



# BLESSED JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC SCHOOL



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2011

### Prayer As We Begin A New School Year

Lord, May you keep our children safe from harm as they get to and from school each day  
 May you energize and excite our teachers for a new year of teaching, and give them a renewed love for their subjects, a love for their students, and a renewed sense of their great calling  
 May you give the students a love of learning new things  
 May you moderate their homework so our students can get enough sleep  
 May you give principals wisdom, strength, and energy to maintain order, motivate students and teachers, intervene rightly in crises, and address difficult issues each day  
 May you protect each and every school from violence  
 May you suppress bullies of all kinds  
 May you give each student a growing and exciting sense of how you may use them and their gifts in serving others  
 May you give our superintendent every blessing of life, renewed purpose and vision, and primary concern for the students of Mississauga South  
 Into Your hands I commit the school year, 2010/2011.

### PRINCIPALS MESSAGE...



Welcome to all! As we begin this new school year together, we gather to support, encourage, celebrate and learn from each other. We gather as a community to journey in faith and although our pathways are different, our journey is the same. We are very excited about beginning the new school year. I am very pleased to continue as your Principal. I feel privileged to work with your children and yourselves, as well as the exceptional Blessed John XXIII School staff. The staff has been working very hard preparing their classrooms for the students. They are looking forward to working with their new students and the community to make this a truly memorable and rewarding year for everyone. We are especially pleased to welcome all new students and their families to Blessed John XXIII School. We hope and expect that you will very quickly feel at home here! I know I do.

Blessed John XXIII School will continue to promote the spiritual, academic, physical, social and emotional growth of our students throughout the school year. We appreciate your continued support in working collaboratively with the school staff and in seeing that your children carry out their responsibilities as Catholic students. If you have any concerns about your child, you are encouraged to contact the teacher immediately to discuss them. A phone call at the onset of a concern usually resolves the situation before it becomes a problem. For our part, if we have any concerns about your child, we will also contact you at the earliest opportunity.

### SCHOOL HOURS

Grades 1-8	9:00 to 12:00	1:00 to 3:30
Recess	11:00 to 11:15	2:30 to 2:45
JK/SK	9:00 to 11:30	or 1:00 to 3:30

<b>Principal:</b>	<b>H. Peroni</b>	
Secretary:	S. Pushie	905-279-9478
School Council Chair	L. Medeiros	
C. Saytar, Superintendent		905-890-1221
P. Ferriera, Trustee		416- 805-7110
<b>St. Martin of Tours Parish</b>		905-279-5742
Fr. Joyson, Pastor		
Fr. Philip, Associate		

## MESSAGE FROM PETER FERREIRA, YOUR TRUSTEE

As your Trustee, it gives me much pleasure to welcome back all students, staff and parents to another year at Blessed John XXIII School. A special welcome to those who are new to our school community, may it be all that you expect from a Catholic school. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board is a vibrant part of this community and of our parishes, and the preferred choice for parents and supporters of Catholic education in our region. We continue to be a Board that our community can be proud of, as our successes mount and our leadership in provincial initiatives continues to be well-recognized and emulated. Each of us contributes to the betterment of our system and, consequently, to the improvement and quality of experience for our students".

Peter Ferreira  
[Peter.Ferreira@dpcdsb.org](mailto:Peter.Ferreira@dpcdsb.org)  
(416) 805-7110

## PARISH INFORMATION

Our school works very closely with the staff of St. Martin of Tours Church in developing the spiritual lives of our students and in making our school a model of Catholic Education. We look forward to working in partnership with Father Joyson and Father Philip once again as our school pastors.

## STUDENT ABSENCE

If your child is unable to attend school, please call our answering service (*which is available 24 hours a day*) to report the absence and leave the following information; student's name, spelling of the last name and teacher's name. The phone number is 905 279-9478. When students return to school, they are expected to bring a note from their parents stating the reason for their absence.



Students are expected to be on time for school and classes. Students **must** report to the office if they are late.

## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION - TENTATIVE

As we review our numbers this week, it may become necessary to reorganize classes. If changes occur, parents will be notified of the

revised organization. It is hoped that any changes will be completed by September 16, 2011.

## STAFFING CHANGE

Welcome back to Ms. Romani who will be filling in for Ms. Fitzpatrick during her maternity leave until January.

## STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Enrolment is required in writing -- there are two options for enrolment:

- 1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in
- 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

Parents alone have the right to insure their children

## CRIMINAL REFERENCE CHECKS

All parents who volunteer in the school or on class trips **must** have a Criminal Reference Check. If you are planning to assist with a trip or in the school, please ensure that we have a copy of your Criminal Reference Check in the office. If we do not have a copy in the office, you will be unable to volunteer. This can result in some very disappointed children. Forms can be picked up from the office. If you have previously supplied us with your Criminal Reference Check, we will be sending home an Offence Declaration Statement to be filled in and returned to the office.

## VALUABLES

Students are requested **not** to bring valuables, items of importance or money to school. The school **cannot** assume responsibility for items brought to school.

## PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE (PED)



Personal Electronic Devices (**PEDs**) are **Wireless** and/or **Portable Electronic Handheld Equipment** that include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging **Mobile Communication Systems** and **Smart Technologies** (cell phones, smartphones, walkie-talkies, pagers, etc.), **Portable Internet Devices** (mobile managers, BlackBerry handsets, etc.), **PDA**s (Palm organizers, pocket PCs, etc.), **Handheld Entertainment Systems** (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods, Walkmen, etc), digital or film **Cameras**, digital or analogue **Audio Recorders** or **Video Recorders** (tape recorders, camcorders, etc). **Spy Gadgets** (spy cameras, covert listening devices, etc.), and any other **Convergent Communication Technologies** that do any number of the previously mentioned functions. **PEDs** also include any current or emerging **Wireless Handheld Technologies** or **Portable IT Systems** that can be used for the purpose of communication, entertainment, data management, word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.

### THE USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDs) ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

To promote respect for the dignity of all members of our school community and to enhance student achievement and safety, the use of a PED is strictly prohibited in school (including portables) or during school related activities (such as retreats, field trips, sports events, etc).

Failure to comply with this policy may result in the confiscation of the PED and/or disciplinary action as outlined in the Catholic Code of Conduct 2001. The school and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board assume no responsibility for the loss, recovery, repair or replacement for any PED brought onto school property.

It is the policy of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board that PEDs are to be kept out-of-sight, turned off and not used within school premises or during school sanctioned events. To prevent the loss or damage of PEDs, the school encourages students to leave their PEDs at home.

### STUDENT AGENDAS

School Agendas are an excellent tool to assist students with organization of time and materials. It also provides a vehicle for parent/teacher communication. Parents are able to monitor

homework assignments and due dates, as well as special school events. **We encourage every student to purchase an agenda and to use their agenda on a regular and consistent basis. We have purchased Catholic agendas for this school year. They are available to the students at a minimal cost of \$6.50.** Students will receive their agendas when they have submitted the money. We encourage all students to participate in this program as soon as possible.

### SHOES WITH WHEELS

The Canada Safety Council has recommended a ban on "heeling" in public buildings, malls as well as school hallways and playgrounds. The use of these shoes pose a danger not only to the user but also to bystanders. This is a reminder that students **are not** permitted to wear shoes with wheels on school property.

### SCHOOL SAFETY

We continue to remind our students about school safety. Students are reminded on a regular basis that there is to be no physical contact, ie: pushing, shoving, hitting, punching. What can be viewed as playing, can result in students getting hurt. We realize that in most cases, children do not mean to hurt other children, however, because of physical contact, students can be seriously hurt. Through continuous reminders, we are trying to prevent this from happening. We ask for your continued support to remind your children to play with others without physical contact.

### YARD SUPERVISION

The school property is supervised from **8:45** a.m. until **3:45** p.m. on school days. Please do not send students to school before 8:45 a.m.

### STUDENT MONITORS

Please welcome back Mrs. Raymond and Mrs. Medeiros as our Student Monitors for this year. We welcome Mrs. Andrade, as a new monitor. Our monitors work alongside our teachers to supervise the students during the lunch period inside the school and outside at recess.

### LUNCH POLICY



We, and I am sure you, would prefer that the children have a fresh, warm lunch at home and a break from school. This cannot always be the

case. For this reason, students who must remain for lunch will be accommodated. Please fill in the Lunch Time Arrangement Form on the back sheet of this newsletter and return it to your child's teacher by September 9, 2011.

We expect that those students who stay will be well behaved and polite and that they will remain on the school grounds for the entire lunch period. Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students are not permitted to leave school property without written permission from parents/guardians. This includes appointments and lunch. **Students are to sign-out and sign-in once they return to the school.** Parents/guardians are responsible for the conduct, safety and well being of students when they are given permission to leave school property.

### MILK PROGRAM

Our daily milk program will continue this year. Please be on the alert for order forms which will be sent home the second last week of September. Milk will arrive the first week of October.

### LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Once the children have arrived at school, they are not permitted to leave school grounds without **written permission from their parent!** This ruling includes students who normally stay for lunch. Parents are requested to provide the office with a note if their child must leave school for any reason. **Parents who pick up their child early are requested to meet their child at the office and sign them out.**

### STUDENT EXCURSIONS

During the school year students have the opportunity to participate in out of school activities. Students and parents are reminded that students must have a signed permission form before they are permitted to leave the school. To eliminate teachers having to send home a permission form each time they take the students on a walking excursion around the neighbourhood, parents/guardians are asked to sign a Walking Excursion Form each year.

### VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

We ask **all** visitors, including parents, to use the front entrance and check in with the office so we can assist you. Our students' safety is our first concern. Children are very trusting and feel safe in the school. When they see an adult, they assume the adult should be there. If you want to drop off something for your child, or pick them up early, we ask that you report to the office so we can call the student down. Teachers have been directed to refer all visitors/parents to the office. For safety reasons, when picking up your child after school, please wait for them outside to avoid congestion in the hallway.

### PARKING LOT SAFETY

We continue to be very concerned about parking lot safety. Please remind other care givers of the parking lot procedures to use the Kiss & Ride and not enter the staff parking lot to drop off your children. This will help to continue to ensure the safety of your children.

### FRONT DRIVEWAY

This is a reminder that cars are not to be parked at the front of the school, even for a minute. Please use one of the parking spaces at the side of the school or park on the street. This is a fire route and cars can receive a ticket.

### HANDICAP PARKING SPOT

We have a handicap parking spot at the side of the school. Parents are asked not to park in that spot unless they have a handicap parking permit. Cars parked in the handicap spot, without a permit can be ticketed.

### FIRE AND LOCK DOWN DRILLS



In accordance with Ministry regulations, three fire drills will be conducted in the Fall and three in the Spring. While we hope that a real fire situation never arises, this practice will help prepare students in the event of a real fire. Schools are also required to conduct Lock Down Drills. These procedures will be reviewed with students during the first week of school.

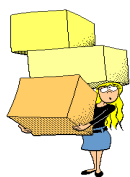
## NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters will normally be sent home with the youngest student in your family, at the beginning of each month. Please take a few minutes to review them, as they contain valuable information about things that are happening at school. We will explore sending newsletters via email, more information to follow.

## CODE OF CONDUCT/PARENT HANDBOOK

The Parent Handbook and Catholic Code of Conduct is available on our school website. <http://www.dpcdsb.org/JHN23> I encourage you to spend some time discussing this with your child(ren). If you would like a hard copy, please contact the office.

## HAVE YOU MOVED??



If you have changed your phone number, address or workplace it is *imperative* that you notify the school **promptly**. It is extremely important that our records be current and up-to-date. In the event of an emergency, we *must* be able to contact you immediately.

## MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Please be advised that for safety reasons, **no child should bring any form of medication to school without prior approval from the office**. The school will store necessary medication in the office, if a Request Form (available in the office) has been filled out and signed by the parent/guardian and doctor.

## NETWORK USER POLICY

Use of the computer and Internet is guided by board guidelines and teacher /adult supervision. All students and parents are required to sign a Network User Policy before students will be permitted to access the Internet. This form must be returned to your child's teacher before they can use the computer.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION PARTICIPATION FORMS

Physical Education is an important part of your child's school day. Students have two physical education lessons per week as well as three daily physical activities (DPA) per week. In order to participate in these activities, parents/guardians as asked to sign the Physical Activity Participation

Form each year. Additional forms will need to be signed if your child participates in extra curricular activities.

## PEDICULOSIS ( HEAD LICE)

A problem which seems to occur at least once each year in most schools is pediculosis, or head lice.

Head lice are parasites which have been common among human beings for centuries. They are not connected in any way with dirt, neglect, and so on. Anyone can become infested with them. Unfortunately, in recent years, they have become quite common throughout North America. In order to control these pests we shall do the following and request your full cooperation.

If a case is found in class, we will send a note home indicating that there has been a case, and ask that you check your own children.

Even if cases are not reported by the school it is a wise precaution to check your children periodically and let us know if you find an infestation. If your children are infested, we will ask you to keep them out of school until after they have been treated with the correct shampoo and their heads are entirely clear of both lice and nits(eggs).

Although we may not entirely escape outbreaks of pediculosis, if we all cooperate we will be able to bring them under control quickly. If you have any questions about the procedures outlined above, please let us know.

## SNACKS

This is a reminder that, for health and safety reasons, students are not permitted to eat or drink outside. Teachers will provide time in class for students to have snacks.

## HEALTHY SNACK PROGRAM

We are very fortunate again this year to receive funding from the Boys and Girls Club for the Healthy Snack Program. Each classroom will be provided with a bin with healthy snacks for students who do not have a snack. If you do not want your child to receive a snack when they forget one, please let your child's teacher know.

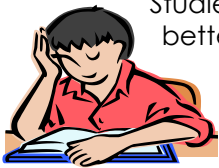
## BREAKFAST CLUB

We have received funding again this year for a breakfast program. The Breakfast Club will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Any students who want breakfast on those days are to meet at the portapak doors at 8:30 AM. . A staff member will be there to greet them. Students are not permitted to enter through the front doors. We will notify the students as to when this program will begin.

## NUT ALLERGIES

As we begin a new school year we would like to remind you that Blessed John XXIII Catholic School is an allergen aware school. There are students who suffer from a life threatening food allergy to nuts, peanuts or anything made from peanut products. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe and life threatening reactions. The most common allergen triggers are food, insect stings, medications, and latex. An anaphylactic reaction involves symptoms from two or more body systems. We at Blessed John XXIII School would appreciate the co-operation of the entire school community by **NOT** sending any lunches or snacks that contain nut or peanut related products which would potentially harm a pupil. As a reminder, **Tim Horton's products may contain traces of nuts**, therefore we ask, that you not send them to school with your children. Please make sure that all of your children's caregivers are aware of the food restrictions. **We also ask that you avoid sending food for birthday or special occasions. Though the treats are much appreciated there are many alternatives that are safer such as stickers and pencils.** We look forward to your cooperation in making this a safe year for all our students.

## ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Studies show that students perform better in school if their parents are involved in their education. Parents therefore have an important role to play in supporting their children's learning. By reading the curriculum, parents can find out what their children are learning in each grade and why they are learning it. This knowledge of the curriculum will enable parents to discuss their children's work with them, to communicate with teachers, and to ask relevant questions about their children's progress. Their knowledge of the expectations in each grade will also help parents interpret their children's report card and work with

teachers to improve students' learning. For this reason, parents are urged to read the expectations for all grades rather than just the particular grades their children are in.

Teachers and students have complementary responsibilities. Teachers are responsible for developing a variety of appropriate instructional strategies that will involve students actively in the curriculum and at the same time address different student needs.

Students have responsibilities with regard to their own learning, which increase as they advance through elementary and secondary school. Those willing to make the effort required, and are able to apply them, soon learn that there is a direct relationship between achievement and hard work. Such students become motivated, self-directed learners.

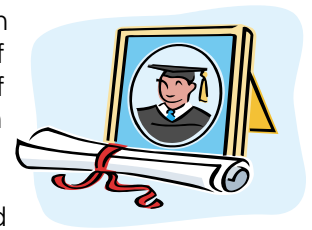
Some students, however, find it more difficult to take responsibility for their learning because of special challenges they face. For these students, the attention, patience, and encouragement of teachers can be extremely important factors for success. Regardless of their circumstances, learning to take responsibility for their own progress and learning is an important part of education for all students.

In order for students to achieve success at their highest potential, the following academic expectations and responsibilities of teachers, parents and student of Blessed John XXIII are outlined:

**Please take a moment now to go over these expectations with your child/children.**

### Academic Expectations

Students and parents can expect to be informed of the due dates of assignment and tests within a reasonable time line. Students and parents can expect test dates and assignments due dates are adhered to.



Students can expect opportunities to request additional assistance from teachers when assignments are not understood.

Parents can expect communication from school to home regarding due dates and homework assignments via the student agendas.

Students can expect opportunities to have access to core resource materials required to complete an

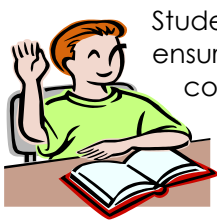
assignment. Where students need to share textbooks, due dates for assigned work will reflect the need to allow sufficient time for each student to have access to the textbook.

Teachers can expect that students will adhere to due dates, adequately prepare themselves for tests and complete assigned work to their level of academic ability.

Teachers can expect that parent(s) will monitor their son/daughter's homework on a frequent basis and be proactive in communicating any concerns regarding their son/daughter's academic progress to the teacher.

### **Academic Responsibilities**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they adequately prepare themselves for tests.



Students have the responsibility for ensuring that all assignments are completed to their highest level of academic ability and that due dates are adhered to.

Please Note: Where an extension of a due date is required, the parent is responsible for requesting the extension, in writing and the reason thereof, in advance of the due date.

Students have the responsibility of accessing assistance from teachers when they do not understand an assignment or task.

Teachers have the responsibility of ensuring test dates and due dates for assignments are communicated well in advance, recorded in school agendas. Teachers also have a responsibility of ensuring that students have access to the necessary resources to complete assigned work.

Parents have a responsibility of ensuring that students complete homework assignments and adhere to due dates.

### **Strategies**

The teachers and administration of Blessed John XXIII School strive to ensure that students are given opportunities to meet their highest academic potential. This is achieved not only through the implementation of a quality curriculum, but also through teachers making themselves available to students who require extra assistance; through frequent communications with parents and students regarding academic progress.

Where students are offered opportunities for assistance and where it is determined that students are capable of completing assigned work to their highest academic potential, it is expected that students will achieve a high level of success. When teachers and/or administration have a concern that a student is not meeting his/her academic responsibilities, a number of strategies are employed:

- Informal communication with parent/guardian
- Formal meeting involving student/parent/teacher and administrator
- Student required to access support to complete assigned work – possible recess detentions may occur
- Certain privileges may be withheld until all assignments are completed
- Student recommended for summer school
- Promotion to the next grade at risk

For students in grade eight, where students are offered opportunities for assistance and where it is determined that students are capable of completing assigned work to their highest academic potential, and where the students have not successfully completed the curriculum or assessments – participation in graduation ceremonies and celebrations may be withheld. Should this strategy be employed, parents will be part of the discussion well in advance of the final decision being made.

### **Homework is Worthwhile!**

Although homework covers a wide range of tasks and activities from spelling drills to research assignments, it serves many purposes.

### **Homework should:**

- Reinforce skills and concepts taught during class time
- Provide extra practice in areas where the student is weak
- Help students to develop self discipline and self motivation
- Allow students to gain experiences in research techniques
- Prepare for presentations
- Provide an opportunity for students to develop student habits necessary for secondary and post secondary education (ie. Organization of time and materials, study skills etc.)
- Provide parents an informal means of monitoring student progress

- Please take a moment to read the Board Policy on Homework located in your child(ren)'s agenda.

## **SAFE, CARING, INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS VIRTUES EDUCATION**

**The Virtues...**A virtue is a habit or established capacity to perform good actions according to a moral standard. A Catholic school is the ideal place to practice and prepare to live a virtuous life. Many elements of Catholic character and virtue are developed in Dufferin-Peel schools. In the coming year, our school will focus on virtues education. Details are included in your child's planner. Although all virtues will be entwined throughout the year, a specific monthly focus will be highlighted in accordance with our school diversity plan, and our bully prevention program. Highlights include: Faith God, Empathy God, Conscience God, Hope God, Self-Control God, Respect God, Kindness God, Love God, Acceptance God, and Fairness God. When we act out these virtues, we are making the presence of God visible in the world around us. Thank you for your support in re-enforcing these virtues.

**This month, we will focus on the virtue of Faith.** Faith is an attitude, which encourages us to involve God in our lives and helps us develop and maintain our relationships with God and with others, when things are going well and when they are not. Please take a moment to talk to your child(ren) about this virtue and how we will be demonstrating this virtue at Blessed John XXIII School.

## **DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS**

On Fridays, you may notice that our staff is not dressed as professionally as usual. We as a staff will be participating in Dress Down Fridays and the money will be going to ShareLife.

## **PICTURE DAY – EDGE PHOTOGRAPHY**

Student pictures will be taken on Tuesday Sept. 20, 2011. Flyers will be sent home soon. The photographer will be provided with class lists containing personal information (students' ID, names, grades and homeroom). These lists will be returned when the photography sessions are completed. If you do not wish your child's personal information to be shared with the photographer, please contact the Principal prior to September 16, 2011. As well, if you do not wish your child to participate in the actual taking of the photographs, please contact the Principal.

## **OPEN HOUSE**

The Annual Open House, giving parents an opportunity to meet the teachers, will be held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Please make every effort to come and say hello to your child's teacher for the 2011 – 2012 school year. Curriculum At A Glance For Parents will also be distributed that evening.

## **OPENING SCHOOL MASS**



We are truly blessed to be so close to St. Martin of Tours Parish, we are able to walk to the church, weather permitting and celebrate the Eucharist at the church. We will celebrate our first mass of the school year on Tuesday September 27, 2011 at 10:00 AM. Please join us if you are available.

## **GRADE TWO AND EIGHT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION MEETINGS:**

This First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation INFORMATION MEETING for PARENTS/GUARDIANS ONLY

will be held Monday, September 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM. or Tuesday September 20, 2011 at 7:00 PM



The Confirmation INFORMATION MEETING for PARENTS/GUARDIANS ONLY

will be held Monday September 26, 2011 at 7:00 PM or Monday, September 27, 2011 at 7:00 PM

**at St. Martin of Tours Parish  
1290 McBride Ave  
Mississauga, Ontario**

## **INFORMATION NEEDED**

As the new school year begins, we are required to get specific forms signed. Each student will be sent home with a package of forms that we ask you fill in and return to your child's teacher before September 16<sup>th</sup>. The forms will include:

**Network User Policy**

**Physical Education Participation Form**

**Walking Excursion Form**

**Lunch Hour Arrangement Information**

**Posting Information on the school website**

**Freedom of Information and Protection Act**

## SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Attached you will find a copy of the 2011 – 20112 School Year Calendar to inform you as to when the holidays and Professional Development Days are.

### **P. A. DAY - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011.**

Friday, September 16th is a Professional Activity Day for teachers and there are no classes for students. Teachers will be spending the day on curriculum related items.

### **TOONIE FOR TERRY**

Once again, Blessed John XXIII School will participate in a fundraiser in memory of Terry Fox. Almost everyone has been touched by cancer and we mark this day with other schools to raise funds for "the cure". We are counting on your usual generosity and are asking each student to donate a "Toonie for Terry" in support of his dream. All students will participate in a walk around the neighbourhood on Sept. 30th in afternoon. We thank you in anticipation of your support.

### **JUICE POUCHES**

We will continue to collect Juice pouches again this year, please send empty juice pouches to school. We receive two cents a pouch.

### **4 LITRE MILK MAGS**

We will be collecting the outside of coloured milk bags, to have mats made for Haiti. Please wash and dry them, fold them flat and send them to school.

### **FALL FUNDRAISER**



Once again the school will be participating in our 17<sup>th</sup> annual **Halloween Move-a-thon fundraiser.**

The purpose of this event is to raise funds to support our student's learning, excursions, special events and club activities, sports program, artists in the school and our academic programs. **Mark your calendars for this fun filled event – Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**. More information to follow. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

## **BLESSED JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION NOTICE**

It is our pleasure to invite all parents to consider becoming a member of the School Advisory Council. Please note that our Council will be comprised of parents, school staff as well as community and parish representatives. The goal of the School Council is to support school activities and students through involvement and fundraising efforts. The School Council also provides a forum for parents to meet and share information and ideas concerning the school community. If you are interested in becoming a member of our school council, visit the school office in order to obtain a nomination form. **Forms must be submitted to the office by Friday, September 23rd, 2011. If an election is necessary, it will be held on Tuesday, September 27th.**

On behalf of the school community, a special thank you is extended to last year's School Council members for their outstanding work during the course of the year. I am sure that students will continue to benefit from their dedication and commitment to Catholic Education.

The Catholic School Council will have a display set up in the front hall the evening of the Open House outlining their role in our school, the events they are proposing for the school year, along with a sign up list for volunteers for these events. All parents and guardians are invited to join the Council at all General Meetings.

See the attached letter for more information. The first School Council meeting and elections will be Tuesday, September 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

### **FREE FAMILY LITERACY WORKSHOPS**

This year Blessed John XXIII School will continue to partner with the Region of Peel to provide families with free Family Literacy Workshops. Family Literacy Workshops will increase parents' knowledge and understanding of early literacy activities for children ages 0-6 years. Parents and children will work together on an activity related to a particular topic, and end with a story and nursery rhymes. The early years (0-6) is the most critical time for development, and is significant to a child's educational success. I strongly encourage all parents to consider participating in this worthwhile program.

The workshops will take place in Room 103 every Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. starting October 5<sup>th</sup> and ending November 30<sup>th</sup> 2011.

You may register for the program by calling 905-791-1585 x7222 or online at <http://www.peelregion.ca/children/programs/family-literacy/index.htm>

## ELEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL CLASSES

Elementary International classes are available to students in grades JK to 8. No prior language experience is necessary. International Languages programs comply with the Ministry of Education curriculum and will be of interest to students who wish to preserve their language and cultural heritage and to those who wish to study the language and heritage of another culture. Registration will be on a first-come, first served basis. Classes will be cancelled if there is insufficient enrolment. Continuous Elementary International Languages Registration begins Saturday, September 10, 2011 to June 12, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Please register at the I.L. site where you would like your child to attend, on Saturdays only.** Please go to the Dufferin Peel website, <http://www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne> for locations and languages available.

## GROLIER-ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

For some years our school's students have had free at-home access to Grolier on-line Encyclopedias (<http://go.grolier.com>). Students had to obtain their own username and password. The Ontario Government purchased a 2 year license which gives all students in Ontario **free at-home access to this resource**. There is also only one username and one password for students in our board:

USERNAME: **duffpeel**  
PASSWORD: **duff7878**

The encyclopedias have access to over 300,000 safe web sites which have been evaluated by Grolier's staff as good for student research. There are three different reading levels:  
New Book of Knowledge - reading level grade 3 and up  
Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia - reading level late grade 4 and up  
American Encyclopedia - reading level grade 6 and up

There is also valuable information on how to study, to write and to do research.

## ATTACHMENTS

Message from Superintendent Saytar  
School Council Information  
Achievement: A Report to our Catholic School Communities  
Home & School Connection  
School Year Calendar

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 16	P. D. Day – no school for students
Sept 20	Picture Day
Sept 22	Grade 7 Hep B
Sept 22	Open House – 6:30
Sept 23	School Council Forms due
Sept 27	Mass at St. Martin Parish 10:00
Sept 30	Terry Fox Walk

