



St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School

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November 4, 2011

Newsletter #3

Principal

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Vice Principal

N. Poerba

Secretary

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Superintendent of Schools

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Reimerink

905-890-1221

Trustee

E. O'Toole

905-812-5163

Parish

St. Josephine

Bakhita

289-997-2105

Pastor

Fr. Mark

Villanueva

The Memorare of St. Bernard

Remember, O Most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, and sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother, to thee I come, before thee I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate! Despise not my petitions, but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me.

Amen.

Love, Service

Peace

Excellence

Dear Parents and/or Guardians

I would like to thank all the parents who volunteered to help at our Halloween Dance. The students had a great deal of fun and we thank you for your support.

All Saints and All Souls day recently passed and in an effort to remember those family members and friends who have passed away we again this year are gathering as a school community once a week during lunchtime recess, to say the Rosary together. I have always been impressed with our students' willingness and understanding of the power of prayer. It is quite moving to see so many students and teachers gathering to pray for others. We certainly hope our families within our community take this opportunity to provide time pray as a family unit as well.

In this same theme the students have been preparing a celebration for the upcoming Remembrance Day. It is always important to remind our students that so many sacrificed so that we may enjoy the freedoms we now possess. We must always remember to honour their sacrifice by being peace keepers throughout our day and encounters with others. In so doing, we honour their memory and sacrifice. You are invited to join us on November 11th at 10:30 am as we pay tribute to those who have sacrificed themselves to bring peace in this world.

I would like to thank the parents on our School Council for all their hard work with our Chocolate Fundraiser. I would like to also thank all the parents and students for their support of this event. Again it has been a huge success and the funds will be used to further augment the resources we have at our school to help students further consolidate and enrich their learning.

Thank you to all of the parents and students who have made it a priority to arrive at school on time each morning ready to begin the day prepared for school. This year we have noticed a marked decline in the number of students who arrive late for school. We appreciate the efforts that have been put forth and I encourage you continue to demonstrate this respect of time and excellent time management skill.

Soon this month you will be receiving an order form and information regarding St. Bernard of Clairvaux Spirit wear. You are welcome to order any clothing articles you may want. More information will follow.

Sincerely yours

Nick Teti

REMEMBRANCE DAY PRAYER

God our Father, your Son Jesus gave up His life to free us from the power of sin and death.

He showed us that the greatest love is in giving up one's life for others.

Today we remember those who fought and died for our freedom. We ask you to bless and console them together with their families.

Help us to understand the sacrifices they made in leaving their loved ones to face the horrors of war. May we never forget their generosity.

May your Holy Spirit give us the courage to resist evil in all its forms and show us how to be peacemakers through prayer and action, lest we forget those who fought, suffered and died that we might have the freedom and peace we enjoy today.

We ask this through
Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Virtues for November

Conscience

God helps us to choose to be good people.

A person of conscience...

- chooses to do the right thing, even when it is hard
- takes time to think and pray before making decisions
- knows that their actions and decisions affect all those around them
- think of others before themselves

CONSCIENCE is the voice of God within us. As you develop your conscience, you will learn to make decisions that encourage and support truly loving relationships. Our conscience reminds us how to act towards other people and how to be a good friend.

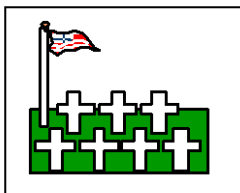
Sometimes it is hard for us to do the right thing, but we must always remember that the right thing to do is not always the easy thing to do.

Let us now pray ... for the grace and strength to be people of conscience - people who know the good and decent way to act, and then choose to act that way. AMEN.



Remembrance Day

On November 11th, Canadians all across the country pause in a silent moment of remembrance of the men and women who served our country during wartime. We honour those who fought for Canada - in the First World War (1914 - 1918), the Second World War (1939 - 1945) and the Korean War (1950 - 1953). Everybody stands in silence as they remember the more than 100,000 brave Canadians who were killed. They gave their lives and their future so that we may live in peace. World War One Armistice was signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. That is why November 11th is called Remembrance Day.



Our school will pay tribute to those who gave their lives for freedom, on Friday November 11th. We will be honoring Remembrance Day at our school from 10:30 to shortly after 11:00 am. **Poppies will be distributed to all the students on November 10th and we will be accepting a small donation for the poppies which will be**

sent to the Veterans' Association. You are welcome to join us for this occasion.

In Flanders Field

*In Flanders fields the poppies
blow
Between the crosses, row on
row,
That mark our place; and in
the sky
The larks, still bravely singing,
fly
Scarce heard amid the guns
below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days
ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw
sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and
now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the
foe:
To you from failing hands we
throw
The torch; be yours to hold it
high.
If ye break faith with us who
die
We shall not sleep,
though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

ALL SAINTS DAY AND ALL SOULS DAY

As we celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day we take the time to remember those who have gone before us. Our prayers go out to all the families who have lost a loved one. Students have been invited to join together in saying the Rosary. Names of those remembered are found in our foyer.

POLICE VISITS

We welcome
Constable
Giordano to
our school as



our Community Liaison
Officer. She will be speaking to
all of our students from J.K. to
Grade 8 on a variety of topics

ranging from a career in policing to bullying. In October she visited with students in our Primary division. She will be returning in January and February to meet with our Junior and Intermediate students

KISS AND RIDE AND PARKING ISSUES

I would like to thank all of our parents for their cooperation with regards to our morning Kiss and Ride Program. With everyone's cooperation, support, patience and understanding our Kiss and Ride program works very well.

We are looking for parents who would be willing to assist with the Kiss and Ride program in the mornings as with the winter weather approaching more helping hands will help to further create a safe and efficient Kiss and Ride Program.

The evening is more of a challenge as we have so many parents arriving at the same time to pick up their children. We do have procedures in place in the evening but there is no Kiss and Ride program for the evenings. Our procedures are in place for the protection and safety of our students and community. It really requires each and every parent to make wise choices that support the safety of all not merely for their convenience. There is a staff member that supervises the Kiss and Ride area in the evenings after school ends from 3:15 to 3:30 pm.

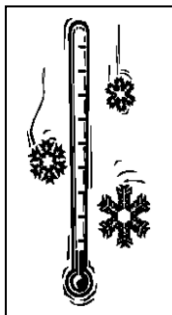
I would like to remind parents to;

- Please ensure that if you park your cars do so in an area where it does not impede the smooth flow of traffic.
- Please follow the traffic flow symbols painted in the parking lot.
- **Please don't forget to turn right out of our school parking lot.**
- **Please be patient**

We mostly ask for everyone's patience and understanding. When speaking to other parents please do so in a respectful manner. At times we do have various family members who arrive to pick up a child who may not be aware of our procedures. A kind word and a helpful gesture is more readily received than angry loud words.

I thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we work together to help our school community safe for our entire community.

APPROPRIATE DRESS - COLD WEATHER



The days are getting colder and pretty soon winter will arrive. We ask that students dress appropriately; i.e.: coats, gloves, mitts, boots, etc. If they are dressed warmly, they are better prepared to participate in outdoor activities during recess and noon hour. For health reasons and to help keep the school clean, we ask all students to have indoor shoes.

Please note that in the event of an emergency evacuation, students will not have the opportunity to put boots on.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

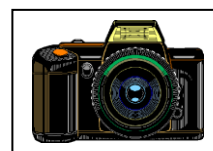
WINTER WEATHER



During the winter season, the school receives

calls from concerned parents as to how we determine when children will or will not be allowed outside for recess. On extremely cold days, we limit the amount of time that students spend out of doors. We obtain our weather information from the Environment Canada Weather Information Line and follow School Board guidelines. With the exception of these occasions, all children will go out for recesses and the lunch break. We remind students to dress appropriately for the weather.

PICTURE RETAKES



School photo retakes will take place on

Tuesday November 15, 2011 for all students. Any parents wishing to have retakes are asked to return the original photos to the school before the retake day.

PD DAY – FRIDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2011

On Friday November 18th, there will be no school for the students as it is a P.D. Day. The staff will be involved in Professional Development and School Improvement activities.

SCHOOL EQAO RESULTS

At our October School Council meeting our school's EQAO results were presented and discussed. They will be further addressed at our upcoming November School Council meeting as well.

Here is an overview of our school's results for the academic year of 2010 – 2011.

EQAO RESULTS	St. Bernard Grade 3	Board	Provincial Results	St. Bernard Grade 6	Board	Provincial Results
Reading	78%	68%	65%	87%	77%	74%
Writing	86%	76%	73%	87%	78%	73%
Math	79%	69%	69%	81%	62%	58%

We continue to be very pleased with the success and progress of our students on this assessment piece. We also realize that this is only one measure of the progress and success made by our students. We will continue to work to create a school atmosphere in which all students are given an opportunity, support and encouragement to grow to their full potential.

Our Main focus within the Junior and Intermediate divisions continues to be in the area of Mathematics, where we are working to enhancing our students' skills in problem solving. We focus on developing their skills with reasoning, communication, justification and expanding their knowledge and use of problem solving strategies.

Within the Primary division we continue to focus on developing critical reading skills helping students to build on their present knowledge and understanding. We are also beginning to further develop their skills within the Math curriculum specifically in the area of problem solving. The focus will be more on applying their knowledge and understanding in a problem solving approach developing their communication skills.

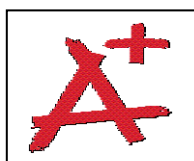
ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX MONTHLY AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

At St. Bernard of Clairvaux each month we gather as divisions to give out the following awards. This is just another way in which we recognize effort and excellence as well as taking the time to meet and discuss areas in which we as a school can improve. We also use this time to focus on the Virtue of the month and how we can bring these virtues alive in our school.

ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX "STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARD"

This award academic They have following

- their daily
- tests and
- assignments and projects



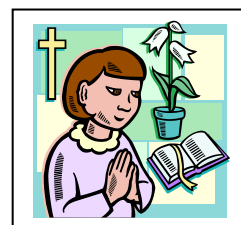
goes to the student who has displayed excellence throughout the month. excelled in one or more of the areas; work, quizzes,

- class participation
- homework assignments

This award is not solely for the student who leads the class academically but for a student, who through their hard work and determination is making the kinds of gains that deserve to be acknowledged. The classroom teacher will decide each month as to which student will be recognized for their efforts and achievement. All academic areas can be considered, but the teacher may wish to focus on one or a few academic areas at a time.

ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX CATHOLIC SCHOOL "LIVING MY FAITH AWARD"

This award goes to the student who has displayed our gospel values



through their actions and words throughout the days at St. Bernard of Clairvaux. Each month the classroom teacher will choose a student who has displayed some of these behaviors and values listed below.

It is our hope that through the recognition of behaviors such as;

- reaching out to help others in the class
- working cooperatively with all members of the class and the teachers
- being a positive role model in the class and in the school

- offering their assistance and sharing their gifts and talents
- being non-judgmental and accepting of others for who they are, respecting our differences
- being considerate of others' feelings
- valuing everyone's contributions and opinions
- displaying respect for others and themselves
- helping others to solve problems and disagreements in a caring and considerate manner, we will create the kind of school atmosphere where everyone feels safe, valued and free to grow spiritually, academically and physically.

CHRISTMAS ITEMS



We are presently working out the details for a Primary Division Christmas concert. It is tentatively scheduled for December 20, and 21, 2011 beginning at 7:00 p.m. to approximately 8:00 p.m. for grades 1 to 3. Our Kindergarten classes will be doing an Advent concert on Wednesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 1st. More information will soon be forwarded to parents with

students from JK to Grade 3 identifying what specific evening they are performing.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Monday, February 6, 2012 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm has been set as the JK/SK registration evening. The snow date, in the event the original date needs to be postponed due to weather, is Tuesday, February 7, 2012 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. We will also be accepting registrations on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8, 9, & 10, 2012 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

On occasion we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit with their child or take their child out of school. In order to assist us in making correct decisions in order to serve and protect each child we ask that you make the office aware of any legal custody arrangements, visitation rights and special instructions that have been agreed upon. Please note that we require legal documentation of these arrangements not merely a note from a parent.

BUS CANCELLATIONS

During the winter months inclement weather may cause disruptions of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or close schools is usually made by 6:30 a.m. and will be announced on several radio stations.

Please Note:

If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate later in the day. Parents who drive their children to school in the morning must arrange to pick them up at the end of the day.

St. Bernard Book Fair **2011**

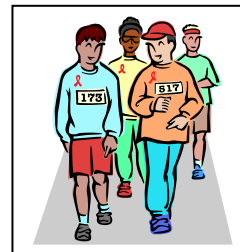


Thank you everyone for making our Book Fair such a great success. It was the best one yet.

The excitement over books was overwhelming! I would like to thank all the wonderful parent volunteers who gave up their time to help. A special thank you to Mrs. Sbrocchi, Mrs. Monterio, Mrs. De Leon, Mrs. Boleszczuk, Mr. Manne, Mr. Hannah, Ms Sciuk, Mrs Cali, Mrs. Napoli, Ms O'Flaherty and her daughter for volunteering their time during the Book Fair. The book fair ran smoothly with all the extra hands. I would also like to congratulate Sammy Vera in Mrs. Mooney's grade 4 class. Sammy won \$25.00 worth of materials from the book fair. The money raised will be used to purchase books and materials for the library and classroom libraries. Once again, thank you for supporting our Library/Resource Centre.

Mrs. Marano

WALKING TO SCHOOL



As children walk to school we encourage them to walk

with friends in groups and we advice parents to help their children by identifying the walking route that they would like their child to take to and from school.

**HOLY NAME OF MARY
REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

On November 24th, beginning at 7:00 p.m., Holy Name of Mary C.S.S. will be holding a Grade 9 Information & Registration Night for current Grade 8 students, and their parents, in the school's gymnasium. As a regional all girls school, we would like to invite all eligible Region of Peel girls to apply to Holy Name of Mary C.S.S. Please visit our website for further updates: www.dpcdsb.org/hnmry/guidance.

Registration packages will be available on our website by November 7th, 2011. Location: Holy Name of Mary C.S.S., 115 Glenvale Blvd., Brampton, Ontario. For further information please call 905-458-5541 X 64104.

**SACRAMENT OF FIRST
RECONCILIATION AND FIRST
COMMUNION**



The date for First Reconciliation Celebration is Tuesday December 6, 2011 at 9:30 to 10:30 am at Merciful Redeemer Parish.

More information will be forwarded as we receive dates and times from Father Mark.

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion for our grade 2 students will be held on Saturday May 5, 2012 at 11:00 am at Merciful Redeemer Church.



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
CONFIRMATION DATE**

The sacrament of Confirmation will be held on April 27th, 2012.

The sacramental celebrations will continue to be held at Merciful Redeemer Parish. We thank Father Vid and his parish team for their continued support and generosity as we work to build a church for our new parish community.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November 1	All Saints Day
November 2	All Saints, All Souls Liturgy 9:30am
November 8,9,10	Drum Clinic for grades 1 to 8
November 9	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
November 11	Remembrance Day celebration at 10:30 Pizza Day
November 15	Picture Retake Day
November 16	Grade 7 students to Dr. Simone's Warehouse
November 18	P.D. Day No School for students Pizza Day
November 23	Grade 3's go to Crawford Lake
November 25	Pizza Day
November 28	Grade 3 classes go Swimming Mrs. Boles and Mrs Neri
November 30	Grade 3 classes go Swimming Mrs. Boles and Mrs Neri Kindergarten Advent Concert at 7:00 pm
December 1	Kindergarten Advent Concert at 7:00 pm
December 5 and 7	Grade 3 classes go Swimming Mr. Manne and Mr. Salerno
December 6	First Reconciliation for grade 2 students at Merciful Redeemer 9:30 am
December 6 and 7	Grade 1 students go to Peel Safety Village
December 9	Pizza Day
December 20 and 21	Primary Division Christmas Concerts

Attachments

1. Home & School Connections
2. Math & Science Connection
3. Reading Connections
4. Stakeholder Responsibilities Breakdown in the City of Mississauga
5. Board EQAO results – From The Board of Trustees

An Historical Understanding of Key Issues Related to Catholic Education

March 2009

Written by Dr. Robert Dixon Edited by John B. Kostoff, Director of Education Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (This is the second installment from this article that can be found in its entirety on our School Board's web site.)

Our Catholic School Heritage – Second installment

6. What sacrifices did Catholics have to make to send their children to separate schools?

Because the United Legislature of Canada East and Canada West roughly had consisted of members advocating non-denominational common schools and half were in favour of them, separate school legislation, for about fifteen years, contained three obstacles to their existence:

- (a) Catholics could establish and support a separate school, but had to continue paying common school taxes. Thus, they paid tuition for their children in the separate school;
- (b) The separate school had no permanence of existence. If the local common school board hired a Catholic as one of its teachers, then the separate school ceased to exist. Separate schools kept opening and closing in the early years;
- (c) In the cities the separate school board required the permission of the common school board to open a new or an additional separate school. Sometimes the permission was not forthcoming.
- (d) The legislation required twelve Catholic heads of family resident within a city, town or township common school section. The townships' common school sections were so small that often there were not twelve resident Catholic families.

7. Were these four obstacles removed?

Yes. The United Legislature of Canada East and Canada West in 1853, 1855 and 1863 removed all four hindrances. There was no more double taxation. It did not matter if there was a Catholic teaching in the common school. The separate school board did not need the permission of the common school board to open a new or additional separate school. The number of Catholic heads of family to establish a separate school was lowered from twelve to five. As a result, the number of separate schools grew considerably.

8. What effect did the Canadian Constitution, create in the British North America Act (1867) (now entitled either the Constitution Act or the Canada Act), have on separate schools?

When the Fathers of Confederation came from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada East, and Canada West to meet in Charlottetown and Quebec, they quickly concluded, in the words of one of the Fathers, Sir Charles Tupper, that "Without this guarantee for the rights of minorities being embodied in that new constitution, we should have been unable to obtain any Confederation whatever."

9. What guarantee for separate schools does the Canadian Constitution still contain?

In 1867 the Fathers of Confederation made section 93(1) part of the Constitution. It states:

Nothing in any such [provincial legislative] Law shall prejudicially affect any Right or Privilege with respect to Denominational Schools which any Class of Persons [i.e. separate school supporters] have by Law in the Province at the Union.

10. Exactly what separate school rights does section 93(1) guarantee?

Section 93(1) protects all the provisions of the last separate school legislation passed before Confederation, the *Separate School (Scott) Act* of 1863. Among others, the *Act* provided the following rights:

- (a) to form a separate school board with five or more Catholic heads of family resident in a public school jurisdiction;
- (b) to receive government grants equitable with those of the public school system;
- (c) to receive equitable funding;
- (d) to have separate school boundaries enlarged;
- (e) to elect separate school trustees with all the powers of public school trustees.

Stakeholder Responsibilities Breakdown in the City of Mississauga

Student Transportation and Students Walking to School

This material was developed by the Mississauga Traffic Safety Council, with input from the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board, and adopted by the City of Mississauga Council on October 12, 2011. The document illustrates jurisdictional responsibility related to student transportation and students walking to school in Mississauga.

STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES BREAKDOWN TRAFFIC SAFETY COUNCIL

CATEGORY	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
Sidewalks (along city streets)	-maintenance and construction (summer and winter)	City of Mississauga Transportation and Works Dept. Call: 311
Signs in School Zones	-maintenance and installation (not on school property)	City of Mississauga Transportation and Works Dept. Call: 311
Crossing Guards	-placement / removal	Traffic Safety Council City Clerks Office Laura Wilson: 905-615-3200 x 5425
	-conduct	Transportation and Works Dept. Sheelagh Duffin: 905-615-3200 x 5167
Park Pathways	-maintenance and construction (summer and winter) -pathway lighting	City of Mississauga Community Services Dept. Call: 311
School Bus Eligibility	-distance criteria policy (criteria)	Board of Trustees Peel District School Board 905-890-1010 Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board 905-890-1221
School Bus Routes	-school bus routes and stops -implementing distance policy	Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) 905-890-1221
Safety	-personal safety	Peel Regional Police 905-453-3311 Emergency: 911
	-walking routes to schools (physical conditions)	Traffic Safety Council City Clerks Office Laura Wilson: 905-615-3200 x 5425
	-school zones operation review	Traffic Safety Council City Clerks Office Laura Wilson: 905-615-3200 x 5425
	-school zones – illegal parking	City of Mississauga Call: 311
	-school property -students getting to and from school	school principal parents

STAKEHOLDER

RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents

- get their children safely to and from school and/ or a bus stop
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

City of Mississauga

Transportation and Works Dept.

- sidewalk and roadway maintenance (summer and winter)
- traffic signals (pedestrian signals) maintenance
- crossing guard administration
- traffic signs and school zone signage
- parking enforcement

City of Mississauga

Community Services Dept.

- park pathway maintenance (summer and winter)
- park lighting maintenance

City of Mississauga

Council

- appointment of Traffic Safety Council
- consider / action recommendations from Traffic Safety Council

City of Mississauga

Traffic Safety Council

- review and make recommendations with respect to:
 - crossing guard placement and removal
 - school walking route safety (physical conditions)
 - school zone operation
 - school drop-off and pick-up operation
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

School Board Trustees

- set policy for student eligibility distances for bussing
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

School Principal

- safety of students on the school property
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

School Board Administration

- school property maintenance (summer and winter)
- school building maintenance
- school hours
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

Student Transportation or Peel Region (STOPR)

- provision of student transportation (school bussing) in accordance School Board policy
- determine the eligibility for student transportation based on the policies established by the school boards
- establish school bus routes and stops
- identify safety issues or concerns in respect to bussing
- where a safety concern is identified notify the appropriate agency

Peel Regional Police

- Highway Traffic Act enforcement (u-turns, speeding, etc.)
- personal safety issues