

Student Council News

“Turn Your Key, Be Idle-Free”

Student Council is trying to heighten student's awareness about Air Pollution and the effect of Greenhouse gases on our health. They have chosen the City of Mississauga Campaign “Turn your Key, Be Idle Free” as a way students at St. Mark School can respond to air pollution. These are some of the facts and myths the Student Council will be sharing with the students of St. Mark School. You may see the new “idle free zone” sign on the side of the school. Student council is asking for their parents co-operation in making our environment a safer heritage for our children! Student Council requests your cooperation in turning off your car while you are waiting to pick up for your child. Please read the facts and myths the students have uncovered!

Children are particularly vulnerable to air pollution. Children breathe faster than adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight. This is why it is so important to decrease pollution from engine idling outside our school.

It's also not safe for the person in the driver seat. Many people believe that they are protected from air pollution if they remain inside their vehicles. This is not so, according to a report by the International Center for Technology Assessment (CTA). CTA found that exposure to most auto pollutants, including carbon monoxide (CO), is much higher inside vehicles than at the road-side. These emissions are linked to serious health problems, including respiratory irritation and cancer.

Whether you are a passenger or a driver, you can make a difference. If you are in a parked car, be sure that the engine is not idling.

Myths and facts about idling vehicles

Myth #1: The engine should be warmed up before driving.

Reality: Idling is not an effective way to warm up your vehicle, even in cold weather. The best way to do this is to drive the vehicle. With today's modern engines, you need no more than 30 seconds of idling on winter days before driving away.

Myth #2: Idling is good for your engine.

Reality: Excessive idling can actually damage your engine components, including cylinders, spark plugs and exhaust systems.

Myth #3: Shutting off and restarting your vehicle is hard on the engine and uses more gas than if you leave it running.

Reality: Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components like the battery and the starter motor. Component wear caused by restarting the engine is estimated to add \$10 per year to the cost of driving, money that will likely be recovered several times over in fuel savings from reduced idling. The bottom line is that over ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine.

Whether you are a passenger or a driver, you can make a difference. If you are in a parked car, be sure that the engine is not idling.

Dates to Remember

May 1	Chess Tournament at St. Christopher
May 2	Confirmation Rehearsal at Loyola 7:30 pm
May 3	Gr 4 Medieval Presentation in Gym
May 4	Primary Assembly, Mrs. Pereira's class 9:00 am 10:30 am Junior/Intermediate Assembly Mr. Kennedy's class
May 6	1st Eucharist at Loyola 2:30 pm
May 7	Officer Allen Class visits
May 7	School Council Meeting 7:00 pm Library
May 9	Confirmation at Loyola 7:00 pm
May 10	Fr Hogan Class visits Grs 3 /4, 4, 5, 6
May 14	New PA Day
May 17	Jigg-A-Jump at Lester B. Pearson Theatre Kdn-1
May 22 - 24	EQAO Grade 6
May 25	Assembly 9:00 am Primary 10:30 am Jr/Int.
May 28	Peel Water Festival trip Gr, 4, 5, 6
May 30 – June 4	– EQAO Grades 3
June 1	Zoo trip Grade 2
June 13 – 15	Grade 8 Muskoka trip
June 18	10:00 am End of Year Mass at Loyola Parish
June 22	Canada Day Assembly
June 26	Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony and Dance
June 26	Report Cards sent home
June 28	Last day of school



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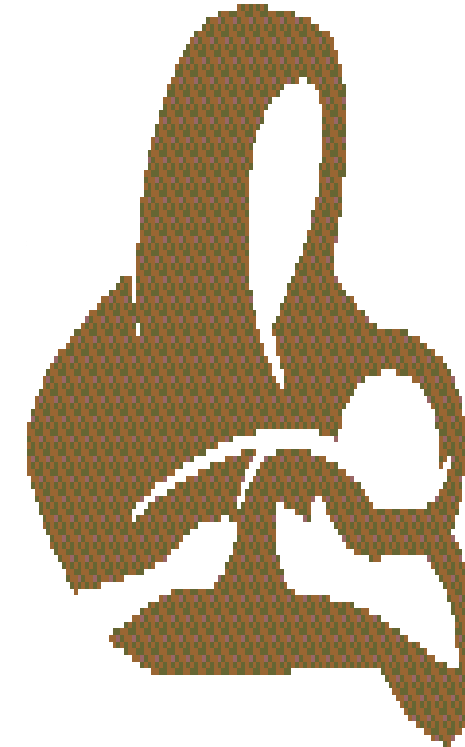
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www.dpcdsb.org/
schools/mar



St. Mark School

May 2007



A Marian Prayer

*Elizabeth exclaimed with a loud cry,
“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your
womb.”
And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my
Saviour,
He has looked with favour on the
lowliest of
His servants.
Surely from now on all
generations will call me blessed for
the Mighty One has done great
things
for me and holy is His name.”*

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

The beautiful month of May is upon us. April showers have brought us May flowers. May is a very special month, the month to honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Mary symbolizes the love we have for all of our mothers. When we celebrate Mother's Day on May 13th we connect our mother's love to the love Mary has for Jesus. The rosary is a wonderful way to reaffirm our devotion to Mary. This month we also celebrate Catholic Education Week, beginning on April 30th through May 4th. We have a variety of activities to show how special St. Mark School is as a Catholic School. We will culminate our activities with assemblies on May 4th, and May 27th. I hope you will all join us at the assemblies.

We also celebrate two very special sacraments this month; First Holy Communion for Grade 2 students, and Confirmation for Grade 8 students. We work with St. Ignatius Loyola Parish to prepare our students for these sacraments. Thank you to Monsignor Joe and Fr. Paul for all your guidance. The year is passing quickly and I really appreciate the partnership we have seen with home, school and parish. Continue to make your own sunshine and see the positive in each day.

*God Bless ,
Connie Gale*



**Catholic
Education Week
April 29-May 4, 2007**

“Created in the image of God”

Catholic Education Week this year takes place from April 29-May 4, 2007.

During this week the Catholic community celebrates the unique and distinctive contribution that Catholic schools make to our students, our community and our Province. Catholic Education Week is a welcome opportunity to celebrate the Mission of our Catholic schools as they strive to integrate the Gospel values of Jesus Christ in every aspect of the school's life and curriculum.

This year's theme, “Created in the image of God” celebrates the sublime and essential value of the human person. Regardless of race, creed, colour, political or financial status, each human person is created in God's image, and is entitled to the respect that accrues to that reality. The Pope in Rome, the chief executive in her office, the teacher in the classroom, the young person on the hockey rink, the surgeon at the operating table, the homeless person under the overpass equally share the dignity of the being created “in God's image.”

Schedule of Events

Apr 30th—May 4th Library Book Fair

See attached schedule of events for the week. Each class is hosting an opportunity for parents to come to school and observe a variety of activities taking place in the classrooms on a daily basis. Please feel free to visit your child's class and see the exciting educational opportunities which the staff at St. Mark School provide. St. Mark School treats each child as “created in the image of God”. We recognize the uniqueness of each child's gifts and talents.

Book Fair

We are having a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library during the week of April 30th – May 4th 2007. Children will have one opportunity to browse and buy books during the school day.



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, iPod's, Walkman, and/or tape or CD players, and video games are prohibited as well on school property. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.



St. Mark Assemblies

Please join Mrs. Pereira's Kindergarten class for the Primary Assembly on May 4 at 9:00 am. The Kindergartens' will lead us in a liturgy and then demonstrate some of the songs and movements they do as part of their Daily Physical Activity.

Mr Kennedy's class will lead the Junior /Intermediate Assembly with a liturgy for Catholic Education Week. Then the students will play the “Biggest Board Game in the World”

All parents are welcome to attend.



**EQAO Assessments
Reminder**

Again, we wanted to remind the parents of the dates for EQAO. 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 between May 22, 23 and 24, for the Grade 6 students. The grade 3 students will complete the assessment May 30, 31, June 4. 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.

Safe Arrival Program

A reminder to call in your child's absence or lateness is appreciated. Our answering machine is operational 24 hours a day (905)-820-9477, press (1). Messages will be retrieved between the hours 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. by office staff. Provincial protocols require that schools exhaust all emergency contacts prior to calling the police in the event of a missing child. Please ensure that your information is accurate.



Dental Screening

April 30th, in the afternoon grade 8 students will receive Dental screening. All children in JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 grades will receive dental screening on May 1st.

Class Placement for September 2007

This is a second reminder that 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 remember:** 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.



**Appropriate School
Attire**

Please refer to the St. Mark Student Code of Conduct for appropriate dress guidelines. Modesty is the most important element of the guide line. Teachers will be reviewing appropriate dress expectations with their classes. Ripped or torn clothing is not acceptable school attire. All students are reminded that the midriff must be covered at all times. While we want our students to be comfortable in the warmer weather we must also maintain a learning environment that reflects our primary focus. **Sandals and flip flops are not appropriate** attire for the schoolyard. Numerous injuries were tended to during the early part of the school year. We would ask parents to monitor the footwear selections of their children. Please ensure also that your child has protection from the sun by using sunscreen and wearing a hat on hot sunny days. **Also remember those water bottles. Dehydration can be serious and on those hot sweaty days fluids need to be replaced!**

Cyber-bullying—My Space

Attached is the promotional flyer for our upcoming **youth workshop on Internet Safety** entitled, “**My Space ... Your Space...Cyberspace...Are You Safe?**” presented by the Peel Committee Against Woman Abuse (PCAWA) and Peel Committee On Sexual Assault (PCSA) Joint Education and Advocacy Committee. have planned an interactive and educational experience for youth on **Thursday May 10th from 8:30-2:30** at the Peel Regional Police Association (10675 Mississauga Road [Mississauga Rd, north of Bovaird] Brampton ON 905-846-0615).