

St. Joseph Elementary School

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

**JANUARY/
FEBRUARY**

2012

NEWSLETTER

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I. Carabetta

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Mississauga North**

D. Oude-Reimerink

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L. Condon

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Resolutions for the New Year

Take time to think;
It is the source of power.

Take time to study;
It is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to play;
It is the secret of staying young.

Take time to be quiet;
It is the opportunity to seek God.

Take time to love and be loved;
It is God's greatest gift.

Take time to laugh;
It is the singing of the soul.

Take time to dream;
It is where the hope for the future begins.

Take time to pray;
It is the greatest power on earth.

A Prayer for 2012

*As the New Year unfolds, let us give thanks for all we hold dear:
our health, our family and our friends.*

*Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains,
for these are nothing but binding chains.*

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God our Father in our hearts and pray to God each day.

*Let us lead the world from darkness to light,
from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.*

*Let us remember that we are all God's children,
embracing all, discriminating against none.*

May our year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.

*May God's blessings shower upon us and bestow upon each of us a bright, healthy and
peaceful new year.*

Amen

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all of you. 2012 promises to be an exciting year for St. Joseph Catholic School.

The teachers are planning special events, are coaching sports teams and are planning leadership opportunities for your children. A Chapel is planned and renovations will begin in seminar D during the next two months. Reports for these initiatives are included in this newsletter.

We can look forward to **Full Day Kindergarten in September**. There will be two classes at St. Joseph. A teacher and a Designated Early Childhood Worker (DECW) are assigned to each class. During the summer, you will notice that renovations will occur inside the kindergarten classrooms and in the kindergarten play area.

2012 will be a great year for your children to learn, play and pray at St. Joseph.

Full Day Kindergarten Registration

If your child is turning four or five prior to December 31, 2012 and you are a Catholic School supporter, please register your child between February 6 and February 10, 2012. You must have registered your child before 3:00 p.m. on Friday 10, 2012. If we exceed the projected number there will be a lottery on February 16th.

If your child is in JK at St. Joseph this year, he or she is already placed on the Kindergarten list for September. You will receive a letter for you to confirm that your child will be attending full day kindergarten.

At this time, we are only accepting applications from families who reside within our boundaries.

If parents prefer a **traditional half-day kindergarten**, they may register at Our Lady of Good Voyage at 5850 River Grove Ave., (905-567-8422). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact St. Joseph.



Parents/Guardians should bring the following documents when registering their child:

- Birth Certificate
- proof of age
- original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent and child) or Baptismal Certificate of other rites in communion with the Holy See of Rome
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)



SCHOOL HOURS

8:45	Entry Bell
10:50-11:05	Morning Recess
11:15	JK/SK Morning Class Dismissal
11:45-12:05	Grades 1-8 eat lunch
12:05-12:45	Grades 1-8 Lunch Recess
12:45	JK/SK pm Classes Begin
2:10-2:25	Afternoon Recess
3:15	Dismissal



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

All students have the responsibility to attend school regularly and punctually. In the event your child will be absent or late, please telephone the school before 8:45 to inform us. The answering machine is available at all hours.



PARISH NEWS

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Tel. 905-826-2766

A Message from Father Marc Andre Campbell

At St. Joseph Parish we offer a Catechesis program for children who have received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion and who would like to further their knowledge in Faith, God and Church. Catechesis sessions are on **Mondays at 4:30 to 5:30** in the parish hall with Mrs. Marie Morrison.

Another youth program is EDGE night at the church and they meet Sundays on January 29th and February 5th and 19th after the 6:00p.m. Mass. Grade 6, 7 and 8 students are welcome and are encouraged to bring a friend.



Sacramental Preparation 2011-2012

Reconciliation will be held at St. Joseph School on February 15th at 9:30 a.m.

These sacraments will be held at St. Joseph Church.
First Communion: April 29, 2012 at 3:30 p.m.
Confirmation: April 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Schedule for School Masses:

Lenten Mass	March 2, 2012 10:00 a.m.
Year End Mass	June 18, 2012 10:00 a.m.
Graduation Mass:	June 27, 2012 TBD

Message from St. Vincent de Paul Society: St. Joseph Parish Conference

We are very grateful for such a generous community response to our annual **Christmas Hamper Project**. With your assistance we were able to:

- Provide Christmas Hampers to 170 families
- Make 443 children happy Christmas morning
- Assist 274 parents/adults
- Collect 53 cases of food
- Collect and distribute 4 cases of mittens, hats and socks
- Distribute dozens of shoes
- Distribute dozens of new sweaters

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary Community sponsored five families. May God continue to bless your families for your kindness and generosity shown to others!

VIRTUE FORMATION

In a school community, virtue formation contributes to a healthy, positive learning environment by fostering a climate in which all members feel safe, confident and hope-filled. We practice all of the virtues and each month, we focus on one of them.

Our Virtue for January is *Self Control*.

God has given us the ability to choose. We are able to control how we react to what happens around us. We may feel pressure from inside or from outside ourselves to react violently to a situation. We've all "lost it" at one time or another. We are never proud of those moments. As soon as they happen we make a promise that they will not happen again. Through prayer and concentration, we can be better at showing *self-control*. Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret or to do something that will harm ourselves or others. Self-control is one of the marks of a spiritually mature person.

When we all use self-control, we can be sure that our school will be a safe, caring and inclusive place to live and to learn.

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 hitting, kicking or pushing,
- Can think things through and do what is best for everyone.

February's Virtue: *Respect*

God has given us the virtues of friends and companions to keep us company and to help us out along the way. Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God – and so every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ. As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness. All are different ways of saying *respect*. Respect should come first from ourselves. We must respect ourselves and respect others. We should also expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet.

A respectful person...

- Treats himself/herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs, and inappropriate gestures
- Says 'Excuse me', 'Please', 'Pardon me'
- Avoids gossip

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

School Council Meetings

All School Council meetings are held in the library and are open to all parents of students attending St. Joseph School. Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings in the library and begin at 7:00pm. Minutes of school council meetings and the Annual Report are available at the school office. Our next Council Meeting will be on **March 6, 2012**. On March 6, there will be a presentation from the ECO School Committee. Please consider joining us.

Fundraisers:

During October and November the QSP fundraiser was organized by Mrs. Ervin Sayewich. To date the students have earned \$1000.00 from magazine subscription sales. Please remember you may continue to enter new orders and renewals on-line all year to the benefit of St. Joseph School.

In December, Mrs. Nicholas spear-headed the fundraiser for Regal. The Regal Catalogue has been sent home and more are available in the office. Regal has designed our own website for safe and secure ordering – www.stjoseph.shopregal.ca. Please read all the details on the homepage. You can place your orders until **May 31, 2012**. To date we have earned \$100.00. A Spring Catalogue will be available in early April.

On February 1st, the Chocolate drive will begin. Students will bring home 1 carton of chocolates per family. These are to be sold and the money returned by February 17, 2012. A letter will be sent home to describe the process. **We need many volunteers for this fundraiser. Please contact Mrs. Rozman, Mr. Condon or Ms Hayhow if you are able to assist.**

Some initiatives that are supported by the fundraisers are...

- Purchase of student agendas
- Painting of the JETS logo in the Gym
- Creation of a school chapel
- Purchase of technology for classrooms

We are also looking for volunteers for the Chapel Committee. We need committee members who can help build the altar or a prayer bench or can organize donations, or can hem the liturgical linens. These are just some of the ways you can help. Mr. Coelho is the chair of the chapel committee.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

Welcome Back! I hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break and are ready for the challenges that lie ahead. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students and parents for their willing and wholehearted involvement in all of our Christmas activities. The true meaning of Christmas was certainly in evidence in the St. Joseph community as we shared with those less fortunate than us. Once again we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our community. Without the collective support of staff, students and parents we could not continue to be the living example of our faith and of Catholic education. Thank you to all families for being a part of such a vibrant and giving school community and may God continue to grant you His blessing throughout 2012.

Peter Ferreira
Trustee
Wards 6 & 11
Mississauga

A MESSAGE FROM THE DPCDSB ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Perhaps you have made a New Year's Resolution! DPCDSB is offering Community Programs from Adult and Continuing Education during winter 2012. DPCDSB Adult and Continuing Education program flyers arrived 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 and Much Much More

Register now for lifelong learning opportunities!
Contact us at 905-891-9263 ext.0 or
www.dpcdsb.org/cec/cnes

POLICY, PROTOCOL, PROCEDURES

IMMUNIZATION RECORD REVIEW

Parents of students whose immunization records are incomplete will receive letters from The Region of Peel. The letter will ask parents to update their child's immunization record with Peel Public Health. Any child not complying before April will receive a suspension letter.

MEDICAL ALERTS

Parents of students with **medical alerts** due to food, medical and environmental issues must complete forms and provide a photo of the child so that safety protocol can be shared with all staff. Photos and medical needs will be posted in the health room and the staff room to ensure that the correct response is activated in the event of an emergency.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Please drop by the office for **an authorization form** before your child brings medication to school. School staff cannot dispense medication of any kind without the proper authorization and a properly labeled container, (i.e. prescriptions bottle or original over-the-counter container). Medication brought to school in freezer bags; drug canisters, etc. pose a risk to other students and will be secured in the office and returned to the parent at the end of June. Staff cannot modify or adjust any medication under any circumstances. Additionally, staff cannot medicate a child. Therefore the child must be able to take the medicine as prescribed on their own with staff supervision.

PEANUT AND NUT ALLERGIES

We have a number of students with a severe allergy to peanuts and tree nuts. Please remember to carefully monitor the food that your son/daughter brings to school. Please take the time to read the ingredients on packaged food. Students **must** not share food.

EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

Emergency response procedures in the event of a fire, bomb threat, serious accident/injury or an intruder have been established and are revised on an ongoing basis. All students and staff will participate in practising emergency procedures. We have held 3 fire drills this term and one lockdown. In the event that it is necessary to evacuate the school, our site for relocation is The Vic Johnson Centre.

INDOOR SHOES

All students are required to have indoor shoes and boots at school. In the event of sudden evacuation, students will not have time to put their outdoor shoes or boots on to leave the school, as this impedes the timely and efficient evacuation protocol.

VALUABLE PROPERTY AT SCHOOL

The school cannot assume responsibility for private property. Children are discouraged from bringing valuable items to school. If you wish for your child to have a cell phone while at school, students are reminded that cell phones must remain powered off while on school property and be stored in their backpacks out of sight.

TRANSPORTATION

Remember riding the bus is a privilege. Students are reminded that they must follow the rules. They are encouraged to place their backpacks on their laps to ensure that they travel safely. We are fortunate that our grade eight students have taken a leadership role as bus monitors. Should you have any concerns about transportation, please share them with Ms. Hayhow.

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND TRANSPORTATION

With the winter season fast approaching, we would like to remind you of bus cancellation procedures. Occasionally, because of inclement weather or other emergency situations, buses may have to be cancelled. Information regarding bus cancellation and other emergency information announcements can be obtained by listening to the following radio stations or by visiting www.dpcdsb.org

CHUM	104.5 FM	CHFI
CHIN	100.7 FM	
CBC	740 AM	
CKDX	88.5 FM	
CISS	92.5 FM	
SRC	90.3 FM	
Q107	107.1 FM	



Make sure the announcement is for the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. If transportation is cancelled, the schools will remain open except under extraordinary circumstances and when an announcement is made that Dufferin-Peel schools are closed. If buses are cancelled and parents or guardians decide to bring their child to school, it is also their responsibility to pick them up at the end of the day

KISS AND RIDE

We now have five volunteers who assist with Kiss and Ride. Thank you to Mrs. Abdee, Mrs. Franke, Mrs. Tabar, Mrs. Ozanic and Mrs. Przygocki who make your morning drop-off safe for your children. We will need one more volunteer in February. Please contact the office if you can volunteer.



AROUND THE HALLS AT ST. JOSEPH

News From Our Librarian, Ms. Szymczak

The **Forest of Reading Program** is in progress in the library. This is a fun reading program that is organized through the Ontario Library Association. Each year the OLA nominates 10 books in a variety of categories:

Blue Spruce – Grades K – 2

Silver Birch Express – Grades 3 & 4

Silver Birch (Fiction & Non Fiction) – Grades 5-6

Red Maple - Grades 7 & 8

Students are encouraged to read as many of the nominated titles as they can. If students read **5** of the books in a nominated category they are eligible to vote for their favourite! Voting will take place on April 25, 2012. Our school's Award Winners are then forwarded to the OLA along with the votes from hundreds of schools from across Ontario. The Forest of Reading Awards are announced and presented in May. Which books will win this year???

Youth Faith Ambassadors

This is an initiative to encourage Catholic elementary school students in grades seven and eight to live out our baptismal call to become Fully Alive in the Lord Jesus Christ. The role of the Youth Ambassador is to become an active Christian through the knowledge of God's word, deepening their own faith development and bettering their communities through service. The following eleven students were selected to represent their classes and will be commissioned at the virtue assembly on January 31st... Danielle R., Duncan L. Michaela P., Randy Y., Victoria K., Matthew K., Caroline P., Xavier B., Carolina T., Cassandra V., and Lori M.

They recently organized and led our virtue assembly for **HOPE** on December 23rd and are planning the **SELF-CONTROL** Virtue Assembly for January 31st. Our Youth Faith Ambassadors Xavier B, Carolina T, Lori M, Duncan L. and Michaela P. will represent our school at the ***WE Are One Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Conference*** to be held on February 24th. The Guest Speaker is the Harmony Movement and the students will follow up with an action plan to address equity, diversity and inclusivity. This action plan will be implemented by all the Youth Faith Ambassadors and they will share their voice with the rest of our school population.

Thank you to Mrs. Szymczak and Mrs. Araujo who are their leaders.

ECO School Report

St. Joseph students are environmentally conscious of their/our world. They bring litterless lunches, turn off the lights and in February they will initiate the ban of the use of individual plastic bottles.

An ECO school kick-off assembly is scheduled on January 25th. This group's main initiative is to rejuvenate the Peace Garden. They will need donations of mulch, soil, plants and garden gloves.

Two students from each class are taking a leadership role in our community. Look for these students in their personalized designed ECO T-Shirts:

Grade 1 Angelina S. and Andrew S.

Grade 1 / 2 Michela and Neha

Grade 2 Elizabeth and Sofia

Grade 3 Ema and Isadora

Grade ¾ Sofia D. and Julia K.

Grade 4 Michelle B. and Michael U.

Grade 5 Alexis V. and Riley O.

Grade 5/6 Taylor W. and Ron L.

Grade 6 Joselyn S. and Miguel D.

Grade 7 Mikaela P. and Duncan L.

Grade 7/8 Olivia C. and Christine C.

Grade 8 Julia P. and Zachary L.

Thank you to Mrs. Guerrizio and Mrs. Leko for overseeing this initiative and the participating staff members: Mrs. Snopek, Mrs. Suljak, Ms. Jaks, Mrs. Carabetta and Mr. Serrano.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS AT ST. JOSEPH

United Way/Share Life Campaign

Our campaign continues this month...

January 9-13 Staff Jean Week \$5 donation

Fridays Staff Dress Down \$40 donation

January 23 Staff Chinese Luncheon \$10 donation

January 27 Literacy Day Movie-thon \$1 donation

February 1 Jersey Day \$1 donation

February 14 Face Painting \$0.50 donation

March 8 Hat Day \$1 donation

Thank you to Mrs. Leko & Mrs. Szymczak, our United Way Representatives, for their creative fund raising ideas and to our St. Joseph Community of parents, students and teachers for supporting United Way and Shared Life.

SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS FOR KIDS

Mrs. Carabetta and her team of student helpers are running the milk, pop machine and pizza sales. Pizza is available on Tuesdays. Milk is available every lunch hour. Milk and pizza order forms are available from the office. Tuck Shop Fridays will begin in February. Healthy snacks will be available for a toonie. Earnings from these initiatives support student programs.

SPORTS AT ST. JOSEPH:

Intermediate Girls and Boys Basketball Teams

The intermediate basketball teams have begun practice for another highly competitive season. Practices are scheduled at noon hour. The games begin in January and concludes with the family of schools tournament on February 24th. Mr. Bernais is the coach.

Junior Girls and Boys Basketball Teams

The junior girls and boys will begin try outs for the teams at the end of February. Games begin after March Break. The coaches are Mrs. Jaks, Mrs. Araujo and Mrs. Snopek.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Skating at Vic Johnson Arena

As an extension of our physical education activities and as a community building event, we are providing an opportunity for our students to skate at the Vic Johnson arena on January 24th, February 7th, February 28th and March 20th. We will need parent volunteers for this. All adults venturing out onto the ice must wear skates and students must wear helmets. Thank you to Mrs. Falcone and Mrs. Jaksa for organizing this event and to the volunteers who help make this excursion possible.

A Message from Safe Kids Canada

Looking to purchase helmets? Safe Kids Canada and Canadian Manufacturer, Seven Star Sports announce a new relationship to provide low-cost helmets for sports including cycling, skiing, snowboarding and hockey. A portion of all sales will support Safe Kids Canada. Visit this website to download an order form and to view the available models:

<http://www.safekidscanada.ca/Professionals/Tools-and-Resources/Helmet-Order-Forms/Order-helmets.aspx>

Family Literacy Day

January 27 2012 is National Literacy Day. This year St. Joseph has chosen to focus on media literacy. To celebrate this event, students are cordially invited to a movie viewing of The Smurfs at 1:00pm in the school gymnasium on Friday January 27. The cost is \$1.00 to participate in the Literacy Day event. Proceeds will go to United Way. In addition, to add to the movie experience popcorn will be sold for \$1.00 and the proceeds will go to the Chapel fund.



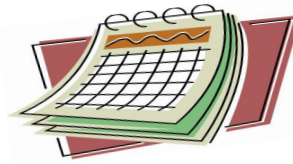
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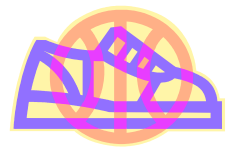
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play an important role in the life of the school community. Volunteers assist with providing students with a safe arrival and departure or in transporting our athletes to competitions.

DATES TO REMEMBER:



January 23 rd	Dental Screening –gr. 2
January 24 th	Skating at Vic Johnson
January 26 th	Gr.8 Confirmation retreat at St. Joseph Church
January 31 st	Virtue Assembly 9:30 a.m.
January 31 st	Reports will be sent home.
February 1-17 th	Chocolate Drive
February 2 nd	Public Speaking Competition
February 2 nd	Interview Evening
February 3 rd	P.A. Day for Interviews
February 7 th	Skating at Vic Johnson
February 9 th -10 th	Drum Clinic
February 14 th	Face Painting
February 15 th	Gr.2 Reconciliation at 9:30 a.m.
February 16 th	Family-level Public Speaking Competition
February 20 th	Family Day – No school
February 22 nd	Ash Wednesday
February 28 th	Skating
March 6 th	School Council at 7:00 p.m.
March 12-16 th	March Break
March 20 th	Skating
April 17 th	Confirmation at 7:00 p.m.
April 29 th	First Communion at 3:30 p.m.



Thank you to all those parents who have made team sports competition possible by driving our players to games. Thank you too, to all who have volunteered to assist with field trips and classroom activities. Thank you to those who are volunteering to skate and who have helped supervise the grade 3 Swim to Survive program. A big thank you to our Kiss & Ride Team.

In February we will need volunteers to help with the Chocolate Drive and to help the Chapel Committee. If you are interested in sharing your time and talents with our students, please contact the main office.

