



Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

Hands to Serve Hearts to Love

September 2011 Newsletter

1120 Runningbrook Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L4Y 2T2
Telephone: (905) 273-3937 Fax: (905) 273-9223

Principal

A. Maltby

Secretary

T. Vergara

Superintendent

Mississauga East

C. Blanchard

Parish

Patrick's Parish

Phone: 905 270 2301

www.stpatrickparish.ca

Eucharistic Liturgy

Saturday Evening - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

(Children's Liturgy)

12 noon, 7:00 p.m.

Daily (Monday - Saturday) - 8:15 a.m.

Civic Holidays - 10:00 a.m.

Evening Mass - Tues. & Fri. 7:00 p.m.

Pastor

Rev. John Facey

Parish Secretary

Gloria Mergelos

School Council Chair

D. DeBono

Trustee

Mario Pascucci

Mississauga Wards 1&3

905-302-3096

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mariopascucci@dpcdsb.org

Website:

www.trusteepascucci.ca

Attendance Verification

905 - 273 3937

Web Site

www.dpcdsb.org/MTRSA

BEGINNING OF SCHOOL PRAYER

DEAR LORD
YOU GIVE US THIS NEW SCHOOL YEAR.
WE ARE EXCITED TO BE BACK
WITH OUR FRIENDS AND TEACHERS.
HELP US TO MAKE THE BEST OF A NEW BEGINNING
GUIDE US TO MAKE WISE DECISIONS AND
TO DO THE BEST THAT WE CAN.
HELP US TO MAKE THIS A HAPPY YEAR.
LET US SHARE WITH OUR FRIENDS AND
TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS FEEL WELCOME.
BLESS OUR TEACHERS WITH THE GIFTS OF WISDOM
AND PATIENCE AS THEY GUIDE US IN OUR
JOURNEY OF LEARNING.
BLESS OUR PARENTS
SO THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE AND
SUPPORT US WITH THEIR GENEROUS HEARTS.
TOGETHER HELP US CREATE A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS
THAT TEACHES US NOT ONLY SKILLS FOR SUCCESS
BUT ALL THAT WE NEED
TO LIVE OUR FAITH FULLY IN THE WORLD.

AMEN

Principal's Message

It is with much enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2011/2012 school year. A warm welcome is extended to all who are new to our school community. A special greeting is also extended to our Junior Kindergarten children who are starting school for the first time. Together with staff, our parish team, and the parent community I will strive to make this year one of excellence for our students in the areas of academic, spiritual and emotional growth. I invite our parent community to participate in our students' education through a visible presence through council, volunteering and other school activities. It is important to remember that a teacher is only one part of the learning process; parents are extremely important in determining how well a child will perform and how much a child will learn during the school year. Your involvement in your child's learning is vital. Communication is essential in the teaching/learning process. I, along with my staff, am committed to developing and maintaining strong community relationships. I look forward to working together to ensure an excellent school year for our students. *A. Maltby*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Friday, September 16, 2011 is a Professional Development Day
There will be no school for students. Staff will be involved in school reorganization and faith development.

Open House/BBQ

All families are invited to our Open House and BBQ on Thursday, September 22nd 5:30-8 p.m.

Picture Day

Life Touch Photographers will take student pictures on Friday, September 23rd, 2011.

School Operations

2011-2012 Staff List

We are fortunate at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta school to be strong in a variety of areas: academics, arts and athletics. We have students who are willing to be involved and a dedicated staff willing to provide the opportunities for their growth and development. We at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta School anticipate another rewarding and challenging year as we serve the students in our care. Let us learn from the past, live in the present, and plan for the future.

D. Nasato	JK/SK a.m.
T. Armstrong	JK/SK p.m.
C. Pereira	Gr. 1/2
O. Volchuk	Gr. 1/2
L. Medeiros	Gr. 2/3
S. DeMedeiros	Gr. 3/4
R. Puccini	Gr. 4/5
M. Ceccorulli-Brown	Gr. 5/6
D. Casey	Gr. 7
C. Shepherd	Gr. 8
J. Brady	SERT/SERC
M. Piller	Reading Recovery
T. Armstrong	T. Librarian
N. Boyko-Kinney	Planning Time Teacher
S. O'Donnell	FSL
R. Scarpelli	ESL & Planning Time
M. Knibbe	ERW
I. Gudz	ERW
T. Vergara	Secretary
A. Maltby	Principal
L. Baccega	Head Custodian
J. Xamin	Evening Custodian
A. D'Ettore	Cleaning Staff

School Hours

8:55 a.m. -3:25 p.m.

A.M. Recess -11:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Kindergarten morning dismissal 11:25 a.m.

Lunch - 11:55 -12:55 p.m.

P.M. Recess -2:20- 2:35 p.m.

3:25 Dismissal

All students are expected to attend school regularly and punctually. In the event that your child will be late or absent, please telephone the school before 8:55 a.m. and 12:55 p.m. to inform us of the absence. All students who arrive after 8:55 a.m. or 12:55 p.m. must obtain a late slip from the office. This measure is to ensure the safety of your child. We thank you for your continued support in following this procedure.

The number to call is:(905) 273-3937

Provide the following information:

Date of absence(s)

Name(s) of student(s)

Name of student's teacher(s)

Reason for absence

Date of return

Faculty Updates - Please Welcome

Welcome aboard to our new FSL/PT teacher, Ms. O'Donnell, our new PT teacher, Mrs. Boyko-Kinney, our grade 1/2 teacher, Mrs. Volchuk, our grade 2/3 teacher, Mrs. Medeiros, our new ERW, Mrs. Gudz, and our new CYW Mrs. K. Scappicchio. We wish Mr. Komorowski all the best and thank him for his contributions to our school. As well, this year we will be welcoming co-op students from John Cabot Secondary, and student teachers from various faculty programs.

Friday, September 16th - P.A. DAY

This year our first Professional Activity Day is on Friday, September 16, 2011. This day has been designated for faith and curriculum development as well as school reorganization. Depending on unexpected changes in enrollment and staffing at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta School, reorganization will be implemented on this day as approved by the Board Planning Department and the Superintendent of Schools. All students affected will receive a letter explaining to the parents the mandated reorganization and the process involved. There will be no school for students on this day.

COMBINED GRADES – DID YOU KNOW?

A combined grade class is comprised of students from two consecutive grades. Combined classes are a reality in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, as with all schools in Ontario and have been an educational reality dating back to the "one room school house". Teachers of all classes, single or combined grade, strive to meet the range of individual needs. This is achieved through the implementation of varied teaching and assessment strategies and working with students in a variety of groupings. Teaching strategies and groupings are chosen as appropriate to the learning styles of the students in the class.

BUSSING-INTEGRATED RIDERSHIP

This fall our school is part of the Integrated Ridership Program. What this means is that we will be sharing buses with Burnhamthorpe Public School. We are in the process of optimizing this new procedure, and thank you for your assistance in helping to make this a safe and smooth process. Please let your child's teacher know in writing if there is to be any change to the regular routine.

EMPTY SEAT POLICY

During the month of September, only those students who live in the bussing area and meet with grade/distance guidelines are eligible to ride the school bus. Parents are asked to write a letter to Mrs. Maltby to request an empty seat. Letters will be accepted until **September 30th**. After that date, you will receive notice of any empty seats available.

BUSSING-CONTACTING STOPR

Internet: www.stopr.ca This website provides up to date delay and inclement weather cancellation information in addition to policy, procedures and frequently asked questions.

Businfo.stopr.ca This website allows parents to access specific to "what school do I attend" and "am I eligible for transportation." This site also provides parents access to

specific bus stop location and pick up and drop off times for their children if eligible for transportation.

Telephone: Transportation EAST 905-890-6000
Spec. Ed Trans. 905-890-6362

SAFETY OF STUDENTS

We are asking that students not be dropped off prior to 8:40 a.m. as we do not have supervision in the yard until that time. At the end of our school day, 3:25 p.m., we ask that all students leave the school yard as there is no supervision at this time and students are to proceed directly home. We are also asking that the playground apparatus not be used at this time as there is no staff supervision. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter of your child's safety.

UPDATING OUR RECORDS

Once again this year we will be contacting parents/guardians at home or work if their children have not arrived at school and we have not received information about their absence. It is essential to have up-to-date information (i.e. parent's work number, cell number, emergency contact person, etc.) Please complete the **Student Verification form** (one per child) and return it to school by Monday, September 19th. If any of the information changes throughout the year, please contact Mrs. Vergara in the office.

FREE DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Region of Peel Health Services is promoting *Healthy Smiles Ontario*, a free dental program to students who meet the program's eligibility requirements. Healthy Smiles Ontario is a new program for **children 17 and under** who do not have access to any form of dental coverage. If eligible, children will be able to visit a licensed dental provider such as a dentist or dental hygienist for basic dental services including fillings, x-rays and scaling at no cost to the family.

Children are eligible if they:

- *live in Peel
- *have a valid Ontario Health card
- *are under 18 years of age
- *are members of a household with an Adjusted Family Net Income of \$20,000 per year or less AND
- *do not have access to any form of dental coverage (including government funded programs like Ontario Works)

Please contact Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 for more information regarding *Healthy Smiles Ontario Program* and to book an appointment for a free dental screening.

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 enrollment is voluntary, the Board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or if parents do not have dental insurance coverage. **Brochures for Reliable Life Insurance will be sent home during the first week of September.** Enrollment is required in writing so there are

two options for enrollment: 1. Complete the form and mail it in or 2. Photocopy the form and fax to Reliable Life at **1-800-463-KIDS (5437)**

ELEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES PROGRAM

Elementary International classes are available to students in grades JK-8. No prior language experience is necessary. International languages programs comply with the Ministry of Education curriculum and will be of interest to students who wish to preserve their language and cultural heritage and to those who wish to study the language and heritage of another culture. Students attending schools outside of the DPCDSB may also register for these programs. Enrollment is limited at each location. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Classes will be cancelled if there is insufficient enrollment. Registration begins **Saturday, September 10th, 2011** and classes run until the first week of June from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please register at the International language Site where you would like your child to attend on Saturday only. Day schools do not accept registrations. **Please bring Proof of Age and any health concerns information to the registration. There is a \$25 non-refundable materials fee per student (cheque, VISA or Mastercard).**

WHAT'S NEW

We are thrilled to share that we have added three new SMART boards to our classrooms. This has been made possible through the efforts of our School Council. We have also renovated our resource area in order to better serve the needs of our students.



Sabrina's Law Anaphylaxis Reaction

As we begin the new school year, we would like to inform you that Blessed Teresa of Calcutta is an allergen aware school. There are pupils in attendance at our school that suffer from severe and life threatening allergies to certain foods, such as peanut and nut products, and fish. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe and life threatening reactions. Anaphylaxis is a severe and life threatening allergic reaction. The most common allergen triggers are food, insect stings, medications, exercise and latex. An anaphylactic reaction involves symptoms from two or more body systems. We would appreciate the cooperation of the entire school community by NOT sending any lunches or snacks that contain peanuts, peanut products or other nut products. We want Blessed Teresa of Calcutta to be a safe environment for all students. Thank you for your assistance with this initiative.

If your child is at risk for severe life threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), please ensure that the teacher and office are aware and that the proper medication and

emergency information forms are in place and up to date.

STORING & ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Please be advised that there is a Board policy on the storage and administration of medication. If your child requires daily administration of medication, please contact the office as soon as possible.

MEDIC ALERT NO CHILD WITHOUT PROGRAM

The **No child Without Program** offers a free Medic Alert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a Medic Alert membership. Your child's voice in an emergency, Medic Alert membership:

- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their Medic Alert bracelet or necklet.
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up-to-date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline**.
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the hotline.
- Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed.

For further information, visit www.nochildwithout.ca. If your child is already part of the **No Child Without program** and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications, emergency contact information call Medic Alert at 1-866-679-3220 ext #1 to update your child's file.

BOARD POLICY ON THE USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has a policy regarding the use of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) at school such as cell phones, electronic games, cameras, ipods. In accordance with Board Policy, "PEDs must be kept out of sight, turned off and not used within school premises or during school-sanctioned activities such as retreats, field trips, sports events, etc. To prevent the loss or damage of PEDs, we encourage students to leave their PEDs at home. These items can be disruptive to the learning environment when used inappropriately.

BRINGING VALUABLES TO SCHOOL

We remind parents that students are not to bring valuable items to school such as expensive jewelry, personal games and sport items. Students are advised not to bring money to school unless it is for a school trip or activity. The school will not take responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged items.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

To ensure school security for students and teachers, the Board policy requires that all visitors (including parents)

and volunteers report to the office when entering the school. Please enter the school through the main doors ONLY.

Identification stickers are required to be worn when visitors are in the school. We strongly encourage and welcome parent volunteers. If you are able and willing to volunteer, kindly inform the office and provide a phone number and dates/times of availability. We are hoping to continue to run many of our very successful volunteer programs. If you can volunteer, even one hour per week of your time please let us know. A Ministry regulation requires volunteers to complete a criminal reference check. If you completed a criminal reference check last year and submitted a copy to the school, you are required to complete an Offence Declaration Form this year. Please contact the school office for more information. Come out and join our team!

EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS

Schools are required to conduct Emergency Evacuation Drills and Lock Down Procedures in accordance with fire code regulations and Board policy. These procedures will be reviewed with students during the first few weeks of school and at appropriate times throughout the school year. In the event that we must evacuate the school at any time, our evacuation site is Applewood Heights Secondary.

Faith Community

Virtue of the Month

In the month of September we will celebrate the virtue of: Faith:

A Faithful Person...

- 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.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

We will be starting our Thanksgiving Food Drive the week of September 26th until October 7th. All donations of non-perishable goods are appreciated.



THE ROSARY APOSTOLATE PROGRAM

We are excited to once again have the Rosary Apostolate Program at our school for all grades. Each month all students will have the opportunity to share in learning and

reciting the Rosary, as well as joining in special projects and presentations led by the Rosary Apostolate Team.

Curriculum/Student

STUDENT AGENDAS

We have ordered an agenda organizer for all Gr. 1-8 students. The cost per student agenda is \$7.00. Each student is encouraged to purchase an agenda as it makes an excellent organizational and goal setting tool, and provides a good format for home-school communication. Please refer to the form package that was sent home with your child.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Please refer to your child's agenda for an outline of our Code of Conduct. Classroom teachers have reviewed these expectations with their students.

FREE REAL-TIME MATH TUTORING

Grade 7 to 10 math students at Dufferin-Peel now have access to 20 hours a week of free, online math tutoring to help them improve and succeed in math. Check out [Homework Help](#) where certified Ontario teachers are available Sunday to Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., for one-on-one confidential help. Dufferin-Peel is one of 15 English-language boards taking part in this pilot project funded by the Ministry of Education.

Registered students in Grades 7 through 10 math are able to: Access a collection of online math resources 24/7. Access free personalized tutoring from a certified Ontario math teacher. Other important information about the service: Chats take place Sunday to Thursday between the hours of 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. Homework Help is free, live and anonymous.

Visit <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/> to learn more!

If your child has not yet registered, student registration can be completed by visiting Homework Help. All students will require the Dufferin-Peel access code which can be obtained from your child's teacher or by contacting the school office

WITS

(walk away/ignore/talk it out/seek adult help)

In dealing with daily interactions with their peers it is helpful for students to develop strategies to deal with situations of conflict or anxiety. At Blessed Teresa we encourage the students to use their 'WITS'. This strategy teaches the children how to deal effectively with minor situations, thereby empowering them to solve minor situations that may arise with their peers. Emphasis is also placed on insisting that they seek adult assistance whenever a situation is physically or emotionally hurtful. Please take time to discuss with your child what they may have learned through using this method. Parental input, encouragement

and knowledge are always key in a child's development of new skill sets.

Community Development

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Please refer to attached flyers as well as previous communication items outlining our first Catholic School Council meeting, our first agenda, and our election process. We welcome all community members to each of our meetings throughout the year, and encourage each of you to come out and participate on council! Our first meeting is taking place on Tuesday, September 20th @ 7:00 p.m. in the library. Hope to see you there!

OPEN HOUSE/BBQ

On Thursday, September 22nd we will be holding our Open House and BBQ. The BBQ and mingle part of the evening will begin @ 5:30 p.m., followed with the opportunity to meet all staff in the gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. After an introduction of staff and an address from Mrs. Maltby, parents will have the opportunity to visit their child(ren)'s classroom with an overview of the year's curriculum being shared at that time.

TERRY FOX DAY

Our Terry Fox event will take place on the morning of Friday, September 30th. All students are encouraged to wear red and white on this day. In the afternoon students will be participating in cross-grade art activities.

PLASP-BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The PLASP Program begins at 7:30 a.m. and resumes once school is dismissed and goes until 6:00 p.m. Children participate in recreational activities, are served a nutritious snack daily and have time for homework. To register your child, visit the PLASP Program Director, After School. For further information, call 905-890-1711 or visit the website at www.plasp.com

Calendar Dates

SEPTEMBER

- 14 First Pizza Day
- 16 Professional Development Day – Faith Day and Re-organization
- 20 Catholic School Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Open House and BBQ 5:30 p.m.
- 23 Picture Day
- 30 Terry Fox Walk a.m. / Art p.m.

