



# St. Jerome Journal

September 2009

## To Welcome You

In order to welcome you, to prepare our earth, to believe in you, great Lord,  
Nothing extraordinary need be done.

I need only a heart that is pure and free of deception;  
I need only have an attitude that is kind and free of malice;  
I need only put on my lips a smile and words of joy;  
I need only open my hands in order to give and share;  
I need only be attentive and faithful to your Word;  
I need only love, without keeping track of my kindness.



I need only listen to your call, Lord, and change my life.  
You may come, Lord: the earth and its peoples are changing the colours of life for you.

Gospel Prayers by C. Singer

## Welcome Back!

The staff at St. Jerome Catholic School extend a very warm welcome to all the new families and to those returning to St. Jerome this year. We trust that over the summer you had the opportunity to rest, relax and to enjoy peaceful times with family and friends.

Once again we extend a special welcome to our Junior Kindergarten students who begin school for the first time and to all the new families joining our Catholic community. We also welcome Mrs. Cathy Saytar as the new Superintendent of the Mississauga South Family of Schools. We look forward to greeting her during her visits to the school.

This week we begin a new academic year full of ambition and hope. As we begin our new year, let us be reminded that God gives us each day as a gift...and He encourages us to untie the ribbons.

We are on the web: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/JEROM>

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**790 Paisley Blvd. W.  
Mississauga, ON  
L5C 3P5  
905 273 3836**

**Brenda LeClair,**  
Principal

**Catherine Bowering,**  
Secretary

**Cathy Saytar ,**  
Superintendent  
905 890 0708

**Bruno Iannicca,**  
Trustee  
905 270 0536

**Anna Gulbinski,**  
School Council Chair

**Fr. Joyson Pottackal,**  
Pastor

**St. Martin of Tours Church  
905 279 5742**

Living and Learning in Faith

## Very Important Classroom Information

Below is our current school organization for opening day, September 8, 2009. This organization is based on projected enrolment established through the School Board. This year, through provincial funding, the government is capping primary classes (JK–3) at 20 students per class and junior (4–6) classes at 25. Schools must be accountable to this guideline. It is understood that this Ministry initiative will result in more combined grade classes, with a reduced student-teacher ratio.

Based on enrolments within our boundaries during the first and second weeks of September, we may need to reorganize the classes as you see them below. Therefore, please note that your child's class is not final until after reorganization occurs. If reorganization is necessary, it will take place during the Professional Activity Day scheduled for September 18, 2009. If your child's placement or teacher changes, you will be notified as soon as the information is available.

**Primary Division:** JK am/JK/SK pm—A. Vukosa; SK am—L. Vermeiren; Grade 1—L. Sowa; Grade 1/2—D. Ward; Grade 2—S. Lavorato; Grade 3—R. Malatesta

**Junior Division:** Grade 4—J. Van De Wiele-Kimura; Grade 4/5—M. Malfara; Grade 5/6—H. Arruda; Grade 5/6 Gifted—K. Read; Grade 6/7—R. Webster

**Intermediate Division:** Grade 6/7—R. Webster; Grade 7/8—M. Peresan; Grade 7/8 Gifted—C. Bull; Grade 8—R. Murphy

**FSL:** C. Alcasid and S. Choy

**Resource Teachers:** M.J. Borg; H. Srutwa

**Planning Time:** C. Alcasid, D. Arango, M.J. Borg, H. Srutwa, J. Cugliari

**Library:** L. Vermeiren

**Support Staff:** ERW—I. Andriano; CYW—D. Murphy; It. Teacher for Deaf/Hard of Hearing—C. Scattergood; Special Assignment Teacher—T. Tidy-O'Brien

**Secretary:** C. Bowering

**Custodians:** M. Zappia (Head), N. Sankari (Night); **Cleaner:** M. Henriques

**Principal:** B. LeClair

## Anaphylactic Shock—Classroom Snacks

We felt that all parents would like to be aware that there are several students in our school with a severe life-threatening food allergy to peanuts and nuts. This is a medical condition that can result in death within minutes of exposure. Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, please send foods with your child's lunch that are

free from nuts/nut products.



Further to this, as part of "Sabrina's Law", we are no longer permitted to allow treats for sharing with other students. On special occasions (Halloween, Christmas)

teachers will advise students what foods they can bring for their **own** consumption. To acknowledge your child's birthday, if you would like to send something, items such as pencils or "dollar store treasures" that are not edible would be appropriate. Thank you for your consideration and co-operation in making our classrooms safer for students.



## School Safety—Reminder



Parents are welcomed to the school throughout the year, however, for the safety of all children, parents and visitors **must use only the front door for entry and must sign in at the office and receive a visitor's sticker each and every time** you visit the building. Visitors are not entitled to go to the classrooms as this is a disruption to

student programming. Since the hallways are busy during pick up times, siblings and parents are asked to arrange with your child, a meeting place **outside** of the school. Messages and deliveries (keys, lunches, etc.) are handled through the office. **Please remember: to most students in the school, you are a stranger.**

We are on the web: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/JEROM>

## Student Insurance Coverage

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 the parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Enrolment is required in writing—there are two options for enrolment:

- 1) Complete the traditional form sent home by school and mail it in;
- 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

Parents alone have the right to insure their children



## Student Absences

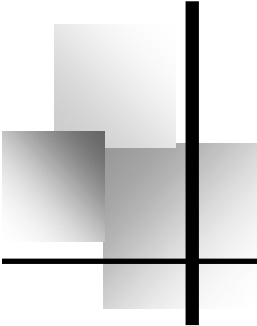
Student safe arrival at school is paramount. If your child is absent, please call the school attendance line at 905 273 3836, Press 1. This procedure helps to ensure the safe arrival of all students. If



your child is late for school, they must check into to office before proceeding to class.

Children must be signed out at the office by an adult.





# September

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			PADay	PADAY		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Labour Day	First Day of Classes				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					PADay	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					Terry Fox Run	
27	28	29	30	October 1		
	(Terry Fox Run Rain Date)	7:00-Parent Mtg: First Communion	St. Jerome Feast Day  Beginning of Year Mass @ Church  6:30-Open House	7:00-Parent Mtg: First Communion		

"Marilla, isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?"

Anne of Green Gables



# From School Council



## SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It is our pleasure to invite all parents to consider being a member of our Catholic School Council. Please note that our Catholic School Council will be comprised of parents, school faculty members (teaching and non-teaching) and an appointed parish community representative. The aim of the Catholic School Council is to support school activities and students through involvement and fundraising. If you are interested in being a member, please visit the office or pick up a nomination form from the community bulletin board in the school's front foyer. Forms and a brief biography must be submitted to the office no later than Friday September 25th. If an election is necessary, it will be held on Wednesday September 30th.

**The first Catholic School Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.**

The Catholic School Council will have a display set up in the front hall the evening of the Open House outlining their role in our school, the events they are proposing for the school year, along with sign up lists for volunteers for these events. All parents and guardians are invited to join them in the Catholic School Council General Meetings.

## REMINDER:

If you are renewing magazines previously purchased through QSP (school fundraising) or that are on the QSP list, you can do so online and still support St. Jerome! Simply go to [www.qsp.ca](http://www.qsp.ca) and enter the school code: "8379".

## THANK YOU!!

The hard working and successful members of last year's council were:

A. Gulbinski (Chair), E. Skrlj (Treasurers), M. Schlosser (Secretary), A. McLellan, (Parish Rep), C. MacIntosh (OAPCE), A. Campana, L. DiTello, K. Oseli, L. Lionello, P. Singh, A. Brodie, J. Domingos, M. Fleece

We thank the council members for their contributions to the St. Jerome School community this past year, including their work on the following initiatives: Artists in the School, Annual Family Barbeque and Silent Auction, Open House, AlphaSmarts, Virtues t-shirts and funding for students in the classrooms!



# Kiss N' Ride

The success of this program is dependent upon parents, guardians, members of our community, staff and students becoming knowledgeable about the program and committed to following the basic principles.

Please drive to the end of the Kiss'n Ride and drop off your child. They will then walk on the sidewalk and walk across the

school building and into the school yard. Drop off time begins at 9:00 a.m. as yard supervision begins at this time.



Parents should NOT be using the front of the school to drop off students—this area is for school bus use only.

As in previous years, we rely on volunteers for the success of our Kiss N' Ride program. If you are able to volunteer your time before the school day begins, please contact the office.

## School Hours

Our school hours remain the same as last year.

Please note the following:

- 8:45 School Office Opens
- 9:00 Supervision Begins
- 9:15 Morning Bell
- 11:15 Recess
- 11:45 Kindergarten Dismissal
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:15 Afternoon Bell
- 2:40 Recess
- 3:45 Dismissal
- 4:15 School Office Closes



Voted  
the Best  
for **10**  
years!



Before and After School Program 10 years in a row, by the readers of The Mississauga News.

PLASP operates Before and After School Programs, in this school, for children up to 12 years of age.

**REGISTRATION NOW TAKING PLACE.**

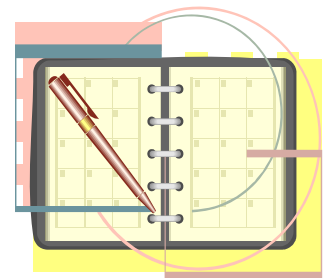
For more information, see the PLASP staff at this school; call the PLASP Head Office at 905 890 1711 or visit [www.plasp.com](http://www.plasp.com)

## Student Agendas

This year, students in grade 1 to grade 8 will be provided with the opportunity to purchase a Premier Student Agenda at the start of the school year.

ation tool in assisting students organizational skills and communication between school and home.

This year, the charge for students will be \$10.00. Please submit this money to your child's teacher promptly.



The agenda is a valuable communi-

## Updating Student Information – Medication

Student information forms will be sent home with your child during the first week of school. It is very important that this information be up-to-date. In the event of illness or injury of your child at school, we must have current contact names and phone

numbers. Please return the Student Information Forms promptly to the classroom teacher.



Please contact the office to obtain the appropriate medical forms if you require

the school to store and distribute your child's medication during the school day. These must be completed by the parent and doctor. If your child has a severe medical condition or allergy, please meet with school administration to provide up to date information.

## Lunch Hour Routines

If you plan to drop off your child's lunch, please assist us in efficient distribution by reminding your child to come to the office at lunch time. Please label the lunch bag with the child's name and teacher/grade. There will be a spot just outside the office where you can drop the lunch.

A reminder that students who regularly stay for lunch are NOT permitted to leave school property with a signed and dated note from parents each time they leave school grounds. We encourage consistency. Students either go home for lunch or stay in school for lunch. Thank you for supporting this important safety routine. A form regarding lunch routines will be sent home this week. Please return it to your child's teacher promptly.



## Bus Transportation



Bus transportation is provided by the Dufferin-Peel Roman Catholic Separate School Board only to those students who live more than the distances outlined below, or more, from the school.

Bus stops are posted each year on the front doors of the school about one week before school starts.

Distances:

- JK-SK - 1 km
- Gr. 1-4 - 1.6 km
- Grades 5&6 - 2 km
- Grades 7&8 - 3.2 km

Safe and considerate behaviour while travelling to and from school is an expectation. Repeated misbehaviour on the bus may result in the loss of riding privileges.

If empty spaces on the buses permit room for riders in addition to the designated bus students, parents may apply for permission for their children to receive bus transportation under the Empty Seat Policy after October 15th each year.

Permission to ride under this policy is provided under the following conditions:

- The youngest students who live farthest away are considered first.
- Empty seat riders must use an existing stop—NO NEW stops will be added.
- Empty seat requests are only valid for the current school year and are dependent on availability and may be withdrawn at any time.
- Applications will be available in the school office beginning September 4, 2007.



# The Last Word

## How to Make Homework Less Work

Do algebra problems 15 through 25. Conjugate the verbs on page 50 of your French workbook. Read pages 12 through 20 of the Shakespeare play, and when you're finished with that, don't forget to fill in the missing chemical symbols on the Periodic Table of Elements worksheet. Sound like a roster of your homework for the next few nights — or maybe even just for tonight? Homework is a major part of going to school: It's your teachers' way of evaluating how much you understand of what's going on in class, and it helps reinforce important concepts.

### Create a Homework Plan

Luckily, there are several things you can do to make homework less work. **First**, be sure you understand the assignment. Write it down in your notebook or day planner if you need to, and don't be afraid to ask questions about what's expected. It's much easier to take a minute to ask the teacher during or after class than to struggle to remember later that night! If you want, you can also ask how long the particular homework assignment should take to complete so you can budget your time. **Second**, use any extra time you have in school to work on your homework. Many schools have study halls that are specifically designed to allow students to study or get homework done. It's tempting to hang out with friends during study periods or unstructured time, but the more work you can get done in school, the less you'll have to do that night. **Third**, pace yourself. If you don't finish your homework during school, think about how much you have left and what else is going on that day, and then budget your time. Most high-school students have between 1 and 3 hours of homework a night. If it's a heavy homework day and it seems like you've got an assignment in every subject but gym and lunch, you'll need to devote more time to homework. It's a good idea to come up with some kind of homework schedule, especially if you are involved in sports or activities or have an after-school job.

### Watch Where You Work

When you settle down to do homework or to study, where do you do it? Parked in front of the TV? In the kitchen, with the sound of dishes being cleared and your brothers and sisters fighting? These places may have worked when you were younger and your assignments didn't require as much skill and concentration. But now that you're older, a bedroom, study, or any other room where you can get away from noise and distractions is the best place to get homework done. But don't study on your comfy bed — opt for a desk or table that you can set your computer on and is comfortable to work at. It doesn't need to be large, just big enough to spread out your stuff.

### Get to Work

When you start your homework, tackle the hardest assignments first. It's tempting to start with the easy stuff to get it out of the way, but you'll have the most energy and focus when you begin, so it's best to use this mental power on the subjects that are most challenging. Later, when you're more tired, you can focus on the simpler things. If you get stuck on a problem, try to figure it out as best you can — but don't obsess and spend too much time on it because this can mess up your homework schedule for the rest of the night. If you need to, ask an adult or older sibling for help or call or email a classmate for advice. But don't pick someone you'll be up all night chatting with or you'll never get it done!

### Take a Break

Most people's attention spans aren't very long, so take some breaks while doing your homework. Sitting for too long without stretching or relaxing will make you less productive than if you stop every so often. Taking a 15-minute break every hour is a good idea for most people. (But if you're really concentrating, wait until it's a good time to stop.) Once your homework is done, you can check over it if you have extra time. Be sure to put it safely away in your backpack — there's nothing worse than having a completed assignment that you can't find the next morning or that gets ruined by a careless brother or sister. (And no teacher still believes that "chewed by the dog" line — even when it's true!) Now you're free to hang out.

From: [http://kidshealth.org/teen/school\\_jobs/school/homework.html?tracking=T\\_RelatedArticle](http://kidshealth.org/teen/school_jobs/school/homework.html?tracking=T_RelatedArticle)

We are on the web: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/JEROM>

Living and Learning in Faith