

June 2007

PRINCIPAL:
S. Steer

VICE PRINCIPAL:
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SECRETARY:
T. Crayden

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STS. MARTHA & MARY
Catholic School

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*As we enter into our summer..
May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your
back,
May the sun shine upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your
fields
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of
His hand.*

Ancient Irish Blessing

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL MRS. STEER

It seems the fate of an educator that as June brings the first glimpse of a well-deserved summer, it also heralds the end of the year. As the final touches are added to this newsletter we also begin to prepare for the culminating events of the school year. One such event is our annual volunteer appreciation social. Sts. Martha and Mary is truly fortunate to be the recipient of the dedicated efforts of close to 120 volunteers. Be it once, daily or weekly, every volunteer has enriched the climate of Sts. Martha and Mary by their presence. To each of our volunteers, thank you for the time you have managed to eke out of your busy schedules. Thank you for the joy you bring to your child's heart when you volunteer. Thank you for helping us to provide the many valuable programs that enrich our school community.

With a deep sense of pride and gratitude I celebrate the staff at Sts. Martha and Mary. Our EQAO results celebrate the fine work that is achieved in each grade level. Many of the staff go above and beyond the call of duty by giving freely of their lunches, recesses and evenings to provide tutoring and extra-curricular activities for your children. They understand that teaching isn't just a 9:00 to 3:30 job, but a commitment to bring out the best in each individual, be it spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially or physically. Our staff should feel pride in the dignity they extend to the field of education.

Thank you Mrs. Crayden for your tireless efforts on behalf of our staff, students and parents. Being a secretary in a school of this size is a monumental job. We thank you for your dedication, organizational skills and the care you provide to all of us on an ongoing basis.

Often unrecognized are the custodial staff; Mr. Criminale, Mr. Nyakundi and Mrs. Chan. They extend a great deal of effort to keep our school clean and prepare it for learning. Their job is often

difficult, from the aftermath of classroom celebrations, to the set up for performances and the attention to the daily upkeep of a busy school. Our custodial staff continually and cheerfully assist in whatever capacity they can.

On a personal note, I wish to acknowledge the extra efforts of all of our custodians who take great pride in maintaining our school at a pristine level. We are fortunate to have each of them attending to our site.

Thank you to Father D'Souza of Sts. Martha and Mary Parish. His spiritual leadership at school Masses and in sacramental preparation, classroom visits and reconciliation is truly a commendation of his call to shepherd the people of God. His spiritual presence and eager support has been most appreciated.

A very special thank you to Mario Pascucci, our School Trustee. He has provided a great deal of support and has faithfully represented the Sts. Martha and Mary community within his role. During this trying year of budgetary cuts, Mr. Pascucci has remained steadfast in his commitment to our children.

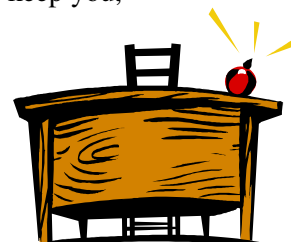
At this time I would also like to extend my deepest thanks to Superintendent Elizabeth McGuire. Ms. McGuire has spent countless hours supporting the staff and students of Sts. Martha and Mary School through programs, resources and personnel. May God bless and keep you as you continue in your role.

Sts. Martha and Mary has been blessed with an extended staff who provide support services to the school. They are; Maxine Wasserman, Psychologist; Jack Ritchie, Speech and Language Pathologist; Rosalind Peters, Social Worker; Christine Gordon, Child and Youth Worker; Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Caryl Dalmazi. On behalf of the school community, thank you for sharing your expertise with our community and for the fine work you do with our students.

Above all, thank you parents, for entrusting to us the education of your children. We have been witnesses to the many successes of your children and we have been afforded ongoing opportunities to be proud of them on a daily basis. Each has brought cheerfulness with them as they have arrived and departed from school. We thank you for the positive support you have given to our many initiatives and look forward to next year bringing continued academic, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth for all of your children.

On behalf of the entire school community at Sts. Martha and Mary, have a restful, safe, blessed and above all, enjoyable summer.

As always, God bless and keep you,
Susan Steer, Principal



REPORT CARDS

Will be sent home with students in grades senior kindergarten to eight on Tuesday, June 26, 2007. Parents and students may comment on the 3rd page of the Ontario Report. Please return the 3rd page by Wednesday, June 27th. Students who are not at school on or prior to June the 26th will have their report cards mailed to them.

SEPTEMBER 2007

The school office is closed until the week of August 27th.

Classes resume on **Tuesday, September the 4th** at 9:00 a.m. Sts. Martha and Mary continues to have a 9:00 a.m. start and a 3:30 p.m. dismissal time. A copy of next year's calendar for holidays and professional activity days has been included in this newsletter. Keep this document handy. A list of Early Release Days, Sacramental and other school-based Liturgical dates will be published and forwarded to you in September.



CLASS PLACEMENTS

Class lists for the year 2007-2008 are, extremely tentative. We have spent a great deal of time organizing the class lists to ensure the best possible placement for your child and will continue to fine tune them as the need arises. All our class placements will remain tentative until September enrollment is finalized. Class placements will be **not be posted in the gymnasium** in August, but will be indicated when report cards are sent home in June. Due to declining enrolments, parents are reminded that combined classes are an increasing reality at Sts. Martha and Mary.

Any concerns regarding class placements can be addressed in writing to the office and will be considered at the time of school re-organization in September.

FOND FAREWELLS

The last day for our students and staff is upon us. Mrs. Patricio-Fernando and Mrs. Steer would like to take a moment to THANK the wonderful staff of Sts. Martha and Mary Catholic School for their support and dedication to **our/your** children this past year. It has been a challenging and very busy year to say the least, but it has also been a year filled with many happy moments and success stories for your children. We all benefit from the gifts, uniqueness and talents of every person we meet in some way, shape or form.

Unfortunately as the year comes to a close we must also prepare to say goodbye to staff who are leaving Sts. Martha and Mary; **Mrs. Tuzi, Mrs. Magditsch, Ms. Tyahlo, Mdme. Foran, Mrs. McCafferty, Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Charles.**

With sadness we must **bid farewell to Ms. Tyahlo, Mrs. Tuzi, and Mrs. Magditsch** who have accepted positions in schools closer to their homes. Mrs. Magditsch has a very strong work ethic, a cheerful demeanor and above all, a true commitment to Catholic Education. She readily assists wherever and whenever needed. Her love of education rings forth in and out of her classroom. Mrs. Tuzi has always provided an exceptionally strong curriculum, a joyous demeanor and has eagerly coached school teams. Her kind, welcoming presence will be missed by all. **Ms. Tyahlo** has been a wonderful addition to our kindergarten pod. Her skill in providing a strong, challenging program and her kind attitude have been greatly appreciated and admired. Our young learners have been indeed blessed by being in her exceptional care.



For the past three years we have had the pleasure of working with **Madame. Foran**. In her role as an occasional teacher, she has gone above and beyond the delivery of curriculum and has been a strong supporter of our students. We have been blessed by her strong sense of curriculum and her willingness to bring the curriculum to life through her varied program and extended trips. **Mrs. McCafferty and Mrs. Reynolds** have brought a dedication and kindness that have warmed Sts. Martha and Mary. The experience and knowledge they bring to the role of Special Education Resource Teacher has been highly valued and appreciated. They have each enriched our school through their generous contributions, professionalism and commitment to education. **Mrs. Charles** has been a welcome face within many of our classrooms this past year. She not only is a ready and willing support as a supply teacher, she has most recently been working with our special education class while Mrs. Bellini-Kavals is on leave. Mrs. Charles has also been instrumental in supporting our Quebec City trip as a school volunteer. We are very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable, caring and supportive teacher addressing the needs of our students.

We have been fortunate to know each of these individuals as truly fine educators who always present the face of God in their kind, professional and exuberant approach as a Catholic educators.

For all the staff and students leaving the Sts. Martha and Mary community, may you enjoy continued personal and professional success in all your endeavors. It is inevitable that our paths will cross again. We feel blessed to have had this time to work with you.

A TRIP TO REMEMBER

We packed our bags, kissed our parents good-bye and we were off on a memorable 4 day, 3 night trip to Quebec City. Ninety-seven grade 7-8 students and 11 supervisors participated in this wonderful learning opportunity. The students visited many historic sites and partook in hands on activities. After many hours of walking and touring, the students managed to muster up their energies and participated in a lively disco. All returned home with wonderful memories but were definitely *a little light on* sleep. This was an excellent time to learn, bond and establish lasting memories. Thanks to our staff volunteers;

Mrs. Maxymiw, Mr. Mandarino, Mdme Foran, Ms. De Simone, Ms. Medeiros, Mrs. Monid, Mrs. Godin and especially Mrs. Charles, Mr. Carnevale and Mdme Nacini who willingly shared their personal time to join the students on this memorable trip. Special thanks to Mrs. Maxymiw and our intermediate teachers who not only organized this successful trip, but also spent countless hours and recesses supporting the fundraising programs that made the trip more affordable.



TRANSPORTATION

It is time for the transportation department to get ready for next September. Transportation eligibility is based on distance from the school. Please note that the schedule for our bus will be posted on the front doors of the school the week before school starts. As per Board policy, until routes are established, no consideration will be made for empty seat riders.

END OF THE YEAR MASS

Our end of the year Mass will be held on **Thursday, June 21 at 9:45 a.m.** in the school gym. We are very excited that our new altar will be blessed during this celebration. We are fortunate indeed to come together as a Catholic community to celebrate our faith and express our thanks to the heavenly Father for the many gifts bestowed upon us. Parents are welcome to attend this celebration.

GRADUATION 2007

Congratulations to our GRADE 8 students on the occasion of your graduation from elementary school. This is a momentous accomplishment that marks the start of a new and exciting time in your lives, but also the ending of what we hope was a successful and joyful journey. We ask all members of our Sts. Martha and Mary Catholic community to say an extra prayer for our graduates this year.

Creator, please bless these graduates, and share with them Your wisdom and strength. Please lead them on the right path. Help them to remember that whatever they do, whether in word or deed, they must take action in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Amen.

We are privileged to have had the opportunity to educate these future leaders. *Congratulations from the staff and students of Sts. Martha and Mary Catholic School.*

ARE YOU MOVING?

If you will be moving from the Sts. Martha and Mary Catholic community over the summer, please notify the office. It is important that we are informed so that we can provide the necessary transfer forms. You will require these forms as part of your registration into any school in the province. Your child's Ontario Student Record Folder is sent to his/her new school only after we have had official documentation that states registration.

INTERNET SAFETY

As stated earlier, we are asking that parents be aware of their children's use of the computer. As you know, many children are using Hotmail, Blogs and MSN. It is important that as parents, you are informed as to what your children are sending out and receiving. Some of the communications are very inappropriate and do not foster Christian relationships.



SUMMER SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION, GRADE 7 and 8

Summer school programs in literacy and numeracy are offered to grade 7 and 8 students who are referred by their teachers. Busing to San Lorenzo Ruiz School can be accessed at the front doors of Sts. Martha and Mary at 8:00 am and will return to the school at 12:54 pm. Classes commence on July 3rd and end on July 20th.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS



A reminder that the elections for the Catholic School Council for Sts. Martha and Mary Catholic School will be held in September. Nomination forms for parent/guardian representatives will be available in the main office of the school starting September 4, 2007. Eligible parent/guardians are encouraged to complete a nomination form and become a parent/guardian representative. Electors must be parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school. Electors or their spouses must be separate school supporters. We encourage everyone to come out and get involved in your child's education. Our first School Council Meeting for the 2007/08 school year will be **Tuesday, September 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL APPRECIATION

We would like to take a moment to thank our Catholic School Council for their ongoing support and their initiation of the many worthwhile activities and events that took place this year. Their support has proven itself to be an enhancement of our goals and initiatives and we are grateful for their insights, enthusiasm and child-centred approach to all decision-making. We have many reasons to thank our school council members. They have each enriched the school by attending council and by supporting fundraising events that have allowed for the development of many school based initiatives such as; our new school altar, Mad Science presentations; amplification systems for each class; literacy room materials, basketball nets and recess games.

Special thanks are extended to Rosa Miranda who will not be returning to council this Fall. Rosa has had a lengthy history of supporting students through her generous and kind service. Our community has been enriched by her presence. Thank you for your support and commitment to Sts. Martha and Mary. May God bless and keep you as you make the transition to secondary school with your children.

WARM WEATHER DRESS CODE

We would like our students to be neat, clean and comfortable for learning. Students are expected to dress in a manner and attire suitable for the occasion and appropriate to the school environment.

Boys must wear full-length T-shirts with sleeves. No basketball shirts or cut-off T-shirts are allowed for regular classes or gym wear. Girls are not to wear anything strapless or have bare midriffs. Spaghetti straps, tank tops and crop tops are not acceptable.



Please ensure that shorts are of a modest length (no short skirts, shorts or cut-off jeans will be allowed). If students do not adhere to these guidelines, parents will be called and/or alternative attire will be provided. We hope you will assist us in maintaining a sense of dignity with respect to the clothes that are worn to school.

PLAY DAY & BBQ DAY

Grade 1 – 8 Play Day will take place on Friday, June 22 beginning in the morning until 11:45. This event promises to be a fun filled active day so please ensure that your child has a nutritious breakfast. The majority of our games are planned for outdoors so children are reminded to dress for the weather and the activity by wearing running shoes, a hat and sunscreen. The afternoon will be spent indoors enjoying the company of friends while playing games and/or watching an age and theme appropriate movie. As is the tradition at Sts. Martha and Mary, our Catholic School Council will sponsor a hotdog lunch on Play Day. Each student will receive one hotdog as part of this special day.



Our Catholic School Council and parent volunteers sponsor all Play Day activities. Our thanks and gratitude goes out to each volunteer for their efforts on behalf of our students.

Kindergarten Play Day will be held on June 20th. More information is available through classroom teachers.

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS AND BOYS SOCCER

The intermediate girls and boys soccer teams have enjoyed a short but competitive season. As always, Sts. Martha and Mary are proud of the great sportsmanship, skill and determination that have been shown both on and off the field. We extend our thanks to coaches Mr. Mandarino and Ms. De Simone for their dedication to the teams.

Girls Team:

Calli C.	Gabby C.	Melissa D.	Hilary F.
Alex L.	Alexia M.	Emily O.	Sarah R.
Vanessa S.	Victoria S.	Lyna T.	Ivanna T.
Lauren W.	Nicole Y.		



Boys Team:

Michael A.	David B.	Jason M.	Michael P.
Tyler B.	Tyler D.	Jason R.	Kyle D.
Eric D.	Cameron D.	Karl J.	Chris L.
Michael I.	Jon Michael D.		

**JUNIOR AND SENIOR
KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATION**

As is customary at Sts. Martha and Mary a year-end celebration of learning is scheduled for our junior and senior kindergarten students. We invite parents and significant family members to this joyful celebration during school hours on June 19th.



DENTAL SCREENING

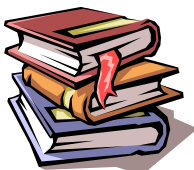
In cooperation with the Region of Peel Health services, all students in grade JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 and 8 participated in dental screening on June 18th. This annual cost-free screening offers parents support in meeting the health care needs of their children.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Our young readers have been busily catching up on various titles in preparation for the Battle of the Books. This annual competition run by the teacher librarians in Mississauga East was held at St. Alfred School on Wednesday, June 20, 2007.

Sylvia A.	Anne C.
Sabrina C.	Matthew D.
Barbara G.	Helen H.
Viktoras M.	Julia M.
Sam W.	

Many thanks for Ms. Duncan for supporting this competition. Many months of preparation have led up to this event. All the best to each of you!



PROMOTING CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

Each grade 4-8 class at our school had a School Leadership Representative. Under the direction of a skilled and organized executive, and under the supportive tutelage of Ms. Duncan, these key student representatives have met throughout the year and participated in a variety of activities which promoted a fun, safe, Christian and caring environment. Student Leadership has been instrumental in the gathering and sharing of pertinent information throughout the year including: distributing collecting and interpreting surveys; reporting back to their classes; brainstorming solutions to problems. These individuals promoted numerous food drives, faith activities, spirit days and school dances. They were presented with certificates at the year end mass and deserve our thanks and praise for an **excellent** job. The members of our 2006-2007 Student Leadership Team were:

Executive **Grade FOUR:**

President: Natasha C.	Tate. P.
Vice President: Lauren S.	Alexa B.
Secretary: Lyna T.	Julia M.
Treasurer: Michelle D.	Chantal M.

Grade FIVE: **Grade SIX:**

Kaila P.	Alexa F.
Sabrina C.	Christopher L.
Amanda L.	Steven J.
Sara E.	Sam W.

Grade SEVEN: **Grade EIGHT:**

Daniela M.	Michael A.
Nicole Y.	Greg A.
Sarah R.	Gabby C.
Emily J.	Antonio A.

We look forward to a new shape, make-up and format of Student Leadership this fall. More information will be provided in September.

TRACK AND FIELD 2007

The Mississauga East Family of Schools Track and Field Competition was held at St. Marcellinus Stadium on June 18th. We were excited by a strong showing from our gifted junior and intermediate athletes.

Callan N.	Julia M.	Chantal M.	Stephanie B.
Claudia E.	Kaila P.	Melissa M.	Christian S.
Alexia M.	Christian R.	Anthony C.	Matthew F.
Szymon W.	Paige C.	Sebastian P.	Chris L.
Connor N.	Ania L.	Sarah R.	Ivanna T.
Ronnie N.	Robert P.	Brendan B.	Jason R.
Vanessa S.	Michelle D.	Daniela M.	Brittany G.
Christine N.	David B.	Kevin W.	Horatiu B.
Tommy P.	Lauren W.	Emily O.	Alex L.
Victoria S.	Calli C.	Mike J.	Tyler B.
Courtney P.	Marie K.	Hilary F.	Tyler D.
Kyle D.	Michael P.	Julian L.	Michael I.

A special thank you to our awesome **Track and Field Coaches and Organizers:** A. Kord, M. Mandarino, S. Tuzi, M. Prajza, S.Magditsch, L. Rudzki and K. Tremblay.

SAFE SCHOOLS

SCHOOL SECURITY

Sts. Martha and Mary has received approval for the installation of a monitored entry system at our front door. Similar to an apartment building entry, parents and visitors may enter the school only once accepted for entry at the front office. As a consequence our school doors will remain locked during the school day.

The purpose of this security device is to enhance the current security offered at the school. We understand that this changes the overall atmosphere of the school and may inconvenience many. We ask for your patience and understanding if there is a wait at the doors. Often our school secretary is away from her desk for photocopying etc... Thank you for your patience as we adjust to this system.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

School can be a very frightening environment for a child with a severe allergy to peanut, nuts or nut products. In an effort to further promote a safe and secure environment for all of our children we ask your support in implementing a school-wide nut free/peanut free school. Approximately 2% of our school population suffers from this life-threatening allergy. At first glance this may appear as a small percentage however, we must take into consideration that these children are not isolated to any particular grade level and, like all students, utilize the computer lab, washrooms, library and physical education equipment. Please pay careful consideration to school lunches and snacks and refrain from sending in items that are made of, or contain, nuts or peanuts. We offer our heartfelt thanks for your support.



KISS N RIDE

Thank you to the many parents and volunteers that have made the Kiss & Ride lane such a success. The majority of parents access the Kiss & Ride drop-off area and have aided in creating a safer environment for all. Thank you to our parent volunteers. They have braved the cold, wind, rain and humidity to assist your children in arriving safely to school. The program will continue to run in September 2007. Volunteers are needed to assist with this program. If you are available to volunteer for 15 minutes a day please contact the school at 905-624-9625.



PEACE PALS

Under the direction of Mrs. Gordon, our Child and Youth Worker, some phenomenal Christian spirit has been spread throughout the schoolyard of Sts. Martha and Mary School. The Peace Pals have provided support, organization and modeling of fun, cooperative games for our younger students. To each participant, thank you, for your dedication and willingness to volunteer.

Peace Pals:

Sonja S.	Viktoras M.	Kiana D.
Luke R.	Samantha C.	Sean C.
Sara E.	Joshua L.	Vanessa P.
Chelsea C.	Julia P.	Paul C.
Jessica W.	Jessica P.	Dustyn C.
Astrid F.	Kristian L.	Natalia W.

STUDENTS LEAVING FOR LUNCH

Please be advised that students require signed parental permission to leave the school during the lunch hour. Notes are to be given to the teacher, who will then send the students to the office to sign out. Students will not be permitted to call home if a note is forgotten. Students are reminded that they must return to the school prior to the 1:00 p.m. bell. Many students leave the school to go to the homes of nearby friends or fast food restaurants. Please understand that these students and their friends are unsupervised at these times and are the responsibility of the parent.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

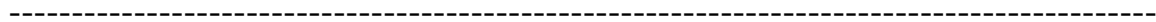
June 18:	Dental Screening, grades JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 and 8
June 19:	JK / SK Celebration 9:45 am and 2:30 p.m.
June 20:	Kindergarten Play Day
June 20:	Chip Day Fundraiser for our Foster Child
June 21:	Year End Mass, 9:45 a.m.
June 22:	Play Day (Rain Day, June 25)
June 22:	Board Track and Field
June 26:	Reports go home Grade Eight Graduation, 7:00 p.m.
June 28:	Last day of classes
September 4:	Classes Resume
September 28:	Professional Activity Day (Friday)



These last two weeks of June find the library even busier than ever. As we scour the shelves for lost books we have quickly become aware of our diminishing resources. The school library is sending out an “all call” for unreturned items. Students have received information through class lists and announcements. Any items not returned by Friday, June 15, will be followed up with an overdue letter. In order to jog those memories, some students will wear home a bracelet with a reminder bead attached. We hope this will be a helpful reminder! There are prizes for the first class in each division to return all items. Please also look for text books as our school policy is that report cards will be withheld at the office until all items are returned or payment for their replacement is made.

We are looking for many lost school books, even from the past and would appreciate families taking the time and making the effort to look for lost treasures. If the attached ticket is completed and returned, your child can enter the library raffle for a chance to win a cooler bag loaded with library treats!

Look for summer reading programs too! The school will be sending flyers home with students with suggestions for reading that include recommended authors, websites and public library information. Burnhamthorpe Branch Library offers the Summer Reading Club and this summer’s theme is “Lost Worlds.” It is free for children to join and kits can be picked up starting July 3rd. Remember, library cards are still free!



We have read the June newsletter and we searched for books!

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

