



St. Helen School

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May 2010 Newsletter

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Board Chairperson

A. Abbruscato

Director of Education

J. Kostoff

*Generous and Eternal God,
As He was dying, Jesus gave
His mother, Mary,
To all people everywhere to be our mother.
We know that she loves us and hopes
That we may find the true path to
A worthy, vivid, and beautiful Life.
Her Son is that holy path to joy.
With the help of Mary's prayers,
May we step boldly and courageously
Onto this Path of Life and place
Ourselves in Your hands.
We ask this through, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Principal's Message

Spring is here and it's one of my favorite times of year. There's an energy of new growth and rebirth in the air as we shed our 'winter layers' and live the Easter promise. I see this energy alive and well at St. Helen School as we move into the last quarter (hard to believe!) of the year. There is a 'busy excitement' in our community as students enjoy the beautiful weather at recesses and participate in the wide range of extra-curricular activities available such as The Talent Show auditions and preparations, the Book Fair, the after-school tutoring sessions, the Living Our Faith Assemblies, Easter Mass, MS Youth Faith Ambassador Rally, Hurricane Games Club activities, baseball try-outs, Pizza Lunches, Student/Staff/Police Charity Volleyball and much more. Thanks to all the teachers who contribute time beyond the instructional day to offer these enriching opportunities for students. Thanks to the parents for completing all the necessary permission forms and arranging alternate transportation to enable their children to participate in these worthwhile activities. It's this spirit of co-operation that makes St. Helen the special school it is . . . A good place for children to learn and grow. Enjoy Spring!

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

This year Catholic Education Week takes place May 2 - 7. As always, Catholic Education Week begins on Sunday to highlight the parish-home-school partnership that remains the foundation of Catholic Education. Throughout Catholic Education Week we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic Education's presence and contribution in our Church and society. It is important we never take this gift for granted. The theme for this year is, "Rejoicing in Hope". We have a number of special activities planned including our Wed., May 5 Talent Show at 1:15 p.m. Parents are welcome to join us. A big thank you to D. DeMelo, C. Naccarato, L. D'Ettore, V. Kvas, J. Horvat and J. Maurizio for working as a team to create this experience for students. Please note the "Crowning of Mary" liturgy planned for Fri., May 7 has been rescheduled to Fri., May 14 at 10:45 a.m. Again, parents are welcome to attend.

JOE SAX ACTIVITY DAY

On Thurs., May 6 as part of Catholic Education Week, students from St. Helen School will be participating in the Joe Sax Activity Day at Iona Secondary School. Students will participate in a variety of physical activities throughout the day. Good luck to Kyle S., Bryce C., Amber M., Heather B., Dylan D., Alex K., Matthew M. and Johnny R. Thanks C. Naccarato and K. Ryan for co-ordinating this fun opportunity for students.

MISSISSAUGA SOUTH YOUTH FAITH AMBASSADOR RALLY (submitted by students who attended the April 28 Rally)

On Wed., April 28 the St. Helen Youth Faith Ambassadors travelled to St. Joseph Secondary School to attend the "2gether we Build God's Kingdom" Rally. There was lots of discussion regarding our faith, how we feel about it, how we share it with others and how we live every day as Christians with faith. We learned we should not be afraid or try and hide our faith. We shouldn't shy away from talking about it.

The truth is, we should be proud of who we are as unique religious persons. Sharing God and all His wonders is a good thing! At the rally we were able to talk with students from the other Mississauga South schools about their religious experiences, thoughts and beliefs. The fun activities at the rally helped bring faith alive. It was a great day! Congratulations to : Aleksandra W., Rachel A., Jerome A., Austin G., Nicole W., Adrianna N., Sam G. and Caroline L. for representing St. Helen School so well! Thank you O. Volchuk for leading this student initiative.

VIRTUES PROGRAM—MAY—ACCEPTANCE

This month we celebrate the virtue of acceptance. People of Acceptance:

- Are friendly and open to all God's people;
- Sense God's presence in people of all ages, beliefs, genders, cultures, and/or abilities;
- Avoid the temptation to judge negatively or stereotype others;
- Look for the positive traits in others;
- Understand there may be more than one way of doing things;
- Stick up for the disadvantaged;
- Notice who is left out and include them.

LIVING OUR FAITH ASSEMBLY

On Tues., April 27 we had our monthly assembly to recognize students from each class who had exemplified the virtue of the month. "Love" was the virtue for the month in April. Congratulations to the following students who received certificates: Michelle S., Frane V., Antony T., Catalina B., Breton S., John R., Daniel H., Alice F., Chris D., Jacob M., Melvin O., Bradley L., Jessica N., Michael W., Myles W., Emma V., Analena R., Dylan B., Adam K., Rachel A., Austin F., Lora H., Anna F., Kyle A.,

Thomas B., Alex D., Matthew M., Laura D., Lorraine D., Olivea B.

EQAO GRADE 3 AND 6 TESTING

The EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office) testing of our grade 3 students will take place on May 31, June 1 & June 2. Testing of our grade 6 students will take place on June 7, June 8 and June 10. We request that parents avoid scheduling appointments or other absences that will take your child out of school during these designated dates. Thank you.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN (WTK)

On Thurs., May 27, 6:30—7:30p.m., we will have our “Welcome to Kindergarten” Evening for students entering kindergarten in September 2010. We look forward to an evening of fun and informative activities for both the children and their parents. Each child attending will receive a wonderful WTK tote bag full of learning goodies.

REMINDER:

DEADLINE FOR SUMMER LITERACY CAMP & SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS JUNE 4. SEE APRIL NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.

HEADS UP COMPETITION

On Tues., May 11 (Jr.) and Wed., May 12 (Int.) our Junior and Intermediate Heads Up Teams will compete in the Mississauga South Family of Schools Heads Up Competition. Good luck to Team members and coaches:

Jr. Heads Up Team: Jack M., Shea B., Katie B., Jane M., Jana A., and Sean O.

Int. Heads Up Team: Adrianna N., Austin G., Ben D., Victoria H., Jerome A. and Justin O.

Coaches: T. Buchanan, J. Ellery

NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next School Council Meeting will be on Tues., May 18 at 7p.m. All are welcome to attend. Please come out and join us. This will be the last council meeting for this academic year.

DRESS CODE

As the warm weather arrives we would like to remind our students of the expectations that are in place, especially for our older students, regarding appropriate dress. Dressing appropriately for school promotes a positive learning environment.

Sleeveless tops are permitted however, halter, tank and shrink tops are not permitted. The midriff must not be visible. Short shorts, short skirts and clothing of a suggestive nature, including offensive wording or pictures are not appropriate school attire. As a guideline, shorts and skirts should come to the bottom of your fingertips with your arms and hands fully extended. Clothing that is suitable for a six or seven year old may not be appropriate for an older student. Beach wear and special outfits can be enjoyed after school and on weekends.

Thank you for your support helping students comply with dress code expectations.

ARE YOU MOVING

We are in the process of planning staffing and organizing classes for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are planning on moving out of the St. Helen School area, please give the office a call to make arrangements for a student transfer form to be prepared and sent home. The transfer form will serve as an introduction to your new school and will enable the receiving school to request student records from us.

DOGS IN THE SCHOOL YARD

With the onset of the beautiful Spring weather many parents have included their family dog on the walk to and from school. Please remember some children are uncomfortable around dogs and/or have allergies to pets. We ask that you are sensitive to this reality and wait off property with your dog at busy arrival and dismissal times. Thank you.

MISSISSAUGA SOUTH SOAP DRIVE

Mississauga South is involved in collecting soap during the week of May 17th to May 28th for Dr. Simone. He runs a non-profit organization called

“Canadian Food for the Children and Silent Children”. Dr. Simone’s warehouse is located on Lakeshore Road in Mississauga. All of the donations he receives are shipped to people in developing nations. Dr. Simone expressed a need for bars of soap. He stated that before many of these individuals in the developing nations were willing to eat, they have a desire to first be clean. Please help us spread the message that a simple action can make the world of difference, by helping us raise a mountain of soap. During the week of May 17th to May 28th, please send a bar of soap to school with your child. Thank you for all your support!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues., May 4—Pizza Lunch

Wed., May 5—1:15 p.m. Talent Show

Thurs., May 6—Joe Sax Activity Day

Fri., May 7—Jr. Division Field Trip to the ROM

Sun., May 9—HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!!!!

Mon., May 10—In-School Track & Field (rain date— May 13)

Tues., May 12—Jr. Heads Up Competition @ St. Francis of Assisi

Wed., May 13—Int. Heads Up Competition @ St. Francis of Assisi

Fri., May 14—10:45 a.m. Crowning of Mary Liturgy

Tues., May 18—Pizza Lunch

Tues., May 18—7 p.m. School Council Meeting

Fri., May 21—Gr. 6 Hot Air Balloon Workshop @ St. Helen

Mon., May 24—Victoria Day. No school

Tues. May 25—Peel Public Health—HPV Clinic – Gr. 8 Girls

Wed., May 26—7 p.m. MS School Council Meeting— St. Joseph S.S.

Thurs., May 27—7p.m. Welcome to Kindergarten Workshop @ St. Helen

Mon., May 31, Tues., Jun. 1 & Wed., Jun. 2—Gr. 3 EQAO Testing

Mon., Jun. 7, Tues., Jun 8 & Thurs. Jun 10—Gr. 6 EQAO Testing

Tues., Jun. 1—Pizza Lunch

