

St. Albert of Jerusalem School



Streetsville Campus
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October 2005 Newsletter

M. Baswick, Principal

**L. Scardicchio, Vice
Principal**

C. Bova, .5 Vice Principal

E. Ainsworth, Secretary

F. McCulloch, Secretary

**M. Prospero, Superintendent
(905) 890-1221**

**E. O'Toole, Trustee,
(905) 812-5163**

**St. John of the Cross
Church,
6890 Glen Erin Drive,
(905) 821-1331**

Pastoral Team

Fr. Leo Huard

Fr. Joyson George Pottackal

**Fr. Abraham Kulanjiyil
Kate Watkiss, Pastoral
Associate**

**Julie Flynn, Pastoral
Associate**

Masses

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday - 8:30 a.m., 10:30
a.m.,**

12:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

Monday, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

Friday - 9:00 a.m.

Next P.A. Day:

Friday, November 25, 2005

Next Early Dismissal Day:

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

An Autumn Prayer

God of the ever-turning seasons,
our actions and deeds often end up far from the mark,
and our spirits seem to die
and go adrift like leaves in the autumn wind.

Yet we rest in the hope of a new life
that blossoms like the spring flowers.

Through spiritual rebirth
we stand to inherit the blessings of your kingdom,
and become joint heirs with your Son.

Time and again our focus seems to be
on those things that are not eternal.

Turn our eyes toward you
and immerse us in the waters of your redemption.

Guide us, O, God.

As pilgrims in this barren land,
we set our faces toward the rising sun
of your glorious resurrection.

Bring your church to the fullness of her flower.

May her leaves bring healing
to a world full of hurt and darkness.
Make her an oasis of rest for the weary.

Amen.

Something to Ponder.....

Your success and happiness lie in you...
...resolve to keep happy and your joy and you
shall form an invincible host against difficulties.
~ Helen Keller

School Mass

St. Albert of Jerusalem School Feast Day was celebrated at the opening school mass on September 17th in the morning and afternoon. A special thank you to Father Leo for his ongoing spiritual leadership. The Liturgical Committee, students and staff are to be commended for such a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist. The students were well behaved and should be proud of themselves. It was a pleasure as well to have our school trustee Ester O'Toole in attendance to celebrate this very special Feast day. Our next school Mass will be our Advent Mass to be held on **Wednesday December 7 at 7:15 p.m. at St John of the Cross Church.** A social,

organized by School Council, will follow in the church hall. All parents and children are welcome. More information will follow. Please join us on Thursday, October 13 at 9:00

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Once again we will be collecting non-perishable items for the needy of our community. All donations will be forwarded to the Eden Food Bank through our donations to the St Vincent de Paul Society. If you are able, please send in a nonperishable donation. We will collect these donations until Friday, October 21st.

Dr. Simone's Candy Drive

The school will be collecting donations of candies from Halloween Trick or Treaters from October 31 to November 4. At the end of the week, we will package and ship them to Dr. Simone for distribution to children of third world countries who do not have the opportunity to eat special treats. Your contributions are most welcome and appreciated.

School Council News

At the close of the nomination form deadline for school council, as noted in the September newsletter, 9 submissions were received. As a result, an election was not required and those school council candidates were acclaimed.

Congratulations to the returning and new members of the 2005 - 2006 St. Albert of Jerusalem School Council. The following members constitute this year's council:

Chair	Roberta Zamadar
Vice-Chair	Terri Jean-Marie
Secretary	Melanie Madden
Treasurer	Danette Franks
Parish Rep	Cheryl Bobb
OAPCE Rep	Jennifer Souther
Fundraising Chair	Colette Munro
Community Rep	Renato Buenaventura
Teacher Rep	Maria Braun
Parish Rep	Cheryl Bobb
Members	Isabel Doma Nancy Augustine Katheryn Palangio

The next council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 8, at 7:00 pm**. All community members are welcome to attend.

a.m. or 1:00 p.m. for our Thanksgiving Liturgy of the Word.

Thanksgiving - Monday October 10, 2005

There will be no school on this day. St Albert of Jerusalem School Staff wish you and your family a safe and bountiful holiday weekend.

Family Pizza / Curriculum Night

We were very pleased to see so many families participate in our annual Family Pizza Night prior to attending their child's/ children's curriculum presentations on September 22nd. This annual event has become a great way to start off the school year and we are grateful to the School Council for their hard organizational work. Overall, the comments from teachers and parents on the school facility and the curriculum presentations by the teachers were very positive. A special thank you to Trustee Ester O'Toole for coming out to meet with the parents and staff. We are very grateful for her ongoing support to the St Albert of Jerusalem School Community.

Expansion Update

By now most of you have had a chance to go by the Rosehurst site. You may be wondering as to why construction has not begun. At this point, most of the work is going on behind the scenes in regards to site plans inspections / information gathering, architecture review and development and permit approval. The project continues to move forward in line with the timeline for our return next September 2006. If you have any questions or concerns as to the completion dates or permit approvals please contact V. Nicholo, Superintendent, Planning Department at 905 890-1221. The school will continue to keep the St Albert of Jerusalem School community up to date as information becomes available via this school newsletter.

Medication Reminder

If your child needs to take medication at school, we must adhere to the following protocol:

1. Parent to complete an "authorization for storage and administration of prescribed medication" form, available at the school office. Medications cannot be

distributed by school staff without the proper board documentation. The school cannot modify or alter the prescription in any way.

2. Send the medication in the proper prescription or OTC container. No baggies, envelopes or tin foil please.

3. For OTC medication, advise of when and what dosage your child requires.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication and forms are updated annually. Please be aware that school staff cannot administer medication. The student must be able to take the medication on his/her own, and we will supervise the process. If the student is unable to take the medication alone, you or your designate should come to the school to assist them.

Cookie Sales

Mrs. Miniaci's Grade 6 class is selling cookies to students in grades 1 - 8 daily. These cookies are from Terra Cotta Cookies and are nut free. The cost is \$1.00 each. These cookies are given out just prior to lunchtime.

Hot Dog Day

The School Council, as part of this year's fund raising plans, will be holding a Hot Dog sale on Friday, October 21st. Additional dates have been booked as follows:

Friday, November 18th.
Friday, December 23rd.
Friday, January 27th.
Friday, February 17th.
Friday, March 31st.
Friday, April 28th.
Friday, May 19th.
Friday, June 16th.

More information from your School Council will follow shortly.

Early Release Day

The early release days for the school year have been set as follows:

Wednesday, October 19, 2005
Wednesday, February 1, 2006
Wednesday, April 26, 2006

These half days have been set aside for professional development activities designed to improve classroom instruction and to facilitate curriculum implementation. The students will be dismissed at 11:30 by school bus and will not be staying at school for lunch.

Hepatitis B Immunization

The Ontario Ministry of Health will be offering vaccinations against Hepatitis B for Grade 7 students. Hepatitis B is a highly infectious virus that is spread through blood and body fluids eventually infecting the liver. The vaccine is very safe and is administered by a nurse. The dates for the clinics at school are:

Dose #1 - Wednesday, October 5

Dose #2 - Tuesday, April 4

Catch-up for Gr. 8's who missed a dose last year – Thursday, January 19

Artists in the School

We will not be holding Artists In The School this year. Look for this valuable program upon our return to Rosehurst Drive. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Visitors to the school.

Just a reminder that at no time are parents allowed to enter the school or onto the playground during school hours without coming to the office first and signing in. Some parents have been dropping their children off early by using the staff parking lot prior to the arrival bell. This is unacceptable as it puts the child at risk since they are not supervised and we are unaware of their arrival. The rear doors are for staff only. This ensures the safety of all students and staff. Circumventing the procedures undermines the security of all. Please remember: "You may be a parent to your child but to others you are a stranger." You will be asked to register at the office if you do not have a visitor's tag. In addition, parents are reminded that they are to remain within the front foyer/ office area when dropping off or picking up students. Do not walk your child to

his or her room. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated.

Emergency Procedures

The school has an emergency response program in place to deal with fire/ bomb threats and lockdown. Practice drills are held several times a year. **In the event of an emergency evacuation such that we must relocate our designated evacuation location is Mississauga Four Rinks.**

The alternate location is Ray Underhill PS.

Pediculosis

Although it may seem early in the school year, we would like to bring to your attention a problem which occurs from time to time in each school. The problem is infestation by head lice, also known as pediculosis. Head lice have become common throughout North America in recent years. These parasites have been among humans for centuries. They are in no way connected with poor hygiene or dirt. Anyone can become infested. In order to control these pests we will follow the following procedure and request your full cooperation and understanding. If cases are found in the classroom, we shall inform the parents. We would ask that you check your children's hair and if you find them to be infested please notify the school and we will advise as to treatment. If a child is infested he/ she will be kept out of school until they have been treated with the correct shampoo and their hair is entirely clear of both lice and nits (eggs). Information on head lice may also be obtained from your family doctor, pharmacist or health unit.

Custody of Children

On occasion, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit with their child or take their child out of school. We are best able to serve and protect the child when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitations rights and special instructions. If your family is affected by legal custody matters, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of custodial agreements between parents that may affect your child during

school hours. We require custodial parents to provide legal documentation for our files.

All Star Reading Program

All Star Reading is an exciting component of our literacy program where reading coaches are matched with primary students to spend 2 sessions a week tutoring. The purpose of this program is to encourage young students to become more self-directed and to take responsibility for constructing reading strategies that work for them. Our All Star reading program is scheduled to start up again in mid October. Volunteers will be selected from the volunteer sign up sheets distributed with the September newsletter. Mrs. BRAUN will be coordinating the program this year. A training session will be held for any parents who are new to the program.

Transportation

Just a reminder that all students should be riding the bus to which they are assigned. In the event of an emergency we need to know where your child is so that we can give you accurate information if needed. If you have a concern about busing please contact our Vice Principal, Mrs. Scardicchio. Some Safety Rules to share with your child:

- Be at the bus stop at least 10 – 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled time in the morning. Parents, at the end of the day, we advise you to be at the bus stop early to ensure that you can meet your child(ren) as they exit the bus.
- Stay away from the road, and be ready to board the bus by waiting in an orderly line.
- Board the bus in single file using the handrail. Go directly to a seat and stay seated, facing the front, until let off the bus. Never get up from your seat while the bus is moving.
- Keep all belongings inside the bus. Never put any part of your body outside the bus.
- Keep the aisles clear of objects.
- Sit quietly at all times. Speak only in quiet tones. No eating on the bus. No

throwing items inside the bus or out of the window.

- Keep the windows closed unless you have the bus drivers permission.

- Follow all directions from the bus driver, especially when getting on and off the bus. Listen to the bus patrollers they are there to help keep you safe.

As well, parents of junior and senior kindergarten and grade 1 students need to be aware that in the interest of safety, bus drivers are not allowed to let these students off the bus unless a designated guardian is there to meet them, otherwise, your child will be returned to the school and will need to be picked up there. We encourage you to impress upon your child that, if no one is at the stop to meet them, they should indicate this to the driver immediately and the driver will return the child to the school. It is a parental responsibility to ensure proper arrangements for the child to arrive home safely.

Bus Patrollers

Students in grades 5 and 6 have been given the opportunity to apply to be a Bus Patroller. Successful candidates were given the opportunity to be trained at the Peel Children's Safety Village. Thank you to Mrs. Cameron for her assistance in this area and to the boys and girls for volunteering their time.

Paperless Snacks/ Lunches

Students and staff are encouraged to be environmentally friendly by reducing the amount of paper and plastic waste from lunches and snacks. Students are reminded that food wrappers should be disposed of before going out on to the yard and that no food or drinks are allowed outside. Food on the playground attracts wasps, which pose a danger to the students.

Indoor / Outdoor Shoes

The students should have a pair of indoor shoes to wear at school in class and for gym. Outdoor shoes/ boots will be kept for outdoor use only and out of the classrooms in order to reduce the amount of dirt and mud brought indoors. This will assist Mr.

Silva and staff in keeping the school clean.

School Picture Day

Jostens will be in the school for school pictures on **Thursday, October 27**. Please mark your calendars.

Pizza Days

Our first "Pizza Daze" will be held on Wednesday, October 12. Prices are as follows:

Pizza slice = \$2.00 Juice = \$1.00

Cash only please, no cheques.

The following days have been designated as "Pizza Daze" for the 05 - 06 school year for **Grades 1 - 8**:

Wednesday, November 9
Wednesday, December 7
Wednesday, January 18
Wednesday, February 8
Wednesday, March 8
Wednesday, April 5
Wednesday, May 10
Wednesday, June 7

One additional Pizza Day will be held each month for **Grades 6, 7 & 8** as follows:

Wednesday, October 26
Wednesday, November 23
Wednesday, December 21
Wednesday, January 25
Wednesday, February 22
Wednesday, March 22
Wednesday, April 19
Wednesday, May 24
Wednesday, June 21

Drink Machines

This year we have added to our juice and water vending machines a milk dispenser. For \$2.00, students can purchase from the following selection: chocolate, vanilla, strawberry, banana and white milk in a 500ml container. Students are only allowed to purchase juice/ water or milk just prior to lunch, at 11:15 a.m.

Accidents Happen.....

Students occasionally have accidents during the day. They get wet at recess, get muddy in the Primary yard, spill food at lunch or little ones don't make it to the washroom on time. Please

consider sending extra clothes to school, especially pants and socks, and perhaps a t-shirt.

Lunch Time

If you are taking your child out for lunch, please be aware that you or your designate must come in to the front foyer to meet the child. Children cannot wait outside for pickup. The beginning of our lunchtime coincides with the St. Timothy Kindergarten dismissal time and the parking lot can be a busy place. Visitor parking is along the fence. Look for the flag and flagpole to find our entrance.

Lunch Moms

We are pleased to invite Lunch Moms on Tuesdays and Thursdays to provide, at \$5.00 per lunch, a hot or cold meal delivered to your child's room. You should have received a brochure and menu with the pertinent information. Please follow the direction in the brochure if you are interested in this voluntary program. The school has been assured that all food products are prepared from and in a nut free environment however, this cannot be guaranteed. Please call Lunch Moms directly for further information in this regard.

Halloween Dress Up

The students in Grades 1 - 3 may dress up in costumes for Halloween at school on **Monday, October 31**. However, children are not to wear masks, bring any type of weapon or wear a costume which has a violent theme. We ask that they not bring makeup to school since they will not be dismissed from class to apply it and there is no one available to assist in its application. Students in Grades 4 - 8 are encouraged to wear black and orange on that day.

Stay Connected And Join the Dufferin-Peel E-Community

Parents and guardians of Dufferin Peel students can stay up-to-date with the latest board news and information by joining the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board E-Community. Members will receive the latest news and information by e-mail, including media releases, school activities and events, board highlights, school and

transportation cancellations, plus useful tips for parents.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board E-Community helps partners and guardians to stay connected to their school community. SIGN UP TODAY! www.dpcdsb.org

St Albert of Jerusalem School **Official Website**

Did you know that the school has an official website which is online at: <http://www.dpcdsb.org> -- just follow the links for authorized, and accurate information pertaining to St Albert of Jerusalem School.

Suspected Child Abuse

The law requires that “members of the public,” including professionals who work with children, have an obligation to report promptly to the Children’s Aid Society if they suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection. Teachers/principals and indeed all adults face substantial fines if they do not comply. It is the role of the Children’s Aid Society, to whom we report, to investigate such a report. If your child is bruised or marked from an accident you may wish to let the teacher know the circumstances. Should a report be made to the Children’s Aid Society, you should understand that we are complying with the law and have the best interest of your child in mind.

Anaphylaxis - life threatening Allergies and School

As most of you are aware we have many children who have life threatening allergies which pose a significant safety concern for these students and their families. In fact, some of you may have already received notice regarding dietary restrictions in your child’s room. Around the school, the cafeteria area is nut restricted as are all grade 7 and 8 classrooms. Additionally, some individual rooms are nut restricted as well. The school is unable to guarantee a nut free environment. Parents of children with life threatening allergies understand this and recognize that the first line of defense for children with allergies is self advocacy and awareness.

However, the school strongly encourages and promotes school wide allergy awareness as a health and safety concern through community concern and cooperation. At our recent staff meeting a presentation was given on severe allergies and how to administer an Epi - Pen which is an emergency injection of adrenalin in response to a severe allergic reaction. We ask your cooperation by refraining from sending your child to school with nut products or foodstuffs which may contain nut products. In the event that your child does come to school with these products and you have received notice of nut restrictions for your child’s room they will have the opportunity to eat in a designated area which will limit the exposure of these allergens to the general school facility. Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated.

Co-Curricular Activities

Extra curricular activities have always been an integral component of the program at St Albert of Jerusalem School. We are very pleased to have so many staff members who give voluntarily of their time, expertise and energy to these activities which add in such a positive way to the enthusiasm and spirit of our school. This year we are pleased to be able to continue a full range of events. In some cases our participation may be modified due to limited practice areas. Most practices, due to busing, will take place over the lunch period. For those students who will be participating in after school competitions parents / guardians will be responsible for picking them up on time at the school hosting the activity. Please be advised that students will be transported by taxi when and if parent drivers are not available. This year all of our after school sport events will be held away from our school site. It is the child’s responsibility to listen to the announcements and note when an activity is open for tryouts and to come out and sign up. Individual invitations / notices are not sent home. For the most part the sport teams are competitive in nature and purpose and not all participants will make the team. However, all are encouraged to tryout. Some of the events that we invite your child to try out for are:

Chess Club
Cross Country
Flag Football
Heads Up - Junior + Intermediate
Intermediate Boy’s Basketball
Intermediate Boy’s Volleyball
Intermediate Girl’s Basketball
Intermediate Girl’s Volleyball
Junior Boy’s Basketball
Junior Boy’s Volleyball
Junior Girl’s Basketball
Junior Girl’s Volleyball
School Choir
Public Speaking Junior / Intermediate
Environmental Club
Social Action Student Committee
Yearbook Committee
Science Olympics Jr. & Intermediate
Soccer - Co- Ed
Soccer Indoor – Spring Primary
Track and Field
PALs – Playground leaders
School Bus Patrollers
Heads Up Competitions
Battle of the Books

Dominion Store Receipts & Campbells Product Labels

Please continue to collect and send to school your Dominion store receipts and Campbells product labels. i.e. V 8 Splash juices, Goldfish crackers, soup, etc.. The school receives a donation for these items. Store receipts should be dated after April 2005 and the product labels must be complete with the product name and UPC code. Thank you for your continued support.

M & M’s School Day

Thank you to M & M Meat Shops for supporting St. Albert of Jerusalem School by having a School Day Fundraiser on October 5th. The school will receive \$146.56 due to purchases made by our families. Watch for future School Council fundraising opportunities.