



St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School

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January 11, 2012

Newsletter #5

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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*

Dear Parents and/or Guardians

Welcome back to another new year. I hope that you and your families had a joyous holiday season with time to celebrate as a family. I realize that the holidays can also be a difficult time for certain families. I do want to thank our entire community, and especially our School Council, for their generosity and kindness in supporting our Christmas Basket program. We were able to reach out and make a difference in the lives of others in need. What a wonderful Christmas gift to give.

At this time I always like to take the opportunity to thank the many parents who,

- Daily use the kiss and ride program and demonstrate patience and concern for the safety of all our children.
- Ensure that their children arrive at school before the bells are ringing so that they are ready and in line with their classmates as they enter the school.
- Have helped as trip supervisors or classroom volunteers during the first part of this year.
- Have ensured that they check in at the school office and acquire a visitor's badge before coming into our school hallways.
- Have stayed off school property during recesses so that children can be assured that the only adults present have a vest on and are part of the St. Bernard of Clairvaux Staff.
- Have worked hard supporting their children with their homework and projects modeling for them good work habits.
- Have phoned ahead to make appointments with teachers allowing them to set an appropriate time to meet and address your questions.
- Have phoned the school to inform us that their child will be absent from school.
- Came to our Christmas concerts and supported their children and teacher appreciating the time and effort put forth by all.
- Helped to support our Helping Hands Christmas Baskets Campaign.
- Supported our School Council with our Chocolate Sales Campaign.
- Helped to ensure that lunches are healthy and void of peanut products and other allergens.
- Have worked with our school staff to ensure that the needs of their child are being met.

Most of all thank you to all the parents who help set a tone in our school of collaboration, respect, cooperation, consideration and genuine caring of each and every member of our school community. Together we celebrate our gifts, diversity and blessings from God.

Let us continue to be role models for our children and instill in them a sense of purpose, giving them the tools and self-confidence needed to make a positive difference in this world. Let us use the New Year to re-commit ourselves to continue to work together ensuring that our school is always a place that we all can be proud of.

*Sincerely yours
Nick Teti*

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

Virtues for January

Self Control

God wants us to do what we know and feel is right.

A person with self-control...

- *is patient with themselves and others*
- *knows how to share and take turns*
- *has the power to stand up for what is right*
- *looks for peaceful ways to solve conflict*
- *can think things through*

SELF-CONTROL helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret or may cause harm to ourselves or others. By disciplining our thoughts and actions, we resist reacting negatively to pressures from within ourselves or our surroundings, and act in a way that we know and feel is right.

Developing loving habits helps us to respond positively to others in the actions and choices we make.

Each time we exercise self-control, we show our love for God and make way for peace in our lives.

Let us now pray ... for the virtue of self-control so that we will resist the temptation to cause harm to ourselves and others around us.
AMEN.

Happy Birthday to Saint Bernard of Clairvaux School



Five years ago on January 8, 2007 our students, parents and staff, entered our school doors for the very first time. It is hard to believe that already five years have gone by. Like watching our children grow, it happens all too fast. We have watched our student population continually grow. I have been thrilled to be a part of our school community watching it come together to embrace and welcome all newcomers. It has been very exciting and I feel blessed to have had the



opportunity to be a part of this wonderful beginning and growth. As with all growth there will be challenges and opportunities. I know that our caring and welcoming community of parents, students and staff will continue to work together to maintain the wonderful atmosphere we have established here at our school.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

This is our school's first newsletter sent electronically to our parent community. Thank you to all of the parents who have agreed to provide us with an email address so that we can electronically send you the newsletter in an effort to reduce our consumption of paper and minimize our footprint. If you have not done so yet and would like to receive our newsletter via email please contact the school to provide us with an appropriate email address. Again thank you to everyone for your cooperation and support.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS

There are many examples of excellence in Ontario's schools, boards and licensed child care settings, and just as many reasons to nominate someone for a Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence.

These awards celebrate educators and support staff who make remarkable contributions to Ontario's education system.

Many staff employed in Ontario's publicly funded schools and boards can be nominated. There are eight award categories:

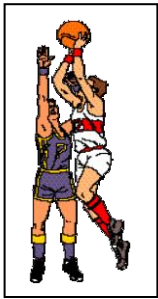
- Teacher of the Year
- New Teacher of the Year
- Early Childhood Educator of the Year (NEW!)
- Excellent Support Staff
- Excellence in Leadership
- Lifetime Achievement
- Team of the Year
- Full-Day Kindergarten Team of the Year (NEW!)

Nominations are open until February 6, 2012. Award recipients will be announced in the spring and recognized at a special awards ceremony during Education Week in May.

To learn more about the awards and how to nominate, visit www.ontario.ca/teachingawards.

SPORTS CORNER

Intermediate Basketball Teams



Mr. Rybinski, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Kostoff, Ms. Shamon and Mr. Teti are presently helping our Intermediate Basketball Teams prepare for their upcoming games. We know they will represent our school proudly and we wish them the best of luck. Congratulations to all the students who have tried out

for our school teams and to those who will be representing our school.

Boys Team

Marcus C.	Princeton A.	Anthony B.
Anson S.	Chester F.	Faisal J.
Kerelos A.	Lewis A.	Matthew
N.Jonathan F.	Joseph K.	Chaim R.

Girls Team

Jaden C	Krizia C	Sweeney E
Emily F	Daniella J	Krista L
Angela M	Celine P	Kacey R
Courtney T		

PHONE CALLS INTO THE SCHOOL

During a normal school day we have many phone calls into the school. Mrs. Magi and Mrs. Kuchan, our school secretaries work very hard to answer each call and try to meet the needs of the parents and students that come to the office, not to mention the needs of the teaching staff as well. As the school population grows the task becomes more challenging. We often have calls into the school asking to pass information onto children or last minute changes in pick up arrangements and many other various requests. When unavoidable, we are here to assist, we simply ask that whenever possible please make arrangements the day before to try and avoid unnecessary phone calls into the school. We thank you for your understanding and assistance.

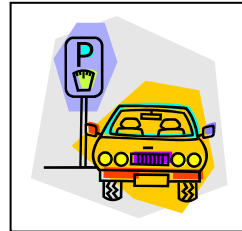


KISS AND RIDE

Please note that with the winter comes snow. This will create challenges for our Kiss and Ride program. If you are using our Kiss and Ride please remember that SLOW and CAREFUL must be the way you proceed. Parents who park in the parking lot and walk their children to the yard must be

careful if you are walking through the moving cars and making your way over piled snow. I would encourage you not to climb over snow mounds with your children. The snow needs to be placed somewhere and it will create challenges. So we all need to be CAREFUL and move SLOWLY. SAFETY FIRST.

PARKING IN FRONT OF OUR SCHOOL

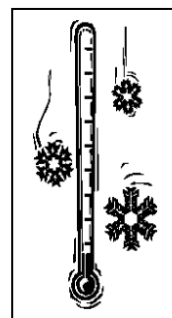
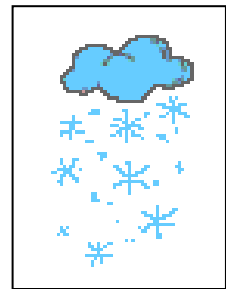


Parking in front of the school, specifically near our exit for our school driveway continues to be an area of concern. We have parents parking in No Parking areas as well as parking on both sides of the street, making it very difficult to see oncoming traffic as you exit the school driveway and creating congestion for cars travelling in both directions. Please obey the parking signs where posted.

SNOW AND ICE

We realize that during winter months students love to play in the snow and are attracted to the ice. Please remind your children, as we often do, that throwing snow or snowballs is not permitted. For obvious reasons it can be very dangerous for others. As well, even though we salt the tarmac and sidewalks, it is impossible to totally illuminate all icy areas within our school boundaries. We therefore ask students to not play on ice, nor slide on ice, and certainly not to be running on ice. When the field is too dangerous we do restrict the children play area to the tarmac area only. Unfortunately too often the students are tempted and make poor choices. Please continue to reinforce with your child the dangers of playing on ice and throwing snowballs.

SAFETY FIRST.



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 ask that you ensure that they come to school dressed appropriately for the weather conditions.



SNOW, SNOW, SNOW.

We remind all students that we DO NOT throw snowball while playing outside during recess. We share the snow we do not own the snow. We DO NOT steal snow from students who are building snow forts or snowmen/ women. We DO RESPECT the work others are putting into their projects. WE DO work together to build not to destroy. WE DO have fun in the snow with our friends. WE DO NOT play near icy areas as it is dangerous. Please help us by reviewing this with your children as we continue to work together to maintain a safe school environment. Presently we have informed the grade 4 and 5 students that they are no longer to build snow forts as they were using this activity to foster an "us against you" mentality leading to poor choices and children getting injured. We will continue to work with these students helping them to identify ways in which we can cooperate and demonstrate respect for the efforts of others.

EXTRA CLOTHES FOR WINTER SEASON

Often during the winter season we have students, for various reasons, coming to the office with wet clothes from playing outside during recess. We recommend, for the younger students, that you

place an extra pair of pants, a shirt and socks in their back packs. This would help to avoid bothering parents at work when these situations occur. It is also recommended that students bring appropriate snow gear to school during these winter months. (snowsuits, boots, gloves, mitts)

P.D. DAY FRIDAY JANUARY 16, 2012

Please note that Monday January 16, 2012 will be a P.D. Day and there will be no school for students, as teachers focus on assessment and evaluation on that particular day.

HEPATITIS B/HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS VACCINE (HPV)

Each year, through Peel Public Health all grade seven students receive their Hepatitis B and Meningitis vaccinations. As well grade eight female students receive the Human Papillpmovirus vaccination. The next round of immunizations for intermediate students will take place on Thursday January 19 2012. More information will be forwarded to concerned parents once received by the school.



SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST



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.



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:

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

The deadline for submission of Applications will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.

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. Therese of the Child Jesus
Address: 6930 Forest Park Drive
Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2012
Time: 7:00 p.m.

At the present time, the above mentioned school is the designated centre for our area. Applications will be accepted at that centre until 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8th, 2012.

REGISTRATION FOR SECONDARY WINTER NIGHT SCHOOL

Classes run from February 8 to May 23, 2012, Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Night School Locations:
St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S. (Mississauga)

Philip Pocock S.S. (Mississauga)
Notre Dame S.S. (Brampton)

Registration forms are available from your Guidance Department or online at <http://www.dpdsb.org/CEC/CNE/Night+School/>
Registration closes Wednesday February 1, 2012.

The Winter 2012 Adult and Continuing Education Flyer (with program descriptions) will be delivered to the community by the week of January 2, 2012 and posted online at <http://www.dpdsb.org/CEC/CNE>.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for 2012-13

Registration for Full-Day Kindergarten for the 2012-13 school year, will take place at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School 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 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

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

- proof of age of the child (birth certificate)
- original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian) or Baptismal Certificate of 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 Landed Immigrant status
- proof of home address (utility bill, tax bill, bank statement)

- for schools in Caledon and Dufferin County: emergency rural address numbers for identifying your property
- 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, call our school at 905-542-9203 or visit www.dpedsb.org.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

January 9	First Day Back to School
January 13	Pizza Day Diabetes Presentation for grade 5 to 8 students
January 16	P.D. Day No School for Students
January 18	School Council Meeting 7:00 pm
January 19	Round 2- Meningitis Immunization for grade 7 students and Human Papillomavirus Vaccine for Grade 8 females (Dose #2) St.Joan of Arc Grade 8 registration night
January 20	Movie Pizza Day for entire students School Fundraiser Reward
January 25	Constable Giordano to visit classrooms
January 27	Pizza Day
January 31	Report Cards sent home
February 2	Parent Teacher Interview Night
February 3	P.D. Day – Parent Teacher Interviews
February 6	Kindergarten Registrations 7:00 pm

Attachments

1. Home & School Connections
2. Math & Science Connection
3. Reading Connections
4. CCCC Action Team Update



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND CARING ACTION TEAM UPDATE

“Listen to what is wise, and try to understand it.” Proverbs 2:2

Our CCCCAT has been hard at work exploring the many ways that St. Bernard of Clairvaux School has established and continues to create a safe, caring and inclusive community for all. Our team consists of students in Grade 3 to 8, Mrs. Marano (Teacher), Mrs. Maguire (ERW), Mrs. Soberal (CYW) and Ms. Poerba (Vice Principal). We are also looking for parents in our community that would like to be part of the CCCCAT. Please call the school at (905) 542-9203 if are interested in joining our team. Presently, some of the student representatives have been working on developing slogans and designing posters that will be displayed throughout the school. Here are a few slogans that of our CCCCAT members have already developed.

Let others play soccer to let it be fun. Joaquin - Grade 3

Helping, Loving, Sharing is Caring. Chelsea - Grade 3

We are all important. Ashley – Grade 6

Let others play so they can play games that they want. Johan – Grade 3

Follow the Golden Rule! Treat other the way you want to be treated! Sarah – Grade 3

Be inclusive, let people join the game! Bessam – Grade 4

BE SAFE!!! Jacob, Justyn, Elian – Grade 5

Have fun at school, but follow the rules and show respect. Christina – Grade 5

Use S.C.I. (Safe, Care, Inclusive) in our school community! Victoria – Grade 5

Have fun be safe and never run in the hallways. Daniella – Grade 4

Follow the Golden Rule and include everybody in your games. Natalie – Grade 4

Show you care, if you share. Andrew – Grade 4



Starting this January, we will also be implementing a Bully Prevention Program that has been provided to us by the Peel Public Health. The program identifies a key message and a focus for the school each month. Teachers in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be working with and developing the focus for the month in their classrooms.

JANUARY

Key Message:	“Conflict is inevitable, bullying is not”
Focus:	The difference between conflict and bullying.
Virtue:	Self-Control.