

Mary Fix Catholic School Newsletter

Learning and Living
Through God

486 Paisley Blvd. West
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 2M4
(905)270-3140 Fax: (905)270-3475

DECEMBER, 2010



Advent - A Time of Hope

God of Hope You sent us Jesus, the Light of the World.
As we light our Advent candles one by one, a week at a time,
may we rekindle within ourselves
the desire to make peace with Him.
May the flame of His presence grow brighter and brighter
in our hearts,
in our school,
and in our world.
May the God of Hope fill us with joy and peace this Christmas
by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Principal: A. Milanetti

Secretary: M. Kivell

Pastor,
St. Catherine of Siena Parish
Fr. Ruggiero (905)272-1454

Trustee: B. Iannicca
(905)270-0536

Superintendent: C. Saytar
(905)890-1221

School Council Chair:
K. Ruffolo

Dates to Remember

- Dec 1 Family Advent Mass 7 p.m.
- Dec 6 Hope Assembly, 10 a.m.
- Dec 7 Gr 8's to St. Martins
- Dec 10 Pizza Day
- Dec 15 JK/SK Advent Celebration
- Dec 17 Last Day of Classes before Christmas Break—SingaLong
- Jan 3 First Day back in 2011
- Jan 7 Intermediate Skiing #1
- Jan 14 P.A. Day—No School Today
- Jan 19 School Council
- Jan 21 Intermediate Skiing #2
- Jan 26 Meningitis Vaccine - Gr. 7
- Jan 28 Intermediate Skiing #3
- Feb 3 Term 2 Interview Evening
- Feb 4 P.A. Day - Interviews
- Feb 7 7-9 pm JK Registration
- Feb 9-11 JK Registration
- Mar 8 Shrove Tuesday
- Mar 9 Ash Wednesday
- Mar 14-18 March Break

Principal's Message

Throughout the season of Advent we will have time to reflect, pray and give thanks for our many blessings. Our community outreach campaign to support needy families in our community serves to remind us of how truly fortunate we are. Thank you for all your donations of food and support through the Toy Drive, Angel Tree and food baskets. The recent confessions from grades 3-8 (Nov. 30), our School Family Advent Mass (Dec. 1) and daily school

prayers help us to prepare for the coming of our Saviour. As we await the coming of Jesus, let us be reminded that Christ is at the heart of Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support and may God's blessings be with you, your families, and the children in our schools throughout the Advent season.

A. Milanetti



**Christmas Holidays**

The **last day of school** before Christmas Break is Friday, **December 17th**. Students **return to school**, in the new year, on **Monday, January 3, 2011**.

P.A. Day

Friday, January 14, 2011 is a P.A. Day—there is no school for students on this day.

December Virtue

This month, we will celebrate **the virtue of hope**.

We believe that God comes to us as a real human who can show us the way of life.

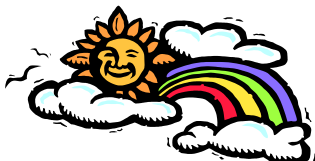
We understand that both the world and its people are from God and so are essentially good. Furthermore, God has given us this Advent season year after year in order to focus our minds and our hearts on the good all around us. Year after year, we are reminded that God chose to send his Son to us because we are worth it. God knows how great we can be when we all come together. When we look through the eyes of God we see it becoming more and more like the reign of God that Jesus describes.

People of hope....

- Keep up a positive attitude
- Can bounce back from tough situations
- Set and stick to their goals
- See the good in others even when they make mistakes
- Work to include others
- Let others know that they are good people.

Our daily prayer for December:

Let us now pray...for the grace and courage to be people of hope - people who can see, participate in and contribute to God's goodness emerging around us. Amen

**Mary Fix Website**

The Mary Fix Website is up to date. Newsletters, calendars, registration information and all other pertinent dates will be updated regularly.

Please visit us at:

<http://www.dpccsb.org/MAFIX>

In the new year we will be generating a mailing list of our Mary Fix community and our monthly newsletter and calendar will be emailed at the beginning of each month. Please complete the enclosed attachment with your email information.

JK Registration 2010/2011

JK Registration will be held at all Dufferin Peel schools on Monday, February 7th at 7 p.m. (Tuesday, February 8th evening snowdate) and Wednesday—Friday (Feb 9-11) during the day.

Senior Kindergarten—Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2011

The parent/guardian should bring the following documents when registering his/her child:

- proof of age (birth certificate or passport)
- original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman, Greek or Ukrainian Rite for both the parent and the child; (if the child has not been baptized, a letter of counseling with the parish priest, to complete the process will be accepted)
- up to date immunization records;
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status;
- Proof of address in the Mary Fix School boundary area (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)

Please note that we cannot guarantee morning or afternoon classes. We will note preferences at the time of registration and will do our best to accommodate your request. Requests for 'Flexible Boundary' consideration must be in writing.

For more information, please contact the school or the Admissions Department at (905)890-0708, ext. 24500 or visit the Mary Fix Website.

Kindergarten Information Session

There will be an information session for parents of children with special needs such as vision, hearing, physical/medical, developmental or autism who are entering JK, SK or the Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program in September 2011. The information session will be held at the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board—Rm 301 on January 26, 2011 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Parents/Guardians are also reminded to register their child at their school office during the week of February 7th.

French Immersion Information Meeting

Senior Kindergarten parents/guardians, who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 1 French Immersion class for September, 2011 are invited to attend an information meeting on Thursday, January 13th, 2011 at:

St. Gertrude School
815 Ceremonial Drive
Mississauga L5R 3S2
(905)568-7660

The deadline for submission of applications will be 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9th, 2011.

Extended French Information

Grade 4 parents/guardians who wish to enroll their child in Grade 5 Extended French for September 2011 are invited to attend an information meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2011, at:

St. Philip School,
345 Fairview Rd., West
Mississauga, L5B 3W5
(905)306-8420

The deadline for submission of applications will be 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9th, 2011.





Christmas Baskets

Parent volunteers will be preparing the **food baskets** during the evening of December 15th. If you have a few hours to spare, sorting the gifts and food is a big job and your help would be most appreciated. **Food donations and Angel Tree gifts are due on Monday, December 14.** All baskets will be delivered by volunteers on December 16th. If you are able to assist with deliveries on the evening of the 16th, please contact the office.



Advent Mass

The Family Advent mass was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday December 1st at St. Catherine of Siena Church. Our primary division prepared a beautiful mass and students from grades 1-3 sang. We were pleased to welcome so many families for this evening of prayer and song to welcome the season of Advent. Thank you to Ms. Buhajczyk and Mrs. Pilling for directing the musical portion of this wonderful evening.

Toy Bazaar - Friday, Dec 10/10

Many thanks to all who have donated items for this year's Toy Bazaar. We have an incredible array of items and hope to exceed last year's total raised of almost \$1,400. Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Zita, and many other wonderful parent volunteers it promises to be an extremely successful morning. Once again, all proceeds will go to supplement the Christmas baskets that are donated annually to needy families in our Parish. The success of the bazaar means that every family for whom the school provides a Christmas basket will also receive a \$50.00 gift card to purchase fresh produce and a turkey.

Lost & Found

Please try to take an opportunity to check the Lost & Found box before the holidays. The box is already overflowing and we will send unclaimed items to St. Vincent de Paul in the New Year.



Catholic Ratepayers—Check your Tax Bill to Ensure Proper Tax Support



If you are a Catholic ratepayer, we urge you to check your property tax bill to ensure that your support is directed to your local Catholic school board, in our case, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. If you are a tenant, you can verify your support by contacting our Admissions Department at (905)890-0708, ext. 24511, 24512, or 24519, or your local municipal office. By ensuring that you are accurately recorded as a Catholic school supporter, you can help deliver a powerful message to the government about the level of support for publically-funded Catholic education in Ontario. In order to be eligible to vote for the your local Catholic school board trustee, you must be registered as a separate school supporter.

Inclement Weather Procedures

In the event of snowstorms which prevent safe travel, please listen to the radio and television stations listed on the **insert in this newsletter** for announcements about bus transportation and school closures, usually **beginning about 6:30 a.m.**

Buses that do not run in the morning do not run in the afternoon.

If you drive your bus student to school on a day when the buses are cancelled, you are responsible for providing transportation home at the end of the day as well.

If school closures are not announced but you choose to keep your child home during extreme weather, **please call the Attendance Line at: 905)270-3140, ext 1.**



St. Mike's Majors Tickets

Cut this square out of the newsletter and submit it to the office for your chance to win tickets to the St. Mikes Majors' Game on Sunday, December 12th, 2 p.m. at the Hershey Centre. Make sure your name and your child's name is written on the submission.

Snow Safety



When the cool months arrive and snow and ice on the ground is plentiful, we all like to play in it and with it. However, as much fun as it is snow and ice, can be very dangerous when lots of people are in a small area. In order for our school to be as safe as possible, the school rule must be that snow stays on the ground-no snowballs, kicking snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful. Please review the importance of this with your child.

News from our Youth Faith Ambassadors (YFA's)

Under the supervision of Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Pilling and Mrs. Senra, Youth Faith Ambassador groups are up and running. The YFA program is a new initiative with activities focused on fostering Catholic values and modeling the virtues.

December is full of fun activities, sponsored and run by our very active and enthusiastic YFA's.

- Dec 7 Santa Ltr Writing Workshop
- Dec 14 Wear your Christmas colours
- Dec 17 Wear a Christmas theme Hat

Introducing Your 2010/11 YFA's

Anthony A., Damilola A., Ola B., Anthony B., Michael B., Dario B., Joseph B., Beyonce B., Tatyana B., Jovan B., Steve C., Rochelle D., Diana D., Alisha D., Tara D., Justin E., Kevin E., Andrew F., Mya F., Claudia F., Vanessa F., Adriana F., Claudia G., Sabina G., Isabella G., Helky H., Paul H., Isabella I., Harrison I., Sharika J., Megan K., Magda K., Madeline L., Jessica L., Alexandria L., Tony M., Venessa M., Ryan M., Sarah O., Suely P., Ashley P., Melanie P., Neil P., Victoria Pi., Victoria Pe., Brandon P., Darren P., Isabella Q., Sonia R., Marco R., Rosie R., Steven R., Maychelle T., Sylvia T., Monica T., Jennifer U-Z., Sylvia W.



Peel Regional Police Youth Education Program

Constable Andrew Taylor will be here on December 13 & 14th to speak to our K-8 students on topics such as Community Helpers, Bullying, Internet Safety and Introduction to Drugs and Tobacco. Topics will be age appropriate and have been carefully selected for specific grade levels.

Homework Tips

Create a 'homework supply kit'.

This kit can include materials that your child will use on a regular basis such as pencils, pens, ruler, paper, crayons, markers, glue, tape, scissors, sticky notes, paper clips, stapler, calculator, index cards, dictionary, thesaurus, etc. By having these supplies on hand, time is not wasted in searching for them when they are required.

Provide guidance, not answers.

Homework is a key way for your child to learn independent, lifelong skills. Giving answers regularly or doing homework for your child does not help him or her to understand concepts or develop skills. As well, it prevents the teacher from understanding where your child may require further support back in the classroom. If your child demonstrates signs of frustration with the homework being assigned, it is important to discuss this with your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Reverse roles.

Explaining to others is one of the best ways of reinforcing concepts. Try reversing roles – you play the role of the student and your child plays the role of the teacher. As your child explains the 'lesson', you can determine if he or she has understood the concept or if there are any misunderstandings that require clarification.



The Spirit of Christmas is reflected in the Words of the Angels

*And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for, behold, I bring you
good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in
the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you;
Ye shall find the babe wrapped in
swaddling clothes,
Lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the
angel
a multitude of the heavenly host
praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace, good will toward men.
Luke 2:10-14*

*The Mary Fix School Council
thanks you for all your support
thus far. The blessings of The An-
gel Tree and Christmas baskets
are underway and your contribu-
tions are very much appreciated.
We wish you all
a Wonderful Christmas
and a Blessed New Year.*

*Sincerely,
Mary Fix Parent Council*



Parish News

On November 30, Fr. Ruggiero, Fr. Mardeo, Fr. Santo and Fr. Tiziano came to Mary Fix School to hear confessions and join in celebrating with our students who received the Catholic Virtues Awards. The students later enjoyed a pizza lunch. On December 1, our school Advent Mass was celebrated by Fr. Tiziano, at St. Catherine of Siena parish. The parish is encouraging, where possible, to use religious postage stamps during the Christmas season.

For mass and confessions schedules check the parish bulletin or visit the parish website at:

<http://www.stcatherine.ca/>



The Mary Fix Angel Tree

