



**BLESSED JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC SCHOOL**



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2011

REMEMBRANCE AND PEACE

*Lord Jesus Christ , Those whom we remember this month are examples of your words "Greater love than this no one has than to lay down one's life for a friend."*

*This month we remember all those who lived and died for us: their energy and their effort to defend our freedom for our loved ones and for our country.*

*Teach us to appreciate the value of patriotism.... a true and Christian love of country.*

*Let us grow in a love for our country that consists not of following blindly, but of working together to make it the land of goodness that it should be.*



**PRINCIPALS MESSAGE:**

November is a time for us to remember those who went before us. All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day are opportunities to try to recapture the memories of those we love and cherish. This month is also a time to remember those who worked so hard that we may have peace. On Friday, November 11th at 10:40 we will have a Remembrance Day liturgy in the gym. This is the time to share with the students an understanding and appreciation for those who have made our country what it is today.

**VIRTUES EDUCATION**

During the month of November we will focus on the virtue of CONSCIENCE. Conscience means God helps us to choose to be good people. Conscience helps us to live together in a safe, caring and inclusive community by knowing how to recognize and create a safe, peaceful place based on conscience.

**A person with conscience . . .**

- Chooses to do the 'right thing' and feels good about it.
- Can see how his/her actions may hurt others.
- Admits his/her wrong-doing and feels badly.
- Says 'sorry' and tries to make up for mistakes.
- Keeps promises.

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

November is the month of Holy Souls. During November we will pray for and remember all the faithful departed. We will have a Book of Remembrance set up in the front foyer. We invite members of our community to write the names of their loved ones in this book and we will read the names during morning announcements and prayers.

<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. Ferreira, Trustee		416- 805-7110
<b>St. Martin of Tours Parish</b>		905-279-5742
Fr. Joyson, Pastor		
Fr. Philip, Associate		

## MOVE-A-THON

Our Move-a-thon was a huge success. The students had a great time. It was great seeing the students, staff, Fr. Joyson, and parents having fun. A special thank you to Mrs. Valeri-Lutz for organizing this wonderful event and to Mrs. Dalli for assisting. Thank you for your efforts, all money raised will be used to enhance student experiences at school.

## POPPIES



We will be selling poppies as a remembrance of all those who have fought for our country and for those that are still fighting for our country. Please bring in loose change for the Canadian

Legion.

## GRADE 2 RECONCILIATION

The Grade 2 students, who registered with the church, will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday November 21st at St. Martin of Tours Church at 7:00 PM.

## ROMAN MISSAL

Starting at the beginning of Advent, we will be using the Roman Missal. There have been some slight changes to the mass. We will be teaching the students the new responses.

## PIZZA DAY

This month's Pizza Day will be Thursday, November 17th. All monies raised goes to support school activities.

## P. D. DAY

There will be a professional development day on Friday November 18, 2011. Staff will be participating in Provincial Priority activities and faith formation. There will be no school for students on that day.

## INTRA/EXTRAMURALS:

Congratulations to our Cross Country team. They had a great time preparing and competing. A special congratulations to Romeo for representing our school at the Board Cross Country Meet. Congratulations also goes to our Intermediate Girls' and Boys' Volleyball teams who competed in various games against different schools in the area. We are extremely proud of all teams. A special

thank you is extended to Ms. Romani, Mr. Mifsud, and Mr. Glicner for coaching the teams.

## WHAT'S UP STAND UP!!!!

On November 1, 2011, The Family Channel hosted a STAND UP TO BULLYING RALLY at Blessed John XXIII School. Celebrities from the "What's Up Warthogs!", Ed Witzke and Ana Golja, along with singer, Tyler Medeiros shared stories and celebrated ways to stand up to bullying. This rally will air on the Family Channel on November 14, 2011. Thanks to Cassidy, for entering a contest. As a result, our school was chosen as one of four schools across Canada to have this exciting rally.

## STUDENT SAFETY

Thank you to all who support our efforts to provide a safe learning environment for our students by co-operating with school policies related to safety and security. All visitors **MUST** report to the office, sign in and receive a visitor or volunteer badge. We thank the parents and visitors who are following this policy. Also, we continue to remind the students that safety is our top priority. We encourage students to be extra careful in the school yard and to always use appropriate entrances and exits.

## PARKING LOT SAFETY

We have had many situations where parents/guardians were not following the parking lot rules. Please remember to follow the direction of the Kiss and Ride. **Do not** enter against the flow of the traffic. Please do not park your car in the Kiss and Ride Lanes, this holds up the flow of traffic and causes an unsafe situation. Please **do not** drive through the bus lane, this holds up our busses and can put children at risk, in addition you could be ticketed. Always park in designated spaces. Please be very careful when entering and exiting the parking lot, we strongly suggest that you do not back up, some students are very excited to get to school to see their friends and can be very quick. They don't always look where they are going.

## PEDICULOSIS ( 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. If your child has lice, it is **your** responsibility to notify the school. We will send a note home indicating that there has been a case in the class, and ask parents to check their 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 and their heads are entirely clear of both lice and nits(eggs). The child/children must be checked by the office before returning to class.

Although we may not entirely escape outbreaks of pediculosis, if we all cooperate we will continue to keep it under control quickly.

### **INDOOR SHOES**

Students are not permitted to wear boots inside the school, even if they are fashion boots. Students are reminded to keep a pair of indoor shoes at school. These can be shoes that they wear for gym. Please remember that shoes worn in the gym are not to have dark soles.

### **COLDER WEATHER**

In colder weather we often receive requests to allow children to remain indoors when students have a cold or the flu. Please note that we cannot comply, as we have neither the facilities nor the staff to supervise these students. Please use discretion in keeping your child at home to recover if they are ill. If your child is well enough to attend school, they should be well enough to go outside for a recess break.

The school program is comprised of both physical and academic activities. Part of the physical activities includes fifteen minutes recess, morning and afternoon and forty minutes at lunch. Unless the weather is extremely cold (-25°C) or wet, recess will be outside. Students should come to school dressed accordingly. Research indicates that fresh air allows students to refocus on their studies. On extremely cold days, we limit the amount of time that students spend out of doors. We obtain our information from Environment Canada Weather Information and follow board guidelines. As the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the colder weather, it is always a good idea to send in an extra pair of socks and mitts.

### **SCHOOL WEBSITE:**

Mrs. Gremmen will be updating it on a regular basis. Our school website is up and running. Please visit it at: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/JHN23>.

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

This is a reminder that our Breakfast Club is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8:30. Students must wait at the portapak doors for the teachers. Thanks to Ms. Romani and Ms. Anderson for organizing this program.

### **BACK UP LUNCH HOUR SUPERVISOR NEEDED**

If you have a Criminal Reference Check and would like to be a back up Student Monitor, please contact the office.

### **VALUABLES**

We continue to see students who bring valuables to school from home. Please help us protect your child's valuables by keeping them at home. School staff cannot be responsible for any valuables that your child brings to school. Also, a reminder is necessary that all Personal Electronic Devices are not allowed in school. This includes cell phones and cameras. We continue to see that cell phones are brought to school by our students. They must be out of sight and cannot be used at any time during the school day. If used inappropriately they will be taken away from the student and handed in to the office to be returned to the student at the end of the day. If this occurs more than once, parents will be asked to come to the school to pick up the cell phone.



### **PUNCTUALITY**



Punctuality continues to be a concern for some students. Please encourage and assist your child to recognize that punctuality is a responsibility, which all students should be developing. Students *must* report to the office if they are late. Persistent lates will result in a before school detention.

### **STUDENT SUPERVISION AND STUDENT SAFETY**

This is another reminder that student supervision is from 8:45 A.M. to 3:45 P.M. Please remind your children that they are not to arrive at school prior to 8:45 A.M. and they are to leave school property when they are dismissed at 3:30 P.M. Please keep in mind that the school office closes at 4:00 P.M.

### **SAFE PLAY**

At Blessed John XXIII School, your child(ren)'s safety is a major concern. The children are cautioned and reminded frequently that the components of

Safe Play are NO CONTACT and NO INTERFERING with other students. Please support us in our ongoing efforts to keep your child(ren) safe.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**



We are pleased to announce that our **Seventh Annual Breakfast With Santa** will take place on **Saturday, December 3, 2011 at the school.**

It will be very similar to last year's event with breakfast, crafts for the children, bake sale treats, entertainment by our Jammin' Jay Hawk Choir, and a special guest performance. Santa will be there with time set aside for special family photograph opportunities provided by a professional photographer and all proceeds of the pictures will go to ShareLife! Mark your calendars and be sure to bring along family and friends to this fun-filled community event!

**School Council needs your help** to ensure the success of this day.

Volunteers are need:



- To provide baked goods for our bake sale
- To provide gift donations of any kind for our raffle table
- To assist with set up on the Friday evening
- To assist with the many fun activities that are planned, ie: face painting, serving food, craft room, bake sale, raffles, etc

If you are able to assist please leave your name and number at the school office. All help will be greatly appreciated. By working together, we can continue to make this a wonderful event for the children.

**NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, November 22, 2011**  
**6:30 PM**  
**In the Library**

All parents are welcome to attend.

**CHRISTMAS BASKETS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Once again we will encourage our students to share their bounty with those who are less fortunate by bringing in items to support **St. Vincent de Paul**

**Christmas Baskets.** At this time we are sponsoring 6 families in need. Here are a few suggestions of items that have been requested for the families. Student Council will be preparing the Christmas baskets. Thank you for your continuing generosity for those in need.

**Wish List**

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Turkey vouchers        | Gift Certificates |
| Hats, Mittens, Scarves | Socks             |
| Toys for children      | Toiletries        |
| Canned Mea             | Canned Fruit      |
| Chocolates/Candies     | Movie Passes      |
| Sports Equipment       | Books             |

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION DID YOU KNOW ...**

... why Catholic Schools can't operate as part of just one publicly funded school system? The Catholic school system offers a distinctive and valuable approach to education. For Ontario, this distinctive approach would be compromised within the context of one umbrella board where administrative and financial control would often be in the hands of people who do not support, or may even oppose, our vision of education. A separate governing structure is essential for Catholic Schools. The Constitution guarantees and recognizes the right of Catholic parents to govern and manage the education of their children. The highest courts in the land have consistently upheld this right. *(Ontario Catholic Trustees Association)*

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Nov 1       | All Saints Day   |
| Nov 2       | All Souls Day  |
| Nov 11      | Remembrance Day  |
| Nov 17      | Pizza Day  |
| Nov 18      | Professional Development Day                             |
| Nov 21      | Gr. 2 Reconciliation- St. Martin of Tours Church 7:00 PM |
| Nov 22      | Rosary Apostolate visits classes                         |
| Nov 22      | School Council 6:30 PM                                   |
| Nov 23 – 24 | Officer Moore Visits classes                             |
| Nov 27      | First Sunday of Advent                                   |
| Nov 28      | Mr. Mifsud's class to Silvercreek                        |

Enclosures:

- Home & School Connection
- Board of Trustee report on EQAO results
- Stakeholder Responsibilities in Mississauga

