



ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

430 Van Kirk Drive, Brampton, ON, L7A 0J2
Telephone: (905) 846-0078 Fax: (905) 846-9044
"DOING GOD'S WILL WELL"

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2010

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome students, families and staff back to St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Elementary School. Over the summer new families have moved into our school community as well as children in Junior Kindergarten who will be attending school here for the first time.

I would like to also welcome new members to the school staff and faculty: T. Boudreau (FSL Teacher), S. Bascoe, grade three teacher and A. Bloom (Child & Youth Worker); The school continues to grow and there will be additional staff to introduce after reorganization day on September 17th, 2010

Welcome back to P. Williams, grade two teacher returning from a maternity leave and N. Moore returning from a consultant position with the school board. N. Prospero and P. Delembert are both on maternity leave this school year. Best of luck to both of them. Best of luck to A. Metivier who has been appointed vice principal at Guardian Angels School. She will be missed. M. Basciano's wife is expecting their third child.

The staff has been hard at work preparing curriculum materials, planning and creating welcoming learning environments for all our students. Thank you to J. Price and N. Martin our fabulous secretaries, for having our office ready for the start of the new school year. The start of a new school year always hold much excitement as students begin their school year and begin meeting the challenges that the new grade level has to offer them. A huge thank you to M. Narciso and his crew, for their many hours of work over the summer – the school looks wonderful.

The staff of St. Josephine Bakhita School was involved in a variety of professional development opportunities throughout the summer. Staff members participated in university courses, ministry workshops and were among the over 1400 educators present at the annual two week series of Summer Institute courses hosted by Dufferin-Peel. Congratulations to N. Moore and P. Williams who gave a workshop on the grade five curriculum. Professional Development will continue to be a priority at St. Josephine Bakhita School.

Today, the real work begins. Today we begin the work of becoming a family of brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. We will become a family that plays and works and laughs and cries and studies together. The kind of Christian family that we want to become will not happen by accident. We will learn to live together by following the life and example of our patron saint, St. Josephine Bakhita. She was a lady of great faith. She was kidnapped by slave traders at an early age, deprived of her liberty, cruelly ill-treated and brutally exploited. She was redeemed by the Italian Consul in Sudan and brought to Italy at the end of the 19th Century. She believed in the power of prayer. She believed in obedience and loyalty to God. Many miracles have been attributed to her and the power of her prayer. Throughout the school year, our students will continue to learn about St. Josephine Bakhita the person and that we have been honoured to have our school named after her. St. Josephine Bakhita is very well known and honoured in Africa, South America and Europe. We will have the responsibility of bringing her story to Canada. We will have the responsibility as members of the St. Josephine Bakhita School Community to recognize Christ in all people and as St. Josephine Bakhita did, be able to demonstrate to the world what it means to live a Christian and holy life.

We look forward to working with all of you this year, and hope to meet all of you at our Open House/Meet the Teacher Night. We are all excited about working with you and your children to provide a highly rewarding year, spiritually, academically, emotionally and physically... I ask for your support and commitment to your children! I hope this coming 2010/2011 school year will be the best one yet for every one. May God bless us as we journey together. On behalf of the entire staff, we sincerely look forward to serving the St. Josephine Bakhita Community this school year.

Sincerely,

Fred Albi
Principal

Principal
Fred Albi
fred.albi@dpcdsb.org

Vice-Principal
M. Miller

School Council Chair
E. Belluomini

School Council
Vice Chair
A. Mustica

Office Staff
J. Price
N. Martin

Superintendent
G. Prajza

Family of Schools
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Dufferin-Peel CDSB
Wards 2

Trustee
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Parish
St. Leonard

Parish Pastor
Rev. Andrew T. Maderak

Parish Telephone
(905) 846-5385

Regional Secondary
School
St. Edmund Champion

Director of Education
John Kostoff

Board Chairperson
Anna Abbruscato



SCHOOL HOURS

The research shows that large blocks of time are beneficial to student learning. To this end, we have implemented a two hour literacy blocks for as many of our classes as scheduling allows us to, from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Teachers will provide time during the morning block for students to eat their snacks.

A.M. Kindergarten

9:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

P.M. Kindergarten

1:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Grades One to Eight

(school day) 9:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

(a.m. recess) 11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

(lunch hour) 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

(p.m. recess) 2:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(p.m. dismissal) 3:45 p.m.

P.A. DAY – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2010

This day is dedicated for reorganization and meetings to organize and plan for the coming school year. There will be no classes for students on this day.

Based on the number of students that have registered over the last few days, it looks like we will be reorganizing by the end of the second week.

OPEN HOUSE - MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

You are invited to attend our Open House with your child(ren) on Thursday, September 23rd, 2010.

- The library will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for our book fair.
- The classroom will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to visit your child's teachers.
- A representative from the Region of Peel's "Family Literacy Program" will be on hand to talk about their program.
- A representative from Cassie Campbell and Peel Health will also be at the school to talk about their programs.
- At Dusk – Outdoor Movie Night – (through School Council) – More information to follow.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Our opening school mass will take place on Thursday, September 30th, 2010, 10:00 a.m. at St. Leonard Parish for students from grade one to eight. We have begun a tradition of asking students to dress in their Sunday best for the mass. Please join us if you are available.

EARLY RELEASE DAY - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH

A reminder that Tuesday, September 28th is an Early Release Day. The OECTA Elementary Teachers Collective Agreement provides that the Board will schedule one early release day in each term for the purpose of curriculum development and implementation.

On the Early Release Days, all grade 1 to 8 students will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. Those students normally bussed will be provided with transportation. Afternoon kindergarten classes will be cancelled.

LIFE THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES

There are a number of students enrolled in our school who have life threatening food allergies. Your co-operation will be sought in helping to ensure a safe environment for these children. Some students in our school are allergic to peanut butter and products containing nuts or nut oils (i.e. Nutella). If these students come into contact with anything containing nuts, nut oils, or derivatives, it could be life threatening for him/her. **It is only necessary that physical contact with these substances be made, even on a second hand basis. For example, a severe reaction may occur should the child touch a desk, toy, or book previously handled by another student who has touched peanut butter, peanuts, or peanut oil.**

We ask that students in our school not bring any foods containing nuts, nut oils, or derivatives to school (lunches, snacks, treats for the class, etc.). Please understand that every precaution is being met to assure that the children remain safe within the school environment. With your help and guidance in preparing lunches, snacks, etc. for your child, we can be assured of continued safety for these children. Children with severe food allergies are advised to be very much aware of his/her allergy and have been told by their parents of the danger in sharing snacks.

Families whose child is in a class that has a student with allergies will be informed in writing of the allergies in the classroom and the procedures that will be in place to ensure the safety of those students. Thank you for your support in ensuring the safety of all our students.

NEWS FROM ST. LEONARD PARISH

Sacramental Schedules

Reconciliation / Holy Communion Enrollment – Friday, October 15th, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.

Reconciliation – Thursday, January 20th, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Celebration – Saturday, May 7th, 2011 – 9:00 a.m.

Confirmation Enrollment – Date to be advised

Confirmation Practice – Wednesday, May 25th, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation – Thursday, May 26th, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

School Masses

Opening – Thursday, September 30th, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

Advent – Monday, December 2nd, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

Lent – Monday, March 24th, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

Parents and families are invited to join us at masses. All mass unless stated will take place at St. Leonard Parish.

Would you like your child to become Catholic?

Our annual program for children in Grades 2-8, who are not baptized or have been baptized in a non-Catholic Church, who would like to become Catholic, will begin at St. Leonard's Church in September. This program will lead to the Baptism of the children or their Reception into the Catholic Church. Parents who would like to have their children enrolled in this program or would like to know more about the process are asked to please pick up a package from the priest after any weekend Mass. We are now accepting applications for the September program. One of the parents will be required to provide a copy of their Roman Catholic baptism certificate. Please note that only Catholic children are able to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

Student verification forms will be sent home shortly with every student. It is important that the office have up to date and correct information for each student. Please check the form, make any corrections and return it to school the next day.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

The beginning of each school year is always marked by unexpected changes which require all of us to be understanding, accommodating and flexible. Each year St. Josephine Bakhita School has faced some reorganization of classes to accommodate our fluctuating enrolment. Therefore, as we start the year, classes and staffing are tentative. As numbers are finalized, we will send notice by September 17th if we need to make changes to classes and staff.

CROSSING GUARD

As a matter of safety, students and adult escorts are reminded to use the cross walks.

The city of Brampton Crossing guards are on duty:

Burnt Elm and Van Scott Drive
8:00 – 9:15 a.m.
NO LUNCH.
2:50 p.m. to 3:20 p.m.
3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Wanless and Van Kirk Drive
8:00 – 9:15 a.m.
NO LUNCH.
2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Van Kirk Drive and Iron Block Drive
8:00 – 9:15 a.m.
NO LUNCH.
2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

DRESS CODE

We ask for your support for a dress code that is accompanied by standards of sensitivity, politeness, and decorum.

Students are expected to be dressed in a clean, neat, and appropriate manner conducive to the school environment. Clothing must be free from offensive or questionable language and pictures. Hats/caps must be removed in the school building. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Make-up, if worn at all, must be natural looking. Appropriate clothing must be worn for physical education classes (i.e. running shoes, shorts, t-shirts).

FOOD DAYS

Toonie Pizza Days

Pizza will be available every Tuesday of the week. The cost of the pizza is \$2.00 a slice. Students have a choice of cheese, or cheese and pepperoni. Students will be asked to bring the money in on the morning of the pizza day and not before.

Pizza Days this month:

Tuesday, September 14th, 2010
Tuesday, September 21st, 2010
Tuesday, September 28th, 2010

Thursday Food Days

Thursday will be designated as our other food day. Choices may include Lunch Lady, Mr. Sub, Hot Dog Days, etc. Please check the monthly calendar to see what food days are available.

Milk, Juice and Water Machines

The school will be equipped with two vending machines on the first floor. One machine will sell only water and juices. The other machine will sell milk.

Kernels Popcorn

School council will be offering Kernels popcorn on Fridays. More information will become available in the near future.

Safe, Caring, Inclusive Catholic Schools – Virtues Education

The Virtues...A virtue is a habit or established capacity to perform good actions according to a moral standard. A Catholic school is the ideal place to practice and prepare to live a virtuous life. Many elements of Catholic character and virtue are developed in Dufferin-Peel schools. In the coming year, our school will focus on virtues education. We will hold monthly assemblies as well as a number of other activities. Although all virtues will be entwined throughout the year, a specific monthly focus will be highlighted. Highlights include: Faith, Empathy, Conscience, Hope, Self-Control, Respect, Kindness, Love, Acceptance, and Fairness. When we act out these virtues, we are making the presence of God visible in the world around us. Thank you for your support in re-enforcing these virtues.

SEPTEMBER'S VIRTUE OF THE MONTH - FAITH

God created us to live together as a family rooted in Christ

A faithful person ...

- prays from the heart whenever they can
- learns from Bible stories
- believes that there is good in everyone
- knows that we are all created and loved by God

FAITH believes the incredible, sees the invisible, and receives the impossible. A faithful person believes that God's plan for us includes the right to be safe, cared for, and included especially in school. FAITH is the great virtue of believing and trusting in God. Our faith brings us to remember the importance of God in our lives, and calls us to deepen our relationship with God when things are going well and when they are not.

*The apostles said to the Lord, "Make our faith greater."
The Lord answered, "If you had faith as big as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree,
"Pull yourself up by the roots and plant yourself in the sea!" and it would obey you."
Luke 17:5-6*

Our Daily Prayer for September

**Let us now pray ...for the grace and strength to be people of faith
~ people who can truly believe that God's plan for us includes the
right to be safe at school. AMEN.**

"The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace."

~ Blessed Teresa of Calcutta ~

"Faith has to do with things that are not seen and hope with things that are not at hand."

~ St. Thomas Aquinas ~

Virtues in Action: How do I show my faith everyday?

RECESS/LUNCH BREAKS

Recess breaks serve a special purpose in the school routine and, except in unusual cases, students are not excused from going outside. Students who are ill should be kept at home for they are too contagious with germs to be sitting in the classroom with other students and require rest.

Students are encouraged to bring healthy food for their recess breaks. Students will continue to eat in their classrooms, supervised by staff members. The Peel Health Department has provided us with resources which we will provide throughout the year. We will continue to work with the Peel Health Department on healthy eating as well as physical activity.

LUNCH HOUR

During the lunch hour all students who stay for lunch are expected to remain at school, and all students who go home for lunch are expected to go home every day. Students are not allowed to go out for lunch (i.e. for pizza and/or other food establishments). Food is

not to be brought back onto school property. If there is a change in the regular lunch hour procedure for your child, parents/guardians are asked to provide the teacher with a note explaining the change. A letter will be going home with your child in regard to your child's lunch time arrangements. Please indicate your child's regular lunch time arrangements, sign the form and return it to the school as soon as possible.

HEAD INJURIES

It is a requirement that should your child receive any type of head injury during the school day, the office staff will contact you and inform you of the injury.

FRONT DRIVEWAY

This is a reminder that cars are not to be parked at the front of the school, even for a minute. Please use one of the parking spaces at the front of the school or park on the street. This is a fire route and cars can receive a ticket.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Our school driveway is still a matter of great concern in regards to the safety of our students. Therefore we strongly urge you to use the Kiss and Ride lane to drop off or pick up your child. Kindly assist us in reminding children to use the walkways to enter upon and exit off of school property.

HANDICAP PARKING SPOT

We have a handicap parking spot at the front of the school. Parents are asked not to park in that spot unless they have a handicap parking permit. Cars parked in the handicap spot, without a permit can be ticketed.

FIRE DRILLS

In accordance with Ministry regulations, three fire drills will be conducted in the Fall and three in the Spring. While we hope that a real fire situation never arises, this practice will help prepare students in the event of a real fire.

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters will normally be available at the beginning of each month. Please provide your email address as newsletters will be emailed. The newsletters are also available on our website. Monthly Calendars will be sent home at the beginning of each month.

PEDICULOSIS

Pediculosis, or head lice is a common occurrence in schools. Head lice are parasites which have been common among human beings for centuries. They are not connected with dirt and neglect. Anyone can be infested with them. If even one case is found in the school, we will inform all parents in a letter. Please check your children frequently and if you find them infested, we would ask that you let us know so we can advise you on the proper treatment. If a child does become infested, we will ask you to keep your child out of school until he/she has been treated with the correct medicated shampoo and his/her hair is entirely clear of both lice and nits (eggs). When the child returns to school, the child needs to come to the office to be checked before going to class.

If we all cooperate in these procedures we can address these occurrences in a sensitive manner. We may not entirely escape outbreaks, but we will be able to bring them under control quickly.

SAFE ARRIVALS

Policy/Program Memorandum No. 123: Safe Arrivals, February 2nd, 1999 suggests that each district school board develop as a policy statement for the development and implementation of a safe arrivals program, applying to each elementary school within their jurisdiction.

In Dufferin-Peel, this program is known as the "Attendance Verification Program". The roles and responsibilities of the parent/guardian, school principal, teachers and secretaries are as follows:

Roles & Responsibilities of Parent/Guardian

- Parents/guardian are responsible for their children's safety
- Parents/guardians must provide complete and up-to-date information to schools
- Parents/guardians are responsible for communicating pupil absences or lateness to the school on a timely basis
- Parents/guardians are responsible for making afternoon attendance/lateness calls.

Roles & Responsibilities of the School Principal

- The school principal shall review the school's attendance verification program with the school council on an annual basis
- The school principal shall communicate the details of the program to parents/guardians and inform them of their responsibilities toward the attendance status of their children
- The school principal shall communicate the details of the attendance verification program to school staff (teachers and secretaries)
- The school principal shall set up necessary forms to document key information

Roles & Responsibilities of Teachers

- Classroom teachers shall take accurate attendance in the morning and after lunch
- Classroom teachers shall send attendance cards/records to the school office.

Roles & Responsibilities of Secretaries

- School Secretaries shall record parent/guardian calls
- School Secretaries shall reconcile attendance cards with parental calls on a timely basis
- School Secretaries shall identify any unexplained absences that require follow-up contacts
- School Secretaries shall make reasonable efforts to contact parent/guardian for this follow-up

ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

Daily attendance and punctuality are very important. If your child is going to be absent from school, or late, please inform the office. Messages can be left on the school answering machine (between 4:00 p.m. and 9:15 a.m.)

LEAVING DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

When it is necessary for your child to leave school early, please send a note to your child's teacher advising him/her of the time that you will be picking you child up. Your child will be asked to meet you in the office at the indicated time. When dropping off or picking up

students during school hours, please go to the office to sign your child in or out.

PARENTS/VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors to the school, including parents, are to report to the office before proceeding into the school or playground to pick up a visitor's pass. It is in the interest of safety that we must know who is in the school or on the grounds at all times. Staff and students of St. Josephine Bakhita School have been instructed to inform the office of individuals walking through the building without a pass. If you accompany your son-daughter to school and wait with them until the bell rings, we ask that you do not enter the building with them. Although you are not a stranger to your child or your child's teacher, you are a stranger to other students and staff members. The teachers will bring the students into the building and assist them, where necessary, in preparing for the commencement of the school day. The teacher will also assist students to prepare for dismissal and accompany them to the appropriate exit at the end of the school day.

If you need to speak to your child's teacher, it is best that you call and make arrangements so that the matter you wish to discuss with the teacher is given the time that it deserves. You can appreciate that it is difficult for a teacher to speak with a parent and give the matter proper attention in the middle of either commencing the school day with students or at dismissal time. It is also best if meetings with teachers take place in a quiet, confidential area. The hallways do not lend themselves to parent/teacher discussions.

EMERGENCY INSTRUCTORS

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is committed to ensuring that qualified teachers are teaching in our classrooms at all times. From time to time, in extenuating circumstances, this may not be possible. A Board registered Emergency Instructor may be called upon, as a casual worker, to cover a classroom in the absence of the classroom teacher for a part or a full day.

Careful consideration is given to the selection of people to fulfil these roles, and the Emergency Instructor is given training in school procedures and is subject to a Criminal Reference Check. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the school for further clarification.

DELIVERING LUNCHES

When delivering your child's lunch to school, please advise your child in advance that you will be doing so, and write his/her name and the teacher's name on the bag. You child can come down at 12:15 p.m. to pick it up with minimal disruption to the class. You cooperation in doing this, whenever possible, is greatly appreciated.

BUSSING

Students who are eligible to take the school bus should be waiting at bus stops at least ten minutes prior to scheduled bus arrival time. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that kindergarten children are met at the bus stop at noon. Children who do not see a parent or babysitter will remain on the bus and will be returned to the school to be picked up there by the parent/babysitter.

Please review the following safety information with your child. Students who must cross the road at their bus stop should wait on their side of the road until the bus has stopped and activated its stop-arm and flashing lights. When the oncoming traffic has stopped, students should look both ways and wait for the driver's signal before stepping onto the road.

The conduct of individual students on the bus directly affects their safety and those of their classmates. When improper conduct is reported on the first occasion, school administration shall speak to the student. On the second occasion, a letter and/or phone call will be made to the parent/guardian. Subsequent reports of improper conduct may result in the restriction of bus privileges. Severe misconduct may result in removal of bus privileges.

DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE OF MEDICATION

If a child is required to bring medication to school, procedures relative to the administration of medication shall only be adopted: when requested by the parents/guardians; and when authorized by a physician; and when medication must be provided during school hours.

If medication must be administered by a designated staff member, signed request/authorization forms from the parents/guardians and the supervising physician must be obtained whenever a prescription is initiated or changed. These forms are available through the school office. The required authorization forms and the medication shall be delivered to the principal or designated person by the parents/guardians or other responsible persons. All medication with the exception of epi-pens will be housed in a safe location. Medication must not be kept on the child's possession (i.e. pocket, pack back, etc.) or in the classroom.

AGENDAS

Academic planners are available for students from grade 1 to 8 to help them with their organizational skills. The planner is a useful communication device between school and home. Please ensure that you check your child's planner on a daily basis so as to ensure your child is keeping up-to-date with his or her homework assignments and you may also be informed of any upcoming important events taking place in the school. Please discuss the homework agenda with your child, highlighting what they have accomplished and in what areas they may need to spend more time. Please feel free to add any pertinent information you feel we should be aware of about your child. The cost of the agendas is \$5.00.

CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

One of our goals at St. Josephine Bakhita School is to expose our students to as many activities and experiences as possible, to help them find what may be a passion for them in the future. I believe that having experts lead an activity may help students see what is possible. To this end, I would like to have outside agencies; people, etc. come and teach our children two to three different activities a year.

To that end, I am looking for persons who are interested in teaching languages such as Italian, Portuguese, etc. If interested, please contact Mr. Albi.

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2010/2011

Please consider putting your name forward to be a member of the St. Josephine Bakhita School Council for the 2010/2011 school year.

Nomination forms for parent/guardian representatives on the Catholic School Council for the 2010/2011 school year are available at the school office. Completed nomination forms must be received in the school office by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 16th, 2010.

If needed, the election for parent/guardian representatives to the Catholic School Council will take place on Wednesday, September 22nd, 2010 at St. Josephine Bakhita School in the library at 7:00 p.m. by secret ballot. Eligible voters must vote in person. Proxy voting is

not permitted. An appointed steering committee will assist with the implementation of election procedures.

TERRY FOX FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Journey of Hope arrives at St. Josephine Bakhita School!



On **Tuesday September 30, 2010**, St. Josephine Bakhita will be participating in a school initiative to help collect donations for the Terry Fox Foundation to support Cancer Research. Nominated as one of Canada's greatest Canadians, Terry Fox has been able to fulfil his ultimate dream of raising funds for cancer research toward finding a cure for cancer. St. Josephine Bakhita students and staff will have an opportunity to help carry out his Marathon of Hope. On Tuesday, September 30th at 1:30 p.m. St. Josephine Bakhita will be taking part in the Terry Fox National School Run Day. JK/SK morning students will walk at 10:00 a.m. Our walk will take place off school grounds. Primary and junior level students will walk approximately 20 minutes and Intermediate students will walk approximately 30 minutes. We are asking that students donate **\$2.00** towards the cause. All monies raised through our event will be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation to further the cause of cancer research.

Students are asked to wear red and white to represent our Canadian Heritage. If you would like to volunteer to walk with the classes, please let the classroom teacher know.

Students also have the option to pin a picture of someone they know that has had cancer or has passed away as a result of cancer. Another option would be to wear a label with that person's name. The school will hand out labels to those students that require one.

STUDENT INSURANCE

INSUREMYKIDS INSURANCE WAS AWARDED THE STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE CONTRACT AGAIN THIS YEAR AND HAVE DISTRIBUTED BROCHURES TO THE STUDENTS THROUGH THE SCHOOL THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2010.

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage. Enrolment is required in writing so there are two options for enrolment: 1) Apply on-line with a credit card at www.insuremykids.com or mail the prepaid return envelope. If you have any questions phone 1 800 463-5437. Parents alone have the right to insure their children.

Student Insurance Forms will be distributed on the first week of school by the classroom teachers. This is a worthwhile investment, please read over the information carefully. You may want to take advantage of this inexpensive way to insure your child(ren) against accidents which take place at school.

PLASP – BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

PLASP Child Care Services operates Before and After School Programs at St. Josephine Bakhita School. The Before School Program operates from 7:30 a.m. and continues until school begins. A nutritious breakfast is served daily.

The After School Program begins once school is dismissed and goes until 6:00 p.m. Children participate in recreational activities, are served a nutritious snack daily and have time for homework.

Fee assistance is available.

Registration is currently taking place.

To register your child, visit the PLASP Program Director, Before or After School. For further information, call 905 890-1711 or visit the website at www.plasp.com.

ELEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES PROGRAM

The Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B. offers an extensive program in International Languages, providing instruction in 24 languages at 22 schools in Dufferin-Peel, for students from JK to grade 12. It is a wonderful opportunity for our children to expand language skills. This program will be of interest to those who:

- already have a working knowledge of a language which may be spoken at home and wish to learn more, and
- those who have no prior knowledge, but wish to learn a new language.

The elementary program (JK-8) runs from September 11 through June 4 each Saturday (Sundays at St. Herbert) from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.. Parents who wish to register their child in this program may attend a walk-in registration **at the school which offers the language of interest to them, on Saturdays (Sundays at St. Herbert)** from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., beginning September 11. Registrations are continuous (space permitting) throughout the school year. This program is available to students attending both DPCDSB schools and also to those attending schools in other school boards.

Secondary courses offered in International Languages are credit courses and students may earn up to 3 credits in this program towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Adults, and students registered in a secondary school, are welcome to attend the secondary program. Students wishing to register for this program may attend a walk-in registration **at the school which offers the language of interest to them, on September 11** from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.. The last day to register for secondary credit courses will be October 2.

More information can be found on our website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/CNE/International+Languages/Secondary+Credit+International+Languages.htm> and also in the Fall 2010 Adult and Continuing Education Course calendar which was recently delivered to your home. For more information, you are also welcome to call the Adult and Continuing Education office at (905) 891-9263.

**Join us for Brampton Day 2010
Celebrating our History, Heritage and Heart.**

Saturday, September 25, 8 am to 2 pm
Downtown Brampton

FREE BBQ and FAMILY FUN

- Kids' Carnival Zone
- Community Showcase
- Entertainment
- Learn about City services
- Brampton Farmers' Market

New! Exciting band featuring actors from Degraasi
1 pm: Lorna Bissell Fountain, Garden Square

Free water stations! Bring your refillable water bottles and fill up at the free water stations.

FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM: TALK..READ..PLAY..SING!

Free workshops for families offered by the Region of Peel
At St. Josephine Bakhita Catholic Elementary School

The Family Literacy Program is for families with children aged 0 – 6 years. Families come together for story times, snack, and activities. Come and join us! Research from the University of Toronto has shown this program makes an impact to a child's Early Literacy skills along with their family's support.

The program will be held in room 103 on Wednesday nights, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. for nine weeks, starting October 6th and ending December 1st. We welcome all families with children under 6 years, as well as older children in your family. Please register by calling 905 791 -1585 or visit our website at www.peelregion.ca and click on Child Care. We hope to see you there.☺

FAMILY PROJECT

Please send a picture of your family that was taken over the summer. We would like to display the pictures during open house on Thursday, September 23rd, 2010.



MUSIC LESSONS AVAILABLE

Music lessons (Drums & Guitar). Professional and experienced teacher now accepting students for private instruction. Guitar beginner to intermediate and Drums all levels and styles. rcmusiclesson@gmail.com or 416-885-7650

COMMUNITY NEWS: BREAKFAST CLUB

Brampton Northwest Connects and the Ministry of Health Promotion in conjunction with the City of Brampton Recreation Department invites you to the:

“Breakfast Club”
@Cassie Campbell Community Centre

This program is designed to promote physical activity and healthy nutrition with youth in attempts to maintain a safe and healthy lifestyle.

The program will consist of various drop-in sports such volleyball, basketball, soccer and much more! Participants will also receive a complimentary breakfast (Bagel and Drink) to start off their day!

The program will operate on:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
Max # 40 participants per session
The cost per student will be \$1
Note: This is a drop-in program only
“No registration is required”

Please bring comfortable clothing and shoes

For more information, please contact Jerome Walker at
905 840-4041 ext. 62902

COMMUNITY NEWS: P.A. DAY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CAMPS

Cassie Campbell Rec. Centre is inviting our students to join them for their P.A. Day Physical Activity Camps. Be sure to bring a lunch, a peanut free snack and a bottle of water. Extended day care (EDC) services are also available.

Course information

September 17th, 2010

5-6 yrs of age Course Code: 368179
7-9 yrs of age Course Code: 368180
10-13 yrs of age Course Code: 368181
EDC (Add. \$5.00) Course Code: 368182

November 28th, 2010

5-6 yrs of age Course Code: 367982
7-9 yrs of age Course Code: 367983
10-13 yrs of age Course Code: 367984
EDC (Add. \$5.00) Course Code: 367986

January 14th, 2011

5-6 yrs of age Course Code: 333245
7-9 yrs of age Course Code: 333246
10-13 yrs of age Course Code: 333247

EDC (Add. \$5.00) Course Code: 333248

For more information, please contact Cassie Campbell Community Centre at (905) 840-4041

STRATEGIC SYSTEM PLAN

We have included with the newsletter, “Our commitment to You STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-2015”. It has been developed by the Board of Trustees and reflects the results of the extensive consultation with the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. Our school will be developing our school goals in the near future which will be based on these system principles.

LETTER FROM MOST REVEREND THOMAS COLLINS

We have also included a letter from the Most Reverend Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto which is addressed to the Parent of Students in our Publicly Funded Catholic Schools. Please read when you have an opportunity.

UPCOMING DATES – OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 5th, 2010 – World Teacher Day

Monday, October 11th, 2010 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, October 13th, 2010 – Picture Day

Friday, October 15th, 2010 – Grandparent’s Day at St. Josephine Bakhita

Monday, October 25th, 2010 – Municipal Elections