



# 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 – FEBRUARY 2011**

Principal  
**Fred Albi**  
[fred.albi@dpcdsb.org](mailto:fred.albi@dpcdsb.org)

Vice-Principal  
**M. Miller**

School Council Chair  
**E. Belluomini**

School Council  
Vice Chair  
**A. Mustica**

Office Staff  
**J. Abdilla**  
**N. Martin**

Superintendent  
**G. Prajza**

Family of Schools  
**Brampton West**

**Dufferin-Peel CDSB**  
Wards 2

Trustee  
**L. Zanella**  
Wards 2, 5, 6

Parish  
**St. Leonard**

Parish Pastor  
**Rev. Andrew T. Maderak**

Parish Telephone  
**(905) 846-5385**

Regional Secondary  
School  
**St. Edmund Campion**

Director of Education  
**John Kostoff**

Board Chairperson  
**Anna Abbruscato**



Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

## Albion Hills Outdoor School Grade 6 Excursion January 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>



Visit St. Josephine Bakhita School on the web for School information: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/BAKHIL>

## ABOUT THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

This is the month in which we celebrate Saint Valentine's Day. He was a bishop who bravely died for his faith. The name Valentine means "valiant" or "strong". This day is connected with love because of the legend that birds pick their mates on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Secret notes of love and friendship sent on this day are Saint Valentine's notes or valentines.

## CELEBRATING FEAST DAY OF ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

St. Josephine Bakhita is venerated as a modern African Saint and as a Saint with a special relevance to slavery and oppression. She has been adopted as the patron of Sudan. Giuseppina died on February 8, 1947. On October 1, 2000, she was canonized and became Saint Josephine Bakhita. The celebration will include a liturgy and a video on the life of St. Josephine Bakhita. The celebration will take place on Tuesday, February 08, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the gymnasium. Please join us if you are available.

## FEBRUARY – VIRTUE OF THE MONTH - RESPECT

During the month of February, we celebrate the virtue of "Respect". God has given us the gift of friends and companions to keep us company and to help us to get along.

A person with Respect:

- 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
- Can think things through and do what is best for everyone

## FAMILY DAY – FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2011

Please be aware that all Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board schools, offices and other facilities will be closed Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, in observation of the Family Day statutory holiday.

As a result, all scheduled school and school board-related programs and services that would normally operate in Dufferin-Peel schools/facilities, as well as day cares and permits, are cancelled on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

## FOOD DAYS

Pizza Days:

Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011  
Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011

Food Days:

Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Great Canadian Bagel  
Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Sub Day  
Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Lunch Lady  
Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Hot Dog Day

## JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2011-2012

Registration for the 2011-2012 school year will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on the following dates:

**Monday, February 7, 2011**  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.\***

*\*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 8, 2011*  
*7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 9, 10 & 11, 2011**

**9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

*Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2011.*

*Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2011.*

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

- **Proof of age**
- **Original Catholic Baptismal certificate of the Roman, Greek or Ukrainian Rite for one parent and child (if child has not been baptized, a letter of counselling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted)**
- **Updated immunization records**
- **Proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status**
- **Proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)**

If you know of someone who has a child who will be ready for kindergarten in September, please share this information with them. It is important to register students at this time so that we can begin planning for staffing. For more information, contact your local Catholic School or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24500

## WINTER WEATHER

With the arrival of winter weather, we remind students of the importance of coming to school warmly dressed for the outdoors so that they can safely enjoy outdoor activities at recess. Boots, hats, mitts and warm coats (and snow pants for younger children) are essential. Indoor shoes for wearing in class and gym are also essential and should be kept for indoor use only. If a student is ill with a cough or cold, we advise that he or she remain home to rest and recover before returning to school. All students are expected to go outside for recess every day.

## KISS AND RIDE

The kiss and ride program at St. Josephine Bakhita School continues to be a concern in regards to the safety of our students. The following are procedures we need all parents driving and/or picking up their children to adhere to.

- Use the Kiss and Ride lane to drop off or pick up your child. (The Kiss and Ride lane is adjacent to the parking lot.
- Do not use the bus or passing lane to drop students off.
- Move up the driveway in the kiss and ride lane as far as possible. Do not stop and/or get out of your car at the end of the driveway. This causes the driveway to become congested.
- Kindly assist us in reminding children to use the walkway to enter upon and exit off of school property.

## RECESS REMINDERS

We at St. Josephine Bakhita have a NO CONTACT policy. This policy states that students are not to play any games or be involved in any activities in the schoolyard that involve physical contact. Games such as tackle football, touch tag, manhunt and like games are not allowed. If a game develops during the course of a recess break where contact becomes part of the game or activity, students are continuously being reminded to remove themselves from that activity and to report the contact to the nearest staff member on yard duty. Staff can easily be identified by their bright orange vests.

## OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL HERITAGE

*What effect did the Canadian Constitution, create in the British North America Act (1867) (now entitled either the Constitution Act or the Canada Act), have on separate schools?*

When the Fathers of Confederation came from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada East, and Canada West to meet in Charlottetown and Quebec, they quickly concluded, in the words of one of the Fathers, Sir Charles Tupper, that "Without this guarantee for the rights of minorities being embodied in that new constitution, we should have been unable to obtain any Confederation whatever."

*What guarantee for separate schools does the Canadian Constitution still contain?*

In 1867 the Fathers of Confederation made section 93(1) part of the Constitution. It states:

Nothing in any such [provincial legislative] Law shall prejudicially affect any Right or Privilege with respect to Denominational Schools which any Class of Persons [i.e. separate school supporters] have by Law in the Province at the Union.

*Exactly what separate school rights does section 93(1) guarantee?*

Section 93(1) protects all the provisions of the last separate school legislation passed before Confederation, the *Separate School (Scott) Act* of 1863. Among others, the *Act* provided the following rights:

- (a) to form a separate school board with five or more Catholic heads of family resident in a public school jurisdiction;
- (b) to receive government grants equitable with those of the public school system;
- (c) to receive equitable funding;
- (d) to have separate school boundaries enlarged;
- (e) to elect separate school trustees with all the powers of public school trustees.

*Once section 93(1) was enacted, why did Ontario's separate school supporters continue to suffer financial hardship?*

The *Separate School (Scott) Act* of 1863 did not anticipate the creation and/or growth of corporations and public utilities in Ontario, or the creation of public high schools. These two omissions caused over 100 years of financial hardship and inequity for separate school supporters.

## IMPORTANT IMMUNIZATION MESSAGE FROM PEEL PUBLIC HEALTH

Peel Public Health will be reviewing immunization records of all students at our school from February 1, 2011.

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, 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.

For more information, please call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700, or visit [www.ImmunizePeel.ca](http://www.ImmunizePeel.ca). Translation services are available.

## VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

On Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, St. Josephine Bakhita School will have a Valentine's Day dance for all students. We will follow the schedule that was in place for the Halloween and Christmas Dances. Students are asked to dress in white and red.

## MARCH BREAK

March 14<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> inclusive  
Classes resume Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

## EXTENDED VACATIONS

Now that the March Break is fast approaching, we encourage families to plan holidays during these designated times. Some parents have asked teachers to put together homework packages for their children to complete when they are away on an extended family holiday. It is difficult for teachers to do so since most of the curriculum being covered is taught by the teacher in an instructional lesson.

## LIBRARY NEWS...

THANK YOU ! MERCI ! GRACIAS !

I would like to sincerely thank our School Council for their generous donation made to our school library through their fundraising efforts!! The donation of \$4,000 will be used to purchase much needed Math picture books for all divisions as well as resources supporting the various Reading Strategies. Thank you for continuously supporting literacy initiatives at our school.

FOREST OF READING CLUBS !!

The **Forest of Reading** Book Clubs will begin this month at St. Josephine Bakhita. All book selections are written and illustrated by Canadian authors and illustrators.

Students in Grades JK-2 will participate in the **Blue Spruce Reading Club**. They will have 10 books read to them and be able to vote for their favourite book in the April 2011.

Students in Grades 3-4 and Grades 5-6 will have an opportunity to join the **Silver Birch Reading Clubs**. They are required to read 5 out of the 10 selected books to be eligible to vote in the April 2011. Students may inquire about these Reading Clubs being run in our school library by asking the librarian or by visiting [www.accessola.com/reading](http://www.accessola.com/reading)

## EQAO PRIMARY AND JUNIOR ASSESSMENTS

Each student in Grades 3 and 6 in Ontario will be assessed in Reading, Writing and Math for a period of 3 days beginning Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 through Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Kindly avoid booking dental, doctor and other appointments during this period. If you have a child in either grade 3 or 6 you will receive specific communication and information regarding the Provincial Assessment just prior to the start of the testing.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES

### School Council By-Laws

During the last meeting, the School Council finalized its bylaws which govern its meetings and activities. The amended by-laws included the maximum number of Council Members, financial procedures and accountability, and Members' roles. The complete School Council Information Binder, including these bylaws, contact names, and meeting minutes is available in the main office. Meeting Minutes & Agendas are also posted on the school website.

### Expenditures

Council approved a \$4000 contribution to the school library, as well as a number of "Fun Thinker" workbooks for the Special Education Department.

## Popcorn Fridays & Charitable Donations

On behalf of our school, the School Council has sponsored a 10-year old boy named Foday Kamara in Sierra Leone. Further information will be sent home at a later date on how students can correspond with him. In addition, we will be also providing direct support in the form of school supplies to the Catholic school run by the Canossian Daughters of Charity in Sudan, the convent of St. Josephine Bakhita. Both of these charities are funded in large part by the School Council's "Popcorn Fridays"; we thank our parent community and hope you continue to support this worthwhile activity.

## HOMEWORK TIP

It is important that family members come to an agreement on the positive value of homework. Gaining this consensus sets the stage for a successful learning environment within the home. Setting aside the time and place to do the homework is essential. Remember the attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Piano/keyboard lessons

Private one on one  
Beginners from 5 years and up  
Reasonable rates  
Wanless/Hwy 10 area  
905-970-0402  
[alicepiano@rogers.com](mailto:alicepiano@rogers.com)

### Portico Pizzeria

Portico Pizzeria is offering students and families of St. Josephine Bakhita. 2 large pizza's 6 combined toppings \$17.99, pick up only. Catering special min. 10 people 25% off min. 20 people 40% off final price. Menu available in Stores. Portico Pizzeria is located at 10725 McLaughlin Rd. at Potter's Wheel. 905-495-3344.