



**NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2010**

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/JOEST

St. Joseph Elementary School

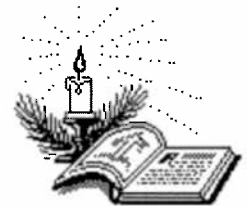
We C.A.R.E.: Catholic Community, Acceptance, Respect, Excellence

Advent Prayer

*Lord God,
We come to you with excited and grateful hearts as we begin a new
church year and season.
Thank you for this Advent time.
It's exciting as we get closer to Christmas!
And it's good for us to slow down and enjoy each other more.
Fill us with your peace.*

*Make us better people.
Teach us to appreciate each other more deeply.
Help each of us to tell others more often how much they mean to us.
Make us aware that you walk with us each day.
Help us to be grateful and joyful.
Make our hearts strong and brave.
We love you, Lord.*

Amen



VIRTUE OF HOPE

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

Celebrating our Faith

ADVENT MASS

On Thursday, December 2nd, our school community celebrated the Eucharist together with Father Salvador. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us. Special thanks to our School Council for providing refreshments in the church hall after mass.

Curriculum & Student Activities

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Information was sent home regarding our "Acts of Kindness" Christmas activities organized under the direction of Mrs. Gaskin, and Mme DaSilva. We thank you in advance for your ongoing support of our efforts.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

It is a requirement that all school volunteers provide a current Criminal Reference Check before beginning the program. If you would like a form, please see the school secretary, Mrs. Carabetta.

ECO SCHOOL

This year, St. Joseph School will be participating in various ECO SCHOOL projects. We are sending home this month's newsletter to all our students. Beginning in January, 2011, we will be sending home the newsletter to our youngest and only students. We also post our monthly newsletter on our school website. You may access this information at:

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/JOEST>

Home-School Communication

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The dates for the Christmas Holiday this year are December 20 to January 2. Students return to school on Monday, January 3rd, 2011.

JUNIOR BOYS/GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The junior volleyball season has been quite exciting! Both teams put in a huge amount of effort and dedication as they learned to improve their skills and build

teamwork. All of the coaches are very proud of our athletes and look forward to next year! Thank you to Mr. Bernais for refereeing and to all the parents and friends who attended the games to cheer on the Jets!

CONGRATULATIONS to our boy's team who went on to win the Board championships! The members of the team were: Ben A., James C., Steven D., Alex D., Tyler F., Matthew K., Joshua L., Mark M., Nick P., Reggie S., Jacob V. and Randy Y. Many thanks to their coaches: Ms DeSouza and Mrs. Sajda.

DROP OFF and PICK UP

Parents are reminded that supervision is available 15 minutes before the bell. Students should not be dropped off before 8:30 a.m. When parents need to talk with their children during the school day, they must first come to the office and sign in. For safety reasons, staff will direct all parents to the office. Also, parents must sign out all students from the office if they are leaving the school.

DRESSING FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please assist us in encouraging the children to dress appropriately for the weather. It is helpful when parents label items of clothing with their child's name, so that each person can more easily locate his/her own clothing from the class coat rack area. Each term many items make their way to the Lost and Found and are never claimed. Labeled items can be returned more easily and mixed up items sorted out more readily.

Also, please ensure that your child has indoor and outdoor shoes. In case of an emergency, the students will not have time to put on their boots/outdoor shoes. Students are not permitted to wear their boots/outdoor shoes indoors due to health and safety concerns. Your cooperation is appreciated.

SKATING PROGRAM

Letters have gone home for our 4 skating days in the new year. This is for our grades 1-8 students. **Please remember that helmets are mandatory for all students.**

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our next School Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. All are welcome.



Student Transportation
of Peel Region

INTEGRATED RIDERSHIP – SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

The school board's bus transportation services are operated by Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR). This is a consortium, or partnership, between the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the Peel District School Board. The Ministry of Education requires school board bus transportation consortiums to improve efficiency.

One initiative promoted by the Ministry of Education, that is designed to improve efficiency is known as integrated ridership. In integrated ridership, students from both Dufferin-Peel and Peel schools will ride on the same buses, where feasible. A number of school boards across the province have successfully implemented integrated ridership. All eligible students continue to be transported on runs where integrated ridership is implemented.

Integrated ridership is designed to create a more effective and efficient operation of service, is more environmentally friendly and reduces traffic in our communities. Integrated ridership may also result in higher transportation funding levels for school boards. Integrated ridership works best in situations where schools are located close to one another and the number of students involved helps achieve better organized bus runs.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has approved the implementation of integrated ridership, where feasible, starting September, 2011. During the next few months, STOPR staff will be looking at areas where integrated ridership would work best. It should be noted that integrated ridership does not work well in all areas and, as a result, there may be only a few areas that will have this program.

STOPR will provide additional information regarding the selection of schools where integrated ridership will be implemented. Once a school is selected, a possibility exists that school start and dismissal times may be altered from the current times. STOPR will keep you informed through regular updates in school newsletters over the upcoming months.

CHRISTMAS AND NEWS YEAR SCHEDULE 2010-11

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th, 2010

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. &

12:00 midnight (all English)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th, 2010

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., (Portuguese), 11:00 a.m. &

12:30 p.m.

Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 26th, 2010

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Friday, December 31st, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 1st, 2011

9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Please also note that this is a Holy Day of Obligation

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2nd, 2011

Mass is at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.