



Our Lady of Peace School

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October
2011
Newsletter

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Thanksgiving Prayer

*Blessed are you, Lord our God, Creator of
heaven and earth and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

*We praise you for your glory,
and thank you for your goodness to us.
We praise you for your generous gifts and for bringing
fruitful results to our labours.*

*As we rejoice in your
kindness, we pray also for those who are in need.
Open our hearts to them, and teach us to be as generous to
others as you are to us.*

Amen.

Principal's Message:

The busy month of September has come to an end. As you know September 16, 2011 was a Professional Development Day and we did reorganize. As a result of higher enrolment, we welcome Mrs. Realejo full-time in JK/SK, and Miss Anderson .5 for planning time in our primary division. Many of the primary classes were reorganized forming new grade 1 /2, 2 and 3 classes. Mrs. Zafeiropoulos' class has become a grade 4. Change is often difficult and I thank all of our students, staff and parents for their understanding, patience, and flexibility dealing with these changes.

The month of October finds a number of initiatives underway. Our junior students will soon begin training for our PALS program. The cross country and intermediate volleyball teams are hard at work and our Youth Ambassadors have been selected as has our School Council. In fact we have begun working on the School Council Halloween Dance-a-thon and pledge forms will go home with all students on Friday, October 7th.

Our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for St. Louise Outreach comes to a close October 6th and I would like to thank everyone who has been sending in donations. Our school community is both caring of others and giving of their time.

On behalf of the staff of Our Lady of Peace, I wish you all a joyful and bountiful Thanksgiving. Enjoy this beautiful Fall season with family, friends and loved ones.

Principal
C. Cauduro

SCHOOL DRIVEWAY / KISS 'N RIDE

We ask that parents continue to use the designated entrance of the school driveway to drop off and pick up your child during morning Kiss 'n Ride. **Do not park in the drop-off lanes or block the bus lane.** Students and parents walking to school are reminded to stay on the sidewalks and to use the crosswalk when traveling from the parking area/street to the front of the school.



INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES

As we move into the Fall Season and a change in weather we would ask that all students bring a pair of indoor shoes that can be worn inside of the school and left in their classrooms. Your cooperation is appreciated.



TERRY FOX WALK

Again this year Our Lady of Peace participated in the annual school Terry Fox Walk/Run for Cancer Research on Friday September 23, 2011. Thank you to Mrs. Pickering who organized this worthwhile event. Thank you to our wonderful parents who volunteered and helped us on the walk. Your support and donations of \$700 are appreciated.



LIBRARY NEWS

Mrs. Marino would like to thank everyone who supported our Fall Book Fair. The turnout was amazing! It was our best book fair to date. Our school library is open to students and you should see library books coming home. JK's to Grade 6 students are allowed to take out one book per student while Grade 7-8 students may take out up to two books per student weekly. Students may renew books but are asked to bring them back after the one week period to be renewed. We are looking forward to a great year of reading and learning!

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

Our cross country team is "up and running". Special thanks to the coaches Mrs. Papini and Mme. Ramirez for their hard work and dedication. Practices are being held Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m. The Family Cross Country Meet is Monday, October 17th at Erindale Park! The Board Cross Country Meet will be Monday, October 24th, location to be determined.

INTERMEDIATE BOYS AND GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thank you to our coaches Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Dicenso for holding try outs and getting our intermediate boys and girls volleyball teams started. Permission forms have gone home and we await the date of our family tournament. We wish all of our athletes a successful season.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Our Thanksgiving Food Drive will run from September 26th to October 6th in support of St. Louise Outreach. As a school community we are asking for your support in collecting non-perishable food items. The entire community is very grateful for your continued support and generosity.

ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE /B.B.Q.

Thank you to all who attended the Annual B.B.Q. and Meet the Teacher Open House held on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. Hamburgers, sausages, snacks and cold drinks were enjoyed by all and it was a wonderful opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. A special thank you to our volunteers and members of last year's School Council who sold the tickets and organized this event. Also to P&P Catering; your hard work is appreciated. Thank you to our trustee Linda Zanella and Father Jan who were able to join us for this fabulous evening of community building.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Elections of the new school council were held on September 28th. Thank you and congratulations to:

K. Reid—Chair	M. Vigneault—Parish Rep.
B. Griffith—Member	R. Gorys—Member
J. Gorys- Member	M. McLean—Member
P. Walsh – Member	
M. Harding/L. Bertolo- Teacher Representative	

You are invited to the second meeting of the Our Lady of Peace Catholic School Council on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.



SCHOOL COUNCIL FALL FUNDRAISER

This year's Annual Fundraiser will be a Halloween Dance-a-thon scheduled for Monday, October 31st. Students are encouraged to dress up for the occasion and to really demonstrate their school spirit. Our School Council has been busy preparing exciting prizes for this special event including a TV/DVD, Nintendo DS's, and a Digital Camera. All students will receive a pledge sheet and envelope on Friday, October 7th and are asked to have family and friends sponsor them as they raise funds for such ventures as Artists in the School, Families in Need, Graduation, Sacramental gifts and other school events. Students are **NOT TO CANVAS DOOR TO DOOR** to raise money for this event.

VIRTUES PROGRAM

Throughout the month of October we will focus on the virtue of empathy. An empathetic person listens attentively, notices and responds to others, can see a situation from another person's point of view and knows that different people may feel differently about the same thing. As a Catholic community let us pray for the grace and strength to be people of empathy.

ST. JEROME'S PARISH NEWS

A parent information meeting for the parents of children in Grade 2 who will be receiving First Holy Communion is being held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the parish.

Parents of students in Grade 8 who wish to be Confirmed are expected to attend the information meeting being held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the parish.

First Communion and Confirmation packages are to be picked up at the parish after any mass, FILLED OUT and brought to the information meetings. If you have any questions, contact the parish office at (905) 455-4260

PEDICULOSIS

A problem, which seems to occur in most schools, is pediculosis or head lice. Head lice are parasites and they are not connected in any way with uncleanliness. If a case is found, we shall inform all parents of all children in that class. We ask that you periodically check your own children. If you find that your child has pediculosis, please ensure that they get the proper treatment. Even if cases are not reported from the school, it is a wise precaution to check your children periodically. If your children are infested, we will be asking you to keep them out of school until after they have been treated with the correct shampoo and their heads are entirely clear of both lice and nits (eggs). If we all cooperate in these procedures, we may not entirely escape outbreaks, but we will be able to bring them under control quickly.



PIZZA TUESDAYS

Every Tuesday is Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day from Grabba-Pizza. To make it as easy as possible there is no paper, no advance orders. All the students need is to bring \$2 per slice every Tuesday morning **before 9:30 a.m.** NO LATE ORDERS will be taken.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE DRILLS

In accordance with Ministry regulations, we will conduct three fire drills this fall. While we hope that a real fire never occurs, this practice helps prepare students in the event of a real fire. In addition we have scheduled a lockdown practice for the second week of November. This procedure is intended to prepare students should a high risk incident occur on school property or in the near vicinity.

EQAO RESULTS

Last May and June marked the annual administration of the Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (E.Q.A.O.). Parents of children who wrote the 2010-2011 assessment received their child's Individual Student Report on September 22nd. These results provide a "snapshot" of each student's achievement of the knowledge and skills in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics. More general information may be found on the EQAO website at www.eqao.com. If you have any questions concerning your child's results, please feel free to contact the school.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Following consultation with system stakeholders, a Dufferin-Peel homework policy document has been adopted to foster consistency across the board in this area. The policy document addresses the following: definition of homework, characteristics of effective homework, types of commonly assigned homework, timing and quantity of homework, general and specific procedures, reporting of homework, roles and responsibilities of administrators, teachers, students and families. The homework policy is fully outlined in the student agendas and may be viewed online at dpcdsb.org/homework.



LUNCH POLICY

We have a large number of students eating lunch at school and often children need to be reminded of proper behaviour while eating. We ask for the parent's cooperation in reinforcing with your child(ren) appropriate lunchtime behaviour. Students are expected to:

- Remain seated while eating
- Not to share food (Sabrina's Law Policy re: allergies)
- Chat quietly with their friends
- Dispose of all garbage/recyclables and clean up before leaving

Following these rules will make eating at school safe and enjoyable for all.

DAILY DISMISSAL

Each day we dismiss students at 3:30 p.m. All students are expected to meet parents and/or older siblings at the front of the school or on the sidewalks to go home. We want you to feel welcome in the school but parents and high school students are not to be in the school yard between 8:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. as we need to maintain a safe environment for all of our students. **Pets are not permitted on the school grounds** or near entrance and exit ways as many students have allergies and are uncomfortable around unfamiliar animals. We are also asking that students do not loiter on school property or in front of neighbouring homes at the end of the school day.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Students in Grade 7 and 8 are being given the opportunity to become part of Our Lady of Peace School Council. Nomination forms have been handed out and are due Tuesday, October 12th. Each candidate will be giving a short, two minute speech before the election takes place the afternoon of October 13th. We look forward to an exciting and fun-filled year with our newly elected student council!

FIRST TERM PROGRESS REPORTS

On Tuesday, October 25th, Progress Reports will be sent home for all students from Grades 1 to 8. *This is not a report card.* These reports are meant to inform parents of their child's current progress in school. Teachers have commented on Language, Mathematics and one other key area. Other subject areas have a check mark to indicate progress. The evening of Thursday, October 27th is set aside to conduct parent/teacher conferences. Requests for these conferences will go home in late October. It is important for parents and teachers to work together as a caring and supportive team. A critical part of this teamwork is the parent/teacher conference and we hope to see many parents in attendance.

NUMERACY FOCUS

As part of our Catholic School Learning Plan, one of the main areas we will focus on this school year will be numeracy. Our Primary Division teachers are involved in a math network and have begun to work with our Special Assignment Teacher, Shannon Smith, focusing on the three part math lesson. Over the course of the next six weeks and throughout the year, all teachers will be incorporating co-operative problem solving into their daily numeracy block.

GUIDELINES FOR HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

All students are encouraged to dress up for the Halloween Dance-a-thon. As we are a Catholic school, we ask that you use your best judgment in creating and wearing costumes for this special event. **Costumes depicting violence and death are not appropriate.** Students should be comfortable and able to sit in their costume as they are attending the dance-a-thon for a scheduled period of time with the remainder of the day being spent in class. We ask that students **do not wear masks to school** as they limit vision and can be quite hot to wear. Hooks, swords, toy guns, spears and similar weapons or objects are also not come to school. Save them for the evening when the children are trick or treating. In keeping with Sabrina's Law (schools are mandated to manage student allergies), we ask that you **do not send** candy treats, baked goods, doughnuts etc... in for your child's class. Halloween stickers, pencils, erasers are a good alternative. You may wish to donate a Halloween book, puzzle or a small game to your child's class so that all can enjoy a safe treat.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 4 th ;	Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day
October 5 th ;	World Teacher's Day
October 6 th ;	Hep B and HPV Gr. 7 and 8 Food Drive ends today Provincial Election - VOTE
October 7 th ;	Thanksgiving Liturgy 1:15 in Gym Dance-a-thon Pledges go home
October 10 th ;	Thanksgiving Day - No Classes
October 11 th ;	Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day School Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
October 17 th ;	Cross Country Meet @ Erindale Park
October 18 th ;	PALS Training in the Gym Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day Parent Meeting First Holy Communion 7:00 @ St. Jerome's
October 19 th ;	Bus Driver Appreciation Day
October 20 th ;	Picture Day Edge Imaging School Council Chairs Mtg. @ S F/X
October 24 th ;	Board Cross Country Meet
October 25 th ;	Progress Reports Go Home Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day Parent Meeting Confirmation 7:00 p.m. @ St. Jerome's Parish
October 27 th ;	Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 31 st ;	Dance-a-thon Fundraiser in Gym
November 1 st ;	Toonie Tuesday Pizza Day
November 2 nd ;	St. Augustine Math Visit to Gr. 8's

