



St. Edmund Elementary School

October 2011
Volume 1, Issue 2

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PARISHES:

St. Patrick Church

Pastor:

Rev. John Facey

905-270-2301

Sao Salvador do Mundo

Pastor:

Rev. Carlos Macatangga

905-277-8610

Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God

All that we have comes from your goodness

And all the work of those who love us.

Bless us and the food we share

Watch over those who care for us.

Open our eyes to meet the needs of the poor

During this time of harvest and thanksgiving

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus,

Amen.

Catholic School Council 2011 – 2012

Our first School Council Meeting took place on September 28, 2011. The following members were acclaimed:

Co-Chairs – L. McBain, P. Meehan

Co-Treasurers – K. Currie, J. Binaday

Secretary - C. McRobert

Members

N. Toste, A. Worobec, A. Landman, N. Rinaldi, A. Kaglik

K. Gray

Staff Representatives: A. Moher, P. Smith, O. Pividor

Non Teaching Staff Representative: B. Vandevalk

On behalf of all of the staff and students at St. Edmund we welcome our new council and thank our outgoing council for all the hard work and dedication they have shown to our school.

Volunteers Wanted!

Please call the school should you wish to volunteer in any capacity.

Inside:

Important Dates

Food Drive

School Council

Virtues

Safety

Catholic Community,

Culture and Caring

Student Safety

Safety of all children is a priority at St. Edmund School. It is important that we do not have unauthorized adults in our yard. We would like thank parents who are respecting the playground boundaries and remaining outside the yellow lines.

The grade 1's are now learning "how to do" recess. They are now learning to play cooperatively for 70 minutes of the school day without direct adult intervention. Parents can help them by suggesting cooperative games to play, sending a safe toy (nerf balls, soft play balls, skipping ropes), and encouraging them to keep their hands to themselves.

Please encourage your child to talk to school staff if there are problems. Confident children who can speak up for themselves are unlikely targets for bullies. We teach students to use "I-messages" as one of the key strategies for preventing bullying at school. Should you feel that there are problems which need to be addressed, please inform school staff.

If you are concerned about your child's safety and feel your child is not ready to be left in the playground under staff supervision, we respectfully request that you bring him/her closer to bell time so that you do not need to wait in the yard for prolonged periods. Children should not be dropped off in any yard before 8:30 a.m.

Barbecue and Open House

Thank you to our Catholic School Council for organizing a wonderful barbecue before the open house in September. The lovely fall weather cooperated with this annual community event. We are already planning next year's open house and are looking for volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact the school and leave a message for the Volunteer Coordinator.

MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, November 4, 2011

Pizza served at 5:30

Please pre-order pizza and snacks

Feature Film: Cars 2

Open to all St. Edmund families

Children must be supervised by their own parent.

School Bus News

Parents are reminded that they can access information about buses online at GEOQUERY: www.stopr.ca or <https://businfo.stopr.ca>. You will need your child's OEN number. This number appears on the right hand side of your child's report cards. This is a secure number and should not be shared with others.

For complaints regarding the buses, call the Transportation Department at 905-890-6000.

Sacramental Preparation

St. Edmund School belongs to the St. Patrick's Parish. As St. Edmund is centrally located, many families in our community may attend other Parishes. Sacramental preparation is under the auspices of the church at which you are registered.

In most churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto, sacraments are celebrated with families during a regular Sunday or Saturday evening Mass at the parish in which they are registered. Individual churches may offer their own sacramental preparation program. The churches collect registrations for First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Children in all Dufferin Peel Schools also receive preparation throughout the year through our religion program. As a school we celebrate these sacramental years together with retreats, class celebrations and a picture day for the First Communion Children.

While we will provide you with information regarding dates and times of these Parish events, as it is made available to us. It is up to families to contact their own parish priest regarding Sacramental preparation.

St. Edmund – 2011-2012 Masses and Liturgies

School Masses

Masses are celebrated at Sao Salvador do Mundo Church by Father John Facey, Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish.

Wednesday, October 5, 2011	9:30 a.m.	Opening of School/Thanksgiving
December 5, 2011	1:15 p.m.	Advent
Wednesday, March 21, 2012	9:30 a.m.	Lenten Mass
Thursday, April 19, 2012	1:15 p.m.	Easter Mass
Tuesday, June 26, 2012	9:30 a.m.	End of Year/Graduation Mass

Liturgies

Wednesday, February 22, 2012	TBA	Ash Wednesday
Thursday, April 5, 2012	Afternoon	Holy Thursday/Stations of the Cross

Virtues Assemblies - specific times may vary

October 7, 2011	PM	Empathy
November 8, 2011	AM	Conscience
December 8, 2011	PM	Hope
January, 12, 2012	AM	Self Control
February 8, 2012	PM	Respect
March 6, 2012	AM	Kindness
April 12, 2012	PM	Love
May 9, 2012	AM	Acceptance
June 8, 2012	PM	Fairness

St. Patrick's Parish

Registration Meetings for the Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation

November 9, 2011	7:00 p.m.	First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
February 29, 2012	7:00 p.m.	First Eucharist Parent Meeting
March 7, 2012	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Parent Meeting

Father John will give specific information about dates and times of the sacraments at the parent meetings.

Celebration of First Eucharist is held at regular masses on the two Sundays following Easter.

Confirmation is held in May/June beginning at Pentecost.

ST. DOMINIC'S CHURCH
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SCHEDULE 2011-2012

Registration Meeting for Communion and Reconciliation – PARENTS ONLY – choose either:
Sunday, October 2 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, October 4 at 7 – 8:30 pm

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION - 2011

Session One - PARENTS ONLY
Sunday, October 23 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, October 25 at 7 – 8:30 pm

Session Two - Parents and Children
Sunday, November 13 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, November 15 at 7 – 8:30 pm

ENROLMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CROSSES - Families to choose a Mass for this celebration.

Saturday, November 26 at 5:00 pm Mass; or
Sunday, November 27 at the 10 am Mass or 12 noon Mass.

Session Three - Parents and Children - *Tour of the Church and Reconciliation Practice*
Sunday, December 4 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, December 6 at 7 – 8:30 pm

CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 pm or Saturday, December 10 at 10:00 am

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION - 2012

Session One- PARENTS ONLY
Sunday, February 5 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, February 7 at 7 – 8:30 pm

Session Two - Parents and Children
Sunday, February 26 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, February 28 at 7 – 8:30 pm

Session Three - Parents and Children
Sunday, March 25 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, March 27 at 7 – 8:30 pm

Session Four - Parents and Children
Sunday, April 22 at 1:30 – 3 pm or Tuesday, April 24 at 7 – 8:30 pm

PARISH CELEBRATION OF FIRST EUCHARIST- Families to choose a Mass to attend.

Saturday, May 5 at 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, May 6 at 10 am Mass or 12 noon Mass

Session Five - Parents and Children - *First Communion Party (one date only)*
Tuesday, May 8 at 7 – 8:30 pm

Cell phone – PED policy

As part of our effort to maintain a positive Catholic climate in our school, the Board maintains a policy regarding Personal Electronic Devices on school property. **All PED's must be kept out of sight, turned off, and not used within school premises on or during school sanctioned activities.** This includes the school bus. To prevent loss or damage of PED's we ask all students to leave electronic games and devices at home. The school cannot be responsible for their safekeeping. Parental support is requested and greatly appreciated.

As these devices become ever more complex and sophisticated, it is important that students are taught how to use them responsibly and in a way that respects others. However, school is a place in which students learn to socialize face-to-face in a positive way.

All students at St. Edmund have had clear direction about this policy from teachers and administrators. Staff has been instructed to send student cell phones to the office for safekeeping. Parents will be called to pick up the cell phone at their first opportunity.

Terry Fox Run

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our Terry Fox Run. This community is extremely generous in its support for Cancer research.

Thank you to Ms. Mangiardi and Ms. Galutira for coordinating the run. The total amount raised will be published in our next newsletter.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our Youth Faith Ambassadors have been busy organizing our annual Food Drive. We will be collecting donations of non-perishable items until October 7. This fall we will support the Knight's Table. Thank you to Ms. Estacion for coordinating the food drive.

Dates to Remember:

October 5	First School Mass – 9:30 a.m.
October 7	Food Drive Ends
October 7	Virtues Assembly
October 10	Thanksgiving Day – holiday
October 13	Cross Country Meet
October 19	Applewood Acres Homeowners' Association Meeting
October 25	Progress Reports sent home
October 27	Catholic School Council Chairs meeting
October 27	Progress Report Interview Evening
November 2	School Council Meeting
November 8	Virtues Assembly 11:05 a.m.
November 4	Movie Night – Cars 2
November 9	Parent Meeting St. Patrick for First Reconciliation
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 16	St. Edmund Feast Day
November 18	P. A. Day
November 27	First Day of Advent

Catholic Community Culture and Caring Committee

As described in our Catholic School Learning Plan, all schools in Dufferin-Peel will have a Catholic Community Culture Caring Committee. This Committee is made up of staff, students and parents. Our mandate is that all students in Dufferin-Peel Schools feel safe, cared for and included at school. The committee's role is to review school policies and to collaboratively develop practices or programs to promote the safety and inclusion of all students. This committee will be looking at ways to improve safety in the playground and parking, as well as bullying prevention strategies, healthy eating, and practices that foster inclusion.

We are asking for parent representation. Bi-monthly meetings will be held at 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in being on this important committee, please contact the school.

Below are some helpful "Be's" to help families become successful with homework.

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|-------------------|--|
| Be positive. | Communicate a positive attitude towards homework. |
| Be consistent. | Develop a homework routine that includes a set time and a regular space for completing homework, free from distractions. |
| Be available. | Encourage independent work on the part of your child, but be available for assistance. Provide guidance, not answers. |
| Be attentive. | Take a few minutes every day to chat about the school day. Listen attentively to your child as this may alert you to any academic difficulties, bullying situations or concerns about emotional well-being. |
| Be a role model. | Let your child see you reading, writing, and using math during homework time. |
| Be a cheerleader. | Praise your child for the effort displayed in completing homework. |
| Be observant. | Note any signs of frustration that your child may display while completing homework. If it appears difficult or confusing or if there are errors, encourage your child to ask the teacher for help at school the next day. Follow up with the teacher, if necessary. |
| Be involved. | Participate in school functions that offer you the opportunity to stay connected to your child's learning. Contact your child's teacher if you have concerns about your child's homework. |

Be part of the KISS'N'RIDE team!!

We need parents to help with our Kiss'N'Ride for 15 minutes in the morning. If you currently drive your children, and can assist us, please call the school. This will help us move more cars through the Kiss'N'Ride more quickly and help alleviate some of the dangerous traffic that is currently congesting the school and church parking lot in the morning.

How to Use Kiss'N'Ride:

Please drive through the outside lane. The inside lane is reserved for buses only. Cars entering this lane pose an unexpected danger to students who are exiting cars in the outer lane.

Please pull up to the front and wait your turn. Staff will supervise doors near the easternmost exit of the drive through lane. Kiss'N'Ride staff are also making sure that it is "all clear" for students to cross safely. Please wait for staff or a parent before allowing your children to exit the vehicle.

Never park or leave your vehicle unattended in any lane in front of the school. This blocks traffic.

As this lane is also a fire route and must always be kept clear for emergencies.

Kiss'N'Ride is over at 8:45 when the bell rings.

School Agendas

Students in Grade 1-8 will be using school agendas to develop their organizational skills. Please take some time to look over your child's agenda. School policy and rules are outlined in the first section of the book. Our agendas are specially designed for Catholic Schools, and contain information about our Catholic Virtues, Saints and special days in the liturgical calendar. We encourage you to read these sections of the agenda with your child.

Virtue of the Month of October – Empathy

- A person of Empathy
- Listens attentively
- Watches people's body language
- Notices and responds when someone is upset
- Can name his/her feelings
- Can see a situation from another person's point of view
- Knows that different people may feel differently about the same thing.