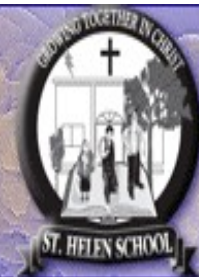




ST. HELEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Growing Together In Christ



**September
2011**

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Blessing Upon a New School Year

Dear God, as a new school year begins,
Fill the hearts of our children with an
Eagerness to learn about the world
You have created, about themselves
And most of all, about You.
Bless our teachers with
The gifts of wisdom and patience,
That they may help their students
Find the truth.
Give our parents generous hearts,
To support, encourage and love their chil-
dren.
Help us all to work together
To form a community of learning,
That teaches not only skills for success
But all that we need,
To live our faith fully in this world.

AMEN

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Principal's Message

I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing summer and is rejuvenated and eager to get back to school. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new students and their families to our school. I'm sure you will find the entire St. Helen community; staff, students and parents to be very welcoming. I look forward to the upcoming school year and working with dedicated staff and enthusiastic students and parents.

We also welcome new staff at our school: Ms. Terra (Gr. 4/5 teacher), Mrs. Muffolini (ERW) as well as Ms. Caruso (Gr. 2/3) returning for another year.

Each school year brings new and wonderful opportunities to make a difference in the lives of your children. The staff of St. Helen School remains committed to the education of the whole child; spiritual, intellectual, social-emotional and physical and to hands-on active learning in which your child's individual needs, strengths and interests are addressed.

In order to keep you informed of events at the school, a monthly newsletter can be sent home upon request. We will also be posting a copy on our school website at the beginning of each month (www.dpcdsb.org/helen). Please make sure that you get the opportunity to read it for pertinent information regarding your child's education and other important school events.

On behalf of the staff, I extend best wishes for an exciting and successful academic school year as we serve the students in our care. By working together, I am confident that we will be able to provide our students with the best possible educational opportunities and experiences.

Welcome back!!
B. Diogo
Principal

Welcome Back BBQ

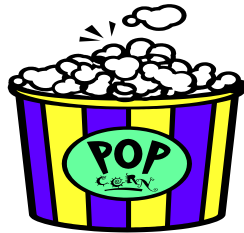
A welcome back barbeque and meet the teacher evening has been scheduled for Thursday September 22nd. Food will be served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and classroom visits will take place between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. An order form will be sent home.

School Council

The next St. Helen School Council meeting will be September 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Council elections will take place that evening. Please come out and join us.

Family Movie Night

On Thursday September 15th the St. Helen School Council will be hosting a Family Movie Night in the gym. Show time will be 6:30 p.m. and the cost of admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. Refreshments and popcorn will also be available for purchase. We will be showing Kung Fu Panda 2. Please note that all students must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. Hope to see you there!!



Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role in our school. Many activities would not be possible without their help. We would encourage your involvement and welcome your support. All volunteers must submit a Criminal Reference Check. Forms are available in the office.

Kiss and Ride

The safety of our students and parents is of great concern to us here at the school. Please drive SLOWLY through the Kiss and Ride lane as well as the drive through lane.

Please do not block the Kiss and Ride zone and areas that would hinder the movement of school buses and cars.

Cars cannot be left in the lanes at any time.

Hurricane News

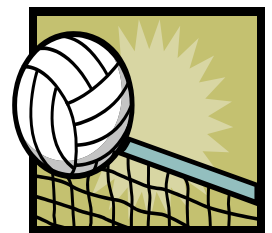
Cross Country

St. Helen is in the process of putting together our cross country team. We wish all participants the best of luck.



Intermediate Volleyball

The tryouts for both the boys and girls intermediate volleyball teams are taking place right now. We will keep you informed on their progress.



Hot Dog and Pizza Lunches

We are continuing to look into the new nutritional guidelines in order to bring back our Hot Dog and Pizza Lunches. We will notify you as soon as we have more information.

Transitions

Staff List

Kindergarten	C. Cory
Gr. 1/2	D. Rocco
Gr. 2/3	A. Caruso
Gr. 4/5	D. Pietrangelo/ M. Terra
Gr. 5/6	D. DeMelo/ J. Maurizio
Gr. 7/8	M. Wagstaff/ M. Nightingale
Gr. 8	P. Cornacchia
FSL	V. Kvas
Librarian/ESL	J. Maurizio
SERT/SERC	K. Ryan
ERW	C. Naccarato
ERW	K. Muffolini Beben
Custodians	S. Jarett M. Carmello

Parents In The Yard

For your child's safety we request that he/she not be on school property until supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. Please do not drop your child off at the school prior to 8:45 a.m. We would also like to remind you that parents should drop off/pick up their children outside the school gates. Parents are not permitted to be in the school yard at any time. Although you may be known to your own child you are a stranger to the other students in the yard.

Snack and Treats for Students

We are asking that all parents please refrain from bringing in eatable snacks and treats for all students in the classrooms. Several students in our school suffer from a severe food allergy to all nuts, peanuts and all nut products. There is also a Ministry PPM where the purpose of this memorandum is to set out nutrition standards for food and beverages in publicly funded elementary schools in Ontario. For more information about the new PPM please visit, <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/150.html>. If you would still like to do something special for the classroom, a small non-eatable gift for each student or perhaps a classroom gift, i.e. Board game for inclement recess, may be other great alternatives. Again, we thank you for your co-operation.

Living Our Faith

Virtue Corner

September ~ FAITH

This month we will celebrate the virtue of FAITH.

A person with *faith*...

- Prays regularly and reverently
- Learns from Scripture stories
- Honours people's God given names
- Assumes that there is good in everyone
- Accepts the God-given worth of themselves and others

To begin the new school year, we'll focus attention on the first of our virtues - faith. Faith is the great virtue of believing in God and trusting that God is with us.

A faithful person believes that we are created, guided by and destined to be reunited with God.

A faithful person believes that God's plan for us includes the right to be safe, especially at school.



LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

The first school Mass of the year is scheduled for Tuesday October 11th at 10:30 a.m. Parents are always welcome to attend our school celebrations.

Take Note

Safety:

Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters, Roller Blades

Students are reminded that bicycles, skateboards and scooters must be walked on the school property. If you are wearing roller blades please proceed to the office immediately and change into your shoes.

Dress Code

We would like to remind our students of the expectations that are in place, especially for our older students, regarding appropriate dress. Sleeveless tops are permitted however; halter, spaghetti straps, off the shoulder and shrink tops are not permitted. Tank tops are allowed but the strap must be three fingers wide. The midriff must not be visible. Boy's tank tops should not have wide under arm openings. 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 be no shorter than 10 centimeters/ 4 inches above the knee. Boys are to wear their pants at the waistline. Clothing that is suitable for a six or seven year old may not be appropriate for an older student. Students that are not dressed appropriately will be asked to call home for a change of clothes. If a change of clothes can not be provided, students will then be required to work in the office.

P.A. DAY

There will be no school for the students on Friday September 16th, 2011.

The school will be closed as the teachers will be involved in reorganization.

Take Note

Student Absences/Lates

Please use our 24 hour answering service to inform the school of late or absent students.

Phone 905-822-4564

If a pattern of unexcused lateness or absents becomes apparent, parents will be contacted by the school.

UPCOMING DATES

September 15 - Movie Night 6:30 p.m.

September 16- P.A. Day, no school

September 20 - School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

September 22 - BBQ/Meet the Teacher

September 26 - Silvercreek Trip Gr. 4/5

September 26 - Picture Day

September 30 - Terry Fox Day

St. Helen is 'Going Green'

St. Helen School is taking into consideration our environment and promoting a 'going green' initiative by providing any school related information via our website. Every month our newsletter will be posted on our website where you will be able to print a hard copy.

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/HELEN>

If you are unable to access a computer we would gladly provide a printed copy for your use. Please fill in the following and return it to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Yes, I need a printed copy of the newsletter:

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____