



Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School

DECEMBER 2010

Principal:
Mr. T. Lariviere

Vice-Principal:
Mr. C. Vincent

Secretary:
Mrs. R. D'Agostino

Chaplain:
Mr. A. Minardi

Lead Hand:
Mr. N. Mazzatelli

Trustee:
Mr. Scott McLaughlin.

Superintendent
Brampton North East :
Mr. A. Tucciarone

Parent Council Chair
Ms. Anna Aidoo

Pastor
St. Patrick's Parish:
Rev. V. Papais

The band is getting ready for their concert, we remain energized from the Brampton Santa Claus Parade and we have just put the plow on the front of the River Hawks Tractor. It must be Christmas!

Wow, where has the time gone? I can't believe we are presenting our Advent Newsletter already!

River Hawks, as we prepare for Christmas this Advent season let us be reminded of the spirit of the season and not get caught up too much in the commercialism that has evolved over the years. Hopefully, this Advent will be a time to reflect, to listen, to pray and to spend time with your families. The great thing about this "preparation" season is that once again we hear the message that God loves us all.

The great connection we have here at Cardinal Ambrozic is that we do our very best everyday to live that love that God has for us. As we enter the school each day we see our God's Hands Prayer which motivates us to be God's Hands in many ways including how we treat each other and those in our community.

What a great first semester we have had so far here at the

school. It amazes me each day the quality of education your children are receiving from the gifted River Hawk teachers and staff. Mr. Minardi has the chaplaincy program in full stride providing opportunities for our students to serve.

The number of student engagement opportunities in which our students participate each day is a true measure of the fantastic leadership that is evident in our



community. We strive to make positive decisions each and every day and that is why we have something special here at Cardinal Ambrozic.

We are a Catholic, culturally Proficient Learning Community working together to provide that "River Hawks Soaring to Success" environment. We do want to acknowledge and thank a few special members of this community during this advent season.

We want to thank the support of Anna Aidoo our School Council Chair and the dedicated members of the council. We also want to officially welcome our

former school council chair Mr. Scott McLaughlin as our new Trustee to Ward 10. We want to thank Father Papais

and Father Norm Roberts for their inspirations. Mrs. D'Agostino, we thank you for leading such a terrific team with Mrs. Dos Santos and Mrs. Ranieri. Thank you Mr. Mazzitelli, Mrs. Sestito, Mr. Cangemi, Mrs. Abug, Mr. Stoyanov and Mr. Leo for providing the necessary environment for our community to thrive each and every day. We also want to thank Teresa and all the Pina food employees for your commitment and genuine love for our students and staff.

Please enjoy the newsletter and we thank you for supporting our vision of education!

On behalf of the River Hawk Family have a Happy, Safe and Blessed Christmas.

Mr. T. Lariviere

Proud to be your Principal



Cardinal Ambrozic Means Business!

Starting in September 2011, Ontario students from grade four to 12 will learn how to better manage their money in courses that will be integrated into their overall school curriculum in an effort to improve financial smarts. Financial literacy is an important part of the Ontario Government's initiative to ensure a financially literate population, build a well-educated

workforce and help build a stronger economy.

In September 2011, Cardinal Ambrozic business students will have the opportunity to select from an expanding and diverse range of grade 11 business courses. *Fundamentals of Personal Finance* is a new introductory course offered for students who wish to begin to develop their financial management

skills and increase financial literacy and numeracy..

Fundamentals of Personal Finance (IDC30F) OPEN

- Intro to Economics
- Income Management
- Investment Basics
- Financial Literacy
- Income Management Investment Basics
- Financial Literacy

Greetings from the English department!

Another great year has begun and the English teachers Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School have already begun their tireless efforts in bringing their love for literature and drama to their classrooms.

With a new year comes some exciting changes. Ms. Pacheco, Ms. Singh, Ms. Stevenson and I are pleased to have Ms. Arias, Ms. Dornford, Ms. Paluzzi and Ms. Petrone join the English Department this year. Staff and students are delighted to have such passionate and dedicated professionals join the already dynamic and enthusiastic team of teachers.

In October, students al-

ready had the opportunity to take their learning outside the classroom walls. Grade 9 students had the opportunity to see the theatrical performance of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Bathurst Theatre in Downtown Toronto. The trip was a huge success and many students had their first experience with live theatre. Grade 9 students enrolled in English second semester will have the opportunity to attend the same excursion in the spring.

Also in the library and under the expert direction of our Teacher-Librarian, Ms. Stevenson, the English Department is fostering regular reading by incorporating it into their

daily lives as well as in their Culminating Performance Tasks. We thank Mrs. Stevenson and Ms. Vileno for their continued guidance and concern for our students.

Throughout the semester, English teachers have been diligently working with their Grade 9 and 10 classes in preparation for the upcoming Literacy Test this spring. Parents are encouraged to keep their son or daughter reading everyday to help cultivate their reading and writing skills and encourage them to become lovers of learning for life.

The English Department wishes everyone in the Cardinal Ambrozic community a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season.

"Parents are encouraged to keep their son or daughter reading everyday to help cultivate their reading and writing skills and encourage them to become lovers of learning for life. "

Riverhawk Chaplaincy



This past October members of the Riverhawk Chaplaincy Team participated in a Native Awareness Trip to Manitoulin Island that also included the participation of 6 other Catholic high schools from our school board; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Robert F. Hall, Ascension, Aloysius Gonzaga, St. Roch, and Holy Name of Mary. During our 4 days together, we stayed overnight at the Anishinabe Spiritual Center in Espanola hosted by the Jesuit Congregation. We travelled each day to the island by coach bus to visit Jesuit heritage sites as well as reserves on Birch Island (White Fish Reserve) and M'Chigeeng First Nations on Manitoulin Island.

While on the island we enjoyed clear and sunny weather that allowed us to visit all our planned destinations. The overall purpose of the trip was:

1. To create and appreciate an awareness of life in our First Nations communities-Whitefish, Birch Island, and M'Chigeeng (Ojibwe Nation).
2. To broaden our awareness as to the native way of life including native spirituality.
3. To come to the awareness of the beauty of Manitoulin Island- to build on the respect and ongoing preservation for the natural environment.
4. To continue learning more about the 350 year presence of the Jesuit Order of Catholic Priests to the First Nations peoples of the Manitoulin area.

To provide assistance in

unpacking ministry initiatives of aboriginal awareness in our school board moving forward.

While on the island we also experienced many unique traditions and rituals of the native people such as; a vision quest up to Dreamers Rock, an impromptu visit to Bridal Veil Falls on the Island where we saw the fall salmon run, our visit to the parish of Immaculate Conception in M'Chigeeng where we spent time speaking with a Jesuit priest, Father Jim Kelly, and the parish's native deacon, Mr. Joe Fox. We later participated in the celebration of the Eucharist. We also enjoyed the beautiful scenery of changing fall colors and we had a chance to walk the labyrinth on the retreat house property. Finally, we had the opportunity to be part of a Dance Theatre production on the island where the Native people performed for us and told us many stories and legends of the First Nations.



“Megwetch!”

From Your Trustee

Dear Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School Staff, Students and Parents,

It's that exciting and often chaotic time of the year when we all look forward to what new things will arrive in the next few weeks and months ahead.

As busy as life gets in this

countdown to Christmas, I hope you will find some moments to pause and reflect on the wonderful events and blessings that we each have received throughout this past year and truly realize just how incredibly “gifted” we already are in our amazing Cardinal Ambrozic community.

We are blessed with caring and committed school staff, talented

and inspiring students, loving and giving parents, sharing and dear friends, a wonderfully supportive School Board, and most importantly, God's eternal love.

As we celebrate the gift of our Lord, may you and your families enjoy peace, joy and love.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Scott McLauchlan
Trustee (Brampton - Wards 7-10)

Junior boys' volleyball



The junior boys' volleyball team built on a strong inaugural season last year and improved tremendously over the year. Returning players Johnson Le, Nathaniel Ramos, Kubung Gala, Jevawn Beckford, Nicholas Fiore, Matt Ahmadzai and Jassie Malhi provided strong leadership and a foundation for new players to come in and see results right away. First year players Aaron Cole, Aaron Dosanth, Rocky Manivong, Jaden Foster, Kunal Kumar and Demarcus Henry came in and allowed the team to be competitive in every game they played. Coaches K and B Prospero are very proud of how the team represented Cardinal Ambrozic on and off the court and are looking forward to another productive season next year.

CARDINAL AMBROZIC MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

*The Sounds of the
Christmas Season
from Ambrozic Music
Department*



On Thursday December 16th, the Music students at Cardinal Ambrozic will be presenting our 2nd Annual Christmas Concert.

Come and enjoy the Sounds of The Season performed by our Grade 9 Music classes, The Grade 10 Band, The Jazz Band, Choir and Student Solos.



From Parent Council

As the saying goes “it takes a village to raise a child” and as a parent, the chair of School Council at Cardinal Ambrozic, a Catholic, a community member and an avid volunteer this saying means quite a lot to me. We very much want our children to grow up to become responsible citizens care not only about themselves but about others and the world. To achieve this they must be nurtured. Who is responsible for this nurturing? We all are; the school, the family, community, church and a positive world.

Mr. Lariviere’s energy, his positive attitude and his ability to attain set objectives gives the staff, the parent council, the students and the parents the energy to give of our best. Many things have happened in this new school that makes me proud to be part of the team. The multicultural day, girls’ and boys’ night out, speakers who have brought positive messages to our kids, the awards night, music and dance programs and sports. There are others that we are working on that will cater to the whole child;

their education, their souls and their social lives. Yes, we are marching on to build a positive environment, an environment in which our kids feel valued.

We must all remember that we play an important role in society and as such bring our best to make our world a better place. I am happy to be part of this school and community, it is a marvelous learning experience and I hope you will join in making this school one we can all be proud of. “It takes a village to raise a child”.

“It takes a village to raise a child”.

Anna Aidoo Parent Council Chair

Be Brave!

The BRAVE team has started the year off with many great initiatives related to diversity and empowerment. BRAVE stands for Brampton Riverhawks Anti-Violence Education. It is a group made up of 40 students in both grades 9 and 10 and many staff members.

The rich cultural diversity of our school is celebrated each day with a culture of the month highlighted with a visual display and music. In the spring, all of the cultures will come together

for our second annual multicultural night.

On October 21st our Girls Night Out event was held at the school. The grade 10 girls organized the event. The girls were involved in listening to many guest speakers focusing on wellness issues. Our keynote speaker once again was Mrs. Anna Aidoo who motivated the girls with an excellent talk on reaching their highest potential. The girls also were involved in a spa, various organized sports and

poetry writing and sharing. The evening ended with a special prayer and each girl received a gift to take home with them.



Merry Christmas from Mr. Vincent.



SMART Student Response system at work!

A Smart Response!

The Cardinal Ambrozic math community has been selected by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board to field test the latest in SMART Technology. Our grade 9 mathematics teachers and students will be involved in a SMART Student Response System field test. The SMART Response system is an interactive "clicker" that enables students to respond to ques-

tions and quizzes using wireless remotes. Results are instantly updated allowing teachers to perform assessments of and for learning in real time! The Student Response System helps keep students interested, involved and participating in classroom activities through a personalized and differentiated approach involving technology.



Ambrozic dance team runs from October to June . Students may take classes in Hip hop, Latin, Jazz , Tap or cultural dance.

Ambrozic Dance Team...Precision, Passion...Pride!

The Dance Teams and their coaches have been busy as over 90 students came out for open classes in October. The teams have been practicing mornings at 7:30 in advance of Kiwanis Festival High School Competition in April and our

end of the year show in June. Fees and permission forms are now past due. It should prove to be an exciting season as Ambrozic dancers will be showcasing their talents in introductory and intermediate Hip hop and Latin, in Jazz and Tap

and in cultural dance which is a new genre this year . Check out our webpage off the Ambrozic main page for updates throughout the year.

From the literacy team.

On March 31st 2011 Ambrozic grade 10 students will write the Ontario Literacy Test. Successful completion of the literacy test is a graduation requirement The grade nine students will write a mock test to enable them to test their literacy skills.

Results of the Literacy Test will be announced in June. Every student who writes will get an individual report attached to their report card indicating whether or not they were successful. Students who are unsuccessful will find suggestions about the areas in which they need to improve on the

back of the report.

Students at Ambrozic have been working on curriculum based literacy activities all year in their various classes. In addition, literacy modules were offered after school for all students in November. Parents were also invited to attend our parent information night for literacy on December 9th. For further information check out our website under



Merry Christmas from Ambrozic Library Resource Centre! Free Knowledge...Bring your own container.



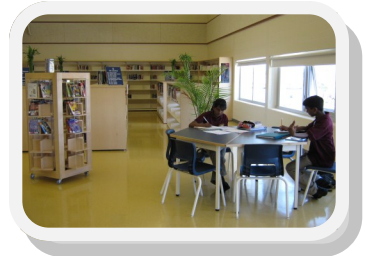
The library continues to be a hub of student learning and activity. The library is packed each morning by 8:20 with students busy on the computers, at the tables studying or completing homework and reading. Our circulation statistics are way up for the 2010 school year. Last week alone we circulated over 400 books. If

The library is full each day in the before school and at lunch your child is in an English class this semester, ask what book he or she has chosen for the theme of Coming of Age or Science Fiction in Grade 9 or Prejudice in Discrimination for Grade 10.

The library enjoys a partnership with teachers in promoting research. Classes visiting the library have been instructed in APA citation through science, and in MLA citation through English, French and Physical Education.

Check out our website for curriculum related material and e books for all courses.

As well as technology, we house over 3000 volumes of print materials in our second year with more material arriving daily. We have a varied range of novels, non fiction books and magazines to appeal to all students. Very popular this year is our graphic novel and manga collection.



Open Studio— Mr. V. Ruzylo

How exciting it is to be here at Cardinal Ambrozic. My young Riverhawks are full of energy and anticipation. The air in the Art Studio is filled with excitement and anticipation. Mr. Ruzylo is proud to be a part of the success of his Riverhawks.

Open Studio has taken on two large projects. The first is now on display in Gage Park in downtown Brampton. The 4' x 8' "postcard" depicts "winter riverhawks" amidst pine branches and snowflakes. This collaborative work is part of "The Signs of Winter" Project sponsored by The City of Brampton. We were fortunate to be able to participate the project was open to 40 schools...we were invited as #41...a good sign from "above". Mr. Ruzylo is extremely proud of his students accomplishment. So, take your skates, and a thermos of hot chocolate and enjoy some time skating with your family and enjoy the artwork by our students and those who participated.

If that isn't enough, Open Studio has taken on the creation of the first of many permanent installations of stained glass in our chapel. The inaugural window will act as the "cornerstone" for the additional windows added with each new graduating class. The reoccurring motif of hands will be featured throughout the two slender panels measuring approximately 25' high by 3' wide. This window will feature images of The Mother of God, Lion (St. Mark), Heaven/Earth on a ground of entwined hands. It is our intention that this first of many windows will be completed by the end of the school year.

Mr. Ruzylo is thankful to Mr. T. Lariviere and Administration for the kind support given to promote the Visual Arts Program, the custodians who so graciously take care of the studio, and to his first group of students who experienced the growing pains...and joys of being "first".

May God keep you in His Holiness and Bless you at this Christmastide and throughout the New Year.

Riverhawk Football

2010 was a banner year for RiverHawk football. Seventy-five grade 9 and 10 boys worked together to record two wins and three loses in our inaugural year as part of the ROPSSAA Junior football league. The team continued to improve with each game as we moved into the playoffs where we handily defeated both Mississauga and St. Aloysius Gonzaga High Schools. In the tier two championship game against St. Ignatius Loyola we made a valiant attempt at a comeback but fell short by a matter of yards.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our football team on the field but even more impressed with the growth of our players off the field. RiverHawk football epitomizes sportsmanship and Christian values. Building on the foundation of our Junior football program we anticipate with great enthusiasm the establishment of a solid Senior



Important upcoming dates

- December 20th to December 31st.....Christmas Break
- January 3rd 2011.....Classes resume
- January 25th to January 31st 2011.....Semester one exams
- February 2nd 2011.....Principal's turn around day.
(P.A. Day)
- February 17th 2011.....Family Day



Merry Christmas from the Staff of Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School..

During the winter months inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 a.m. and will be announced on the following radio stations:

VIRGIN RADIO FM 99.9
CFTR AM 680
CJCL AM 590
CFRB AM 1010
CJBC (FR) AM 860
FM 93.1
AM 640
CHIN FM 100.7
GLOBAL NEWS
CFTO

CHUM AM 1050
CFNY FM 102.1
CHFI FM 98.1
EZ ROCK FM 97.3
FM Z103.5
AM 1540
FM Q 107
CITYPULSE
CBC