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## The Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2006-07 school year. A special welcome to our new Grade 9s and their parents/guardians; we are very pleased to have you as part of our Mount Carmel community. We have experienced a very successful start up from our Grade 9 Orientation, our Terry Fox Walk, the many sports teams who are representing us so well, our Opening School Mass, our Grade 9 Retreat and so many other activities that are too numerous to include. Our liturgical focus this year is "Living the Beatitudes Daily", a goal for each and everyone of us. We are a very busy school and we have something that would interest each member of our community.

Our Grade level assemblies provided us with an opportunity to review the Catholic Code of Conduct as well as outlining the importance of developing responsibility skills-attendance, punctuality, and preparedness if one wishes to be successful. A key area of concern that we have as administrators is attendance. Last year it became apparent that those students who missed numerous days of school were not nearly as successful as those who attended regularly. As administrators, we are very concerned about attendance and seek the cooperation of our parent community. Please advise the school office of your child's absence (905-824-1025 ext. 68103) and try where possible to make appointments outside the school day and restrict your vacations to school breaks.

As this news letter goes to print, we are beginning to prepare for the Advent Season. Please join your Catholic School Council for their Advent Liturgy on Thursday, November 30th in the Chapel.

This is our "mini" Chronicle, for more detailed news please refer to our School Website (<http://www.dpcdsb.org/carms>). We look forward to working with you in what looks to be another exciting school year.

Sincerely

Catherine Kwiatkoski

## From the Chaplain's Desk

This year Carmel's staff and students have been looking more closely at the Beatitudes from Matthew's Gospel. How do these **Beatitudes** inform the way we live as a Catholic school community?

Our school year has been marked by many spiritual highlights this year. Grade 9 students attended an all-day retreat at **St. Volodymr's Cultural Centre** in Oakville during the first week of October. We were about 480 people strong that day counting teachers, administration and young leaders. The positive response from our grade 9's encourages us to look at the same type of retreat for our incoming grade 9's next fall. Many grade 10 classes have been on their **Service and Prayer** retreat. Every Tuesday a group of grade 10's goes to **Canadian Food for Children** to work in the factory where food and clothing are shipped daily to some of the poorest in our world. This is followed by attendance at 12:10 Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral. We have become regulars at this Mass as we have been attending Mass at the Cathedral on Tuesdays for just short of 4 years.

Throughout the winter months, students and staff will be serving dinner to the poor of downtown Toronto at the **Out of the Cold Dinner** at St. Michael's Cathedral. These dinners help bring us closer together as community and remind us that many live with so much less.

In a very short time we begin the journey into a new liturgical year with the season of Advent. We are people of hope with much to be grateful for.

*To whom much is given, much will be expected.* Luke 12:48

Anne Brisbois-Abbott

*Principal*  
Catherine Kwiatkoski

*Vice - Principals*  
Shawn Clarkin (A-F)  
Patricia Romero (G-N)  
Dan Compagnon (O-Z)

*Student Services*  
Darlene Danis (A-Da)  
Mary O'Connor-Lehoux (De-I)  
Caroline Mallozzi (J-N)  
Rosemarie Diaz (O-S)  
Larry Young (T-Z)

*Chaplain*  
Ann Brisbois Abbott

*Attendance Secretary*  
Daniela Kobialko  
905-824-1025 -Ext. 68103

*Superintendent*  
Michael Prospero  
905-890-1221

*Trustee*  
Esther O'Toole  
905-812-5163

*School Council Chair*  
E. O'Hearn  
905-824-6696

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 21 -Apprenticeship Fair

Nov. 22 – 23 -Jostens Ring Sale

Nov. 23 - Parent Teacher Interview Night

Nov. 24 -Co-Op Career Showcase

Nov. 30 – Catholic School Council Meeting 7 p.m.

Dec. 4 – 13 - Grad Photos

Dec. 21 – Advent Mass for School

Jan. 23 – Jan 29 - Exams

# News and Events

Please note that the addition of the two Secondary School Professional Development Days, has accelerated the Semester 1 Examination Schedule by one day: January 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 2007

## Midterm Report Cards

Due to the changeover of our data management system to Trillium we have been experiencing some difficulties generating Midterm Report Cards. Only general comments are being used for this round of mark reporting. Subject specific comments will be implemented for subsequent report cards. Also, we have had difficulty transferring accurate attendance data from our daily records to the Midterm Report file. Parents who question the accuracy of their child's reported absence totals should contact the appropriate teacher directly.

## The Apprenticeship Fair

The annual Apprenticeship Fair will be held on November 21 and will include presentations on hairstyling, tool and die, truck mechanics (new!), ECE, chef training, electrical, carpentry, auto, Seneca College, Humber College, Sheridan College, YMCA, the Military and more!

This year the key note speaker is Anna Olson. She is a pastry chef and hosts the TV show *Sugar* and co-hosts *Kitchen Equipped*. She owns Olson's Food + Bakery and has written several cookbooks. Students will have an opportunity to meet her and ask questions.

## Co-Op

Employers interested in becoming a partner with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Secondary School's Cooperative Education Program, or students interested in applying to the Program are invited to contact the Coop Department at 905-824-1025 ext. 68317 or visit our office in room 211A.

## Food & Nutrition

The grade 12 Food & Nutrition class has been exploring trends in nutrition and disease. This month, the students raised awareness for Diabetes by collecting grocery receipts that will be used for research as well as posting daily announcements to the school community about the topic. As we all are aware, the rise of childhood obesity is on the rise. The more empowered our children are, the healthier our future leaders will be. For more information about diabetes visit [www.diabetes.ca](http://www.diabetes.ca). Stay tuned for upcoming health topics that could concern you and your family.

*Ms. Chiavaro*

## Christmas concert

Carmel MUSIC is busy preparing for their annual Christmas Concert to be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. in the school's library. Tickets will be available from any Carmel MUSIC member in early December at the cost of \$5.00/person or \$10/family. Hope to see you there. Musically, *Mr. O. Bove & Mr. R. Notarfonzo*

## Grade 9 EQAO Math Test

Attention all parents. Do you want to help your child prepare for the EQAO math test? Click onto [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com) and download past copies from the student resources link. As an incentive to prepare and do well, students at the academic level who achieve 75% or better and students at the applied level who achieve 70% or better may be exempt from their final exam.

## Junior Boys Volleyball

Jump, Set, Spike...this is what Our Lady of Mount Carmel's junior volleyball team is doing right at this moment. The Crusaders finished their regular season in 6<sup>th</sup> place and are headed to the semi-finals (as of press time). The boys are working hard and hope to bring home a Tier Two championship. Good luck! Coaches Janicki and Kreatsoulas are proud of you.

## Worried about passing the Grade 10 Literacy Test? Need that extra edge?

There is help out there!! Starting in February, after school classes will be held to help students prepare for the test. Classes will focus on the different reading and writing components that will be encountered on the actual test. This course is especially useful to those who have not been successful in past Literacy tests and for ESL students. Watch for more information in the next Chronicle and on the announcements in January or see Ms. Turgeon in the math office for more details.

## Guidance News - Scholarship Club

Scholarships are available to a variety of students and are not restricted to high academic marks. There are thousands of scholarships available and each year many of these awards receive few, if any applications. Get involved and come out to the scholarship club to learn how money can be made available to you. See Mrs. Mallozzi in guidance for details.

[www.studentcounsellor.com](http://www.studentcounsellor.com) and [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)

Username: OLMCS

Password: Crusaders

## Planning for Independence Program

The students and staff of the Planning for Independence Program (PIP) would like to welcome our new students: Joshua B., Megan C., Kelly G., Sanita M., Michelle P. and Tena N. We would also like to welcome new staff to our team: Ms. Canavan, Ms. Judd, Ms. Jurys, Ms. Liska and Ms. Russell.

We are proud to have our senior students at their co-op placement out in the community:

- Greeting Wal Mart's customers and stocking merchandise
- Reshelfing returned books at the local public library
- Working at McDonalds
- Working at Blockbusters
- delivering teachers' mail in the school office
- Helping our custodians with recycling

In September we trained everyday for the 5k Walk for the Cure. This is one of the first years that all PIP students completed the entire walk! We congratulate Sharon Y. who won the Planning for Independence Program Award. She was recognized for her contribution as PIP's first student council rep.

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In October we held our first PIP election for Student Council Rep. Congratulations to Megan C. as our new Student Council Rep!

For November, we have been praying for our family and friends who have died. We made a special tribute display and filled out a memory book in the school chapel. In physical education we are training hard for our upcoming basketball tournament at Philip Pocock Secondary on Dec. 1st. Our money management program is up and running. We'll be shortly opening our own bank accounts and depositing money.

## MATH DEPARTMENT

- A) The Mathies:** Here we are, at the beginning of another busy but exciting year. We are very happy to welcome two new department members: Merinda DiMartino and Barbara Litwa. We would also like to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy on the birth of their son, Matthew James, in July.
- B) Stay In Touch:** If you wish to discuss the progress of your son/daughter with us, please ask your son/daughter for the **name of their teacher** and then call 905-824-1025 ext. 68021.
- C) Extra Help:** Extra help is available from your teacher by appointment. As well, the math extra help room is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 pm to 4 pm in room 15.
- D) Grade 9 EQAO Math Test:** Attention all parents. Do you want to help your child prepare for the EQAO math test? Click onto [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com) and download past copies from the student resources link. As an incentive to prepare and do well, students at the academic level who achieve 75% or better and students at the applied level who achieve 70% or better may be exempt from their final exam.
- E) Contests**  
Enjoy a challenge? Sign up to participate in a math contest. Registration for the Champ contests (gr. 9, 10, 11) and the Waterloo Junior Math (gr. 9, 10, 11) contests take place in November. Registration for the Waterloo Euclid Contest (gr. 12) takes place in January. Sign up with your math teacher or at the math office.
- Champ Math Contests:**  
Grades 9, 10, and 11  
When: Wednesday, December 6, 2007  
Period 1  
Where: Library  
Registration Fee: \$1
- Waterloo Math Contests:**  
Grades 9, 10, and 11  
When: Tuesday, February 20, 2006  
Where: Library  
Periods 1 & 2  
Registration Fee: \$1  
Grade 12  
When: Tuesday, April 17, 2006  
Where: Library  
Periods 1 & 2  
Registration Fee: \$5

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Council News**  
Welcome to a new school year at Our Lady of Mount Carmel!

The School Council meeting dates are: Thursday, November 30/06, January 18/07, February 22/07, March 22/07, April 19/07, June 7/07, at 7:00pm in the Library.

Please welcome your new School Council members for the 2006/2007 school year:

Co-Chairs: Ehretia O'Hearn and Elaine Lord  
Secretary: Susan Ksiezopolski  
Treasurer: Trish Murphy  
Principal: Cathy Kwiatkoski  
Teacher Representative: Mike Kenny  
Non-Teacher Representative: Judy St.Louis  
Student Council Representatives: Chantelle S. and Jason F.  
*Parish Representative: Mary Magri*  
OAPCE Representative: Susan Ksiezopolski  
Community Representative: Anita Koczekan  
Members at Large: Sandra Fernandes, Linda Haffey, Colomba McAlary, Ken Richards, Geoffrey Smith, Kathy Stavroff, Lorraine Stockdale

Thank you to the above members for their dedication and for the gift of their time!

Traditionally, the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School Council has always been an enthusiastic and productive team, and this year is no exception.

Council is actively planning events for this year. The following events have been scheduled so far and we will keep you will be updated:

- September 21: Catholic School Council meeting, Elections and Pastoral Plan presentation
  - October 12: Commissioning Ceremony for the Council members
  - October 11: Mississauga North Family of Schools meeting
  - October 19: Council meeting, Goal setting
  - November 23: Used Uniform Sale, 6:00-9:00pm, in the school foyer
  - November 30: Catholic School Council meeting will begin with a Christmas Liturgy in the school chapel at 7:00pm and Council meeting immediately following in the library.
  - December: Council sponsors a needy family through the OLMC/St. Vincent DePaul Christmas Basket Campaign
- Proposed Guest Speakers for 2006/2007: Students at Risk Program, YSAP (Youth Substance Abuse Program), Dr. Sohl Backpacks and Back Injury, Eating Disorders, Board Deficit Update by Board Staff. Input for presentations is welcome and greatly appreciated.

The Dinner Theatre Evening is back by popular demand! Council will be partnering with the school play to provide an evening of dinner and entertainment for parents. More information to follow as the event will take place in early April.

We invite and encourage all parents/guardians to attend your School Council meetings. Much information is shared regarding activities at OLMC. We sincerely look forward to input and feedback from our School Community, so please join us.

For additional information or to receive Council agendas, minutes and correspondence please contact the Chair:  
Ehretia O'Hearn, 905-824-6696 [eaohearn@rogers.com](mailto:eaohearn@rogers.com)  
Elaine Lord, 905-824-0733 [o2cudle@sympatico.ca](mailto:o2cudle@sympatico.ca)