



February 2012
Edition

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

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Parish

St. Francis of Assisi Church
2473 Thorn Lodge Dr.
Mississauga, ON L5K 1K5
905-822-8132

Pastor

Father Joseph Grima

School Council Chairs

Siena Perrotta
Tom Vitale

Principal's & Vice-Principal's Message

The academic year is now more than half way through but there are so many wonderful events and activities still to come. Our student faith ambassadors are busy promoting our Catholic values and cookie sales for ShareLife.

Our grade 4-8 classes have recently completed their public speaking contests and the winning contestants from each class participated in the school Public Speaking competition on Thursday February 2nd. Details about the results of the competition can be found in this newsletter. The grade 7s have been going to Hockley Valley to ski and our grade 8s are off the Muskoka Woods for their Outdoor Education/Retreat with Fr. Grima, Seminarian Scott and Youth Faith Leader Antonia, during the week of February 6th. The entire school has been participating in skating sessions and our grades 3 and 4 classes began floor hockey intramurals this month.

Our Intermediate Hockey Team continues to represent our school well and our Junior Hockey Team is beginning their season.

We continue to work in partnership with home, school and parish to provide a superior Catholic Education for your child(ren).

As we celebrate St. Valentine's Day let us ask the Lord above to fill our hearts and Bless our souls with the precious gift of love.

God Bless,
Mr. Palmateer Ms. Klein

Virtue of the Month

This month we will celebrate the virtue of Respect.

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

A respectful person...

- Treats himself / herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy.
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs, and inappropriate gestures
- Says 'Excuse me', 'Please', and 'Pardon me' when necessary.
- Avoids gossip.

The Virtues assembly will be held on Wednesday , February 29 , 2012 at 12:30 p.m. We hope you are able to join us!

RESPECT



FROM THE OFFICE

Registration dates for Full-Day Learning Program at St. Francis of Assisi School

Full-Day Early Learning Program registration (full day JK/SK) for the 2012-2013 school year, for children not already registered, will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School on February 6th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. (snow date February 7th) and February 8th - 10th, 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
- Original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent and child)
- Updated immunization records
- Proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- Proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)

Junior Kindergarten students must be 4 years of age, and Senior Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age, by December 31, 2012 to register.

Flex Boundary Admissions

Current flex boundary admissions are not guaranteed. Flex boundary admissions must be requested in writing to the school principal each year.

Black History Month

February is Black History month which coincides very well with our school efforts to promote a positive understanding of diversity in our community. Classroom teachers will be focusing on diversity within their lessons. Please continue these discussions with your child(ren) at home.

Public Speaking

The School Public Speaking competition was held on February 2nd. The results of **Junior Speech Competition** are.

- 1st Place: Alyssa J.
2nd Place: Stephanie H.
3rd Place: Jordana P.

The results of **Intermediate Speech Competition** are.

- 1st Place: Joana R.
2nd Place: Gracie B.
3rd Place (tie): Ashlee B., Liam F.

Alyssa and Joana students will represent our school at the Mississauga South Family of Schools Public Speaking Competition to be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at St. Francis of Assisi School. The junior competition will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and the Intermediate competition will be held from 12:30p.m. to 3:00p.m.



Are You Moving?

If you know your family is moving out of our St. Francis of Assisi boundary, we would like to know. Each year, a number of families move out of the area and it assists us in our planning purposes to know whether students will be attending our school next year. Please inform the office at your earliest convenience.



Update Your Records

Parents, if your home phone number, cell number or work number or email address has changed please notify the school office. It is necessary to have current information in order for us to keep in contact with you.



Golden Boot Award



Our hardworking custodian, Mr. Parkinson, has taken note of the shoes and boots lined up outside the doors during the month of January and picked the following winning classes for the "Golden Boot Award": Mrs. Male's Grade 2s, Mrs. Agathos' Grade 4s, Ms. Camilleri's Grade 5s and Mrs. Harty's Grade 1s. Students were given prizes and the "Golden Boot" trophy for their winning week. By lining up the boots neatly, students are practicing being good community members and contributing to keeping their environment clean. Keep up the great work everyone! We look forward to seeing who next month's winners will be.

HEALTHY EATING ACTIVE LIVING (H.E.A.L.)

The Healthy Eating Active Living (H.E.A.L.) Student Committee have continued meeting along with Mrs. Camilleri and Mrs. Agathos for the past 3 months, exploring healthy living options. The committee shared healthy eating tips with the student body over announcements from November to January 31st, initiating our very first, very successful, "Tuttie Fruitie Tuesdays". The winning classes for bringing in the most fruit on Tuesdays, during this time frame are: Mrs. Male's Gr. 2s, Mrs. Camilleri's Gr. 5s and Mr. Naughton's Gr. 7s. Each class will receive a large fruit tray. The committee will continue to meet and are now focusing of introducing fitness tips to our students. Please see the Healthy Living displays near the gym for further information.



Our SFA EcoTeam of more than 20 eager students in grades 4 to 8, have introduced a few new eco-friendly initiatives since December. Every week, our light audit team surveys the school to see if all classes have their lights off over the lunch hour. Those classes who have forgotten, receive a friendly reminder and information regarding the audit is conveyed to students over announcements. Our goal is **L.O.L., Lights Out at Lunchtime** each day, as a means of conserving energy. Secondly, the team has surveyed classes to ensure that all classes have a **G.O.O.S.**(good on one side) bin. Those classes without a bin will receive one in February.

Finally, "**Water Bottle Wednesdays**" began on February 1st. The team is encouraging all students to bring in a re-usable water bottle on this day as a means of reducing waste. The class that has the most students using re-usable water bottles on Wednesday will receive a visit from our very own "Captain Green" from the EcoTeam, who will autograph re-usable bottles brought in and the water bottle trophy will remain in their class for a week. Congratulations to Mrs. Male's class who had 85% of students using re-usable water bottles this past Wednesday. We're off to a great start and getting closer to our goal of becoming certified as an EcoSchool by April 30, 2012.

Stay tuned for more initiatives next month!

MORE CLUBS

Chess Club



Every Thursday the Chess Club meets in Mr. Carreiro's classroom, to learn the game of Chess and to practice their skills. Students in all divisions are welcome to attend over the lunch hour. Primary, Junior and Intermediate students are practicing in preparation for the **March 2nd** Mississauga South Chess tournament which will take place at **St. Mark School**.

SFA Sports Update

Intramural Sports

Grades 3 and 4 Floor Hockey

The grades 3 and 4 students began participating in the Junior Floor Hockey League on February 1st. Students will play in the gym over the lunch hour, about 2 times per week, during the months of February and March.



Intermediate Hockey Team

The Intermediate Hockey Team began their season in January and will continue until March. They are playing with strong sportsmanship and determination in all facets of game. So far, they have 1 win and 2 losses. Games are played weekly after school at Cawthra arena.



Junior Hockey Team

The Junior Hockey Team played 2 scrimmages in January (18th, 25th) before school at Erin Mills arena. All junior division students were invited to attend. Teams were formed as follows, Basran verses Palmateer lines; the students enjoyed these games. As a result of scrimmages, players for the Junior team were selected.

Junior hockey players will be participating in 3rd annual All Saints Junior Hockey tournament: Feb. 15th & 16th at Erin Mills Arena. Go SFA go!

Intermediate Basketball

The **Intermediate Girls Basketball** team recently began their season! After a tough loss, the girls showed great heart and determination by winning their second game against St. Christopher 25- 10. The girls hope to advance to the Family Tournament on February 28th. Thank you to Mr. Naughton for coaching the team.

S.F.A. All the Way!



The **Intermediate Boys Basketball** team also began their season and are demonstrating great sportsmanship and teamwork. They continue to improve their basketball skills under Coach Carreiro's guidance.



Severe Weather



Children will be kept in at recess if the wind chill equivalent temperature is minus 20 degrees Celsius or lower. This is in accordance with the policy of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. We will, of course, monitor the weather situation on a daily basis. The safety of our students is always of utmost concern

Closing due to Severe Weather

During the winter months, inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 a.m. and will be announced on the following radio and TV stations.

Virgin Radio 99.9	EZ Rock FM97.3
CHUM AM 1050	CFRB AM 1010
CFTR AM 680	CFNY FM 102.1
CJCL AM 590	CHFI 98.1
CFRB 1010	CJBC (FR) 860 AM
FM Z103.5	AM 1540
FM93.1	CITYPULSE
CFTO	GLOBAL NEW
FM Q107	AM 640

Also available on our Board Website: www.dpcdsb.org

In the colder weather we often receive requests to allow children to remain indoors when they have a cold, flu, etc. Please note that we cannot comply, as we have neither the facilities nor the staff to supervise these students. If you feel your child is not well enough to go outside, it would be best for you to keep your child at home.



REMEMBER: Health officials indicate that fresh air is beneficial, as long as students are dressed appropriately. 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 recess and the lunch break.

Dry Feet, Dry Clothing & Staying in for Recess



Colder weather is upon us! Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. All children should have hats, scarves, gloves, warm coats and boots. As the rainy season gives way to slush and snow, all students are reminded to bring an extra pair of shoes to wear indoors during the winter months. Fire regulations dictate that all students must have footwear on at all times.

If you haven't already done so, we would also like to advise parents of children in the **primary grades** to send an extra set of clothes (track pants, sweatshirts, socks, underwear) to school. These clothes will be kept at the school to be used when the child is wet from playing in the snow.

Sts. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
is accepting applications for the position
of:

Student Monitor

Part-time: 1.2 hours per day

The rate of pay is \$11.45 per hour plus 4% vacation pay

Please contact Ms. Klein, the school Vice-Principal, for
more information.



*The successful applicant will be required to
submit a current criminal reference check.*

COMMUNITY NEWS

Council Corner

Next Council Meeting



Click on me to
find out more!

Our next meeting is scheduled
for **Tuesday, February 28th 6:45**
p.m. in the school library. All
parents are welcome and

encouraged to attend. There will 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

- Opening Prayer
- Welcome Council & Updates
- Approval of January minutes
- Other

The Lunch Lady

Cold and Flu season is upon us. For students who
ordered from Lunch Lady who are absent from
school, we offer parents a same day cancellation
option. Parents can contact the Lunch Lady kitchen
up to 8:00 a.m. same day to cancel their child's lunch
and receive a credit to their account for the missed
lunch. You can contact Lunch Lady at (416) 878-3479

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

**February 8: Extended French and French
Immersion** applications due today. (See below.)

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

Feb. 10: Earth Rangers Bring Back the Wild
presentation in the gym (9:30 – 10:30 a.m.)

Feb. 10: Grades 1,3,6,7 Skating in the afternoon

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day

Feb. 17: Cinderella's Frog Prince! Diversity &
Acceptance Program Presentation (gym)

February 20: Family Day Holiday

February 21: Shrove Tuesday

February 22: Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 9a .m.
(gym) –Distribution of Ashes - **Lent begins**

February 23: Mississauga South Speech
Competition

February 29: Virtue Assembly @12:30 p.m.

March 9: School Spirit Hockey Game at Hershey
Centre

FRENCH PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Extended French

Grade 4 parent(s)/guardian(s), who wish to enroll
their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for
September 2012, must have their applications in
by 3 p.m. on Wed. **February 8th 2012** at:

St. Christopher School

French Immersion

Senior Kindergarten parents/guardians, who wish
to enroll their child in a grade 1 French
Immersion class from September, 2012 must have
their applications in by 2 p.m. on Wednesday

February 8th, 2012 at:

St. Margaret of Scotland School