



# 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 – APRIL 2010**

Principal  
**Fred Albi**  
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Vice-Principal  
**M. Miller**

School Council Chair  
**E. Belluomini**

School Council  
Vice Chair  
**A. Mustica**

Office Staff  
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**N. Martin**

Superintendent  
**G. Prajza**

Family of Schools  
**Brampton West**

**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 Campion**

Director of Education  
**John Kostoff**

Board Chairperson  
**Anna Abbruscato**



Congratulations to the St. Josephine Bakhita School Hockey Team on placing second at the Cassie Campbell second annual hockey tournament. After placing first in their round robin games, they lost to St. Angela Merici in a hard fought game.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I wish to thank our parents and the community for their support with all that is happening at St. Josephine Bakhita School. We continue to offer a variety of extra activities for our students. We believe that it is important to expose our students to as many options so that we better prepare them for their future. Having said that, we understand the financial costs that come with these requests. Please call me if you have any concerns.

The winter season has now come and gone and spring, the season of new life is with us. The students have received their second report card and parents and teachers have had another opportunity to discuss progress and next steps for growth. Please continue to encourage and praise your children whenever you can! Remember, it is easier to build a good self-esteem, than it is to repair a poor one.

During the month of April we also celebrate the Holy Triduum, which is Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. In celebrating Holy Week and Easter, we enter again into the wonder and mystery of what God has done for us. We rediscover the amazing truth of a peaceful God who seeks only to embrace humanity, to forgive sins and to transform us into the Risen One. Please celebrate this Holy season with your children by participating in the celebrations at St. Leonard Church.

Fred Albi  
Principal

## VIRTUES EDUCATION THEME FOR APRIL - LOVE

During the month of April, we celebrate the virtue of LOVE. God has given us many people in our lives to show us examples of LOVE. Our families, teachers, and friends show us their love every day. Love can be seen in the simplest acts of kindness, such as sharing a book, playing a game, or even by saying "thank you." We should always show our love for others because love is about seeing the good in people, even when they make us angry. Jesus is always with us and we should always try to remember His most important lesson, the lesson of love. With love, God wants us to serve and so see the goodness in everyone we meet.

A loving person.....

- Wants the best for others
- Is willing to make sacrifices for the good of others
- Learns from the heroic lives of saints and holy people
- Knows that we are all lovable
- Prays for others and cares about them

## EARTH MOVIE

On Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, our grade one to eight students will be attending the new movie "African Cats". This coincides well with Earth Day which falls on that same day.

## BUSSING FOR JUNIOR AND SENIOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

The research shows that it is important for children to begin their education as soon as possible. At St. Josephine Bakhita School, we are finding that students who do not attend our Junior and Senior Kindergarten programs are beginning grade one at a disadvantage, both in terms of behaviour and academics.

Therefore if you have children who are beginning either junior or senior kindergarten and you are having difficulties with transportation, please contact Mr. Albi.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

A reminder that we are now processing junior kindergarten registrations. If you have a child beginning junior kindergarten next year, please register them as soon as possible, by coming to the school office and getting a registration package. Please call if you have any questions.

## ARE YOU MOVING?

If you are possibly moving out of the St. Josephine Bakhita School area, we would appreciate knowing in advance. This information is extremely helpful to us in planning for the 2011-2012 school year.

## FOOD DAYS

Food Days this month include:

### Toonie Tuesday Pizza Days

Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Mr. Sub

Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Lunch Lady

Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Great Canadian Bagel

## NELSON MATHEMATICS TEXTBOOKS

All our grades have now received the *Nelson Mathematics* textbooks. Parents/guardians may find the following website helpful: [www.mathk8.nelson.com](http://www.mathk8.nelson.com)

Once in the website, choose your child's grade level and the unit being covered. In the Student Centre you will find, "Try it out questions" or you can go to the Parent Centre and select "Try it out for you and your child to work". Activities can be reset so you child can practice more than once.

## CONTINUOUS LATES/EXTENDED VACATIONS

We continue to be very concerned with the large number of students who are arriving at school late. School starts at 9:15 a.m. and students should be in their lines ready to enter the building at that time. Students arriving late are missing important learning opportunities and interrupting the learning of others.

## KISS AND RIDE

The kiss and ride program at St. Josephine Bakhita School continues to be a major 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.
- 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 closest to the front entrance and/or kindergarten yard. 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.

## EQAO PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENTS

All grade 3 and 6 students will again be participating in the provincial assessments scheduled to take place on May 31<sup>st</sup> through to June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. We ask that parents please avoid medical and dental appointments for your grade 3 and 6 children during this assessment period. One of the factors which will contribute to student success is consistent and uninterrupted attendance during the assessments. More specific information will be forthcoming just prior to the start of the assessment.

## PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

A reminder that Dufferin-Peel CDSB has a PED policy. Students are asked to leave all electronic games, cell phones, iPods, walkmans, etc, at home. The school will not be responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Parents will be notified to pick up their child's electronic device after the first occurrence.

## MEDICATION

Students who must bring medication to school, or who must take regular medication during the school hours, require a form, "Request for Storage and Distribution of Prescribed Medications", to be filled out and signed by a parent/guardian and the physician. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to monitor the quantity of medication stored by the school.

## INTERNET CONCERNS

The internet can be a wonderful tool which offers a vast resource. When used responsibly, it can be an asset as a research and communication tool. When used irresponsibly, however, it can be both harmful and dangerous.

For many of our students, a portion of their social world has moved online. The internet is often used as a tool for positioning themselves within their peer group. Boundaries are often tested in this environment, and lines are more readily crossed. Student communication online should be closely supervised by an adult. Students are aware that they are to be courteous and respectful in their messages to others. Profane, obscene or any other offensive language is inappropriate. As well students must never post pictures online. Many of our students are accessing social networking sites such as *Facebook*, and yet this site is for young adults 18 years and older. Once messages or pictures are posted and accessed by 'friends', it can be accessed as well by the related 'friends' and so on. At this point, it is virtually impossible to delete or retrieve a message/picture since all viewers (friends and their connected friends and so on) must delete as well.

We ask you as parents/guardians to get involved and learn what your child is doing online.

- Ensure the computer is in a central, common visible location, i.e. kitchen, family room
- Use filtering software
- Limit usage and supervise your child while online
- Check the websites your child visits by reviewing his/her history files
- View your child's instant messaging logs (i.e. Live Messenger, Yahoo!)
- Check to see that your child's program is set up so that no one can speak to him/her without permission
- Learn how to adjust/increase privacy settings
- Monitor webcam use and any posting or exchanging of pictures online
- Know your child's login information, email address, username or character names being used

For more information regarding Internet Safety, visit these websites:

[www.kidsintheknow.ca](http://www.kidsintheknow.ca)  
[www.cybertip.ca](http://www.cybertip.ca)  
[www.mediaawareness.ca](http://www.mediaawareness.ca)  
[www.nsteens.org](http://www.nsteens.org)  
[www.peelpolice.on.ca](http://www.peelpolice.on.ca)  
[www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)

## ONTARIO EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE BANK

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce that once again it will be participating in the Ontario Educational Resource Bank. This website allows teachers, students, and parents to access educational resources for Grades K-12 in all subject areas.

There are thousands of resources, including units, lesson plans, activities, maps, and interactive learning resources, which are:

- created by teachers for teachers, students and parents
- offered in convenient formats including Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, PDF, and Flash.
- aligned with the Ontario curriculum.
- searchable by grade, course/subject, strand, overall expectations, learning style, author, file format, and keyword.
- derived from and designed for both the Public and Catholic systems.
- easy to access and use.
- downloadable and modifiable.

To access this site, visit the website [www.ontario.ca/elearning](http://www.ontario.ca/elearning). Scroll down to the bottom and you will find the link to the Ontario Educational Resource Bank. For students and parents in Dufferin-Peel, the userid is *dpcdsstudent* and the password is *oerbs*. Once you are logged in, read the terms of use, and click on *I Agree*. You will be directed to a page where you can perform searches for resources.

Using a *Simple Search*, you can enter a topic to find resources. You can filter the resources by file type, author, or learning style. For example, if you only want interactive animated resources, you can filter by *Shockwave-Flash*. Using a *Browse by Curriculum Search*, you can search by grade, course, strand, and even the specific expectation!

For more information about the OERB Resources., contact:

*Sam Mercurio*  
*e-Learning Contact for the*  
*Homework Help Initiative and OERB Resources*  
905-890-0708 ext 24517

## MATH HOMEWORK HELP PILOT PROJECT

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce that once again it will be participating in the Math Homework Help pilot project. This is the second year that the students in our Board will have access to live, interactive

online math help through the expansion of a pilot project funded by the Ministry of Education. [Homework Help](#) is free, real-time math tutoring by certified Ontario teachers.

This project has now expanded to 31 English-Language Boards across the Province of Ontario, and the project's goal remains to provide students in grades 7 to 10 with an after-hours online support in Mathematics.

Students can log in from Sunday to Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for 20 hours a week of individualized confidential math tutoring. Through a whiteboard, typing and audio tools, tutors provide on-the-spot interactive math support. Students can learn from the questions posed by their peers and ask their own questions as well.

If they can't wait until the discussion rooms open, videos of best tutorials and commonly asked questions are available anytime. Other online math resources include math games and a virtual locker, where students can save their work.

To register for the site, visit the website [www.ontario.ca/homeworkhelp](http://www.ontario.ca/homeworkhelp). Scroll down and you will find the link to the Homework Help Line. Students will need their OEN number to register. This number is different from their student number, and can be obtained from their school.

For more information about the HOMEWORK HELP PILOT PROJECT, contact:

*Sam Mercurio*  
*e-Learning Contact for the*  
*Homework Help Initiative and OERB Resources*  
905-890-0708 ext 24517

## NEW ATTENDANCE LINE PRESS OPTION #1

We would like to inform you that the office telephone system is set up with two options. When you are calling in for attendance please pick option #1 and leave a message. If you wish to speak to a member of staff or speak to someone in the office, please press "0". We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

## GRADE 8 GRADUATION

Please note that due to a conflict with St. Edmund Campion's graduation being on the same day as our grade eight graduation, our grade 8 graduation will now take place on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in the school gym at 6:30 p.m.

## SENIOR KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

Please note that our Senior Kindergarten Graduation will take place on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the school gym.