



January 2012
Edition

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

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Parish

St. Francis of Assisi Church
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905-822-8132

Pastor

Father Joseph Grima

School Council Chairs

Siena Perrotta
Tom Vitale



Principal's & Vice-Principal's Message

Welcome back!

January is a time of new beginnings. The word January stems from the Latin word, 'janua'. It means 'doorway'. It is an old custom to bless doorways at Epiphany. January is the year's doorway: an entrance into a new beginning! Jesus is always beginning again the work of salvation in us and among us. We are beginning a new year. The hours of darkness will begin to lessen before the strengthening sun. We see the Lord, Jesus, and our hopes are made new. We are encouraged to see each other in a new light- with new insight, new openhandedness and new liveliness.

A very special thank you to the entire St. Francis of Assisi community for your generosity and support during the Advent and Christmas seasons. It was wonderful to see so many parents and friends sharing our Faith at the Advent Mass. Thank you also to the families who supported our Gift Tree, Mitten Tree and Cram-a-Cruiser. Your generous donations of non-perishable food items and gifts benefited those less fortunate.

On behalf of the St. Francis of Assisi School community, we extend to you and your family our best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.



As well, we encourage all parents to keep in close contact with the school regarding your child(ren)'s progress. We strive to foster open communication with the view to nurture the spiritual and academic growth of all students. Please contact your child's teacher or the office if we may be of any assistance.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. Palmateer
Ms. Klein

Virtue of the Month

This month we will celebrate the virtue of 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.

A person with self-control...

- is patient
- knows how to wait his/her turn
- can calm down and think before reacting to situations
- knows how to avoid physical aggression
- can think things through and do what is best for everyone

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

The Virtues assembly will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012 at 2:10 p.m. We hope you are able to join us!



Happy New Year

SCHOOL NEWS

BOARD CHAMPIONS!

Junior Boys Volleyball Team

The Junior Boys Volleyball Team had an outstanding season! They were undefeated in their league games and went on to win the Mississauga South Family Championship! This earned them a spot to play at the Board Tournament which was held at Robert F. Hall Secondary in Caledon in December. The boys were undefeated in their round robin games and defeated St. Faustina in the Finals in 3 exciting, nail-biting sets! The whole team showed heart and determination. Congratulations to Dario G., Bennett F., Cameron G., Dominic K., Evan H., Joshua E., Luke M., Nicholas C., and Ryan M. Coaches: Mrs. Wittemund, Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Basran are proud of you. SFA All the Way!



Junior Girls Volleyball Team

A big congratulations goes out to St. Francis of Assisi's Junior Girls Volleyball team! The team consisted of Emily, Stephanie, Jaime, Emma, Marina, Karley, Meghan, Alyssa, Megan and Laura. They worked very hard all season to improve their skills. The team accomplished many awards including champions of the Catholic Cup Tournament, Family of Schools tournament, and finally, the Board Champions. The final game of the Board Championship was well played and the girls showed true sportsmanship. The coaches, Mr. Palmateer, Ms. Stathakos, Lauren C. and Erika K., are very proud of you! (submitted by Lauren & Erika)

Grade 1 and 2 Floor Hockey

Over 75 grades 1 and 2 students eagerly participated in the Primary Floor Hockey League. In the Championship game, The Bruins defeated the Flames in an Exciting final game.

Special thanks to the volunteer teachers and our grade 8 students for their great involvement in our league. Congratulations to both teams. **Bruins:** Giovanni B., Giada, Xavier W., Zach P., Deanna Y. Aliat D., Andrew D., Matthew C., Alec W., Jack H., and Richelle, Coaches : Danny and Marlena
Flames: Sheena C., Rachel B., Joseph T., Luca M., Julia P., Adam B., Jerica C., Dylan R., Lucas L., Cameron C. Coaches: Meghan, Junelle

Grade 3 and 4 Floor Hockey: to begin February 1st

Skating Schedule

Our School Council provides all of our students from Grades 1 to 8 an opportunity to go skating at Erin Mills Arena on two occasions free of charge. Parent supervisors are welcome to attend and skate if they would like to do so. **We strongly encourage students to wear hockey or bicycle helmets. Also, all students must wear gloves.**

All students will eat lunch prior to leaving for the rink so your child should eat lunch at school on skating dates.

Grades 2, 4, 5 and 8

Friday, Jan. 13th - 11:45 - 1:15 - Gr. 2 & 5

12:05 - 1:30 - Gr. 4 & 8

Friday, Jan. 27th - 11:45 - 1:15 - Gr. 2 & 5

12:05 - 1:30 - Gr. 4 & 8

Grades 1, 3, 6 and 7

Friday, Jan. 20st - 11:45 - 1:15 - Gr. 1 & 3

12:05 - 1:30 - Gr. 6 & 7

Friday, Feb. 10th - 11:45 - 1:15 - Gr 1 & 3

12:05 - 1:15 - Gr 6 & 7



We continue to promote playground safety at Francis of Assisi School, especially during the winter months. . The winter rules include:

- No throwing or kicking of snow or ice in any direction
- Remaining off of ice patches on the field or pavement
- Keeping off of high snow banks
- Keeping snow on the ground
- Not standing under icicles that accumulate along the roof's perimeter
- Staying off the field on days that it is designated unsafe for students

Students who do not follow these rules are putting their own safety and the safety of others in jeopardy. Therefore, ongoing failure to follow the playground rules will result in loss of recess time. Students will also be asked to complete an incident sheet that will be sent home to be signed by a parent.

HEALTHY EATING AND ACTIVE LIVING

The Healthy Eating Active Living (H.E.A.L.) Student Committee will continue promoting the "Tuttie Fruite Tuesdays" this month. Students have been very conscientious about bringing in a real fruit snack. Check out the H.E.A.L. information display outside the gym doors.

EcoTEAM NEWS

Beginning **Wednesday January 18th**, the EcoTeam will be hosting "Water Bottle Wednesdays" as a means of reducing plastic waste in the school. The team will be tracking class participation in this very Eco Friendly initiative and the class with the most students participating, will receive a Water

COMMUNITY NEWS

from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (snow day only: Tuesday, February 7th, from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) and Wednesday, February 8, Thursday, February 9 and Friday, February 10th. 2012 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 - 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

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

COUNCIL CORNER

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 6:45p.m. in the school library**. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be free babysitting for the duration of the meeting for anyone who needs it provided by responsible grade 8 students.

Any questions or concerns can be brought to Council's attention by dropping a note into our mailbox in the school's office.

Tentative Agenda - 6:45pm, School Library

- Welcome Council & Updates
- Approval of minutes for Dec 2011 meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Fundraising
- School Updates
- Parish Report
- Other

Extended French Information Meeting

Grade 4 parent /guardian, who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for September, 2012 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

St. Christopher
1195 Clarkson Road North
Mississauga - L5J 2W1
905-822-0721

on

Wednesday, January 18, 2011 @ 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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 16: PA Day- Term 1 – Elementary Assessment and Evaluation Day (No School)

January 18: Extended French Information Night at St. Christopher School at 7 p.m.

January 30: Virtue Assembly at 2:15 p.m.

January 31: Term 1 Report Cards sent home.

January 31: School Council Meeting at 6:45 p.m.

February 2: Junior & Intermediate School Speech Competitions in the gymnasium

February 2: Reporting Evening at 3:15 – 8:30 p.m.

February 3: PA Day – Term 1 Reporting to Parents on Student Progress - 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (No School today.)

February 6 – 9: Grade 8 Student trip to Muskoka Woods

February 6: Kindergarten Registration 7 – 9 p.m.

February 7: Snow date for Kindergarten Registration

Feb. 8 – 10: Kindergarten Registration 9 -11 a.m.; 1 – 3 p.m. at school