. Feb. 17 | Skating – Grs. 3 & 4 |
| Mon. Feb. 20 | Family Day – No School for students |
| Thurs. Feb. 23 | PIZZA DAY |

Bullying Prevention Initiative Corner



Our Bullying Prevention message for December is that “We all want to feel included.” Our focus is on including and accepting others. The key message underscores the idea that all of us desire the same thing and we all have some responsibility in creating an atmosphere that is inclusive. Everyone wants to know they have a friend by their side. This month we want everyone to try and include people who may not feel as if they are included in everything. Maybe you might just put a smile on their faces. There is always room for one more friend, one more happy face. And remember, if you're not a part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

Fri. Feb. 24 Skating – Grs. 5 & 6
Wed. Feb. 29 Gr. 8 Grad Photos