



**Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic  
District Secondary School**  
10 Castle Oaks Crossing  
Brampton, On. L6P 3A2  
905-913-2989

Principal:  
Mr. T. Lariviere

Vice-Principals:  
Mrs. G. Tousignant  
Mr. C. Vincent

Secretary:  
Mrs. R. D'Agostino

Acting Chaplain:  
Mrs. C. Esvelt

Lead Hand:  
Mr. N. Mazzatelli

Trustee: Wards 7-10  
Mr. S. McLaughlan

Superintendent  
B.N.E.  
Mr. A. Tucciarone

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

# Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School

## River Hawks Soaring to Success

### Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2010

## River Hawks Soaring to Success!

### Welcome River Hawks!

I would like to welcome all our students and parents back from a beautiful summer vacation. A very special welcome to all the new River Hawk students, parents and community. As we transition into the third year of our new Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School community we welcome 340 new students, 19 new fantastic teachers, Mrs. Tousignant is our second Vice-Principal and Mrs. Esvelt is our acting Chaplain.

The school, as is becoming the norm, has already been buzzing for the last couple of weeks with the Link Crew training, grade nine "Get Ready" transitions program, grade 9 Link Crew Orientation day, and the River Hawk Football team pre-season camp.

Once again, we have Pina Foods as our cafeteria caterer offering students the opportunity to purchase their lunches in the cafeteria. Pina Foods is compliant with the new ministry School Food & Beverage policy which is being fully implemented this year. We have created a bistro space on Cardinal Ave. and a sandwich bar within the cafeteria for this year. We entrust our students will care for and respect the area as mature

young adults. As always we are all looking forward to Teresa's healthy lunch menu. We are in year three of the D.P.C.D.S.B Strategic Plan and year three of our Catholic School Learning plan. So far our provincial results have been above Provincial and Board standards in all areas of literacy and numeracy. There are a number of new Dufferin-Peel documents for which we have provided a link.

We have many new initiatives and events. We welcome our new Autism Spectrum Disorder program to the school this year. We are very excited to have this Dufferin-Peel program join our community. We have also made great strides in the communication technology classroom and studio over the summer. We intend to have the TV studio up and running during first semester. We are still awaiting the installation of our rear projector unit in our cafeteria which was partially funded by the parent council C.A.R.E. fund. The computer department has been busy installing our new engineering labs. We are looking forward to the first International Band Trip to Slovakia, Italy and Austria this May. I know Maestro Frasson is preparing the band to shine. We are also looking forward to the Social Science Europe Trip as well.

Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School continues to

develop an exemplary reputation in the Brampton community with our River Hawks Soaring to Success focus. This focus includes a culturally proficient faith based learning community approach to education. We strive to educate the whole child while raising the academic achievement bar. It begins with the commitment from our excellent Catholic teachers and support staff who provide all students the opportunities to build positive relationships and to tell their story. Staff provides the extra-time and support required to improve student achievement. The school will continue to strive towards its three year Catholic School Learning Plan focused on improving literacy and numeracy skills in our students. Once again we look to our community leadership trustee Mr. Scott McLaughlan, Superintendent of Brampton North East of Schools Mr. Tucciarone, our dynamic School Council Chair Anna Aidoo, Parish Pastors Father Papais and Father Patrick O'Dey, St. Patrick's and St. Marguerite D'Youville Parishes, and you the River Hawk community to compliment our school staff. If you haven't noticed we are a learning community that is all action! We may do things a little differently but that's because being average is not an option at Cardinal Ambrozic.

**ARE YOU TICKED?**

UNLESS you are identified as an English Separate (Catholic) School Supporter...

- ✓ Your children **MAY NOT** be able to attend Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools
- ✓ You **CANNOT** vote for Catholic school Trustees
- ✓ You are **NOT** counted as a supporter of Catholic Education in Ontario

Please note that English Separate School Supporter means the same as Catholic School Supporter

To register, check or change your Direction of School Support Designation, contact:  
Admissions Department  
at 905-890-0708 ext. 24512 or  
email [lynda.arseseault@dpcdsb.org](mailto:lynda.arseseault@dpcdsb.org)

Check the assessment section of your Tax Bill or Property Assessment Notice.

A Tradition of Excellence in Catholic Education



Picture Day  
September 14th



Grade 9 Retreat  
September 15th



PA Day  
September 16th



## Planning for Success Starts With Your Agenda

Cardinal Ambrozic's Student Success Program is here to help you when you need help meeting success. You can find out more information about this program by going to our school's website. We have included tips below on how to use your awesome student agenda to help you to plan and to be organized. If you need help with this or have any questions, come by Room 102 before or after school or during your lunch.

### How and When to Use the Student Agenda:

#### **BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS**

Write down what day (days 1 through 8) it is in your agenda.  
Write down anything that you need to remember to do during the day.

#### **THROUGHOUT THE DAY**

Write down assignments and due dates.  
Write down homework and due dates.  
Write down test dates.  
Write down reminders (e.g. get trip form signed)

#### **AT THE END OF THE DAY (at your locker)**

Review your agenda and plan what you need to do that night.  
Be sure to bring home your notebook, textbooks, calculator, etc. that you will need to complete any homework.

#### **WHEN YOU GET HOME**

Complete your homework, projects, assignments to the best of your ability.  
If something is unclear, write a question down for your teacher and ask it the next day.  
When you finish your homework, assignments, studying etc, use your favourite highlighter to check it off your list.

#### **ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS**

To avoid frustration, whenever big projects or tests are assigned, plan ahead.  
You can complete the project and study for a test in chunks instead of cramming the night before.

### **A Message From Student Council**

Welcome back River Hawks! Your Student Council is filled with determined and hardworking leaders ready to make 2011-2012 our best year yet! We work as a team and we strive for success. This year's Cabinet members are:

Prime Minister:	Jaspreet Kaur
Deputy Prime Minister:	Natasha Ramcharan
Minister of Finance and Human Resources:	Naomi Graham
Minister of Records:	Katherina Thilavanh
Ministers of Communication:	Aliyah Dawood Alene Israel
Minister of Faith:	Natalie Gyampem
Minister of Arts and Culture:	Ambrose Robitaille-Brown
Student Voice Representative:	John Kodric

If you want to represent your peers it is not too late! Take a stand and apply for Student Grade Representatives for your grade. Elections will take place mid-September so listen up for announcements and come out and get involved! We are very excited to work together and to plan great events so that this will be a memorable and enjoyable year.

## Open House for Parents & Guardians

**Thursday September 22, 2011**

**6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.      **Cafeteria**

7:00-7:20 p.m.      **Math Presentation**

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.      **Meet your child's teachers**

## Ambrozic Pyramid of Interventions

At Ambrozic, student success is dependent on a full school team effort and response when a student is experiencing difficulty learning. The Ambrozic Pyramid of Interventions is a structural pyramid of proactive strategies and responses to ensure students have the opportunity to experience success. If you require further information please contact the Guidance Department or Administration.

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS NIGHT October 13, 2011**

### **English Department**

Another year has begun and the English department is eager to meet new students joining our Ambrozic community and to see our current grade 10's and grade 11's once again. As our school grows so does our department. We would like to welcome Ms. Arcos, Ms. Grossi-Sperandio, Ms. Szyrka and Ms. Restivo, our new teacher-librarian. We are excited to have such an enthusiastic group of teachers join our already dynamic team. The English department has also planned two theatre trips for first semester. On November 10<sup>th</sup> the grade 11's will have the chance to see a performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and on December 7<sup>th</sup> the grade 9's will be off to see *Romeo and Juliet*. The English department is looking forward to 2011-2012 school year!

Check our Website for all the latest information



Please visit our school website to keep updated on all the exciting things that occur on a daily basis here at the school. Students and parents can also check out the teacher website for upcoming and missed work. To cut costly newsletters most information and future newsletters will be posted on the website. If you do not have access to a computer please contact the main office and request a hard copy of future newsletters .

*River Hawks Soaring to Success!*

## Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Links

ing,  
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Home page [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org)  
Healthy, & Inclusive School Communities: Catholic Code of Conduct

D.P.C.D.S.B. System Direction 2010-2015

A Guide for Addressing Complaints from Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and the Public

The Role of the Catholic School Trustee

Equity and Inclusive Education Policy

D.P.C.D.S.B. Assessment and Evaluation Policy

D.P.C.D.S.B. K-12 Homework Policy and Procedures

Safe, Caring, Healthy, & Inclusive School Communities: Catholic Code of Conduct

## River Hawk House System

Students at Cardinal Ambrozic are randomly assigned to Houses. They participate in various spirit activities throughout the year in their House group. Students are awarded points on a regular basis for their participation in clubs and teams and for random acts of kindness. The house with the most points is rewarded at the end of each month with a celebration of success and individual spirit awards are given. At the end of the school year a House Gala celebrates student success and a house cup is awarded. The House banners which were graciously donated by the parent council C.A.R.E. fund are proudly displayed on Cardinal Ave. The pictures of the hands are from our own staff and students.

The house names were selected by our student prefects and are as follows:

Courage  
Justice  
Loyalty  
Perseverance  
Faith  
Hope  
Empathy



### House Champions

2009-2010	Justice House
2010-2011	Faith House

## Keeping Our Home Clean!

At Cardinal Ambrozic we take pride in the cleanliness of the school both inside and outside. The school custodial team led by Mr. Mazzitelli, Mrs. Sestito, Mr. Cangemi, Mr. Stoyanov and Mr. Zachaczewski work very hard to maintain a clean and welcoming environment. It is an expectation that our community take that same pride in the cleanliness of the school. The school will be implementing a Green School's Program during the year which will focus on recycling, paper use reduction, and technology.

## Wingbeat Music

The 2011-2012 school year promises to be a very exciting year for the music program at Cardinal Ambrozic. We will be gearing up all our ensembles, choir, and bands during the first weeks of September. Any students who wish to sing in this year's choir are welcome to come out to our rehearsals.

An exciting event this year will be our first musical trip to Europe. The Cardinal Ambrozic Concert Band will be performing in various European countries in April 2012. This promises to be an experience that will never be forgotten. We will be performing in Italy, Slovenia and Austria. This trip is open to any students participating in music. If you would like your child to participate in this European tour, please contact Mr. Frasson.



## Fall Mathematics Department News

The Mathematics Department would like to welcome parents and students to the 2011-2012 school year. Highlighted below are the upcoming math events in September: The Grade 9 Open House will also include a math presentation on Program Verification by Means of Assessments : ***Is my son/daughter in the appropriate program?*** There will be a **mandatory week long math aid** for grade 9 academic students not meeting Ministry expectations on assessments. **After the math aid**, students will be placed in the proper program. All math news and important dates can be found on our department website: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/AMBRO>

## MODERNS & SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Welcome back returning staff and students and a huge welcome for all students and staff coming to Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School for the first time. This is a very exciting time in the Moderns & Social Sciences Department, as the staff in our department continues to grow so does the number of programs we are offering to our students. On our languages side, you have the opportunity to learn French, Italian and Spanish. When it comes to the Social Sciences you have a wide selection of courses ranging from History, Geography, Civics, Career Studies, Law, Parenting, Philosophy and Economics. ***There is something for everyone! What makes this department exciting and unique? Our fantastic Modern and Social Science staff.*** They have been working diligently over the summer to provide you with the best learning opportunities this year by preparing field trips, Student Vote 2011, and international travel opportunities to commemorate the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle at Vimy Ridge. We wish everyone a fantastic year and the best of luck at Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School!

## LINK CREW

The Cardinal Ambrozic Link Crew is an extension of our past Prefect Program. The Link Crew is a student led transition program designed to build a positive and inviting culture in our school. The Link Crew will be actively involved in the school retreat program and as student ambassadors within our River Hawk community. Recently, the Link Crew ran the grade nine orientation and transition program designed to welcome and support grade nine students by assigning them a senior student Link Leader as a mentor during their first year. Cardinal Ambrozic Link Leaders are responsible senior students who are selected from a pool of applicants each year.

Check out the new **Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board System Direction 2010-2013** at <http://www.dpcdsb.org>

## Attendance

### FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Marlene dos Santos, Attendance and Guidance Secretary at Cardinal Ambrozic C.S.S.

I would like to clarify the procedures that need to be followed if your child is absent for the full day; is arriving to school late or is leaving school early.

### IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT ALL DAY:

In the event of any absence, **the parent/guardian** is required to:

- notify the Attendance Office by phone before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence (905-913-2989, ext. 27310);**
- provide the full name of the student (please spell the last name and first name of the student speaking slowly and clearly); the reason for the absence (illness, dental appointment, doctor appointment, etc.); and identify yourself (mom, dad, etc.) and provide us with a telephone number where you can be reached if further information is required.

When the student returns to school after a full-day absence, the student is required to:

- report to the Attendance Office and receive an Admit to Class Slip which must be shown to each one of his/her teachers.

### Students without an Admit to Class Slip will not be admitted to class and will be re-directed to the Attendance Office.

### IF YOU BRING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL LATE:

A student who arrives at school late must report to the Attendance Office and sign in before they proceed to class. **Parent contact (verbal or written) must be made before the student may receive an Admit to Class Slip from the secretary.** If a student goes directly to class without signing in at the Attendance Office, they will be sent to the Attendance Office to sign in and receive an Admit to Class Slip from the Attendance Secretary.

### IF A STUDENT IS LATE TO CLASS

Students will be admitted to class by the teacher and marked "late" until the attendance form has been sent to the office. Students arriving after the attendance sheets have been sent must sign in at the Attendance Office.

### IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY:

A student who must leave school during the day must submit a dated and signed note from the parent/guardian to the Attendance Secretary. **Parent contact (verbal or written) must be made before a student may receive a release slip from the secretary.** If a student leaves school without signing out, the absence will be considered as a truant class.

### IF YOUR CHILD BECOMES ILL DURING THE DAY:

A student who becomes ill during the day, must report to the Main Office or Attendance office before leaving the premises. We will contact a parent to advise them of the illness and obtain permission for the student to be released from school. Due to the fact that our school is located in a new subdivision and there are no sidewalks, we recommend that students be picked up. It is therefore important that you have a person you can contact in an emergency if you cannot pick your child up yourself.

**NOTES: If you provide a note, please be sure it contains the following information:**

- Name of student (please print)**
- Reason for lateness;**
- Date; and**
- Signature of parent/guardian and contact number.**

**\*\*IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT EVERY ABSENCE, LATE ARRIVAL OR EARLY RELEASE BE VERIFIED BY A PARENT BY PHONE OR IN WRITING. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO CLASS OR RELEASED FROM CLASS UNTIL A PHONE CALL OR NOTE FROM A PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS RECEIVED.**

Your child has now entered high school, and attendance procedures have changed from what was expected in elementary school. Please take some time to review these procedures with your child so that you are all familiar with them. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to clarify them for you. I do thank you for your anticipated co-operation and wish you and your child(ren) a fabulous year.

## Sabrina's Law: Medical Danger—Anaphylaxis

We have a number of Ambrozic students who have life threatening allergies to food products including peanuts and all types of nuts. If peanut butter or even the smallest amount of peanut oil or any type of nut enters the body by touching or eating, severe life threatening symptoms occur and without immediate medical treatment the student could die. Our concern is for foods where peanuts or nuts might be a "hidden" ingredient, and where cross contamination may occur by touching computer keys, or a ball previously handled another student who had peanut/nut oil on their hands. The school cafeteria, vending machines and the food our hospitality class uses is nut free and adheres to Sabrina's Law. We do realize this request may require added effort for you when packing your child's lunch and snacks; however, we wish to express sincere appreciation for your support and understanding regarding this life-threatening condition. **Students requiring administration of injection medication—epi-pen—who have not already contacted the main office for the appropriate emergency forms are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.**

### Helpful Hints for Students:

- If you require information about your schedule, feel free to ask your guidance counselor.
- Hang around positive students who share the same interest as you.
- Set goals for yourself and reflect on them every once in a while.
- If you feel you are being harassed or bullied speak to a teacher or another adult in the school.
- Do not leave valuables in the Physical Education Change Rooms. Use the mini-lockers provided and lock it up.
- Do not bring I-pods etc. to school.
- If you bring a cell phone to school, keep it in your locker. Outdoors use only.
- Try to improve yourself each day.
- Get involved in the school. Join an activity, club, team, committee or other extra-curricular



## Numeracy

The Math Department is pleased to welcome new and returning students for a new and exciting school year. At Ambrozic excellence is the mark, striving to improve our students' well-being is the goal. The Math Department is already hard at work developing new strategies oriented at fostering student growth. One such strategy is the creation of a work recovery period, geared to assist students who have fallen behind in their studies. This program is designed to help stress the importance of regularly completing their daily schoolwork, which in turn helps to communicate their needs to the teacher. Our main goal at the beginning of the school year is to assess every student and ensure they are enrolled in the appropriate program (Academic/Applied/Locally Developed) for their needs. We will be performing the following steps:

- Reviewing elementary school recommendations
- Performing diagnostic assessments
- Performing unit assessments
- Academic Resource consultation
- School/Family conference

This process helps to ensure proper student programming and support to facilitate student success. Parents are encouraged to visit the course website to stay informed on homework, assignment due dates, resource material and useful links.

## River Hawk Athletics

Welcome back RiverHawks, and a special welcome to all of the new RiverHawks. After soaring to another very successful athletics season the coaches of Cardinal Ambrozic are looking forward to continuing that success again this year. But we can't do it without you. Fall sports seasons are starting the first week of school with try-outs for football, boys' volleyball, girls' basketball, tennis and cross country. Listen to announcement for details. Go RiverHawks!!!



## Catholic School Council Elections

Elections for Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School, Catholic School Council ,will be **TBA**, **please check website for most recent information. We will send a letter home with dates.**

## Literacy Preparation

Students were successful writing the OSSLT this year. The school's Literacy Committee is already busy with plans in order to prepare both grade 9 and 10 students. Throughout the school year students will receive support in their classes to prepare them for the Literacy Test every secondary student must successfully complete before graduation. **On March 29, 2012**, all grade ten students will be writing the Literacy Test and all grade 9 students will write a Simulation Test on the same day. Every staff member at Cardinal Ambrozic is committed to helping students find success and this commitment is evident in the activities, teaching strategies and reading and writing techniques that are implemented in every classroom. At home, parents are encouraged to keep their son or daughter reading everyday to help students sharpen their literacy skills. Parents and students can visit the EQAO website at **www.eqao.com** to find extra support to prepare for the test.

## Student Council Elections

The Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School Student Government Elections are on Monday, **September 19, 2011**. Nomination forms can be picked up outside the Student Government/Yearbook Office across from the Main Office. Completed forms are to be submitted to **Ms. Pallotta in room 214** no later than the end of the school day on **Tuesday, September 13**. There are many positions available to Grade 9 and Grade 10 students, so pick up a form if interested.

## Bus Information:

**School Hours**  
**8:45 a.m. to 2: 45 p.m.**

The Board has a new Transportation System that takes effect this year.

Please be advised that the following website, <http://businfo.stopr.ca> , is now available.

Parents and students will be able to login to access the specific details of **only their child's** transportation arrangements following these instructions:

- ⇒ Click "student login"
- ⇒ Enter your child's OEN number, street address number, school, and grade (Note: OEN number appears on student report card)
- ⇒ Click "login"

The bus run and route number, bus stop, location and morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off times specific to only your child can be obtained through this process.

If you do not have access to the WEB, all the above noted information is available at your school or STOPR.

### Guidance Department

The Guidance Department will strive to create a learning environment that provides all students the opportunity to make positive choices, succeed in their faith, and achieve their hopes and aspirations in a safe and inclusive environment while discovering where their story fits in our Catholic tradition.

It is our goal through student development, interpersonal development and career development to enable our students to become successful Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board graduates.

Guidance is divided by Alpha according to a students' surname as follows:

**Mr. A. Sowinski** ext 27302 **A-F**  
**Ms. T. Pacheco** ext. 27303 **G-N**  
**Mr. M. Taylor** ext. 27302 **O-Z**

Students who wish to meet with their Guidance counselor can do so by completing a request form in the Guidance office.

Parents who have questions regarding their child's course selections or wish to discuss other Guidance related issues may phone the counselors' extension.

### Who Do You Call?

Principal:	Mr. Lariviere
Vice-Principal:	Mrs. Tousignant
Vice-Principal:	Mr. Vincent
Chaplain:	Mrs. Esvelt
Secretary:	Mrs. D'Agostino
Guidance:	Mrs. Dos Santos
Attendance:	Mrs. Bacci
Receptionist:	Mrs. Ranieri
Guidance Counselor:	Mr. Taylor
SST teacher:	Ms. Zoffranieri
Special Education:	Mr. D'Ippolito
PIP:	Mr. Costello
CYW:	Ms. Jones
Social Work:	Ms. Masciulli
ESL:	Ms. Singh
Family Settlement	Ms. Al-Hindawi
Athletics:	Mr. B. Prospero

### Uniform

Cardinal Ambrozic is a Dufferin-Peel school that requires students to be in **R.J. McCarthy uniforms only**. The uniform policy is non-negotiable. Due to the positive response over the past two years by students and parents we have modified our initial policy to include the wearing of the school golf shirt, men's walking shorts and women's Capris up to Thanksgiving weekend. After Thanksgiving weekend all students are to be in full Blazer uniform until Victoria Day. Please review the policy in the student agenda or school website. River Hawks as was the case last year, we are implementing an exciting "day

care" for baseball hats. Baseball hats and other inappropriate headgear being worn by students during school hours will be confiscated from the student and placed in the main office "hat day care" with the student's name on it for one full week. The hat will be returned to the student at the end of one full week. Just a reminder that all shoes must be solid black in colour with no white or other coloured stripes or markings. Bandanas and any other attire that could be seen as destructive to our school community will be confiscated. We thank parents in advance for your support of the uniform policy.

### Growing Success Document

The Ministry "Growing Success" document focuses on **Assessment and Evaluation** for your child. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Assessment and Evaluation Policy which is rooted in the "Growing Success" document can be found in your child's **Student Agenda**. Please pay special attention to the assessment and evaluation section as it pertains to attendance during culminating tasks and final exams.

### Homework Club

Students who need extra-time and support to complete daily homework, students who just need a quiet place to do their homework, or students whose parents just don't have the time or skills to assist them with their homework can take advantage of the River Hawk Homework Club . The club runs Mondays to Thursday from 2:50-4:00 p.m.