



OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE

GROWING IN GOD'S LOVING CARE



December 2011 Newsletter

December

2011

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Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of your love
and our minds are searching for the light of
your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Savior
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.
Amen

Winter Weather Reminders

Our winter season is fast approaching! Please assist us in encouraging your children to dress appropriately for the cold weather. When on yard supervision, teachers monitor if children are wearing their boots, hats, gloves and scarves. We want our students to feel comfortable outdoors and not get chilled because of inappropriate winter dress. Except under unusual conditions, students will go outside during recess and lunch hour. The outdoor break allows for fresh air and exercise. Health officials indicate that the fresh air is good for children, not harmful, as long as students are dressed properly.

Helping Hands Update

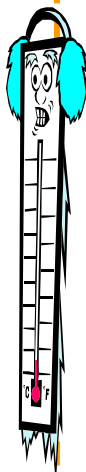
The Our Lady of Providence School community is once again supporting the St. Marguerite D'Youville Parish Helping Hands initiative. Through your support, we will be adopting ten families within the Parish boundaries. Through your support, we will be providing food and Christmas presents for these families at Christmas. Thank you to all the families who have signed up to purchase a gift or stuff a stocking for a child. We had an overwhelming response and all gifts and stockings have been assigned. Families are still encouraged to send in food for our food drive and Spare Change/ Canadian Tire Money for our collection. The evening devoted to wrapping and distributing the gifts and foods will be Tuesday, December 20, beginning at 7:00 pm.. All are welcome.



Winter Preparedness

Please listen to weather reports and ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Unfortunately, some of our children are coming to school feeling sick and with fevers. We do not have the facilities to care for sick children, and sick children are not capable of concentrating on learning. Therefore, if your child complains of a sore stomach, sore throat or aches and pains, please do not send him/her to school. It is harmful to the health of your child and the rest of the school population. All children who come to school are expected to participate in outdoor recreation at recesses. Generally speaking, if a child is well enough to come to school he/she is well enough to go outside at recesses and lunch hour. Exceptions may be made when a doctor's letter accompanies a request.

For our younger students, it would be helpful if parents were to label items of clothing with their child's name, so that each person 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. Labeled 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.



Our Monthly Virtues Winners are listed below. Each month at assemblies, recognize two students from each class and give them a prize.

Teacher	Faith	Empathy	Conscience
Ceolin	Baraka & Tyler	Joshua & Samuel	Valentino & Ameya
McCann	Christian & Victoria	Jessica & Kelly	Deyora & Hayden
Rudzik	Britney & Kyle	Eva & Daniel	Lela & David
De Sario	Zane & Tiore	Caitlin & Usman	Wevalven & Lisa
Inserra	Ricky & Olivia	Eileen & Moses	Amiaya & Enrico
Quiaoit-Lee	Lilyan & Gian Luca	Elisabeth & Daniel	Alessia & Sean
Sodhi	Peter & Azzan	Stefanie & Gabriella	Anne & Vanessa
Lowther	Jasmine & Kira	Raliat & Madison	Emilia & Alex
Goetz	Lydia & Mikayla	Maureen & Mariana	Ciara & Deanna
Boni	Ebenezer & Ose	Camille & Julia	Jaiden & Anastasia
Reda	Aiden & Emily	Erica & Vivian	Fayokunda & Ryan
Colagiovanni	Isabella & Jameal	Matthew & Bianca	Gabrielle & Dylan
Pichur	Robyn & Delon	Elijah & Elizabeth	Isabelle & Rachel
Noecker	Marissa & Vincent	Camila & Nicholas	Rissaile & Carter
Garde	Aaron & Xavier	Erick & Matheo	Ashley & Brooke
Macri	Cassandra & Cole	Julian & Anizia	Joey & William
Haslam	Jonathan & Tianna	Hailey & Cameron	Gabor & Osasu
Larocque	Rebecca & Etinosa	Alyssa & Lucas	Cierra & Victoria
De Maria	Kelly & Isabella	Jade & Anthony	Kiara & Laura
Farhat	Viran & Roberta	Nicholas & Stephanie	Sara & Roman
Melo	Liana & Jordan	Maria Jose & Armando	Melanie & Daniella

PEOPLE OF HOPE...

- EXPECT THE BEST TO HAPPEN FOR EVERYONE
- HOLD ON TO THEIR DREAMS
- ALWAYS COUNT ON GOD TO HELP THEM 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 OWN GOALS

HOPE



Food Allergy Awareness Continues

Please continue to be aware of the food your child comes to school with every day. Food allergies can create a medical crisis with tragic incomes a possibility. There are a number of food allergies that present risk to students. Do you know the food allergies of students in your children's class? If not, ask for this information from your child's teacher.

Sporting Items.

The Junior Boys and Girls competed at a mini-tournament, Thursday, November 24th. Both teams competed very well, demonstrating a competitive nature at the same time as having an outstanding time doing it. In the end, the girl's team placed second and the boy's team finished the day winning their tournament. They placed first at the Family of Schools tournament, Friday, December 2nd., 2011, and will be competing at the Board Finals Tuesday, December 6. Good luck boys.

The Grade 6 Cross Country team was able to capture a second place finish at the recent Board Finals. This is an outstanding accomplishment, especially considering that the boys placed second in Grade 5 as well.



EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION MEETING

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:

School: St. Jean Brebeuf

Address: 63 Glenforest Road, Brampton

ON, L6S 1L8 905-791-8529

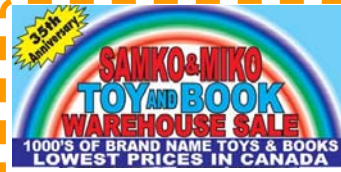
Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm



Christmas Concerts

This year, Our Lady of Providence will be having a Christmas Concert the evening of December 19th. The grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 classes, as well as the Cheerleading Team will be presenting their talents in this Christmas Concert. The festivities begin at 7 pm.. We are hoping to see everyone bring in a food item or cash donation in support of Helping Hands.



Fundraising

The Parent Council has arranged shopping days at Samko and Miko in time for Christmas shopping. Make purchases from November 29th to December 11th. and a portion of sales go back to OLOP.

FRENCH

IMMERSION

INFORMATION

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

435 Rutherford Road North, Brampton, ON

Date:

Tuesday,

January 10, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm.

The deadline for submission of applications

Library News

This past month, students in kindergarten went to the Rose Theatre to see a show dramatizing the books "Goodnight Moon" and "The Runaway Bunny". We spent the month reading and preparing in the library.

Winter Book Care

A reminder to everyone that winter is here and library books need to be kept dry and safe. All year we have been adding new books to our collection and we'd like to keep those books in circulation for as long as possible. Please be kind to our books and make sure they do not drag in the snow or drink your child's drink

(the one that was in their lunch).

Forest of Reading Book Clubs

We are beginning to collect names of students interested in participating in the Ontario-wide Red Maple, Silver Birch and Silver Birch Express Reading Awards Programs for the year 2012. This has been a very well attended program in the past and we hope that your child will have an opportunity to join us this year. Students selected to be part of these reading groups will be bringing home the designated titles in December with book club meetings to start in January. The Blue Spruce Reading Award will be done during class time with the students in kindergarten through grade 3.

Freeze DNA

Freeze DNA is coming to OLOP in early December to present to

present to students in grades 3 through 6. Freeze DNA has taught over 500,000 students across Canada the fundamentals of drawing Comic Art through their 45 minute Interactive Workshops which started in 2003, children and youths have the opportunity to draw basic illustrations, animals, and facial expressions and participate in a questions and answer period at the end of the workshop.



French Immersion Information Evenings

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will hold a series of public information meetings in Mississauga and Brampton for parents and guardians interested in enrolling their children in the board's *French Immersion Program* for the 2012-13 school year. The information sessions are intended to provide parents and guardians with an overview of the *French Immersion Program*, the criteria for admittance, and changes that can be expected from the regular program.

French Immersion Sites	Session Location	Date and Time
Our Lady of Providence St. Angela Merici St. Joachim	St. Joachim	Tuesday January 10, 2012 7:00 p.m.
Divine Mercy St. Elizabeth Seton St. Margaret of Scotland	St. Margaret of Scotland	Wednesday January 11, 2012 7:00 p.m.
St. Gertrude St. Pio of Pietrelcina	St. Gertrude	Thursday January 12, 2012 7:00 p.m.

Late Arrivals an Epidemic



The number of late students arriving for school each day continues to be a concern at Our Lady of Providence. We have made every effort to turn this situation around, but continue to ask for the support of the parents and guardians of the students of Our Lady of Providence.

Just how much of a problem does Our Lady of Providence have? Just let's say that the office staff is considering having in-house physiotherapy as a result of the repetitive motion of filling out late slips. All jesting aside, there are more bad days than good in terms of the backlog of students waiting for late slips, a required item to gain access to the classroom. The data tells the story. To date, the total number of students with more than 5 lates since September 6, 2011 is 101. This number represents 18% of our school population coming to school late on at least 5 occasions. The grade distribution of these students is as follows on the Table 1:

Table 1 suggest that the responsibility for arriving late to school is shared among parents/guardians and students themselves,

given that we would likely

Table 1: Distribution of Students Arriving Late On More Than 5 Occasions.

Kindergarten	6 students
Grade One	11 students
Grade Two	16 students
Grade Three	12 students
Grade Four	7 students
Grade Five	12 students
Grade Six	12 students
Grade Seven	8 students
Grade Eight	17 students
Total	101students

see the younger students brought to school and the older students getting to school on their own.

The total number of lates, again only students with five or more late arrivals are part of this data, is 952 lates. If each child who is late arrives in their classroom 15 minutes after classes begin, that works out to approximately 238 hours of lost instructional time. This 238 hours may also be viewed as 43 days of lost instructional time. The impact of this is felt even further when you consider that instruction by Planning Time or French teachers is not a something that will ever be re-taught by the Planning Time or French

teacher, as they have other classes scheduled throughout the remainder of their day.

There may be a perception that being late for school is only a minor issue. I suggest that it indicates, or leads to, more significant and longer lasting impacts to your child's education. This culture of lateness may also become a common thread evidenced in the learning skills of your child. These learning skills are the building blocks that form the foundation of how students, and indeed adults, approach the tasks required in order to be successful at school, work, and personal life. The work habits of responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation are all called into question when someone chronically arrives late for school or work. Let's work together to turn this ongoing issue around. Thank you for your support.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

September
295 lates
155 different students
In 14 days

October
390 lates
183 different students in 20 days

November
693 lates
249 different students in 21 days

December
?



Milk Bags for Haiti

Want to keep **plastic out of our landfills**? Want to **help people in need**? Do I have a deal for you.

An Ontario-wide network of more than 70 small groups works together to make bed mats or tote bags out of the **recycled milk bags**. The groups collect the bags, cut them into strips and crochet them. They also run workshops to teach people the steps.

Canadian families may recycle while providing sanitary and comfortable sleeping mats for Haitians.

The plastic bag which holds our

Canadian families may recycle while providing sanitary and comfortable sleeping mats for Haitians.

The plastic bag which holds our milk bags takes approximately 15 years to breakdown in landfill sites. Volunteers around Ontario have been cutting these bags into one inch wide loops, tying them together into long 'yarn' and crocheting them into very useful sleeping mats for Haiti. Biting insects and poisonous spiders do not like the plastic, and they do not hide in it. The mats can be hung up to air in the day time, washed in the

river when dirty, and used almost endlessly. These mats are highly useful. By recycling a by-product of our milk purchases, instead of thoughtlessly tossing it in the garbage, we can give a small measure of comfort to hurting people who would otherwise sleep on the ground. Please consider donating your used milk bags to this initiative. To assist in this effort on an ongoing basis, Mrs. Zannona will be delivering our collected milk bags to her Church, where they will crochet them into wonderful mats. The recycled milk bag mats are a tremendous blessing. Thank you for your kind and thoughtful donations.

Lunch Milk Program Beginning

Our Lady of Providence has started a Milk Program. We will be selling chocolate (1%) and white milk (2%) for \$1.00. Milk will be sold at lunch recess from 11:45 to 12:05. This will be the only time during the day that a student will be able to purchase milk. We will try this initiative for the month of December and determine the demand for the Milk Program. If you want your child to purchase milk, just send a loonie (\$1.00) with your child and they can make their desired purchase from 11:45-12:05 that day. Funds generated from the Milk Program will go towards supporting various student activities throughout the school.



Girl's Night In a Huge Success!

Girls Night In is an event that runs in many of our high schools. But this year, we decided to run one at OLOP. The vision for Girls Night In is all about young girls feeling empowered. In today's society, the portrayal of young women is not usually a flattering one. Many girls experience a number of issues and face many challenges. Girls Night In focuses on empowering girls to have a voice and celebrate ourselves as individuals and yet collectively as a sisterhood.

Our grade 7 and 8 girls were invited to attend an action packed, fun filled evening that would enable them to get to know each other and themselves more intimately. More than 1/2 of our intermediate girls attended. We first gathered in our chapel for liturgy, setting a tone for the evening. Then the girls got to know each other better through some awesome ice breaker games. We had a 40 minutes session of yoga/pilates...oh boy, that hurt! The girls were then separated into 2 groups - each group received manicures and a presentation from our Social Worker on body image and self esteem. Afterwards, we gathered as a community of young women to enjoy an incredible meal. Next we listened to a presentation in the gym about healthy living - the value of healthy eating and physical activity. Our NPU officer joined us later on to discuss safety tips on the various social networking sites. We then got up to do some really fun cooperative games and learned how working as a team really benefits us all. Time for dessert! We had some incredible homemade apple crisp and ice cream...yummy! We then took some time for some quiet reflection and journal work, where one teacher led some intimate discussions with a small group of girls. Finally we closed our evening back in the chapel with prayer at which time a special token gift was given to each girl. It was then time to settle down and get ready for bed. We watched 2 movies in hopes that the girls would sleep but that didn't happen - until 4:30 AM. Wake up call was about 7 am, with breakfast and an art activity that affirmed for each girl that they are special.

The feedback from the girls was pretty much the same " Can we do this again?" Our hopes are that we will!

JK/SK Registration 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 JK, SK or Full Day Kindergarten in September 2012. The information session will be held at the **Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board -- Catholic Education Centre, Room 301 on January 17, 2012 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are also reminded to register their child at our school office. Official Registration Dates are February 6, 8, 9 and 10, 2012. Snow Date is February 7, 2012.*



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Junior, Senior Kindergarten for the 2012-13 school year, will take place at all Catholic elementary schools in Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon, Bolton and Orangeville 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.

Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Full-Day Kindergarten – Children must be 4 or 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

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

- proof of age (Birth Certificate)
- original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian) or baptismal certificate from an Eastern Church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome. *If the child has not been baptized, and the parent/guardian is a baptized Roman Catholic or is baptized from an Eastern Church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome, the parent/guardian must bring their own baptismal certificate.*
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian citizenship (Birth Certificate or Passport) or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address (tax bill, utility bill, bank statement)

**All documentation must be submitted in English.*

For more information about registering your child, contact your local Catholic school or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24512.

Virtue Corner

Our Virtue for the month of December is hope. **God helps us to keep on working for a more peaceful world even when we feel discouraged.**

A hopeful person is...

- inspired and inspires others
- optimistic
- one who seeks good things from life
- one who sees the good in the world
-

Sometimes in life bad things happen to us that we cannot explain. During these times we tend to get upset at God for putting us through so much pain. We forget God is always there for us and He does not want to hurt us. When you feel sad and alone, remember to never lose HOPE. Pray to Jesus and things will get better.



Important Dates for December-January.

Dec. 15 Kindergarten Christmas Concert during day

Dec. 19 Christmas Concert 7 pm. Gr. 1-5

Dec. 20 Advent Mass at school 1:00 p.m.

Dec. 20 Helping Hands wrap night and delivery 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 26 Christmas Holiday Begins

Jan. 16 **P.A. Day no school for students**

Jan. 31 First Term Report Cards Go Home.