

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

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DEC. 2011
NEWS

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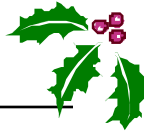
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1907

*Remembering the Past - Embracing the Future
Celebrating over a Century of Catholic Education*

2011

<http://w3.dpcdsb.org/PATRK>



Principal's Message



At St. Patrick School, we are preparing our hearts for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ by being examples of peace, love and light. We are doing this in small ways such as: extending a kind word, sharing, helping, being reflective and prayerful and expressing peace and good will towards one another. Advent is

a time to celebrate light as symbolized by the Advent wreath. It is a time for prayer, meditation and active service towards others. It is a time to set aside differences and unite in peace and love. Staff and students are organizing and participating in various activities such as: outreach initiatives, class celebrations, prayers, readings, artwork, singing, learning about the Jesse tree, listening to and sharing stories. Thank you to the members of our school community for contributing to our outreach initiatives: food drive, winter wear drive for local Catholic charities, various items for the orphanage in Cuba and for children in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

During Advent, may we all be inspired to be a blessing to our world, today and everyday in our thoughts words and actions. We have the power to choose.

May the magic and wonder of Christmas fill your hearts with peace, love and joy. May you enjoy the wonderful gift of the company of your loved ones.



A Christmas Prayer

*O God, Whose mighty Son was born in
Bethlehem those days long ago,
lead us to that same poor place,
where Mary laid her tiny Child.*

*And as we look on in wonder and praise,
make us welcome Him in all new life,
see Him in the poor, and care for His
handiwork, the earth, the sky and the
sea. O God, bless us again in Your
great love. We pray for this through*

Christ our Lord. Amen

(Author Unknown)



ST. PATRICK SCHOOL PRESENTS

JK to Gr. 4 Christmas Concert
Wednesday, December 21
1:30 pm and 7pm

Hope Virtue Prayer Service
Friday, December 23, 9:30 am.

See enclosed for more information
regarding Christmas activities: Spirit
Week, The Living Nativity etc.



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Best Wishes and Welcome

Our Grades 4/5 teacher, Ms. Iamundo who will begin her maternity leave as of Jan. 9, 2012. Best wishes to Ms. Iamundo and to her husband as they await the birth of their baby. A warm welcome is extended to Ms. Prus who will take over teaching the grade 4/5 class.

Student Council Christmas Spirit Week

Our student council invites pupils and staff to get into the Christmas spirit by participating in the following activities. Thank you to Mrs. Noce and Mr. Broccoli for their work with the student council.

Monday, Dec. 19

Christmas Trivia and Jelly Bean Counting Contest (25 cents per guess)

There will be 5 questions for each division. The class from each division with the most answered questions will be getting a prize.

Tuesday, Dec. 20

Christmas Trivia and Jelly Bean Counting Contest

Snuggle Up and Read--- P.J. & Stuffed Animal Day

All students are encouraged to wear their PJ's and bring their favourite stuffed animal. Older students will be reading with younger students.

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Christmas Trivia and Jelly Bean Counting Contest

1:30 - JK to Grade 4 Christmas Concert School Performance
7pm - JK to Grade 4 Christmas Concert

Thursday, Dec. 22

Christmas Trivia Day & Jelly Bean Counting Contest

All students are encouraged to wear their favourite Christmas attire or to wear red, white and green or to dress up like their favourite Christmas characters: elves, Santa, even a Christmas tree. Be creative!

Santa Claus is coming to St. Pat's today!

Friday, December 23

9:30am - Hope Virtues Assembly

11:20am - Invitational Christmas Sing-a-long

*1:30pm - Gr. 7/8 Christmas Dance
Class Celebrations*



The Living Nativity

On Saturday, December 17 the St. Patrick School choir joined the St. Patrick Church Catholic Women's League & the Knights of Columbus in a beautiful presentation of *The Living Nativity*. While the weather was cold, all hearts in attendance were warmed by this celebration of the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to: Ms. Scarfo, Mr. Broccoli and Mrs. Sauve for their work with preparing the choir and to volunteer, Ms. Cappiello for helping out. Thank you to: Father Papais, the St. Patrick School Catholic Women's League and the St. Patrick Knights of Columbus for facilitating this beautiful presentation. Thank you to our Trustee, S. McLaughlan for joining us. Thank you also to Ms. Savoia, Ms. Rizzi for their support.

Want to check bus
cancellations and late
routes on-line?

Visit STOPR.com

Christmas Concert



Parents and family members are welcome to attend the St. Patrick School JK to Gr. 4 Christmas Concert on Wed., Dec. 21, at 1:30pm or at 7pm. For the evening performance, students should arrive at the school by 6:30 pm. Thank you to Ms. DiGiovanni, Ms. DiFeo, Mr. Palmieri, Mrs. Travierso, Ms. Allen, Ms. Scarfo, Mrs. Savoia, Ms. Iamundo and Mr. Broccoli for their work with organizing the concert and preparing the students.



December Virtue Hope

Hope is the virtue of relying on God. It

keeps us searching for true happiness, sustains us during hard times, and keeps us from being discouraged.

People of Hope

Expect the best to happen for everyone

Hold on to their dreams

Always count on God to help them out in tough situations

Trust that things will work out in God's way - Look for something good to come out of problems

Are looking forward to life's blessings

Set and stick to their goals

Parents and family members are welcome to attend our Hope Virtue Assembly which will take place on Dec. 23, at 9:30 am. Thank you to Mr. Tenuta and his class for organizing this.

Anaphylaxis Allergy Reminder

We continue to ask for your co-operation in keeping our school environment safe for students in our school who suffer from a severe anaphylactic allergy to peanuts/nuts and their by-products. Should these children come into contact with the food or residue left when someone else has been in contact with the food, they could go into anaphylactic shock – a potentially life-threatening situation. We ask that you do not send any food to school that contains peanut, nuts or their by-products or any home baked goods. If you would like to send treats to school at Christmas or any time, only send food items that contain a 'guaranteed to be peanut/nut free' label on the package. Or, you can send non-food treats. Thank you for your cooperation.

December Bullying Prevention Message

Key Message: We all want to feel included

Focus: Empathy and development of friendship skills

During this month, students have been having discussions about friendship skills; taking turns, sharing, being kind, helping, respecting people, space, materials – as well as not gossiping and not excluding others etc.

They are also reviewing the importance of not name calling, threatening or hurting people's feelings. We have been emphasizing to students that in every situation they have several choices and it is the choices that they make that have a powerful effect on the outcome. Students are reminded regularly to reflect on, "What Would Jesus Do?" as part of the decision making process.



How Parents Can Help

Encourage children to share their feelings about bullying behaviours that they may have experienced, witnessed or engaged in. Talk to your older children about cyber bullying, intimidation, gossiping, giving the silent treatment and spreading rumors and discuss appropriate steps that can be taken in these situations. Encourage children to seek help and report problems that cannot be solved through discussion to a teacher.

Lost and Found and Other Items

Please join us in reminding your child to check the Lost and Found Box for personal items. On Dec. 23 all unclaimed items in this box will be packed up and given away to charity. Also, please join us in reminding your child to take home coats, boots, hats and other personal items that they may need during the holidays.

Boots and Indoor Shoes

For safety reasons, students are encouraged to wear boots outside during recess times. Wet floors can be a hazard, please help keep our classroom floors dry and safe by sending a pair of indoor shoes to school.

Mrs. Travierso's class Advent promises



Sample of Ms. Scarfo's class art stained glass windows.



Sample of Ms. Savoia's class art depicting the Nativity.

Comic Book Art



On Dec. 13, grades 2 to 6 students had the opportunity to learn how to draw comic book characters from artist, A. Stanberry. The students had a great time drawing their own characters. Thank you to our Teacher Librarian, Ms. Rizzi for organizing this special presentation.

New Resource - Our Story, Our Tradition, Our Journey

Our grade 7 pupils are using this new resource as part of the Community Studies Unit. *Our Story, Our Tradition, and Our Journey: Celebrating the Church-School Connection in Dufferin-Peel* reveals how Catholics in Peel and in Dufferin overcame a small student base, discrimination and inadequate funding to develop their vibrant school system. By learning about their rich Catholic heritage, students will come to appreciate and value Catholic education and continue to build upon the existence of Catholic education in Dufferin-Peel.

Information Night- Planning For Children With Special Needs Entering JK/SK 2012

There will be an information session for parents of children with special needs such as vision, hearing, physical/medical, development or autism who are entering Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten in September 2012. The information session will be held at:

DUFFERIN- PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD- Catholic Education Centre Room 301 on January 17, 2011 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Parents /Guardians are also reminded to register their child here at our school office. Official registration dates are February 6 and 8-10th, 2012.

Snow date is February 7th, 2012.

French Immersion Meeting

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 on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 7pm. The deadline for submission of applications will be at 2:00 p.m. *Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.*

Congratulations Lillian & Violet



In the spirit of giving our students: Lillian and Violet, along with their grandmother raised \$6000.00 for Mount Sinai Hospital by making and selling rosary bracelets. They are donating all proceeds to the neonatal intensive care unit at Mount Sinai Hospital. This hospital is a special place for their family and it is their way of giving back. Way to go girls! Your generous contributions will make a positive difference in the lives of others.

School Council Update



The next School Council meeting will take place on Jan. 10, 2012 at 7pm. All parents are welcome to attend. Thank you to our school council for their awesome, on-going work behind the scenes and for organizing the recent poinsettia fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who supported it.

New Year's Resolutions!

DPCDSB Community Programs from Adult and Continuing Education Winter 2012 DPCDSB Adult and Continuing Education program flyers arrive at your doorstep the week of January 2, 2012. You are invited to join in these exciting community programs.

- Computer ABC's Day Program
- Car Maintenance for Women
- Secondary Night School Credit
- French as a Second Language
- Adult Coop and Credit
- General Interest Programs
- International Languages
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship and ESL Classes
- Health and Fitness
- Much Much More

Register now for lifelong learning opportunities! Call 905-891-9263 ext.0 or

www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne

Full-Day Kindergarten Registration for 2012-13

Registration for Full-Day Kindergarten for the 2012-13 school year, will take place at St. Patrick School on the following days:

Monday, February 6, 2012*

7:00-9:00 p.m.

*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

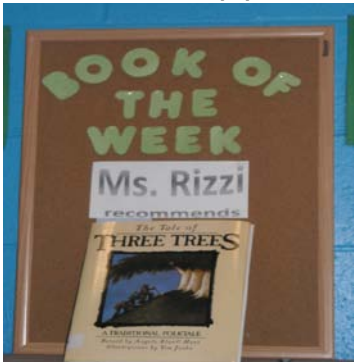
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8, 9 & 10, 2012

9:00-11:00 a.m.

1:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information, call (905) 794-0411 or visit www.dpedsb.org.

What's Happening in the Library?



From December until end of school year:

Junior/Intermediate Book Talks

Each week, one student from each Junior and intermediate class is participating in a book talk. Once they have presented the book, it will be placed in a special place in the

library under a sign indicating the student's name who is recommending the book. The book will remain in its place for others to take out of the library for one week, until the next student presents a new book the following week.

From January to May: Forest of Reading online book Club

Students who have a signed contract by their parent, teacher and themselves will be participating in the first St. Patrick Online book Club.

Scholastic Book Fair: January 27-February 2

READING IS FUN!

Sharelife Basketball Free-Throw Competition

During Spirit Week, our students will compete in a free throw competition by division (primary, junior and intermediate). To participate students are asked to donate \$0.25 per throw or 5 for \$1.00. This money will be donated to Share Life. Thank you to Mrs. Sauvé for organizing this event.

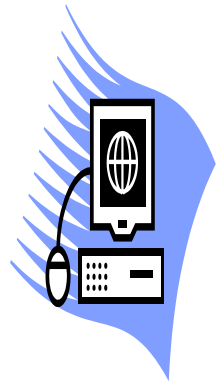
Kindergarten Celebration

Kindergarten students had a great time at their recent Polar Express celebration. Thank you to Mrs. DiGiovanni, Ms. DeFeo and Mr. Palmieri for their work with organizing this fun filled event. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend.



TumbleBooks – Reading for fun!

Please visit our school website for TumbleBooks on-line. You can choose from hundreds of books being read by the authors. Your child can read along and do various fun activities, which are linked to the books. They also come in other languages such as French and Spanish. Students have a great time with the TumbleBooks series.



**PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD
WILL TOWARDS ALL**

Thank you for Giving Generously



Thank you to everyone in our school community for generously supporting our Advent outreach activities. There has been a wonderful spirit of giving, helping and supporting in our school during the last few weeks. Sharing with others in need is a great opportunity to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ during this season of Advent. At St. Patrick School, we have been reaching out locally and beyond our borders to help others in need. Our Student Youth Faith Ambassadors (YFA), under the guidance of Ms. Rizzi and Mrs. Sauve have been collecting and organizing winter wear and will donate these items to Catholic charities locally. They have also been organizing a collection of various items, such as those in the pictures above, which will be donated to an orphanage in Cuba and also to people in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Some items will be brought to the Los Duendecillos Orphanage in Cuba this Christmas by Ms. Rizzi. The remaining items will be sent to the children and families of Bon Pasteur School in Haiti and to the children and families of the sugar cane fields in the Dominican Republic with Dufferin-Peel employees on their upcoming excursions there. Also, thank you for generously donating non-perishable food items for our food drive which will be given to the Knights Table.

Congratulations Youth Faith Ambassadors!

As part of our community outreach activities our school Youth Faith Ambassadors had the opportunity to work at the **Knights Table**, an organization dedicated to providing meals and food services to the needy and those affected by hunger, poverty, and homelessness in the Region of Peel. On two separate Saturdays, our students gave generously of their time and energy to help others in need. They were amazing in being such great role models and working hard, without complaint, but rather, with pleasure, to serve others! Thank you to our students for walking in the light of Christ and being God's hands, eyes, and feet. We are so very proud of them. Thank you to Mrs. Sauve and Ms. Rizzi for coordinating this experience.

-Giving the gift of the heart.-

Thank you for walking in the light of Christ and being God's hands, eyes, and feet.



Winter Weather

It is that time of the year when students need to be reminded to dress appropriately for the weather. Except under unusual conditions, students will go outside during recess times. Therefore, please remind your child to wear **boots**, mittens, hats, scarves, snow pants, etc. to school. According to the Peel Public Health Department, the amount of time that students spend outside should be reduced when the temperature reaches -20 degrees Celsius with or without the wind chill factor. We monitor weather conditions regularly and make decisions accordingly.

Driveway Safety

Parents are reminded that our driveway is a fire route and that it is illegal to park there. We are requesting that you please not park in the driveway. When dropping off or picking up your child, please park in the available parking spots. Thank you for your cooperation.

Student Safety

In the interests of safety we remind pupils regularly to choose activities that do not involve contact sports and play fighting. Most pupils do cooperate however, there is room for improvement. Please join us in reminding your children to continue to cooperate with all school rules, to use words rather than hitting and to report problems to a teacher.



Samples of Mr. Tenuta's class stained glass art and Mr. Broccoli's class dough decorations.

Dates Ahead

- Dec. 21-JK-4 Christmas Concert-1:30pm & 7pm
- Dec. 22 – First Day of Winter
- Dec. 23 –Hope Virtues Assembly- 9:30am
- Dec. 23 – Pizza Day
- Dec. 26 to Jan. 6 – Christmas Holidays
- Jan. 9 – Students return to school
- Jan.10 – School Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Jan. 12 – Gr. 7 & 8 Meningitis & HPV Clinic
- Jan. 13 – Pizza Day
- Jan. 16 – PA Day
- Jan. 31 – Report Cards Sent home



***“Behold, I
bring unto
you good
tidings of
great joy!”
Luke 2:10***



***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!***

***FROM: THE ST. PATRICK
SCHOOL STAFF***



