



# St. Margaret of Scotland School

2266 Council Ring Rd.

Mississauga, On

L5L 1c1

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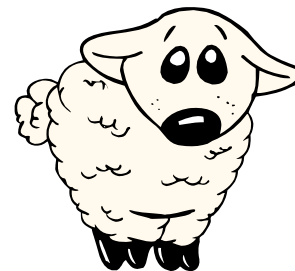
Principal: M. Coburn Vice Principal: B. Diogo Head Secretary: D. Langley

## March Newsletter



### Prayer

O God of love, your son Jesus led us back to you through his life, death, resurrection and ascension into glory. His actions spoke more loudly than words ever could. As we go about our daily chores grant us self-discipline, strength and guidance. May our actions reflect the belief that we profess Jesus Christ is Lord. We ask you this through Jesus your Son in unity with the Holy Spirit. Amen



### Virtues Program

During the month of March we celebrate the virtue of kindness. Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God thus every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ. Kindness can only be seen through actions. We must show that we are kind by our words and actions.

A kind person:

- Says nice things about others so they feel good about themselves
- Sticks up for other people who are picked on or who need help
- Refuses to join others who are insulting, intimidating, mean or hurtful

Watches and looks for ways to help those in need.

Through prayer and concentration we can get better at showing kindness to everyone that we meet.

### Website

Keep up to date with school and board events by connecting to our website. Simply enter <http://w3.dpcdsb.org/cec> which will connect you to our Board's website. To locate St. Margaret of Scotland website go to the "Connect to a School Website" section, scroll down in the Elementary Schools section until you find St. Margaret of Scotland, click to highlight and then click on "Go". You will then find yourself at our website. As you navigate the site you will find our newsletters, school events, general information as well as connections to other websites that may be of interest.



## Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board 905-890-1221

Director of Education: J. Kostoff Superintendent: N. Milanetti Associate Directors: R. Borrelli, J. Hrajnik

Trustee, Wards 2 & 8  
Sharon Hobin  
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Parish, St. Francis of Assisi  
Pastor: Fr. J. Grima  
905-822-8132

### First Communion

Our grade two students will be receiving their first Holy Communion on Saturday April 25, 2 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church. A meeting for all parents who wished their child to receive the sacrament took place at St. Francis of Assisi Parish on an earlier date. If you were unable to attend this meeting it is important for you to contact the parish as registration is required prior to your child receiving the sacrament. St. Francis of Assisi Parish phone number is 905-822-8132. We ask that you remember these students and their families as they continue on their journey of faith.



### March Break

The March Break runs from Monday, March 16-Friday, March 20 inclusive. Classes resume on Monday, March 23 at 8:45 a.m.

### School Lockdown Procedure

Lockdown Procedures are initiated should an emergency exist on school property or in the surrounding neighbourhood. Part of the process is to practice the "Lockdown Procedure" just as we practice our Emergency Evacuation procedure. It is a policy in Dufferin Peel C.D.S.B. that all of its schools conduct a "Lockdown Procedure" drill twice a year.

Students and staff have been instructed that when they hear the announcement "INITIATE LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES" over the public address system, followed by the "repeated ringing of the school bell", all staff and students will take the following action:

- A) all students and staff inside the building should go to the nearest room, close and lock the door if possible
- B) all students and staff once in the room should lay on the floor away from doors and windows;
- C) all students and staff in the room are to remain on the floor until further instructions are provided;
- D) all students and staff who are outside of the building, are to quickly move as far away from the building as possible and remain there until further instructions are provided.

Our drill of this procedure will be conducted with as much sensitivity as possible in order not to cause undue concern with students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### Heightened Risk Procedures

Heightened Risk is identified as an incident that is brought to the attention of the principal or designate, such as a police investigation in the area or person/s in a vehicle approaching students near the school, that may require actions that are prudent but less than the actions required as described above in the "Lockdown Procedures". These Heightened Risk situations may require increased supervision, locking of exterior doors, and/or indoor lunch and recesses, or other actions deemed necessary by the principal or designate.

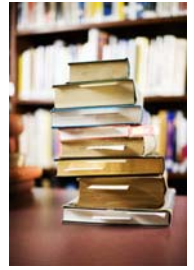
**These increased security measures are NOT referred to as "Lockdown Procedures".**

### Emergency Evacuation

In the event of an emergency evacuation, upon hearing the fire alarm teachers take their students in an orderly fashion out of the school and line up in designated areas. At this time students line up silently as the teacher takes a roll call. Once done teacher will indicate if all are accounted for. During such events, everyone in the school will leave immediately without taking the time to put on any outdoor clothing. (This is why we ask that students have indoor shoes to wear at school.)

### Mississauga Library News

The Library is a great place to spend March Break, as a teacher or a student. Find out about March Break programs, spring storytime programs, database access from home for elementary school students and much more.



The Library has a continued interest in increasing communication and would encourage you to share this newsletter with other staff in your school and to promote the relevant information to parents by including certain paragraphs in your school newsletter.

You can find the Mississauga Library System eNewsletter by clicking on the link below or cutting and pasting the link into your URL box: [http://www.supportlibrary.com/nl/users/mississauga/web/nl\\_22.html](http://www.supportlibrary.com/nl/users/mississauga/web/nl_22.html)

Here are some of the exciting events happening at the South Common Branch Library during March Break:

1. Monday March 16th from 2-3 pm, Literacy Begins...with Plasticine!, for ages 3Y-6Y (must be accompanied by an adult). This is a free program.
2. Tuesday March 17th from 11 am - 12:30 pm, Play Wii, for ages 7Y+. This is a free program. Please register at the library.
3. Tuesday March 17th from 2-3 pm, Learn to Draw Manga, for ages 8Y+. This is a free program. Please register at the library.
4. Wednesday March 18th from 2-3 pm, Mad Science of Toys Workshop, for ages 6Y-12Y. Cost for this program is \$4.00.
5. Thursday March 19th from 10:30 - 11:00 am, Family Story time, for all ages. This program is free.
6. Thursday March 19th from 2-3 pm, Magician Scott Dietrich, for ages 4Y+. Cost for this program is \$3.00.
7. Friday March 20th from 2-2:30 pm, Drop-in Pyjama Story time, for all ages. This program is free. Wear your P.Js!

Come see our Forest of Reading display and enter our Egyptology contest.

Denis Frias

Librarian, South Common Library  
Mississauga Library System

### School Driveway

At dismissal time it is important that parents not leave their cars unattended in the driveway in front of the school. In the event that Emergency vehicles must attend the school they are unable to gain access if parents are not present to move their cars if deemed necessary.



### JK/SK 2009-2010 Registration

While registration for Junior /Senior Kindergarten took place Feb. 23- Feb. 27, we will continue to process new registrations throughout this school year. If you know of someone who missed these dates please have them call our school's office and we will arrange for the forms to be completed. Please note that if your child is enrolled in the JK program here at St. Margaret we automatically register your child in SK and no further action is required on the your part.

## ShareLife Easter Egg Hunt

On April 3rd St. Margaret of Scotland will be holding a school wide Easter Egg Hunt. All money collected will go to ShareLife.

We are requesting a \$2.00 per child or \$5.00 per family donation to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt. Eggs will be hidden around the school as well in the school yard. Each grade level will be competing against other classes to retrieve the most eggs. After the allotted time the class with the most eggs will win the competition.



### *A message from the Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B.* **System Survey indicates that Catholic education is strong in Dufferin-Peel schools**

Forty years have elapsed since the amalgamation of eight local Catholic school boards into a single school district that would provide Catholic education to children and families in the Region of Peel and Dufferin County. Over these four decades, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has grown from twenty-seven Catholic elementary schools, in 1969, to one of the province's largest school districts serving approximately 88,000 students in 122 elementary and 23 secondary schools located throughout Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon and Orangeville. With the board's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary approaching, the Director of Education and Board of Trustees initiated a system review process intended to allow for consultation with the wider Catholic community in Peel and Dufferin on matters related to the board's strengths, challenges, and recommended areas of focus over the next three to five years.

Consisting primarily of surveys and small group meetings, the outcome of this consultative process was intended to provide trustees and senior management in Dufferin-Peel with a better understanding of the interests, concerns and accolades identified by local parents, Catholic school council members, pastors, senior students and recent graduates, unions, and associations. Equipped with the findings from this system review process, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board can set out in an informed manner on the journey of shaping and building its future.

The results are in and we were gratified to see that there is an overwhelming consensus that our Catholic schools are viewed as distinctly Catholic, safe, healthy, clean and educationally sound places to learn, grow in faith and prepare for post secondary education or the workplace.

Among the findings:

- Catholicity is a strength of this school board and that the Catholic faith is clearly demonstrated in local school communities.
- Dufferin-Peel schools are viewed as a distinct alternative to local public schools.
- Satisfaction with the overall quality of Catholic education in Dufferin-Peel schools is very high.

- Continued funding, vitality and relevance of Catholic education in Ontario is seen as a concern.
- Strong support for the provision and funding of quality core programs on a board-wide basis, rather than support for the funding of specialty programs at the expense of local school programming.
- Support for the board to continue to manage its resources responsibly, with transparency and accountability of financial reporting.
- Calls for increased funding for programs such as special education and/or English Language Learner needs.
- High levels of satisfaction with the safety and cleanliness of schools.
- Dufferin-Peel Catholic schools enhance the character development of students.
- Satisfaction with the level of extra curricular activities, program variety and transportation.

For more information on the Strategic System Review, please contact the school office or call the Communications & Community Relations Department at (905) 890-0708, ext. 24278.

### **Internet Safety Tips for Parents**

Get involved! Learn and follow what your children are doing online.

Use a filtering software to protect your child from potentially harmful sites and programs.

Have computers in common rooms where they can be easily supervised.

Ensure the games your child is playing are appropriate for their age group.

Assist your child with creating usernames and passwords that aren't easily identifiable.

Limit the amount of time your child spends online.

Your child should NOT be communicating in online chat rooms. A supervised and regulated MSN Messenger account is acceptable.

Explain to your child that pictures should not be taken and/or received online.

Encourage and enjoy family-fun websites like pbskids.org, ytv.com, tvokids.com, and disney.go.com which contain useful information and fun games.

Inform your children about the negative effects an online profile (like a Facebook profile) can have on their life. Check out nsteens.org for a cool and informative video regarding profile penalty.

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)

(prepared by the DPCDSB Communications and Community Relations Department)



### School Council Corner

Our QSP Fall Fundraiser was very successful this year. Thanks to your support we exceeded last year's total. The usual waiting time is generally 12-16 weeks and most subscriptions should have been received by this time. Please call QSP at 1 800 667-2536 if you have questions. Once again thank you to all who participated.

Our Movie Night, featuring Kung Fu Panda on February 20th, was very successful with 125 attending and it was great to see so many families having such a wonderful time. In addition to watching the movie, many enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn and drinks. Congratulations to our 9 winners who took home some great door prizes.

Our next Movie Night will be on Friday May 8. We are planning a very special theme for the night so mark the date on your calendar as you will not want to miss the festivities. More information will be included in the April newsletter.

### Spring Forward

Please remember that we begin Daylight Saving Time on the second Sunday of March. We set our clocks one hour forward "Spring forward" at 2 a.m. Sunday March 8, 2009.



### Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

An easy way to remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors is to change them when you change your clocks for Daylight Saving Time.

Every six months make it a habit to:

- Replace batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Prepare or restock an emergency supply kit for your home.
- Prepare or restock an emergency supply kit for your vehicle.
- Check home, yard and shed for hazardous materials and carefully discard of any that are outdated, no longer used, or in poor condition.
- Check and discard expired medications.

### Upcoming Events

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Mar. 8     | Daylight Saving Time                         |
| Mar. 16-20 | March Break                                  |
| Mar. 24    | Report Cards arrive home                     |
| Mar. 26    | Parent/Student/Teacher interview evening     |
| Mar. 30    | Early Release Day                            |
| Mar. 31    | Gr. 2 Reconciliation                         |
| Apr. 1     | Lenten Mass here at school 1:15 p.m.         |
| Apr. 6-12  | Holy Week                                    |
| Apr. 10    | Good Friday (no school)                      |
| Apr. 13    | Easter Monday (no school)                    |
| Apr. 25    | First Communion<br>2 p.m. St. Francis Church |
| Apr. 29    | Scottish Night                               |

