

Mary Fix Catholic School Newsletter

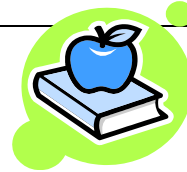
Learning and Living
Through God

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

September 2011

Newsletter #1

A Student's Prayer for a New School Year



Dear Lord,

I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year. Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and to have courage to accept new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends. Inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen

Principal:

A. Milanetti

Secretary:

M. Kivell

Pastor:

Fr. Ruggiero
(905)272-1454

Trustee:

B. Iannicca
(905)270-0536

Superintendent:

C. Saytar
(905)890-1221

Welcome Back to School

The staff at Mary Fix Catholic School extend a very warm welcome to all the new families and to those returning to Mary Fix this year. A special greeting to our Junior Kindergarten children who are starting school for the first time and I hope that Mary Fix will be a place of fond memories and many fun and exciting learning experiences. We would like to extend a warm welcome back to M. Porco & J. Telfeyan and would like to welcome new staff members, R. Franzone-Cadete and R. DaCosta. Staff has been working very hard over the past few weeks in preparation for our school opening. Thank you to the teachers who have been preparing their classrooms and a special thank you to our custodial team for their hard work over the summer! We encourage a cooperative partnership between home, school and parish to promote a positive learning environment for students by keeping contact with your child's teacher, volunteering in the school, supporting St. Catherine of Siena Parish or serving on our School Council. Your support and input is necessary and valued to ensure the success of our students.

Through our monthly newsletters we hope to keep you up to date regarding school events, activities, policies and procedures. A monthly calendar will accompany copies of each newsletter and we hope that you will find this to be a useful tool in keeping up with everything that is happening at Mary Fix.

At Mary Fix School, we are committed to providing excellence in Catholic education, doing our best to promote the spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth of our students and working closely with all the partners in Catholic education. We look forward, with enthusiasm, to the beginning of another new school year.

Our school Open House will be held on Thursday, September 22nd. More information will follow with an order form for the bbq. I look forward to meeting everyone there.

A. Milanetti
Principal



Mary Fix Staff

2011/2012

D. Belisle	Grade 1/2
J. Buhajczyk	SERC/ESL/PT
J. Burgess	Grade 2/3
K. Cartwright	Grade 5/6
S. Chornous	Grade 8
T. Coombes	SERC
R. DaCosta	FSL
V. Didio	Head Custodian
L. Dinga	Grade 4/5
M. Fera	FSL
R. Franzone-Cadete	Planning Time
P. Hanson	Grade 7/8
C. Murphy	Teacher Libr.
L. Nucci	Grade 1
K. Patten	Grade 4
J. Pilling	ERW
M. Porco	Grade 6/7
G. Senra	Grade 3
C. Serrick	Custodian
G. Sheehan	CYW
J. Telfeyan	JK/SK

**Parish News**

We are truly blessed to have Fr. Ruggiero and a devoted parish team from St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Please join us for our school **opening mass on Wednesday, September 21, at 9:30 a.m. at school.**

School Organization Changes

Each school year start-up often brings some unexpected changes in terms of enrolment and staffing. Staffing and class placements are tentative and based on school enrolment. All school organizational plans are subject to review in early September, based on actual enrolment. If reorganization is necessary and your child is affected, you will be notified of these changes.

Virtues Program

This year all schools in Dufferin-Peel will continue to participate in our VIRTUES program that will focus on a monthly virtue. The Virtues Program will help us to nurture virtue and character development in the lives of our students.

This month we will focus on the virtue of Faith. Faith is an attitude, which encourages us to involve God in our lives and helps us to develop and maintain our relationships with God and with others, when things are going well and when they are not.

Student Supervision Times

Please note that teachers are on duty 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the school day. Children dropped at school before 8:45 are unsupervised and, for this reason, we cannot ensure their safety during this time. In addition, students are not allowed in the school unless they are under direct supervision of a teacher.

Attendance

Please call the school if your child is going to be absent. This is vital to ensure the safety of your child.

Automated Attendance Line:

(905) 270-3140, extension 1

Please provide your child's name, grade, teacher name and the reason for absence.

Late Students

School begins at 9:00 a.m. Morning supervision begins at 8:45 to accommodate early arrival. Late students must report to the office to obtain a Late Slip—late arrivals will be part of your child's attendance record.

Lunch Students

Students who regularly stay for lunch are not permitted to leave the school grounds without a proper written request **signed and dated** by a parent/guardian. A student who usually remains at school must be signed out at the office or bring a signed/dated note if there is an exception. **Please take the time to complete the Lunch Permission form in your child's Agenda and send it back to the teacher as soon as possible.**

If you are dropping off lunch for your child please clearly label it with your child's name and leave it on the Lunch Table in the front foyer. Please reinforce with your child that they are to come **after** the noon bell to pick it up.

Student Information

A Verification Sheet will be coming home in September. Take time to read this form thoroughly and make any necessary corrections/additions to ensure all information is accurate.

Important Medical Information

Please make sure that the school is aware of any important medical information regarding your child in order that we can be properly prepared to deal with an emergency situation. All medication must be kept in the main office and paperwork needs to be completed by both the parent and prescribing physician. Written permission must also be provided to the office for administration of non-prescription medications, i.e. Tylenol, seasonal allergy medicine, etc. Forms are available in the office.

P.A. and Early Release Days

Friday, September 16 is our first P.A. day of the year. The staff at Mary Fix will be involved in Faith Development and re-organizational meetings at the school. There will be

no school for students on this day. Scheduled P.A. Days for the remainder of the school year are listed in the student agenda or on the Board website.

Student Monitors (formerly Lunchroom Supervisors)

Please welcome back Mrs. Mailloux and Mrs. Brum as our Lunch Hour Supervisors for this year. Thank you to Mrs. D'Souza for her years of service. Welcome to Ms. Navarra and Mrs. Nunes who will join us this year as well.



We strongly encourage you to walk, or to take advantage of our **Kiss 'n' Ride** lane in the morning from 8:45 to 9:00. Please drive to the end of the Kiss 'n' Ride and drop off your child who will then walk on the sidewalk in the school yard.

**Photo Day**

Student 'picture day' will be held on September 23. Retakes will be held on October 21.

School Council

Mary Fix is an active school that relies on cooperation and teamwork. We have an excellent and hardworking School Council and encourage you to consider serving on the School Council for the 2011-2012 school year. Self-Nomination forms will be available at the office Monday, Sept. 19 –Friday, Sept. 23. **Deadline for submitting nomination forms: Fri., Sept. 23 at 4pm.** Elections, if necessary, will take place Thursday, September 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

Use of School Phones

Students will only be permitted to use the school phone in the case of emergencies. An emergency is considered to be injury or illness. Permission must be given to the student by both their classroom teacher and the office to use the school phone.



Nut Free Zone

We have some students who have serious life-threatening allergies to peanuts, tree nuts and associated products. Exposure to these products may cause a severe allergic reaction for these children which could potentially result in death. For the safety of all of our children, please do not send items containing peanuts, tree nuts or nut by-products to the school. This warning includes products such as **Nutella**. Further to this, as part of “Sabrina’s Law”, we are no longer permitted to allow treats for sharing with other students. Should you wish to, for special occasions, please send in non-food items such as stickers and pencils. Thank you for your consideration and co-operation in making our classrooms safer for students.

Student Accident Insurance

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of this inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Enrolment is required in writing -- there are two options for enrolment:

- 1) complete the traditional form and mail it in
- 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437)

Parents alone have the right to insure their children.

Fire and Lock Down Drills

In accordance with Ministry regulations, three fire drills will be held in the Fall and three in the Spring. While we hope that a real fire situation never arises, this practice will help prepare students in the event of a real fire. Schools are also required to

conduct Lock Down Drills. These procedures will be reviewed with students during this month.

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. To be eligible to vote for the your local Catholic school board trustee, you must be registered as a separate school supporter.

Criminal Reference Check

If you wish to volunteer your services in the school, transport students and/or assist on trips you must submit a Criminal Reference Check. Application forms are available in the office.

School Website & E-Newsletter

Newsletters, Calendars and other relevant information will be posted on the Mary Fix website at:

www.dpccdsb.org/MAFIX

A new procedure is in place for providing families with E-communications from the school (newsletters, etc.). The school must receive permission (renewed annually) to collect and use personal email addresses. **Please complete the form in this newsletter to revise or add your email address.** We will continue to send paper copies of all communications until we are able to get the new protocol in place.

STOPR

STOPR (Student Transportation of Peel Region) can be contacted at:

www.stopr.ca

P.E.D. Policy

It is Board policy that all personal electronic devices (PEDs) such as cel phones, iPods, Blackberries, digital cameras, etc, must be kept out of sight, turned off and not used within the school premises or during school sanctioned activities such as retreats, field trips, sports events, etc. To prevent the loss of damage of PEDs, we encourage students to leave them at home.

Textbooks

School textbooks are school property and are loaned to the students annually. The expectation is that textbooks be returned at the end of the school year. Students are responsible for these books and will be asked to return them at the end of the year or pay the associated replacement cost.

Visitors to the School

Visitors to Mary Fix School must check in at the office. To ensure the safety of all students and staff, visitors must sign in and wear a Visitor tag or relevant identification.

Pop Tabs & Milk Bags

Last year our Mary Fix Community participated in 2 outreach programs. We will continue with both initiatives this year. **Pop Tabs:** This program takes collected and recycled metal pop tabs and cashes in the tabs to provide a deserving individual with a wheelchair. Last year we collected sufficient tabs to make 1 wheelchair! **Thank you! Milk Bags:** Recycled milk bags are being woven into sleeping mats which are in turn sent to Haiti where thousands of people are still living in extremely poor conditions.

“No Child Without”

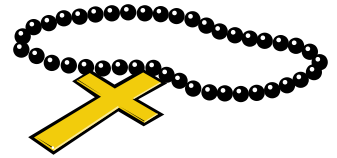
The *No Child Without* program offers a free MedicAlert membership to Mary Fix students between the ages of 4 and 14 years of age. If your child has a medical condition, allergy, or is required to take medication on a regular basis, consider a MedicAlert membership through this program.

For further information visit the No Child Without website at:

www.nochildwithout.ca



PASTORAL DATES - 2011-2012



Sacraments Registration at the church
Registration (Parents & Candidates) Enrolment

First Holy Communion:

Monday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m. - or -
Tuesday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation:

Tuesday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. - or -
Monday, October 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Sacraments Celebrations

At the church

First Reconciliation - Monday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m. (Mary Fix and Fr. Daniel Zanon)

First Holy Communion - Saturday, May 12 at 3:00 p.m.

Confirmation - Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. (Mary Fix and Fr. Daniel Zanon)

School Mass

(at school)

Opening Mass - Wednesday, September 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Advent Mass - Wednesday, September 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Feast Saints - Friday, May 25 at 9:30 a.m.

End of School Year/Graduation Mass - week of June 25th at 10:30 a.m.

Reconciliations

Tuesday, December 6 at 9:15 a.m. (Grade 3-8)

Wednesday, March 21 at 9:15 a.m. (Grade 3-8)

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 22 at 10:30 a.m.

All are welcome to join us in celebrating Masses, special liturgies and virtues assemblies.

Please check your monthly calendar for additional celebrations and events.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Welcome to International Languages Elementary School Level

Register **Saturday September 10th** for International Language classes of your choice - 24 languages offered throughout DPCDSB. For details refer to our Fall 2011 Adult and Continuing Education Flyer posted on our website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne or call 905-891-9263 ext. 0.

The elementary school International Language program (JK-8) takes place on Saturdays beginning September 10 through June 3 (Sundays at St. Herbert) from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m..

Parents who wish to register their child in this program may attend a walk-in registration **at the school which offers the language of interest to them, on Saturdays (Sundays at St. Herbert)** from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. as of September 10. Registration is ongoing (space permitting) throughout the school year. For specific International language classes not currently offered please call our office at 905-891-9263 Ext. 0.

Welcome to International Languages Secondary School Credit Level

Register **Saturday September 10th** for Secondary credit International Languages - 19 languages offered for credit at three secondary school sites. For details refer to our FALL 2011 Adult and Continuing Education Flyer posted our website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne Or call 905-891-9263 ext. 0

Students may earn up to 3 International Language credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Students currently attending secondary school are welcome to register for this program. Walk-in registration **at the school which offers the language of interest to them, is scheduled for September 10** from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m..

For specific International language credit classes not currently offered please call our office at 905-891-9263 Ext.0

Welcome to General Interest Courses for Adults

General Interest programs in personal development, communication and health and fitness are available throughout the DPCDSB Region. For details refer to our FALL 2011 Adult and Continuing Education Flyer posted our website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne Or call 905-891-9263 ext. 0 .

General Interest Programs are offered to the community by the DPCDSB. We encourage you to get involved and to join others with similar interests. Register now to ensure a place in the program of your choice. Registration deadline is **September 23, 2011**.

Welcome to Adult ESL Programs

Adult ESL and Citizenship Programs are offered throughout Mississauga and Brampton. Registration is on-going for many of these programs that run during the day and in the evenings seven days a week. Please see our Fall 2011 Catalogue posted on the board website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne or call 905-891-9263 ext. 0

Welcome to Adult FSL (French as a Second Language Classes)

Adult FSL programs are offered at BJB Adult Learning Centre and St. Gabriel Adult Learning Centre. Classes are offered during the day and in the evenings. Please see our Fall 2011 Catalogue posted on the board website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne or call 905-891-9263 ext. 0

Secondary Night School Credit Fall 2011

Secondary students and adults may register now for Secondary Night School Credits offered by the DPCDSB. Registration deadline is Wednesday September 14, 2011. Information is available at all our DPCDSB secondary schools.

Join the DPCDSB Adult Credit and COOP Programs

We offer Accounting, Office Administration, and Coop Work Experience for Foreign Trained Professionals. Registration is ongoing throughout the year. Please see our Fall Catalogue posted on the board website at www.dpcdsb.org/coopcentre. Call 905-362-0701 for classes in the North or 905-891-3034 for classes in the South.