

Clubs and Sports at St. Mark

Student Council News Sharelife 'Spirit Week'

With Spring now here and all of the snow melted, Student Council is hoping that St. Mark students are feeling inspired and rejuvenated! We want you to show your enthusiasm by participating in a very special 'spirit week' in which all donations will go directly to an excellent cause-SHARELIFE. We are asking that each student give a one time generous donation of \$5.00 for the entire week!

After Easter, during April 10th to April 13th, St. Mark School will have our Spirit Week. Student Council has discussed and debated and finally came up with a fun theme for each day. The days will be as follows:

Tuesday April 10th: Pajama Day – Wear your most comfortable pajamas to school that day. You can even bring a friend-your favourite stuffed toy who can enjoy a day at school with you.

Wednesday April 11th: Beach Day- On this day, wear your coolest beach wear including shorts and tees, flip flops, sunglasses and sunhats, inflatable swimming gear...just use your imagination.

Thursday April 12th: Twin Day- Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a twin? Maybe some of you already know. On this day, arrange with a friend to dress alike. Perhaps even wear the same hair style. Lets see how many pairs of twins there are at St. Mark School.

Friday April 13th: Wacky Hair Day- This spirit day was indisputably the favourite among all student council members. Tease, spike or tie up your hair in crazy ways. Have fun with this one!

We know that St. Mark students already have lots of spirit. So in an effort to celebrate your enthusiasm, each class will be asked to nominate one student who shows the 'most spirit' for each of the themed days. Your photo will then be taken and placed in the SHARELIFE HALL OF FAME, in the front foyer.

So don't forget to write 'Sharelife Spirit Week' in your agendas and bring in your donations. Make sure

your parents read the next newsletter with all of the information.

We look forward to seeing you all on April 10th!!!!

Holy Week and Easter Masses at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish

Holy Thursday April 5 (Washing of the Feet) **7:30 pm only**
Good Friday April 6, **11:00 a.m.** Solemn Liturgy for Families with children and teens
1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Solemn Afternoon Liturgy
Easter Vigil April 7, 8:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 8, 7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m., and 12:00 noon.

Dates to Remember

April 6 – Good Friday – School Closed
April 9 – Easter Monday – School Closed
April 10 – 2nd Term Report Cards sent home
April 12 – 2nd Term Interview evening
April 13 – Crack Pot studio—Grade 8
April 17 – Early Release Day
April 20 – Gr 4 Medieval Times
April 24 – Gr 8 Confirmation Retreat @ Mt. Alverno
April 27 – Gr 5/6 Toronto Symphony
April 27 – **rescheduled Hep B Meng C for grade 7's**
April 29 – 1st Eucharist at Loyola Church 2:30 pm
May 4 – Education Week Assembly 9:00 am 10:30 pm
May 6 – 1st Eucharist at Loyola Church 2:30 pm
May 9 – Confirmation at Loyola Church 7:00 pm
May 13 – Mother's Day
May 14 – New PA Day
May 21 – Victoria Day
May 22 – June 7 – EQAO Grades 3 & 6
June 13 – Grade 8 Muskoka trip
June 19 – Graduation Mass
June 26 – Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony and Dance
June 26 – Report Cards sent home
June 28 – Last day of school



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St. Mark School

APRIL 2007

A Lenten Message

As we continue our journey through Lent we are invited to return continuously to our God whose essential nature is self-giving love. As we ponder the infinite cost of the divine love for us, seen in the passion of Jesus, we have an opportunity to rededicate our lives to the love and service of God. We pray that those who share in this journey of reflection through Lent will find encouragement and a deepening of love and commitment to Christ, who freely accepted death for us.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,
The most blessed time of our Catholic faith is upon us as we observe Holy Week. This special time provides us with an opportunity to pray and reflect upon our blessings. As a Catholic community, we are fortunate to be able to celebrate and come together to profess our faith. Thank you to Mrs. Kastelan and her class for producing the Passion Play that so beautifully portrayed the Easter Season.

We are entering Term 3, our "last leg of the lap". It promises to be busy and exciting at the same time. Please note important dates on our calendar. I hope you'll join us for our April assemblies, although they've been postponed until May 4th. This weekend is a time to be with family and friends. Please reflect, relax and enjoy. Happy Easter and make your own sunshine,

God Bless,

Connie Gale



EQAO Assessments Reminder

Each year, every student in Grades 3 and 6 in Ontario are assessed in reading, writing and mathematics. This common integrated assessment unit, developed by The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), will be completed by students sometime between May 22 – June 7. Kindly avoid booking dental, doctor and other appointments during this time period in order to support maximum participation by all students. We wish all of the students the best of luck during this assessment period. All parents will receive a report card in the fall from the Ministry of Education detailing their child's progress.

Class Placement for September 2007

The staff of St. Mark School will meet in the near future to discuss appropriate placement for your child. As you know your child (ren) best, we appreciate your input concerning special needs for your child (ren). **Please put in writing to Mrs. Gale any special circumstances by May 1st. Please be reminded of the following:** Please do not make requests for specific teachers as staffing is always tentative and changes can take place between the time of tentative placement and September.

Are you moving?

To help us with our planning for next September, it would be appreciated if you could let us know now, if you will be moving out of our school area over the summer. If you know of any families moving into the area with children who plan to attend St. Mark School, it would be helpful if you could alert us. The more information we have, the better we are able to organize staff and students for September. In the absence of accurate information, schools often have to reorganize classes in September due to unexpected fluctuations in population. All we need is a quick note or a call. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Junior Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration was held on March 5 and March 6. Registrations are still being accepted. If you have not registered your school age child or know of someone who has not, please ask them to drop by the school as soon as possible. Please be sure that you have all Immunization Records up to date as well as the child's Baptismal Certificate, Birth Certificate as well as one Parent's Baptismal Certificate.

Kindergarten Registration

- Proof of age
 - Original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman Catholic or Byzantine Rite, for both the parent and child
 - Updated immunization records
 - Proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
 - Proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)
- Junior Kindergarten—Children must be 4 by Dec 31, 2007
Senior Kindergarten—Children must be 5 by Dec 31, 2007



Second Term Interviews— Apr. 12th

The third term is in full gear and the students are working very hard toward successful completion of the school year. Just a reminder that report cards go home on April 10th. Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on April 12th. As partners in education, we appreciate your support as we work with you to educate your child.

Electronic Devices—Reminder

Just a reminder, in keeping with the new Board policy recently enacted by the trustees, cell phones, beepers and paging devices are prohibited on school property. Laser lights, Walkman, and/or tape or CD players, and video games are prohibited as well on school property. Thank you for your cooperation.

Grade 7 Students attend Diversity Conference

March 21, 2007 is designated as a United Nations Day to Eliminate Discrimination. To honor this significant event, the Grade 7 students of the Mississauga South Family of Schools attended a Diversity Conference organized by the Mississauga South Diversity Committee. Students traveled to the John Paul II Cultural Centre where they listened to presenters speak on issues of diversity. Students returned to the school for a pizza lunch. In the afternoon, they participated in Equity and Diversity workshops hosted by Harmony Student Ambassadors from D'Youville S.S. Students and teachers examined issues of prejudice, racism, stereotypes, and discrimination.



St. Mark Assemblies

Mrs. Johnson's Class Assembly

On February 23rd, Mrs. Johnson's grade 6 students were the host class for the end-of-the-month assembly. The theme of the assembly was Black History Month and Valentine's Day. In honour of the theme, the class all dressed up in clothing the slaves in the old days would wear. They also played a few songs on the recorder for Black History Month, including "Chatter With The Angels", "Do Lord", and "This Little Light of Mine". The assembly also included a passage from the book Underground To Canada by Barbara Smucker, a liturgy and they finished by playing the Hockey Night in Canada song on the recorder. Altogether, it was an amazing experience and the students were so proud to be a part of it. We would like to thank Mrs. Paquin and Mrs. Johnson for organizing everything.

Written by: Sarah Tracz
Veronica Hegedus

Mrs. Yoo's grade 3 class did a liturgy and PowerPoint presentation on the story of Ruby Bridges. It is the courageous story of Ruby, a 6-year-old girl, who made a huge difference. She was one of the first black girls to attend an all white school in the U.S. We learned of this little grade 1 girl's courage in facing the angry mobs. With God's help she was able to show courage and perseverance well beyond her age.

The March Assembly was hosted by Mrs. Kuta's grade 2/3 class for Primary and Mrs. Keddy and Mrs. Sapping for Junior/Intermediate. The school had a speaker from Share Life who explained to the students how their donations to Share Life help those in need. Student Council energized the students for our Share Life Week Apr. 10—13 The Primary Assembly focused on Lenten Liturgy and the students presented the Stations of the Cross and sang "Children of the Light" and "Thank you Lord". Mrs. Keddy's class did the Liturgy.

The next assembly is: May 4th

Mrs. Pereira will host the Primary Assembly and Mr. Kennedy will host the Junior/Intermediate Assembly.



Intermediate Geography Contest

On Friday, February 9th, the annual Intermediate Geography Contest was held at St. Mark. After the series of challenging questions, the following students scored in the top 3:

- First Place – Allison G. Gr 7
- Second Place – Dustin B. Gr 8
- Third Place – Chris B. Gr 7

Allison G. moved on to participate in the provincial contest online. Miss Moore would like to thank all the students who participated in the contest. A special thanks to the students in Miss Moore's class who helped to set up desks and the sound system.

Class Lenten Activity

Throughout the month of February, the students in Ms. D'Ettore's and Mr. Freeman's classes contributed to a penny drive for Make-A-Wish Foundation, a charity devoted to granting wishes to seriously ill children. Each day, students came in with their gift of pennies, as well as an assortment of other coins and bills. Soon the collection buckets were overflowing. It was nice to see everyone committing to the fund-raising as a form of Lenten alms-giving. Certainly the foundation and the children who benefit will appreciate the wonderful acts of charity shown by our students. We hope that this project will serve as a lasting Lenten memory for all of our students



Junior Geography Contest

CONGRATULATIONS to the Geography Contest winners! These students have worked very hard for this competition.

The Junior finalists from Grade 4-6 were: Stefani A, Natasha D, Aidan D, Adam G, Dominic G, Mitchell M, Logan O, Victoria S, Meaghan S., Tehjæ T, Maurissius W. Give a hand to our top competitors!
3rd: Zal Machado
2nd: David I.
Our Champion: David S.
Congrats to all of the Junior students who participated!
By: Victoria Simpson and Laryssa W.



Public speaking Update!

Our first place Junior St. Mark school winner, Ryan Prager, went on to win 1st place at the Cooksville Royal Canadian Legion. He continued on to compete at the Legion in Welland. He received a medal and Honourable Mention for his speech on "Babysitting My Baby Cousin" Congratulations Ryan, keep speaking!



Oops! Natasha D's name was omitted as a participant in the Junior Division Public Speaking Contest in February.

Construction notice from the City of Mississauga

For the safety of the community Sawmill Valley Trail will be intermittently closed while work is underway from late April until Mid June. Please call the city for info.

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