



St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School

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February 6, 2012

Newsletter #6

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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

Excellence

Dear Parents and/or Guardians

I would like to thank all of the parents who have participated in parent teacher interviews, as well as your continued support of your child's education. It is so important that we continue to collaborate and work together to meet the needs of your child. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful school where the parents and staff communicate on a regular basis and create a partnership in where the child's needs are the priority.

Lent is quickly approaching. Let us ensure that we take the time to speak with our children of the meaning of Lent. Included is some information that may aid you in that discussion.

What is Lent?

Lent is the 40 day period of fasting, penitence, and sorrow, leading up to the feast of Easter, recalling Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, usually in February.

Shrove Tuesday

Thank you to the School Council for their work to provide our students with pancakes on Tuesday February 21st.

Shrove Tuesday: The Pancake Feast

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shricing, when the faithful confessed their sins to the local priest and received forgiveness before the Lenten season began. As far back as 1000 AD, "[to shrive](#)" meant to hear confessions. [Historically](#), Shrove Tuesday also marked the beginning of the 40-day Lenten fasting period when the faithful were forbidden by the church to consume meat, butter, eggs or milk. However, if a family had a store of these foods they all would go bad by the time the fast ended on Easter Sunday. What to do? Solution: use up the milk, butter and eggs no later than Shrove Tuesday. And so, with the addition of a little flour, the solution quickly presented itself in... pancakes.

Today, the Shrove Tuesday pancake tradition lives on throughout Western Europe, the United States, Canada and Australia, but is most associated with the UK where it is simply known as [Pancake Day](#) with a traditional recipe, although these can be as [varied](#) in the UK as there are British households.

In France, (as well as here in the US - or more famously - in New Orleans) it's known as *Fat Tuesday* which kicks off the [Mardi Gras](#) festival with wild celebrations just before the austere Lenten season. In Sweden, Fat Tuesday translates to *Fettisdagen*, and in Lithuania it's *Uzgavens*. In Poland, traditional celebrations take place on a Thursday a week before Ash Wednesday and so it's *Thusty Czwartek*, or Fat Thursday.

Sincerely yours

Nick Teti

Lenten Prayer

As we begin this season of Lent, we call on you, Lord, to help us love you more and to reach out to others in friendship, especially those who need it most.

May the ashes we receive on our foreheads remind us of your call to change our ways by making greater efforts to show our love for our families, classmates and especially those we have hurt in the past.

May Your Spirit give us the courage and strength we need to be people of faith.

We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen

Virtues for February

Respect

God wants us to treat all people with the respect they deserve.

A respectful person.....

- *sees God's presence in themselves and others*
- *uses a positive tone of voice and body language*
- *avoids gossip, swearing, name-calling, put-downs, and inappropriate gestures*
- *says 'Excuse me', 'Please', 'Thank You'*

We all deserve to be treated respectfully by others. However, in order to be respected, it is important to RESPECT ourselves. Everyone has a right to go to a school where they feel safe and included – without gossip, name-calling, and put-downs. We should expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet – our brothers and sisters in Jesus. Mutual respect is the way we live in harmony with one another. Respect for others, their property, and the environment is our responsibility.

Let us now pray ... for the virtue of respect so that everyone we meet will feel like we are their brother or sister in Christ. AMEN.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is African American History month. Since 1926, people have taken some time during this month to remember the contributions that many African descendants have made to this and other countries. This time of the year was chosen because it is the month of the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglas. Take time to look up these individuals to see what impact they had on our society. All students are encouraged to do some extra reading and learn how these individuals have impacted the world.

THE HEART of CUBA PRESENTATION BALLET CREOLE: AN INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1990 by Trinidadian born Artistic Director Patrick Parson, Ballet Creole is a company that performs traditional and contemporary dance and music from around the world, with a particular emphasis on the African Diaspora. The term "Diaspora" refers to the dispersing of peoples from a common origin. The African Diaspora is the result

of the transportation of slaves from the African continent by Europeans, mostly to plantations in the Western Hemisphere. In its name, Ballet Creole has revived the old French connotation of "ballet", initially signifying "dance" and later referring specifically to dance illustrating the costumes and manners of other nations.

The term "Creole" refers to the resulting blend of inhabitants coming from so many different linguistic and cultural groups. Creole also refers to the common language that developed among the diverse cultural groups.

Similarly, Ballet Creole represents the forging of a new language in the dance world, a unique blending of dance traditions from the old and new world. While the Company seeks to preserve old traditions, it also aims to establish a dynamic new artistic tradition in Canada based on a "creolization" or fusion of diverse dance and music traditions.

THE PERFORMANCE: A SYNOPSIS

In developing this ballet Mr. Parson has collaborated with Toronto-based Cuban choreographer and dancer, Yuhala Muy. Ms Muy was instrumental in the development of this ballet by sharing the African cultural influences that have survived in Cuba.

The Heart of Cuba is a ballet that draws from African and Afro-Cuban movement aesthetics. Each of the sections is derived from a specific Cuban dance form and also includes elements of movement improvisation.

ABOUT THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

This is the month in which we celebrate Saint Valentine's Day. He was a bishop who bravely died for his faith. The name Valentine means "valiant" or "strong." This day is connected with love because of the legend



that birds pick their mates on February 14th. Secret notes of love and friendship sent on this day are called Saint Valentine's Notes or valentines.

FAMILY DAY February 20, 2012

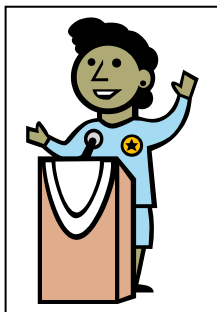
Please remember to note that Monday February 20, 2012 is Family Day and the school will be closed.

MARCH BREAK

Please be reminded that this year March Break is from Monday, March 12th to Friday, March 16th. There will be no school for the students on these days. The students return to school on Monday, March 19th.

ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX SPEECH COMPETITION

The teachers and students in the Junior and Intermediate divisions have been working with the students preparing for our speech competition which will be held on Wednesday February 8, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. for the intermediate students and 10:30 a.m. for the junior students. Parents are welcome to come and observe. One student from both the junior division and intermediate division will be selected to go and represent our school at our Family of Schools competition.



French News

Bonjour tout le monde! We are very excited to inform you that our school is being represented at this year's French Language Speech Competition, "Le Festival/Concours d'art oratoire"!

Le Festival / Concours d'art oratoire is an annual public speaking event for students in grades 4 through 12 who are studying French as a Second Language in Ontario schools. Dufferin-Peel has enthusiastically supported this event over the past few years and has experienced tremendous success at all levels: board, provincial and national.

Our Grade 6 students were invited to sign up for this competition in early December and we held our in-class competition on December 19th. Our two finalists were Lianna M. and Linamarie R.! We would like to congratulate Lianna who has been selected to represent our school at the Board level French public speaking competition on April 11, 2012. Both students worked diligently on a daily basis to prepare their speech for our in-class competition. We are very proud of both of them for showcasing their talents in the French Language!

We wish Lianna all the best on April 11, 2012.
Mme Cosentino and Mme Fabbri

French Language Teachers

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 29, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in our school library. As always, all are welcome to attend.

SACRAMENT OF 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.



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.dpcdsb.org.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2	Parent Teacher Interview Night
February 3	P.D. Day – Parent Teacher Interviews
February 6	Kindergarten Evening Registrations 7:00 pm
February 8	School Speeches Presentation
February 9	Intermediate Bowling Trip
February 10	Heart of Cuba Presentation
February 14	Valentine’s Dance
February 15	Constable Giordano visiting classrooms
February 16	Intermediate Bowling Trip
February 17	Junior Skating Trip
February 20	Family Day No School for Students
February 21	Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day for our students
February 22	Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 9:15 am
February 23	Intermediate Bowling Trip
March 1	Junior Skating Trip
March 6	Greg LaRoche at Living Arts Center for grades 4 to 8
March 7	Raptors Night
March 9	Junior Skating Trip

Attachments

1. **Home & School Connections**
2. **Math & Science Connection**
3. **Reading Connections**
4. **CCCCAT February Update**
5. **Anti Bullying Speaker – Mike Neuts**



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. A warm welcome goes out to Mrs. Benedik and Mrs. Dekker who will be the parent representatives on our TEAM. During the month of February the team will work on developing a *Bullying Pledge* for our school. We would love to also share a few more slogans that of our CCCCAT members have developed.

Accidents big or small avoid them all! - Kacey Grade 8

Think about others before yourself - Princeton Grade 8

Live Safe, Caring and Inclusive!

Don't bully others, because in God's eyes we are all sisters and brothers – Kerik and Marcus Grade 7

Safety Glasses: All in favour say "Eye!" – Arianne Grade 8

*We are all one, we are all equal no matter who you are,
we must stick together for the Lord our father. – Arthur and Steve Grade 7*

Build bridges not walls – Samantha Grade 7

Be safe, have fun. – Patrick Grade 6

Help the Earth be a better place. – Gianmarco Grade 3

Friendships never sink. – Marcus Grade 6

- Some Grade Seven students and Mrs. Marano will be attending Mississauga North's, "We Are One" Conference on February 24th, 2012 at Merciful Redeemer Church.
- Bully Prevention Program 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.



FEBRUARY

Key Message: "Telling an adult about bullying is not tattling"

Focus: Difference between tattling and telling: Assessing dangerous situations

Virtue: Respect