



St. Sofia School
Sharing, Caring and Preparing
ШКОЛА СВЯТОЇ СОФІЇ

St. Sofia School
3540 Havenwood Dr.
Mississauga, ON
L4X 2M9

Tel: 905-625-0823
Fax: 905-625-3124

Principal
P. Kasij

Vice-Principal
J. Amodeo

Secretaries
N. Vereshchak
J. Kalynowsky

Superintendent
C. Blanchard
(905) 890-1221

Parish Priests
Rt. Rev. Dr. Roman Pankiw, Dean
Rev. Roman Trynoga, Assistant
Rev. Bohdan Mironovich
St. Mary Church
905-279-9387

Mitred Archpriest
Roman Galadza, Pastor
St. Elias Church
905-459-8888

Trustees:
Brampton:
A. da Silva (416) 706-5679
L. Zannella (416) 579-0126
S. McLauchlan (416) 659-5635

Caledon:
F. Di Cosola (905) 951-8898

Mississauga:
M. Pascucci (905) 302-3096
S. Hobin (905) 301-1210
A. Abbruscato (905) 890-1221
T. Thomas (416) 845-8225
P. Ferreira (416) 805-7110
B. Iannicca (905) 270-0536
E. O'Toole (905) 812-5163

Prayer for a New Year

May we find peace and tranquility in the year 2011

*Give us strength and compassion
To understand each other,
Wisdom and love
To help one another.
The trust and patience we need
To live peacefully together.*

*Grant that through our school community,
Through the intercession
of the Holy Family,
We become dedicated to You, O Lord.*

*A community that works together
As one,
A community that embraces
Peace and love,
And a community that continues
to support one another.*

Amen

January 16th 2012
is a PA DAY

There will be no school
for students on this day.

REPORT CARDS GO HOME
On January 31st, 2012



January
2012

FAITH COMMUNITY

ST. NICHOLAS CONCERT

Monday, December 19th was an exciting day at St. Sofia as the students from JK to Gr. 5 welcomed St. Nicholas to our school and performed in our St. Nicholas Concerts. The students displayed their many talents and were surprised to find that St. Nicholas had visited their classrooms while they were at the concert. On behalf of the staff and students we extend our thanks to all our parents who were actively involved in the St. Nicholas Concert.

SVICHECHKA

Students will be participating in "Svichechka" singing koliady and stating intentions on January 18th 2012 in our school gymnasium.

JORDAN- THE FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY



On Thursday, January 19th at 10:30 staff and students of St. Sofia School will be participating in the Liturgy of the Eucharist at St. Mary's Church for The Feast of the Theophany and the Blessing of the Jordan Water. Our priests from St. Mary's Church will bless the Holy Water which will be distributed to students. All parents are welcome and encouraged to join us for this wonderful service. More information will be sent home shortly. Thank you to School Council who will be paying for the buses to St. Mary's Church.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

We had a wonderful response to our Christmas Food Drive. Thank you to our Student Council for their fine effort in collecting and boxing all the food.



JANUARY'S VIRTUE—SELF CONTROL

Through regular celebrations, in class discussions and prayer, students will learn examples of how to perform virtuous actions and this month our focus will be the virtue of Self Control.

A person with **SELF-CONTROL** ...

- Is patient
- Knows how to wait his/her turn
- Can calm him/herself down and think before reacting to situations
- Knows how to avoid physical aggression
- Can think things through and do what is best for everyone

SCHOOL BOARD OPERATIONS

At the annual organizational meeting held Tuesday, December 6, trustees elected Mississauga Wards 1 & 3 trustee, Mario Pascucci as chair of the 11-member Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. During his 28 years as a trustee, Mr. Pascucci has served in various leadership capacities, including one previous term as chair of the board, chair of Administration and Finance Committee, Audit, and Faith and Program Committees.

Linda Zanella, trustee for Brampton West, Wards 2, 5 & 6 was elected vice-chair. Ms. Zanella has also served in various leadership capacities in the past including chair and vice chair of the Faith and Program Committee, chair of the Policy and By-Laws Committee and Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and vice chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

Congratulations to both Mario Pascucci and Linda Zanella on being elected.

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Junior & Senior Kindergarten Registration for the 2012-2013 school year

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on the following dates:

Monday, February 6, 2012*

7:00-9:00 p.m.

*Snow Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, February 8, 9 & 10, 2012

9:00-11:00 a.m.

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Junior Kindergarten - Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Senior Kindergarten - Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2012



For more information, contact the school office or call the Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24500.

Dufferin-Peel hosts parent information session for Kindergarten entry planning for children with special needs

On Tuesday, January 17, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board's Special Education and Support Services Department will host a Kindergarten entry planning information session. This meeting is for parents and guardians of children with special needs which affect their learning, such as vision, hearing, physical, developmental or autism, who are entering Junior, Senior or Full-Day Kindergarten in September 2012. The meeting will be held at the Catholic Education Centre from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. For more information about this session, call 905-890-0708 ext. 24011.

WHAT: Kindergarten Entry Planning for Children with Special Needs - Parent Information Night

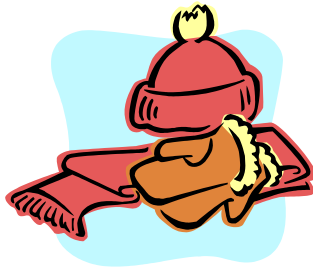
**WHEN: Tuesday, January 17, 2012
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Catholic Education Centre – Room 301 (Third Floor)
40 Matheson Boulevard West, Mississauga (Hurontario & Matheson)**

Junior, Senior and Full-Day Kindergarten registration for the 2012-13 school year, for children not already registered, will be held at all Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools on February 6 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and February 8, 9, 10 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information, parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school, visit the board website at www.dpccsb.org, or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.

WINTER WEATHER



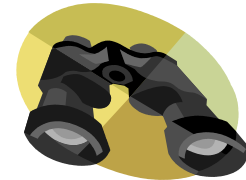
We have had some rather cold weather lately. This is a reminder that children need to be dressed appropriately for the weather. Our school policy is that recess is a part of the school day. If a student is too ill to go outside for recess, he/she should not be at school on that day. We have guidelines from the Board office that help us make a decision as to whether it is too cold for students to go outdoors.

If your child is prone to getting wet during recess or lunch hour, please send a change of clothes, especially socks and pants. With the arrival of the colder weather, we continually remind students that they are expected to remove their winter boots once they enter the building. **Please ensure that your child has indoor shoes to be worn in school.** Wet floors and hallways can result in slippery conditions which may result in injuries. There is another reason children need to wear shoes indoors. If the fire alarm rings, or if we need to evacuate the building, there is no time to put on their boots. **Proper footwear should be worn for gym class.**

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Supervision is in place in the mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., during all recesses, at lunch hour, and at 4:00 p.m. dismissal.

Parents are reminded that students should not be dropped off at the school before 9:00 a.m. in the mornings. The school cannot assume responsibility for the safety of the children before 9:00 a.m.



CURRICULUM MATTERS

FIRST TERM REPORTS / CONFERENCES



Our First Term Report Cards will be sent home on Tuesday January 31st, 2012. The parent, teacher, student conferences for grade JK – 8 are scheduled for the evening of Thursday February 2nd, 2012 and during the day on Friday February 3rd, 2012. You are encouraged to contact your child(ren)'s teacher at any time should you require clarification, or if you have questions or concerns about student progress.

HEALTH & SAFETY

P.A.L.S. – PLAYGROUND ACTIVITY LEADERS

Thirty-two of our grade 5 and 6 students have volunteered to assist with the St. Sofia P.A.L.S. program. During lunch recess the P.A.L.S. leaders help foster safe, co-operative, fun active play on the playground with our grade 1, 2, & 3 students. In November, training was provided to these wonderful young individuals by Mr. Jenkins, Pani Joan and Pani Alicja. Congratulations to all the P.A.L.S. leaders for being amazing virtuous role models!

Keep up the good work.

BULLYING AWARENESS & PREVENTION

Bullying Quiz for Parents and Children

Choose the correct answer and learn about bullying.

1. Children who bully ...
 - a. think hurting others is okay
 - b. can be any age
 - c. can be girls or boys
 - d. all of the above

2. You are less likely to be bullied if you...
 - a. play with a group of friends
 - b. stay calm and don't show fear
 - c. tell an adult about the bullying behaviour
 - d. all of the above

3. Bullying can be ...
 - a. physical (pushing, hitting, pinching)
 - b. verbal (name-calling, insults, threats)
 - c. emotional (excluding someone, ignoring someone)
 - d. all of the above

4. The most common forms of bullying among girls is...
 - a. hitting, pinching, kicking
 - b. stealing, destroying personal property
 - c. excluding someone, gossip, name-calling
 - d. pulling hair, scratching

5. Children learn bullying behaviours from...
 - a. other children
 - b. media (television, movies, video games)
 - c. adult role models (parents, teachers, athletes)
 - d. all of the above

6. If you are being bullied, you should...
 - a. stay calm and not act angry or upset
 - b. ignore the behaviour and walk away
 - c. tell an adult you trust
 - d. all of the above

7. If you witness someone being bullied, you should...
 - a. tell an adult you trust
 - b. walk away and pretend you didn't see anything
 - c. fight back with actions and words
 - d. join the crowd and watch what's happening

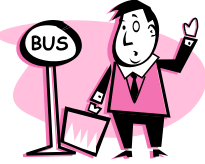
8. You can help put a stop to bullying by...
 - a. telling an adult any time you see it happening
 - b. using bullying behaviour yourself
 - c. trying to include kids, who are alone, in your group activities
 - d. a and c

Answers: 1(d), 2(d), 3(d), 4(c), 5(d), 6(d), 7(a), 8(d)

**For additional information on bullying, please call:
Peel Health at 905-799-7700.**

TRANSPORTATION

RIDING THE BUS



Parents are reminded that students should arrive at their bus stops about 10 minutes before the bus is expected to arrive. The buses are on a tight schedule every morning and are making every effort to maintain their schedules. **Parents are asked to review bus safety rules and understand that pupil's failure to comply with them could result in removal of privileges.**

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS



Once again the prospect of inclement weather is upon us. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:30 a.m. on radio stations. The greatest confusion occurs when announcements effect transportation for certain geographic areas.

If the announcement says: "THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND THE PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BUSES ARE CANCELLED" **This means that ALL transportation services provided by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board including buses and vans have been cancelled for the entire day.**

If the announcement says: "THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS BUSES AND THE PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BUSES IN THE TOWN OF CALEDON AND COUNTY OF DUFFERIN ARE CANCELLED." **This means that our buses will be running except for the vehicles servicing this area - Bus 10.**

If the announcement says: "THE SCHOOL AND OFFICES OF BOTH THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND THE PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ARE CLOSED." **This means that ALL Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board schools and offices are closed to all staff and students.**



Parents can confirm all bussing information heard on the radio or television by logging on to www.stopr.ca

AROUND THE HALLS

LIBRARY NEWS FROM PANI NEAVE



It is exciting to report that the Fall Book Fair was a very successful event! Thank you to all students and parents for your enthusiastic participation! As a result, new books will continue to be purchased for the Library. Pani Petruk, Pani Parzei, Pani Romanish, Pani Bortkiewicz and Pani Brechun deserve our thanks for taking the time to volunteer each day. Thank you to Pani Kasij, Pani Czurylowicz, Panna Ostapiuk and Pani Joan for their help. Happy reading!!

IN THE COMMUNITY

SCHOOL COUNCIL



A very big thank you goes to Andre Sochaniwsky, Ihor. and Maria Cherkas, Mrs. Tymczyna, Petro Dowhal, Marsha Nakonecznyj, Danylo Pastuszak and Evhen Ladna who came out to the December School Council Meeting. They were instrumental in helping set up for the St. Nicholas Concert. Our next meeting: is on **January 26th, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. PLEASE JOIN US.**

DPCDSB COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FROM ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Winter 2012 DPCDSB Adult and Continuing Education program flyers arrive at your doorstep the week of January 2, 2012. You are invited to join in these exciting community programs.

- Computer ABC's Day Program
- Car Maintenance for Women
- Secondary Night School Credit
- French as a Second Language
- Adult Coop and Credit
- General Interest Programs
- International Languages
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship and ESL Classes
- Health and Fitness
- Much Much More

Register now for lifelong learning *opportunities!* Call 905-891-9263 ext.0 or www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cne

UPCOMING DATES:

Jan. 13 – Malanka
Jan. 16 – PA DAY – No School For Students
Jan. 18 – Svichechka
Jan. 19 – Divine Liturgy at St. Mary's
Jan. 19 – Gr. 3s Skating
Jan. 20 – Virtue Assemblies – Self Control
Jan. 26 – School Council Meeting at 7:00
Jan. 27 – Gr. 4s Skating
Jan. 27 – MS Read-a-Thon Kick-Off

Jan. 31 – Term #1 Reports are sent home
Feb. 02 – Interview Evening
Feb. 03 – PA Day – No School For Students
Feb. 06 – JK / SK Registrations Evening
Feb. 09 – Gr. 4s Skating
Feb. 16 – Gr. 3s Skating
Feb. 16 – School Council Meeting
Feb. 17 – Virtue Assemblies - Respect
Feb. 20 – Family Day – School is Closed