



St. Albert of Jerusalem School

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Board web site: www.dpcdsb.org

School website: www.dpcdsb.org/alber



December 2006 Newsletter

G. Boudreau, Principal

L. Scardicchio, Vice Principal

B. Jones, .5 Vice Principal

P. O'Brien, 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. 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 Early Release day:

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Students finish school at 11:30
a.m.

Next P.A. Day:

Friday, December 15, 2006

Students do not attend school

PEACE ON EARTH

May God grant you
The Light of Christmas
Which is Faith
The warmth of Christmas
Which is Love,
The belief in Christmas
Which is Truth,
The *all* of Christmas,
Which is Christ.

A Message from the Principal

Over the past three months, we have settled back into the St. Albert of Jerusalem building, re-establishing our links to the activities that have been the foundation of this community – with our masses and liturgies, focus on curriculum, extra-curricular activities and supports from our active School Council. The end of the first term provides an opportunity for reflection, as we look at the progress of our students through reporting and parent/guardian and teacher conferences and plan our next steps in their learning. This time of year also coincides with Advent - the season of preparation for the birth of Jesus.

This is a time when the students, teachers and parents/guardians at St. Albert of Jerusalem are coming together as a Catholic community – sharing spiritually through daily prayer and the celebration of the Advent mass; acting as good stewards - donating mittens for the mitten tree and gifts for others less fortunate; and celebrating our many talents and gifts by being involved in activities such as the Kindergarten classroom presentations and craft making, the creation of Santa's Village and the primary choir performance.

The staff of St. Albert of Jerusalem extends best wishes that your hopes and joys throughout this Advent and Christmas season are realized as you celebrate the birth of Jesus with family and friends.

Mr. G. Boudreau

Advent Mass for Families

Our school community Mass is scheduled for **Wednesday December 6 at 7:15 p.m. at St. John of the Cross Church.** Please join us at that time to pause, reflect and enjoy the true meaning of this special season. Good fellowship and cheer, organized by our School Council, will be enjoyed by all in the parish hall following the Mass. Anyone donating baked goods (preferably nut free) is asked to drop them off between 6:30-7:00 pm in Nessinger Hall.



Christmas Celebration

On Thursday, December 21st, the students from Grades 1, 2 and 3 will be performing songs and poems in St. Albert's Annual Christmas Celebration. The Celebration will take place in the gym at 9:15 and 1:00. More details will follow.

JK/SK Christmas Celebration



This delightful event, presented by the kindergarten students, will be held on December 20th in your child's classroom at 10:00am for morning students and 1:45 p.m for afternoon students.

Christmas Mitten Tree



This year we once again have a Christmas tree set up to receive donations for new children's mittens and/or hats. These gifts are then donated to women's shelters. Your gift giving at this time of year is much appreciated.

Farewell

It is with sadness that we announce the departure of Mrs. Franca McCulloch, as she takes on a new role as Library Technician for Mississauga South Family of Schools. Mrs. McCulloch has been a part of the St. Albert community since September of 1999, and will be greatly missed. On behalf of the parents, students and staff of St. Albert, we wish Mrs. McCulloch all the best in her new venture.

Volunteers -You are Appreciated!

During this Advent season we would like to thank all volunteers for your efforts in helping our children. Your time and effort with the All Star Reading Program, your participation in the various fundraising events sponsored by our School Council, your help in the classrooms, library, school trips, Kiss and Ride, or any other contribution to the school community is greatly appreciated. May our Lord Jesus Christ bless each and every one of you and may you all have a joyous Christmas.

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.

St Albert of Jerusalem School Official Website

Check out our official website at:

<http://www.dpcdsb.org>

Just follow the links for authorized and accurate information pertaining to St Albert of Jerusalem School. We are currently in the process of updating the website.

Co-Curricular Activities

Please be reminded that participating students will be transported by taxi to and from games. 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.

School Trips and Other Financial Requests

Most school based activities are free of charge. However, from time to time the monetary request for trips and other items may cause some financial strain. At the same time, other opportunities at school such as Lunch Moms, and Pizza Days are voluntary and your discretion is required. However, please know that no child is ever held back from a school trip or classroom based activity/program for financial reasons. If you require assistance with classroom based activities please speak to Mr. Boudreau in confidence and arrangements can be made.

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found Box is overflowing. If your child has misplaced an item, ask them to visit the Lost & Found box. If you would like to look for a lost item, please sign in at the office first. Please feel free to drop in and look for lost items during Parent-Teacher Interviews.

Casual Fridays

You may notice staff in casual dress on Fridays. St. Albert staff continues to support the many charities sponsored by the United Way and Share Life.

New Phone Numbers??

Please make sure the office is informed of any changes to work numbers, cell phone numbers or contact numbers. For the safety of your children, we should have the most current phone numbers so we can contact you in case of an emergency.

Extended French

Parents of students presently in Grade 4, who are interested in Extended French for the 2007-2008 school year are invited to attend an Information Meeting at St. Therese of the Child Jesus School, 6930 Forest Park Drive, on January 30, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

Emergency School Procedures

There may be days during the upcoming winter months when inclement weather presents a potential safety hazard to our children. It is essential that parents discuss with their children the procedures they wish them to take to get home safely after getting off the bus. This discussion should include such direction as:

1. The appropriate/best route to follow on the walk home.
2. With whom the child should walk.
3. Where the child should go if parents are not at home or if they get locked out.
4. How the child should seek help if wind and snow are so strong that he/she cannot see their way.

You are the ultimate authority in deciding what weather conditions you consider safe for your child. It is always better to err on the side of caution than to risk a young life.

School Closure

Please note the school does not have the authority to close the school. That decision or a decision to cancel school buses is the prerogative of the Director of Education. Such announcements are broadcast on all local radio stations.

IF SCHOOL BUSES ARE CANCELLED IN THE MORNING DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS, THEY WILL NOT RUN IN THE AFTERNOON, EVEN IF WEATHER CONDITIONS IMPROVE THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

In the event that buses are cancelled, please do not pick up other students from bus stops and bring them to school. If you drive your own child(ren) to school on that day, you are responsible for picking up your child(ren) on time from school. There is no one available to supervise children after school hours. As always, we appreciate your cooperation!

School Profile 2006

A copy of the St. Albert of Jerusalem School Profile is now available. If you would like a copy, they are available in the office.

Program and Curriculum

Assessment Evaluation and Reporting: Report Cards for Grades 1-8 will be sent home on December 12th.

Parent-Teacher Interviews for Grades 1-8: will be held on the evening of *Thursday December 14th* and during the day on *Friday, December 15th*.

School Council News

Don't forget about our ongoing online fundraisers with **QSB** and **FUNDSCRIP!** Magazines and gift cards make great Christmas presents!!!! For magazine orders, go to www.qsp.ca and click "SHOP NOW". Use St. Albert of Jerusalem group ID 8433. To order gift cards, go to www.fundscrip.ca Select "**Supporter**"

Click "**Join Now**" – red button

Choose "**Ontario**", then click "**Search**"

Click "**St. Albert of Jerusalem School**"

For those who prefer not to use the internet, there are paper order forms available. Watch for the next order form soon. Thanks for all your support!

Our next Council Meeting will be held on **January 23rd at 7:00 p.m.** All are welcome to attend

A Heartfelt Thank-you to the School Council!

The success of Faire November was a result of many hours of planning and preparation. The volunteers who worked so hard behind the scenes should be applauded for their efforts. Congratulations on a very successful event! We also thank the many people who donated to the cause, and the many families who came out to support it.

Snowballs and Cold Weather

We will be reminding all students that snowball throwing is **NOT ACCEPTABLE**, as it can lead to injury, especially facial or eye injuries. Please reinforce this safety consideration with your child(ren). We also ask your co-operation in reviewing with your child(ren) the need to be respectful of each other outside on the playground.

Winter Dress

During the cold weather, please ensure that your child wears warmer clothing – hats, gloves, scarves, etc. We make every effort to ensure that children are properly protected before they go outside. Students must come to school ready to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess.

NEW! School of the Arts!

Iona Catholic Secondary School is embarking on a new and exciting education option for incoming grade nine students interested in the Arts. The "**Iona Catholic Secondary School Arts & Culture Pathway**" will be open for application to **all** Mississauga grade 8 students entering grade nine in September 2007. This will offer a viable Catholic alternative for all students interested in pursuing an Arts education in areas such as dance, drama, vocal music, instrumental music, visual arts, and photography. Students or parents seeking more information on Iona's Arts and Culture Pathway should contact Iona school at (905)823-0136.

Peel Children's Aid

The Peel Children's Aid Foundation has expressed their appreciation to the students and staff of the St. Albert community for raising \$209.63 for the *Use Your Voice* campaign in October. This money will be used for programs aimed at ending the neglect and abuse of children.

Anaphylaxis, Life Threatening Allergies and School

We ask that you refrain from sending in baked goods during this holiday season as we have many students subject to severe allergies. Thank you for your consideration of the safety of all our students.

Pediculosis

We remind everyone to be vigilant about checking your child for head lice. By detecting it early, it helps to stop the spread through the classroom.

**Note Revised Professional
Development Days:**

December 15, 2006
February 16, 2007
March 9, 2007
May 14, 2007

Christmas Holiday Reminder

The dates for the Christmas break are
December 25th to January 5th
inclusive. School resumes January
8th, 2007

Next Pizza Day:

Wednesday December 13th

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH
CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2007-2007**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Monday, December 11, 2006 only
7:00 - 10:00 pm

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE
Take some time to share scripture, quiet time,
Festive music and fellowship
Sunday December 17th - 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Mt. Carmel Secondary School Gymnasium: 4:00 pm only
At the Church: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 12:00 midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

At the Church only: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm
(Note: There will **not** be a 5:00 pm Mass)

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

Feast Day of Mary Mother of God - 5:00 pm at the Church

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES, MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST

Feast Day of Mary Mother of God - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon
(Note: There will **not** be a 5:00 pm Mass)