



**Guardian Angels Catholic Elementary School**  
62 Heatherdale Dr., Brampton, Ontario L7A 2H4  
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**Newsletter #4**

**December 2010**

Principal: T. Waters  
Vice Principal: A. Metivier  
Secretary: B. Waud  
Asst. Secretary: C. Egan  
School Website: <http://w3.dpcdsb.org/GANGL>

Parish: Guardian Angels (905) 970-9175  
Pastor: Father J. Gogolewski  
Trustee: Linda Zanella Brampton Wards 2,5,6 (905) 579-0126  
School Council Chair: D. Robinson  
Superintendent: G. Prajza

### **Principal's Message**

Advent is a time of reflection! It is a time in which we must review our life style to ensure that it is witness to our faith. It is a time to prepare ourselves to receive God's ultimate gift, His only Son, Jesus Christ. Are we prepared?

This is the message that underlies all of our teaching throughout the year, helping our students understand and prepare themselves so that they can become witnesses to Christ by "doing as Jesus did." Together we can help to nurture a community of individuals that will make a difference.

During this season of Advent staff and students prepare themselves with classroom Liturgies, Christmas displays, reading Christmas stories, singing, praying and learning about the Jesse Tree. Our Christian Leadership Group and Harmony Team are working together collecting items for those less fortunate within our community.

On behalf of all Guardian Angels staff, I would like to express to all of you and your families, a sincere and joyous Christmas. May you all receive our Lord in good health, and happiness, and may our Lord shine his Light brightly on all of you.

T. Waters

### **Virtues Prayer for December: Hope**

Let us now pray...For the grace and strength to be people of hope. People can see, participate in and contribute to God's goodness emerging around.

People of Hope:

- Expect the best to happen for everyone
- Hold onto their dreams.
- Always count on God to help them in tough situations.
- Trust that things will work out in God's way.
- Look for something good to come out of problems.
- Are looking forward to life's blessings.
- Set and stick to their goals.



### **Christmas Holidays**

The last day of this term is Friday December 17, 2010. We return to school Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.

### **School Advent Mass**

Our School Advent Mass will take place Wednesday Dec. 16 at 9:15 a.m. Please come and join us!



## Grade 6 RAID Program

The program content for Project R.A.I.D. is organized into seven 60 to 80 minute lessons. Each student will receive a workbook to use throughout the course. Your R.A.I.D. officer will teach students accurate information on both legal and illegal drugs. They will learn how to say no to drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Positive prevention techniques will be taught. This supports our belief that being drug free is something to be proud of.

## Behaviour in the Playground

We regularly remind students that rough play in the school yard can lead to injuries. We ask for their cooperation and self-discipline to make wise and safe choices so as to encourage a safe and injury free environment for all. Pushing, shoving, play fighting and wrestling moves are all forms of unacceptable play that compromise student safety. At Guardian Angels students know we have the rules "Keep your hands to yourself" and "If it's on the ground, leave it on the ground." We appreciate your support reinforcing these rules with your children.

## Parents in the School/Yard

Teaching your child in a safe and happy environment is our goal. All non-staff must report to the main office for identification and to state their business. During school hours, no one is permitted to visit classrooms or loiter in the hallway. *You may be a parent to your child, but to others you are a stranger.* It is also inappropriate to discipline or speak to a child that is not your own. This can cause unnecessary stress to young children and should not be happening. If there is an issue that needs to be dealt with please inform staff. We are happy to help.

## Food and Beverage Policy

Sirach 30.16

*"There is no wealth better than health of body,  
and no gladness above joy of heart".*

Dufferin Peel nourishes the growth of students through a learning environment that is committed to developing the spiritual, intellectual, aesthetic, emotional, social and physical capabilities of its students. Good health is connected to being a symbol of God's love and a precious gift from God, for a healthy body is a way of praising God as we are created in the image of likeness of God. To ignore the importance of good health and let it fall into disrepair would show a lack of gratitude and respect for such a great gift.

The Ontario government is committed to making schools healthier places for students in order to establish the conditions needed to realize the potential of all students. A healthy school environment enhances student learning and success, and enhances students' social and emotional well-being. Schools have an important role to play in helping students lead healthier lives, including teaching students the skills to make healthy choices and reinforcing those lessons through school practices.

The School Food and Beverage Policy contributes to improved education and health outcomes for all students. The School Food and Beverage Policy constitutes a comprehensive approach to the sale of food and beverages in schools province-wide. The implementation of this policy is another step in creating healthier schools in Ontario. It also reinforces the knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding healthy eating that are developed through the various subjects and disciplines in the Ontario curriculum. For further information on the School Food and Beverage Policy, see Foundations for a Healthy School, at [www.ontario.ca/healthyschools](http://www.ontario.ca/healthyschools).

As part of our school's ongoing effort to promote healthy eating and to comply with the Ministry of Education's School Food and Beverage Policy, we will be working with students, parents, and the staff to improve the nutritional value of food and beverages for sale at our school. These changes will make it easier for students to choose healthy food and beverages and will help them practise what they learn in the classroom about healthy eating. We are making healthy eating easy!

## Winter Wonderland

Ms. Galos

Winter Wonderland at the Donald M. Gordon Chinguacousy Park is a community event showcasing festive lights, family entertainment, live Nativity Pageant and more. Guardian Angels school has participated in this year's Winter Wonderland Postcard activity. It will be displayed beginning December 1st, 2010 until early January at Chinguacousy Park in

Brampton. Thank you to Ms. Galos for entering our school and working with students to create our postcard.

## Christmas Concerts

Grades JK-3

### Wednesday Concert

**December 8**

Mrs. Eng  
Mrs. Fournier  
Mrs. Gibson Power  
Mrs. Kotarska  
Ms. Tesolin  
Mrs. Graessar  
Mrs. Cutone  
Ms. Giuliano-Lupo

### Thursday Concert

**December 9**

Mr. Bell  
Mrs. Petrusa  
Miss. Pimenta  
Mrs. Sepe  
Ms. Schmalz  
Mrs. Daniel

The concert begins at **6:30 p.m.** in the school gym. Please bring a donation of non-perishable food for the food drive. Each day will have a dress rehearsal for the grades 4 – 8.

## Intermediate Girls Basketball Team

Mr. Merino

"This past Friday, the intermediate girls' volleyball team participated in the Peel Senior Girls Invitational Tournament. Coming off their city championship season, the girls were offered a spot in this talent filled public and Catholic school tournament. The girls did not disappoint. They played their best volleyball of the season and showed amazing endurance to win the tournament after competing in 7 hard fought games. A special note goes out to Madupe for her tournament MVP. Mr. Merino and the school are so very proud of this group of champions. Members include, Samantha, Kayla, Isabella, Daniella, Madupe, Kayla, Michelle, Chelsea, Sophie and Katherine. Guardian Angels have not one but two championship banners. Fantastic season girls!"

## Brampton Santa Claus Parade

T. Waters



On November 20<sup>th</sup>, Guardian Angels participated in the Brampton Santa Clause Parade. I am very proud to report that we were awarded the best community float by the Brampton Board of Trade this past week. The construction of the float was a huge undertaking but fortunately we had a number of talented teachers including our Superintendent, George Prajza to help with its construction. The truck was lent to us by JA Towing in Brampton. It could not have happened without their generosity. The band was originally put together by our former VP, Sarah Calvert. It is composed of students in grades 4, 5 and 6. It was a wonderful experience for the entire community. Plans are already in motion for next year's parade.

Thank you to Mrs. Waud, Mrs. Metivier, Mr. Stone, Mr. Buzdon, Mrs. Avey, Mrs. DiMuzio, Mrs. Valentini, Mrs. Daniels, Mrs. Alimurung and Mrs. Persad for their hard work.

## Craft Club

Ms. Tesolin

As part of the extracurricular activities offered at Guardian Angels, grade 5 and 6 students have had the opportunity to participate in craft club. The craft club meets every Wednesday over the lunch hour break where they participate in creating crafty pieces of art using various materials. The craft club began in November and will continue until May. Some of our upcoming crafts include 3D Christmas Trees, Hand Painted Glass Ornaments, and Stuffed Sock Snowmen. This is a great opportunity for students to express their creativity and interact with peers with similar interests.



Student Transportation  
of Peel Region

The school board's bus transportation services are operated by Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR). This is a consortium, or partnership, between the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board. The Ministry of Education requires school board bus transportation consortiums to improve efficiency.

One initiative promoted by the Ministry of Education, that is designed to improve efficiency is known as integrated ridership. In integrated ridership, students from both Dufferin-Peel and Peel schools will ride on the same buses, where feasible. A number of school boards across the province have successfully implemented integrated ridership. All eligible students continue to be transported on runs where integrated ridership is implemented.

Integrated ridership is designed to create a more effective and efficient operation of service, is more environmentally friendly and reduces traffic in our communities. Integrated ridership may also result in higher transportation funding levels for school boards. Integrated ridership works best in situations where schools are located close to one another and the number of students involved helps achieve better organized bus runs.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has approved the implementation of integrated ridership, where feasible, starting September, 2011. During the next few months, STOPR staff will be looking at areas where integrated ridership would work best. It should be noted that integrated ridership does not work well in all areas and, as a result, there may be only a few areas that will have this program.

STOPR will provide additional information regarding the selection of schools where integrated ridership will be implemented. Once a school is selected, a possibility exists that school start and dismissal times may be altered from the current times. STOPR will keep you informed through regular updates in school newsletters over the upcoming months.

### Sharelife/United Way Cookie Sales

Ms. Tesolin/Mrs. Egan



As part of our schools commitment to raising funds to help the United Way and Sharelife Charities we will be selling cookies in the office for \$1 at first and last recess for the remainder of the school year. These cookies are peanut free and provide a healthy source of fruit and fibre. They are available in the following flavours: Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal Raisin, and Chocolate Fudge. Also for a limited time during the Christmas season students will have the additional option of choosing a Snowman Sugar Cookie and a Snowman Gingerbread cookie. These cookies make a great snack on the go and all proceeds that we collect will go towards helping needy individuals and families in our community.

Thank-you for your support!



Ms. Brkic, Mrs. McCannel, Mrs. Limanni, Mrs. Wright

This year 27 students in grades 5 – 8 are participating in the Harmony Movement at Guardian Angels. The program was founded in 1994 as a non-profit organization with a mandate to combat all forms of

discrimination that prevents individuals from becoming equal and active members of society. They work with youth in an effort to promote diversity education and eliminate prejudice in our local community. Students work together in groups and are encouraged to think critically about issues related to diversity. At the end of the 8 week program, students demonstrate their knowledge and skills gained from the program by delivering a school-wide assembly.

### Santa Pictures



Dec 7

Students will have an opportunity to have a picture taken with Santa at Guardian Angel's school on Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Santa will be in the building from 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Afternoon Kindergarten students are welcome to come with their parents for a photo at that time as well. Family photos can be coordinated on the day. Photos are \$10.

**Parent Council Meeting**  
**December 7, 2010**  
**School Library**  
**7:00p.m.**

## Dates to Remember

- |        |                            |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Dec 7  | Santa Pictures             |
| Dec 7  | Dental Screening           |
| Dec 7  | Parent Council             |
| Dec 8  | Primary Christmas Concert  |
| Dec 9  | Primary Christmas Concert  |
| Dec 16 | Advent Mass 9:15 a.m.      |
| Dec 17 | Last Day of School         |
| Jan 3  | School Begins              |
| Jan 4  | Parent Council             |
| Jan 14 | PA Day                     |
| Jan 18 | Intermediate Ski Club Trip |
| Jan 28 | Grade 7 Vaccine, 8 HPV     |
| Jan 27 | World's Finest Kick Off    |
| Feb 1  | Report Cards Sent Home     |
| Feb 3  | Parent Interviews          |
| Feb 7  | JK Registration Evening    |
| Feb 14 | Valentine's Day            |
| Feb 15 | Grade 2 Reconciliation     |
| Feb 21 | Family Day – No School     |