



St. Philip School

345 Fairview Road West
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3W5
(905) 306-8420

www.dpcdsb.org/PHILP



January 2012 - Volume 5

Principal

G. Hilton

Head Secretary

J. Corvari

School Council Chairs

A. Alves

M. Walker

Superintendent

C. Blanchard

Mississauga East

Trustee

B. Iannicca

bruno.iannicca@dpcdsb.org
905-270-0536

Parish

Cristo Rei Church

3495 Confederation Pkwy

905-270-1133

www.cristoreiparish.com

Pastor

Fr. Carlos Macatangga

School Website

www.dpcdsb.org/PHILP



Principal's Message

One of the focus areas for our school this year is to make it easier for parents to keep up to date with the many school activities and events. With that in mind, I ask that you please consider signing up for the St. Philip School email list. Please see the pink sheet attached to this newsletter for further information about this email list. If you are interested in signing up for this service, please fill in the sheet and return it to the school as soon as possible.

The St. Philip School website at www.dpcdsb.org/PHILP is another great way to stay up to date with school activities. We strive to update this site in a timely fashion, and we are actively pursuing ways to make this website even better. Please let me know if you have any ideas you would like to share regarding how we can improve our overall school communications.

I'm very excited about the many extracurricular opportunities for our students currently underway, or soon to start. The boys and girls Intermediate basketball teams are in the middle of their seasons right now. In addition, opportunities for student leadership are found with our Youth Faith Ambassadors, PALS, and Student Council. Our School Choir continues under the guidance of Mrs. Hrovath, and intramural sports will soon be starting. We also have a Chess Club, a Games Club, a Knitting Club, and an Art Club. And these are just a sampling of the available activities!

We hope we have a good range of activities to interest your child(ren), and I'd like to express my gratitude to the many teachers and educators at St. Philip School who volunteer their time to provide these extracurricular opportunities for our students.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during our parent interview evening on Thursday, February 2nd, or during the PA Day on Friday, February 3rd.

God Bless,

Mr. G Hilton
Principal

FAITH FOCUS

SCHOOL MASS

Please join us at our next school mass which will take place in the gym @ St. Philip School on Thursday, Feb. 16 @ 9:30 AM.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

One of the many joys of our Catholic Faith is the opportunity to be witness to the celebration of the sacraments. Our students in Grade 2 prepared for this sacrament very well and we were very proud of them when they received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Thursday, December 15th at Cristo Rei Church**. We would like to thank Mrs. Hrovat and Mrs. Pipe for their dedication to Catholic Education. We would also like to thank Father Carlos and his pastoral team at Cristo Rei Church for their continued support and guidance. Thank you to all our parents for working with us to help prepare your children for this very important step in their faith life.

ANGEL ON THE TREE



Once again the St. Philip Community celebrated the season of giving through our Angel on the Tree gift and food drive. Donated gifts and food items were used to help various families in the community through the St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter affiliated with Cristo Rei Parish. Thank you for your amazing generosity!

JANUARY'S VIRTUE - SELF-CONTROL

During the month of January we will focus on the virtue of **self-control**.

God has given us the ability to choose. We are able to control how we react to what happens around us.

We may feel pressure from inside or from outside ourselves to react violently to a situation. We've all "lost it" at one time or another. We are never proud of those moments. As soon as they happen we make a promise that they will not happen again.

Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at controlling our reactions. We can get better at showing self-control.

Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret.

Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that will harm ourselves or others.

Self-control is one of the marks of a spiritually mature person.

When we all use self-control, we can be sure that our school will be a safe, caring and inclusive place to live and learn.

A person with self-control...

- is patient
- knows how to wait his/her turn

- can calm himself/herself down and think before reacting to situations
- knows how to avoid physical aggression (hitting, kicking, pushing, fighting, etc.)
- work to include others
- can think things through and do what is best for everyone

Let us pray this month, for the grace and courage to be people of self-control – people who will resist the temptation to cause harm to ourselves or to others around us.

Please join us for our next monthly Virtue Assembly which will take place in the gym @ 12:45 PM on Friday, Feb. 10.

We want to thank you for supporting our efforts at home in reinforcing with our children the 10 virtues which can be found in your child's agenda.

MONTHLY STUDENT AWARDS

We would like to congratulate the students who were chosen to receive the following awards. These awards go to students who did an exceptional job demonstrating the virtues in their school-work and in their interactions with peers.

November

Team Player Award:

Jared O.	Ms. Hrovat	Grade 3
Alisha D.	Ms. Graf	Grade 5
Camille M.	Sasso/Pilotti	Grade 8

Student of the Month Award:

Derek B.	Ms. Pipe	Grade 2
Patrick B.	Ms. Roma	Grade 6
Lana T.	Ms. Ballard	Grade 7

Principal Award:

Jacob S.	Ms. Roy	Grade 1
Syrus K.	Ms. Moher	Grade 4
Ryan C.	Ms. Kamal	Grade 7

December

Team Player Award:

Samantha H.	Ms. Roy	Grade 1
Tricia C.	Ms. Moher	Grade 5
Kate K.	Ms. Mundy	Grade 8

Student of the Month Award:

Olivia B.	Ms. Hrovat	Grade 2
Nakayla F.	Ms. Roma	Grade 6
Philippe S.	Ms. da Silva	Grade 8

Principal Award:

Danielle W.	Ms. Pipe	Grade 3
Annika A.	Ms. Parisotto	Grade 6
Patrick L.	Sasso/Pilotti	Grade 8

ACADEMIC FOCUS

REPORT CARDS

First term report cards for students in Grades 1 to 8 will be sent home on **Tuesday, January 31st**. Along with the report card, you will receive a confirmation time for your report card conference. This conference will include the student, the teacher and the parents/guardians. Conference request forms will be sent out on **Wednesday, January 25th**.

Junior Kindergarten students do not receive formal report cards during the year. Senior Kindergarten students will receive their report cards in June.

During this first conference, the teachers would like to see and speak with all parents and students in order to discuss the first term and also to make plans and set goals for the second term.

Interviews will take place the evening of **Thursday, February 2nd** and **Friday, February 3rd** during the day.

EXTENDED FRENCH: A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR GR. 4 STUDENTS

All parents of students currently in gr. 4 are encouraged to consider the possibility of applying to the Extended French Program at St. Philip School. This excellent educational opportunity involves students doing 50% of their studies in French. At St. Philip School the program runs from gr. 5 to gr. 8. All students currently in gr. 4 are eligible to apply for this program. Please call the school to speak with Mr. Hilton, or your child's teacher, for further information about the Extended French Program. Applications to the program are due in the office no later than Wednesday, February 8 @ 3:00 PM.

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on the following dates:

Monday, February 6, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

**Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8, 9, & 10, 2012
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

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

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2012 (It is not necessary to register SK students if they attended St. Philip School for JK)

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

- proof of age of the child (birth certificate or passport)
- original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent/guardian and child) or Baptismal Certificate of other rites in communion with the Holy See of Rome (if the child has not been baptized, a letter of counseling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted)
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian Citizenship or Landed Immigrant status
- proof of home address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)
- proof of English Separate School Support (may be done at the time of registration by completing an *Application For the Direction of School Support* and/or a *Separate School Lease Agreement* available at the school)

For more information, contact the school office at 905-306-8420.

COMMUNITY / EXTRA-CURRICULAR FOCUS

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER – A Message From Your School Council

Our Chocolate Fundraiser will be held beginning Thursday, Feb. 2, and will run until Wednesday, Feb. 15. Parents who are interested in being part of this fundraiser will receive their chocolates when they come to the school for the parent interview on either Feb. 2 or Feb. 3. Alternate arrangements will be made for parents unable to pick up the chocolates on those days.

We continue to seek donations in order to provide our children with great prizes. If you are able to donate a new item, or product, or you are able to obtain an item through your place of business, employment or family/friends, please contact Adelma Alves, Co-Chair for a donation letter through our school office, if you require one. Any donation would be much appreciated, and the children will be thrilled with wonderful prizes. Let's make our first fundraiser of this school calendar year a successful one for our children. Please keep in mind that the funds raised benefit our children at our school. It helps towards, literacy, math, religion, arts, and science programs, and also sports activities. We strive to ensure that St. Philip Catholic Elementary School is blessed with the best resources to strengthen the education of our children.

To date, we have received a few donations; We would like to thank Palma Pasta, and Medieval Times for their generous donations. Our children will truly appreciate your gifts.

The St. Philip School Council is comprised of parents, teachers, a community representative, and our school Principal, who volunteer their time, and efforts to the improvement of both our

school, and students. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the staff room. Your involvement, input, and participation is welcome.

Please note the following are the dates of our upcoming meetings:

February 7, 2012

March 2012 – no meeting due to March Break

April 3, 2012 and

May 1, 2012.

**Next School Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2012 @ 6:30 PM**



All St. Philip School Parents are invited to join us.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND
EXCURSIONS**

Students will have the opportunity to take field trips and participate in a number of extra-curricular activities. Permission forms will be sent home to be filled out, signed and promptly returned to school.

NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE ON A TRIP OR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY WITHOUT WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THEIR PARENT /GUARDIAN. VERBAL CONSENT OVER THE TELEPHONE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Teachers give ample notice for trip consent forms. We encourage parents to support these educational opportunities by volunteering to assist and supervise these excursions. **For the safety of your child, excursions lacking appropriate adult supervision will be cancelled.**

After School Program

PLASP Child Care Services operates an After School Program at this school, and there are currently spaces available.

The **After School Program** begins once school is dismissed and goes until 6:00 p.m. Children participate in recreational activities, are served a nutritious snack daily, and have time for homework.

Fee assistance is available.

To register your child, visit the PLASP Program Director, After School. For further information, call 905.890.1711 or visit the website at www.plasp.com



**FATHER MICHAEL GOETZ SECONDARY
SCHOOL**

As part of our partnership with Father Michael Goetz Secondary School we will, from time to time, provide you with information about important dates or events at Goetz.

Wednesday January 25 -

Monday January 30

Tuesday January 31

Wednesday February 1

Thursday February 2

Friday February 3

Wednesday February 8

Monday February 20

Wednesday February 22

Monday March 12 – 16

Wednesday March 21

Thursday March 29

Friday April 6

Monday April 9

Thursday April 12

April 18, 19 & 20

Friday April 27

Semester 1 Final Exams
No Classes (Exam day if
needed for snow day)

Exam Review Day
P.D. Day (No Classes)

Semester 2 Begins
Gr. 8 Feeder and Public
School Info Night

Family Day Holiday (No
Classes)

Ash Wednesday

March Break

Parent/Teacher Interview
Night

Gr. 10 OSSLT Literacy Test
Good Friday (No Classes)

Easter Monday (No Classes)
Feeder School Dance (Gr. 8)

School Play (Hairspray)

Semester 2 Mid Term

Report Cards

**SCHOOL ORGANIZATION
FOCUS**

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

Friday, February 3rd is a Professional Activity Day for teachers. There will be **no school** for students. Teachers will be involved in reporting to parents on evaluation of pupil progress.

FAMILY DAY

Monday, February 20th is Family Day and there will be no school for students and staff. We hope that you enjoy the day with your family and loved ones.

MARCH BREAK

The March Break will be **Monday, March 12th to Friday, March 16th**. Students and staff will return to school on **Monday, March 19th at 8:30 AM.**

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance line is: **905-306-8420**. Please call to register an absence. **You can call 24hrs a day including weekends if you know your child will be absent from school.** An answering machine is available to take information.

Please provide the following information:

- Name(s) of student(s)
- Name of student's teacher(s)
- Grade of student(s)
- Reason for absence

If an absence is not reported, our policy is to call home to verify student absenteeism. A parent or guardian must sign out students at the office who leave early.

All students are expected to attend school regularly and punctually. All students who arrive after 8:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. must obtain a late slip from the office. This measure is to ensure the safety of your child. We thank you for your continued support in following this procedure.

ALLERGIES

As we begin the new school year, we would like to inform you that St. Philip School is an allergen aware school. We have a number of students in our school who have **severe allergic life threatening** reactions to peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oils and any peanut/nut by-products. As in the past, we are asking you to not put any child at risk, therefore, are requesting that **PEANUTS, PEANUT BUTTER, PEANUT OILS AND ANY PEANUT/NUT BY-PRODUCTS NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE SCHOOL.** A letter was sent home the first day of school which addressed this issue. **We are asking parents not to send food items to school when celebrating your child's birthday. There are many alternatives such as pencils, stickers, etc., which can be safely enjoyed by all students.**

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit their child or to take their child home after school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitation rights, and other special instructions. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of custodial arrangements between parents that may affect your child during school hours. Please ensure that a copy of the Court Order is on file at the school office.

PICTURE TAKING

From time to time we take pictures of school events to include in our year-end slide show. If you do not want your child's picture

in the slideshow, please ensure you let your child's teacher know in writing.

Picture taking is not permitted by the public or media without signed parental consent.

Please be aware that no pictures of students are posted by the school on the internet or the school website.

KISS AND RIDE PROGRAM AND PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

The "Kiss and Ride" program takes place before school and after school. A reminder to the St. Philip community that our driveway is one-way. Parents wishing to drop off children at school must **enter from the east driveway only and exit from the west driveway only.**



You may not park in any of the lanes at any time, even if you remain in your vehicle. The Kiss and Ride lane is the lane next to the sidewalk. **Please ensure that if you are the first car in the queue that you drive up to the stop sign. The lane to the left is the drive thru only lane and vehicles must not stop in this lane. The middle driveway is designated as a bus entrance only.**

Parents wishing to park may do so either at the front parking area or in the west parking lot. The parking lot next to the school building is designated as **Staff Parking Only.** **This expectation applies at all times during the day as well as 12:30 Kindergarten Drop Off Time.**

Thank you all for your cooperation in ensuring a safe school environment for all the children at St. Philip School!

We would also like to remind parents that schoolyard supervision does not begin until 8:15 AM. **Students should not be arriving before this time, as the playground is not supervised.**

COLD WEATHER DRESS

In anticipation of the weather getting progressively colder, we ask that students begin preparing for outdoor play. This includes proper gloves, hats, scarves, jackets and boots. Snowpants are required if students wish to engage in any activities that involve sitting or kneeling in the snow. Board Guidelines indicate that students will generally be outside for a modified lunch and recess when temperatures reach -20 degrees Celsius and students will remain indoors when temperatures reach -25 degrees Celsius, with or without the wind chill. As such, appropriate clothing is essential. Please note that students should have indoor shoes during the winter months.



Thank you in advance for your continued support and cooperation.

INDOOR FOOTWEAR REQUESTED

Please ensure that students keep a pair of running shoes or other appropriate footwear at school so that their feet remain dry and clean at all times. As well, because so many areas of our schoolyard can be quite muddy at certain times of the year, this would really help in keeping mud and dirt out of the classroom.

SNOWY DAYS

When the winter months arrive and the snow and ice are plentiful, the temptation to pick it up and play with it is so strong! Our schoolyard is full of children playing and snowballs flying through the air are dangerous. As such, the school policy is that snow stays on the ground. Snow and ice are not to be picked up for any reason



TRANSPORTATION

A decision to cancel school transportation and/or close schools, due to inclement weather is usually made by 6:00 AM. Only the Director of Education has the authority to cancel transportation and/or close schools. **Please see the attached memo with more detailed information about bus and school cancellations. Please know that when busses are cancelled in the morning it means there will be NO bus service for the entire day.**



A bus cancellation and/or school closure message will also be available online at www.dpcdsb.org or by calling 905-890-1221.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

Important Immunization Message from Peel Public Health

Peel Public Health will be reviewing immunization records of all students at our school.

Peel Public Health must have proof that your child has been fully vaccinated (immunized) according to the Ontario immunization schedule.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act the Health Department has the authority to suspend students from school if they do not meet the immunization requirements. Students whose immunization records are incomplete may be suspended from school.

If you receive a letter, please ensure that your child has received the required vaccines(s), then give the date(s) your child received these vaccine dose(s) to Peel Public Health immediately to update your child's record.

You can update your child's records by using **only one** of the following ways:

- Reporting them online at www.ImmunizePeel.ca
- Faxing records to 905-565-0426 (Attention: Immunization Records)
- Calling 905-799-7700. Translation services are available.

If you do not have an immunization record for your child, please ask your doctor to complete a record for you (e.g. yellow card) with the dates your child received the vaccine dose(s). Always keep the original for your records.

Please call Peel Public Health 905-799-7000 if you have any questions or need help in updating your child's immunization record.

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

- **Thursday, January 26th**...Pizza Day
- **Tuesday, January 31st**...Report Cards Sent Home

FEBRUARY

- **Thursday, February 2nd** ...Parent Interview Evening
- **Thursday, February 2nd** ... Chocolate Fundraiser Begins
- **Thursday, February 2nd** ...Pizza Day
- **Friday, February 3rd** ...PA Day (Parent Interviews)
- **Tuesday, February 7th**...6:30 PM School Council Meeting
- **Wednesday, February 8th**... Extended French Applications due at St. Philip School by 3:00 PM
- **Thursday, February 9th** ...Pizza Day
- **Monday, February 13th** ... Spirit Week Begins
- **Wednesday, February 15th** ... Last day of Chocolate Fundraiser
- **Thursday, February 16th** ... Pizza Day
- **Thursday, February 16th** ... 9:30 AM School Mass @ St. Philip

ATTACHMENTS

- Bus Cancellations / School Closing
- Sign-up for school email list