



St. Albert of Jerusalem School

7185 Rosehurst Drive, Mississauga ON L5N 7G6

Phone (905)785-9298 Fax (905)785-1227

Board web site: www.dpcdsb.org

School website: www.dpcdsb.org/alber



September 2007 Newsletter

G. Boudreau, Principal

B. Jones, Vice Principal

P. Golin, Vice Principal

T. Ball, Secretary

A. Charette, 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. Abraham Kulanjiyil

Fr. Joseph Kalluvila

Kate Watkiss, Pastoral Associate

Julie Flynn, Pastoral Associate

Masses

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,

12:00 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.

A Prayer for Our School

Lord, encircle our school and keep these good things within:

Eagerness to learn; Flowering of talents;

A sense of wonder; Enjoyment of sport;

Experience of beauty; Warmth of friendship;

The art of listening; Respect for all;

Service of others;

Team work between children and adults;

Care for the planet; Reverence for life;

Fitness of body, mind and spirit;

Eagerness to read, write & do math;

Love for all God has granted.

Amen

Principal's Remarks

It has been terrific to see all of the students who have returned and who are new to St. Albert of Jerusalem over the first week of school. The staff is excited to be back at St. Albert working with you and your children. Our custodial staff has worked extremely hard this summer, going over the school from top to bottom, to prepare it for the return of our students and teachers.

Over the summer, contractors have completed Year 1 of the School Yard Committee's plan to enhance the school property. A short length of fence has been put at the southeast corner of the school yard, from the corner to the paved walkway in the school yard, in order that students can visibly see where the property ends. The Peace Garden on the northwest corner of the field has been set up, with some extra work being completed this month. A gate has been installed by the front of the school leading to the Kiss 'n Ride area on the south side of the building. This gate will be closed daily at 5:00 p.m. to stop cars from parking during the evening and/or overnight. The contractor has completed the lines on the paved area of the yard. These lines provide places for students to play games and identify where students line up with their classes. We hope to have two more basketball nets installed this fall.

There have been some changes in our teaching staff. Welcome is extended to the following teachers who are replacing teachers on leave:

Ms. J. Mus – Grade 1 Ms. J. Peloso – Grade 6
Ms. C. Bevc – F.S.L. Ms. J. Gogarty – Grade 2/3
Ms. J. Navarro – Grade 8
Ms. P. Frankcowiak - Kindergarten.

As well, we welcome Ms. D. Savi in grade 7 and Mr. J. Toth in our special education department to our permanent teaching staff.

Communication continues to be important to all of us at St. Albert of Jerusalem. Most issues that arise during the year can be resolved with direct communication to your child's classroom teacher. Please use your child's agenda as a communication tool or contact the teacher by phone. As well, administrators can be of assistance to answer questions. Staff will respond within a reasonable amount of time, either in writing or by phone.

One of our goals this year is **to decrease** the number of students who are late for school. This may mean that you will need to either send your child(ren) a few minutes earlier or drop them off closer to 8:15 a.m. so that they are ready to line up and enter the school with their class. Your cooperation with this will be greatly appreciated. Enjoy September, in particular, as we move into the cooler weather of fall.

School Organization

We have had a number of families move in and out of the St. Albert of Jerusalem community over the summer. Classes were set up based on projections done last May. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has set Friday, September 28th as the date for schools to reorganize, if it is needed. Direction will be provided over the next two weeks as to whether or not reorganization will need to take place at St. Albert of Jerusalem. Parents / Guardians will be notified if your child will be affected. If reorganization occurs, the new classes will begin during the week of October 1st. Please contact Mr. Boudreau if you have any questions. In order to accommodate this change in date for the reorganization, the Curriculum Evening will take place on Thursday, October 4th.

School Hours

8:30 Entry Bell
9:55-10:10 Gr. 4-Gr. 8 Morning Recess
10:30-10:45 Gr. 1-Gr. 3 Morning Recess
11:00 JK/SK am Dismissal
11:30-11:50 Grades 1-6 eat lunch
11:50-12:10 Grades 1-6 Lunch Recess
11:30-12:10 Grades 7 & 8 Lunch Recess
12:10-12:30 Grades 7 & 8 eat lunch
12:30 JK/SK pm Classes Begin
1:50-2:05 Gr. 4-8 Afternoon Recess
2:10-2:25 Gr. 1-3 Afternoon Recess
3:00 Dismissal

PARISH CORNER

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

6890 Glen Erin Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
L5N 2E1

Tel: (905) 821-1331

Fax: (905) 858-8486

email: stjohnofx@rogers.com

Website: www.saintjohnofthecross.com

Please visit our website for the Sunday bulletin and other information about our parish.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sacraments are parish, not school events. *Initial* preparation is done by the schools through the religion program. *Immediate* preparation is the responsibility of the parents and the parish. **CHILDREN DO NOT RECEIVE A SACRAMENT JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE IN A PARTICULAR GRADE AT SCHOOL. REGISTRATION FOR SACRAMENTS TAKES PLACE AT MEETINGS AT THE CHURCH.**

First Reconciliation and First Communion-Grade 2 (and above). Parent Meetings

Sunday, September 16th, 2:30 pm OR

Tuesday, September 18th, 7:30 pm.

Confirmation-Grade 8 (and above)

Parents meeting and candidates:

Sunday, September 30th, 7:30 pm OR

Monday, October 1, 7:30 pm.

St. Albert of Jerusalem School Masses 2007 – 2008

Feast Day September 17th, 9:00/1:00 at the school

Advent Mass- December 5th 7:15 Church

End of Year Mass-May 7th, 9:00/1:00 at the school

Graduation Mass-June 25, 1:00 at the church

School Council Elections

We invite all parents to consider becoming a member of the School Council. Please note that our School Council will be comprised of parents, school staff, a student representative, as well as community and parish representatives.

School Council nomination notices are available at the school office as of Tuesday, September 4, 2007. A brief nominee biography is to be submitted by September 27th. A list of parent nominees with biographies will be sent home on the 2nd of October, in the event an election is necessary. If one is necessary, it will take place during the evening of our Curriculum Night on the 4th of October. Results will be published in our October newsletter.

The First Council Meeting will be held on September 18th 2007.

This will be the last meeting with our old School Council.

Kiss'n Ride

Parents/guardians who drive students to and from school are requested to use the Kiss 'n Ride lane (entering school property from the south only please, no left turns onto school property), which is accessed from the south entrance, go straight through the staff parking lot, turn at the end of the concrete island and drop your child off in the designated area. Then please follow the "one way" signs and exit at the north end of our property, turning right onto Rosehurst. **No left turn onto Rosehurst Drive during peak hours remains in place: buses excluded.**

Parent who utilize the Kiss 'n Ride lane are not permitted to park and leave their vehicles unattended.

The parking lot in Kiss 'n Ride is for staff members only. Please be mindful of the "no stopping" and "no parking" areas on the road and on school property, as bylaw officers often visit unannounced and ticket parking violators. As always, your continued cooperation is much appreciated and allows us to provide the safest and best environment for the children.

School Messages

Our school secretaries will be pleased to relay messages to staff. The doors of St. Albert of Jerusalem School are open to parents who wish to visit or confer with staff, however, an appointment is necessary. Thank you for your support in keeping classroom interruptions to a minimum.

Visitors

For the safety of all children, visitors may only enter through the front doors and must sign in at the office in order to obtain a visitor's badge. Please remember, to your child you are a parent to the other children, you are a stranger.

Student Absenteeism

Attendance Verification Program

Please inform the school if your child (ren) will be late or will not be attending school for the day. If you do not contact the school by 9:00 am, we will attempt to contact you.

Your co-operation in contacting the school, at 905 785-9298 before 8:30 am is appreciated. **Students are reminded that being on time is an important life skill. It is often difficult to "catch up" when the first part of the class has been missed.**

Curriculum Presentations and Family Night Pizza

In conjunction with the School Council we will be holding a Family Pizza Night with the annual Curriculum Presentations on **Thursday, October 4th 2007** in the evening. There will be two sittings for dinner with each followed by grade level presentations. Staff from Special Education and French departments will also be on hand to provide information on their respective programs. More information from the School

Council and school administration, with detailed schedules, will follow shortly.

Professional Activity Day

The first PA day for this school year will be held on **Friday September 28th 2007**. There is no school for students on this day. Staff will be involved in school related activities.

School Agendas for Grades 1-8

Student agendas were pre-ordered last spring for this school year on a cost-sharing basis between school council and parents. If you ordered an agenda your child should receive it the first week of school. Additional agendas for new registrants and those who missed the deadline have been ordered and are available for purchase through the office. First consideration is given to new students, as quantities are limited. Agendas assist in teaching students organizational skills for life, including study/work habits. Please review the student agenda with your child. In particular, please refer to the beginning pages, which provide pertinent information on our school.

Family/Emergency Information

In the event that your child becomes ill at school or is injured in an accident, it is imperative that we contact you or a person designated by you as an alternate. Our information on file must be accurate and current. A student data form will be sent home for you to look over. Please make the necessary correction and sign the form. We ask that you return it to the school as soon as possible, even if no changes are required.

Volunteers

Volunteers play an important part in the life of the school community. They help to enhance the learning opportunities available to students. They can make a difference in the academic life of a student. They assist students with reading, writing, academic drills and reinforcement, educational games and in other activities that help to improve a specific needs area. Volunteers who are interested in sharing their time and talents with our students are asked to return the attached form to the school.

In accordance with the Board policy, all new volunteers having direct and regular contact with students are required to provide a Criminal Reference Check. Returning volunteers will only need to sign a Criminal Offense Declaration Form. If interested, please review and complete the attached volunteer application form and return to the office.

Life Threatening Allergies

There are numerous students in our school who have life-threatening allergies. In some instances, the slightest exposure can induce a reaction that could have serious consequences including death. The response from the community in the past has been tremendous in co-operating with the school to provide

the safest learning environment for these students. Your continued good will is greatly appreciated by the school and families whose children have life threatening allergies. We are sending letters home with the students whose classroom members have these allergies. Please check with your child, and in their backpack, for letters regarding the type of allergy and products to be avoided. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and co-operation regarding the safety of the students in our school.

Reorganization

Due to growth and/or transfers out that may occur, please remember that our classes are tentative for the first month of school. Should adjustments need to be made, be assured that we take into consideration the needs of each student and keep you informed.

Student Sign Out

In the interest of student safety, all visitors must report to the office, all students must sign out when leaving the building and sign in when they return; parents must report to the office when picking up their child during school hours and sign their child out; all bus students will remain at school for lunch, unless a parent or their designate, picks them up and follows the above procedure; all other students who normally stay for lunch may not leave the school during the lunch hour unless a parent or their designate, picks them up and follows the above procedure.

Grade 7 and 8 students are permitted to leave the grounds at lunch time if they have a signed parent permission note clearly indicating the date and where they are going. Students are not permitted to carry food or drink back onto school property when they return.

Lunch Drop Off

If you drop a lunch off at school for your child, please ensure that it is labeled with your child's name and room number. Lunches may be left on the lunch table in the front hall. In order to avoid classroom interruptions, students will not be called from class before 11:20 am.

Lost and Found

Found clothing is stored in the yellow bin in the lower forum. Please stop by the office for a "visitor" sticker before you check the box.

Medication at 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 baggies, film canisters, etc. pose a risk to other students and will be secured in the office and returned to the parent. 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.

Please drop by the office for an authorization from before your child brings medication to school.

Recess Breaks

Recess breaks serve a special purpose in the daily life of a school. Students are expected to go outside for fresh air and exercise. If your child is sick, he or she should be at home recuperating and not spreading their flu or cold virus throughout the classroom. Remember, there is no indoor supervision at recess.

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, please provide the office with a signed permission note. However, students are reminded that cell phones must remain powered off while on school property and be stored in their backpacks out of sight. If your child rides their bike to school, please remind them to lock it up.

Indoor shoes

All students are required to have indoor shoes at school. Outdoor shoes are not allowed into the classroom, in order to keep the children's work environment clean. In the event of sudden evacuation, students will not have time to put their outdoor shoes on to leave the school, as this impedes the timely and efficient evacuation protocol.

Special Services Support

The responsibility for student programming rests primarily with the teacher. However, when there are concerns regarding the learning needs of a student, the teacher may choose to consult the school's Special Service Team.

Should you have concerns about your child's progress, you are invited to, first speak with his or her classroom teacher. If you want to express your concerns further, please contact the administrator in charge of your child's level as listed below:

Primary Division
(JK/ SK, Gr. 1 to 3)
Mrs. Golin

Junior Division
(Gr. 4, 5, 6)
Special Education
Mr. Jones

Intermediate Divisions
Gr. 7 and 8
Mr. Boudreau

Safety of Pupils

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 practicing emergency procedures.

Peel Regional Police Presents: "Who's Watching Your Children?"

A free evening seminar for parents on Internet Safety is being offered by Peel Regional Police.

Date: Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Time: 6:46-8:45 p.m.

Location: 180 Derry Road East, Mississauga

School Accident Insurance

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about Cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Enrolment is required in writing-there are two options for enrolment:

- 1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in
- 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463-KIDS (5437)

Parents alone have the right to insure their children.

All Star Reading

Our primary students and teachers would like to thank our parents for their outstanding commitment to our All Star Reading Program throughout the school year.

Our primary students and teachers would like to invite additional parent volunteers to participate in our All Star Reading Program. If you are interested in assisting primary children with this one to one reading program this year (either for a morning or afternoon reading session) or you would like to know more about it, please contact Mrs. Cameron.

School Pictures

School Pictures will be taken on Thursday, October 18th. Retakes: Monday November 5th, 2007

Lunch Time Supervisor

We are in need of a lunch time supervisor. If interested please bring your resume to St. Albert of Jerusalem School. Attention: Mr. B. Jones.