



BLESSED JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2011

A Prayer For The Virtue Of Respect

*Dear God,
 You have done such a marvelous job of creating us and the world around us. Among your greatest gifts are our friends and acquaintances. They are the yeast in the dough of life –they make life lively and interesting.
 We come to You now asking for the grace and strength to keep a sense of respect. We hope that by recognizing and honoring the shared Spirit in everyone we meet, we can contribute to making our school a safer, more caring, more inclusive community.
 May Your gift of respect help us to live each day with the confidence that we are in the company of people who are not strangers but who are our spiritual brothers and sisters.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus our Brother, who lived to show us your way.
 Amen*



Principal:	H. Peroni	
Secretary:	S. Pushie	905-279-9478
School Council Chair	L. Medeiros	
C. Saytar, Superintendent		905-890-1221
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St. Martin of Tours Parish		905-279-5742
Fr. Joyson, Pastor		
Fr. Phillip, Associate		

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE:

There are a variety of activities which will occur between now and March Break. With team activities, special guests, Lent, excursions, 100 day celebrations, ground hog day, Valentine’s Day and sacramental celebrations, we will be very busy. Despite the many activities which occur around the school, we must always appreciate the fact that our main goal is the full educational development of the children, in an academic, spiritual and physical sense. In particular teachers are focusing their literacy instructions on improving reading skills and numeracy instruction to improve math skills. Please continue to take the time to review your child’s work with them and spend some time reading with them. It does make a difference.

VIRTUES EDUCATION:

During the month of February, we celebrate the virtue of Respect. Respect is seeing the goodness in others. It helps us to see others as God sees them, to accept them as they are, and to treat them with dignity

FEBRUARY - BLACK HISTORY MONTH:

We are privileged to live in a city as diverse as the Greater Toronto Area. As Canadians, we welcome all opportunities to celebrate our differences and to learn more about each other.

Black History Month, which is celebrated during the month of February, is one such opportunity. During this month, we will take time to develop greater awareness and understanding about Black people in Canada and around the World.

IT’S A BOY:

Congratulations to Mrs. Fitzpatrick and her husband on the birth of their healthy son, Andrew John. He was born on January 30th. Mom and baby are doing

great. We welcome Ms. Khalid as Mrs. Fitzpatrick's replacement until the end of June.

REPORT CARDS:

Report cards for Grade 1 – 8 students will be sent home on February 1, 2011. Included in the report card envelope will be your designated interview time. Interviews will take place on Thursday February 3rd in the evening and Friday February 4th during the day. Please take this opportunity to speak with your child's teacher about your child's progress

FEBRUARY 4, 2011 - P. D. DAY:

Friday February 4, 2011 is a professional development day for parent/teacher/student interviews. There will be no school for the students.

FAMILY DAY:

On Monday February 21 we celebrate Family Day. There will be no school for staff or students on that day.

STUDENT ILLNESSES:

This is a reminder that if your child is not feeling well, your child should stay home. If your child is well enough to come to school, he/she is well enough to go outside for recesses and lunch hour. The fresh air will do them good.

SAFE AND FAIR PLAY:

Your child(ren)'s safety is a major concern. Your assistance is required to help us in the strict enforcement of the **NO CONTACT** and **NO INTERFERING** rule. Although it is normal for children to have disagreements, this form of conflict does not appear to be a major problem and is resolved at the school level. Physical contact, interfering and rough play is a concern. We are working with all children to heighten their awareness of what safe play means and to provide examples. The children are cautioned frequently that the components of Safe Play are **NO CONTACT** and **NO INTERFERING** with other children. Students who play together are of quite

different athletic and/or intellectual abilities; to ensure safety of students with varying abilities, you are asked to reinforce these principles with your child(ren). As always you will be notified if your child is in repeated violation of this rule.

STUDENT SAFETY:



We continue to remind students to play smart and play safe in the schoolyard. This includes staying off any ice patches, snow hills and out of puddles, as well as not throwing snow. Your continued support in reminding your children to cooperate with these requests is appreciated. If your child tends to get wet during recess times, please consider sending a change of clothes to school, especially socks and sweat pants. Please remind your students on a regular basis about safety rules on the way to and from school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION SAFETY:



“Students must wear appropriate clothing for physical education classes. Running shoes are a minimum uniform requirement. Shorts or sweatpants and t-shirts are examples of appropriate clothing. Some ill-fitting clothing, scarves, jewelry, hard-soled shoes and socks without shoes can inhibit movement and possibly cause injury during active movement. Hanging jewelry must not be worn. Jewelry which cannot be removed and which present a safety concern (e.g. medical alert identification jewelry) must be taped. Long hair must be secured so as not to block vision.” *Physical Education Safety Guidelines.*

HOUSE LEAGUES:

Students from various grades continue to have the opportunity to participate in house leagues. We would like to thank Mr. Glicner for organizing this and the teachers who volunteered to supervise.

STUDENT ENTRANCES AND EXITS:

We remind students on a regular basis to enter and exit through their assigned doors. Students are not

to be entering and exiting through the front door, or side door that leads to the parking lot.

PIZZA LUNCHES:

Our pizza lunch for this month is on Thursday February 17th.

HEALTHY SNACK AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS:

Thanks to the support of the Boys and Girls Club, we will continue our healthy snack and Breakfast programs. Each class receives a bin with healthy snacks. Teachers will use their discretion to give snacks to students who don't have one.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PED):

This is another reminder that Personal Electronic Devices are not to be used on school property and on school buses. If a student uses any PED's on school property, parents will be contacted to come and pick it up. We will not be responsible for lost or damaged items

ITEMS OF VALUE:

This is a reminder that we cannot assume responsibility for items of value that go missing. A great deal of distress can be avoided if such items as expensive toys, electronic equipment, musical devices, cell phones, trading cards and significant amounts of money are not brought to school.

DRESSING FOR WINTER WEATHER:

Winter is here! Please encourage your child to dress appropriately for the cold weather. The students will continue to play outside for 2 fifteen-minute recesses and 1 forty-minute lunch break. Outdoor play is a healthy and invigorating activity when students are wearing suitable clothing and warm mittens. Please write your child's name on boots, hats, mitts and snowsuits. Children must change into their indoor shoes for warmth, comfort and cleanliness. Please keep an extra pair of mittens and socks in your child's school bag in case they need a dry change.

FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION MEETING

Senior Kindergarten parent(s)/guardian(s) who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 1 French Immersion class for September, 2011 are invited to attend an information meeting at one of the following Parent Information sessions:

- **St Pio of Pietrelcina – Tuesday, February 22, 2011 7:00 p.m.**
- **St Peter - Wednesday, February 23, 2011 7:00 p.m.**
- **St Elizabeth Seton - Thursday, February 24, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

The deadline for submission of applications is **2:00 p.m. Friday, March 11, 2011.**

Should an application have been submitted to more than one centre:

In the event that lotteries take place, each centre, to which an application has been submitted, is required to notify you in writing within six (6) school days of the lottery results. You are responsible for accepting/declining a placement or waitlist ranking from each centre by April 8, 2011.

NOTE: Failure to respond in writing to the notification by the April 8, 2011 deadline will result in a forfeit of either the placement or waitlist ranking.

Should you be interested in applying to either St Pio of Pietrelcina, St Elizabeth Seton or St Peter elementary schools, attendance is required at the Parent/Guardian Information Session in order to obtain an application.

READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN:

“The single most important thing you can do for your children's education is read to them, starting from the day they are born.” (a quote from Richard Worzel, one of Canada's leading futurists)...

“You are encouraged to give your child your **TIME**. Especially, take the time to read to your child.”



How about spending some time at your local library? The best value your tax dollars will ever get you. Wonderful books for free.

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2011-2012:

Registration for the 2011-12 school year will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on:

Monday, February 7, 2011 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*
*Snow Date: Tues., February 8, 2011 - 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Wed., Thurs. & Fri. February 9, 10 & 11, 2011
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2011

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2011

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

- proof of age
- original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman, Greek or Ukrainian Rite, for parent (one) and child (if the child has not been baptized, a letter of counselling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted)
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)

For more information, contact your local Catholic school or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24500.

NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, February 22, 2011
at
6:30 PM
in the Library
Everyone is welcome!

DID YOU KNOW?

A Catholic school can never be simply a place where students accumulate skills and information, a place where they learn how to get ahead and sell their gifts on the open market. If this were so, our schools would prepare students for nothing more than a shallow life far removed from the profound vision of life revealed by the gospel.

– *Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (1989, “The Texture of the Times para. 7)*

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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| Feb 1 | Report Cards go home |
| Feb 2 | Ground Hog Day |
| Feb 2 | Gr.7 Students to Diversity Conference |
| Feb 3 | Student/Parent/Teacher interviews |
| Feb 4 | P. D. Day |
| Feb 8 | Officer Moore visiting classes |
| Feb 9 | Officer Moore visiting classes |
| Feb 11 | Author’s Presentation |
| Feb 14 | Valentine’s Day |
| Feb 15 | National Flag Day |
| Feb 15 | Gr. 2 & 3 Pizza Nova Presentation |
| Feb 22 | Rosary Apostolate |
| Feb 22 | Gr.3 Students Swim Survival Lessons |
| Feb 22 | School Council Meeting 6:30 PM |
| Feb 22 | Gr. 4 Abuse Awareness Parent presentation at CEC |
| Feb 21 | Family Day |
| Feb 17 | Pizza Lunch |
| May 30-Jun 9 | EQAO Testing |

ATTACHMENTS:

Home and School
Tips For Parents: What Parents Can Do To Help Their Children in School
French As A Second Lanuage for Adults