

Kiss and Ride Safety – Please read carefully

Staff supervisors recognize that mornings are busy and hectic. However, your patience and cooperation in respecting and following the rules will help make our Kiss and Ride run smoothly and as safely as possible. We try our best to move traffic and pedestrians through as quickly and safely as possible. Try to leave home a few minutes earlier if you cannot afford to be delayed by traffic in the school area.

LAST CALL for Auditions for the Iona Catholic Secondary School “Arts & Culture Pathway”

Is dance, drama, visual art, or music your love and specialty?

Iona Catholic Secondary School is approaching the second year of an exciting pathway. We have a limited number of openings for grade 8 students living in Mississauga that want to pursue an “Arts and Culture Pathway” at Iona Catholic Secondary School. Interested students with extensive training in the drama, dance, instrumental music, vocal music or visual arts subject areas are asked to call Mrs. Di Pede at Iona C.S.S.-905-823-0136 for an audition. Iona Catholic Secondary School is proud to announce that a new state of the art dance studio will be completed by this September, 2008 for all dance enthusiasts. This is the last call for this great and amazing opportunity! The **Iona Catholic Secondary School “Arts & Culture Pathway” continues to build on its successful ways.**

Dates to Remember

Registration for the 2008-2009 school year is now being accepted.

- March 6 - Fr. Paul visits Gr 8 and 2
- March 7- PA Day – no classes
- March 10 – March 14 – March Break – School closed
- March 17- Lunch Lady
- March 18- Living Arts Wkshp Dance Gr 7 am Gr 8 pm
Primary Dance Club
- March 20- Pizza Lunch
- March 21 - Good Friday – School closed
- March 24 - Easter Monday – School closed
- March 25- Primary Dance Club
Junior Div. Geography Contest 12:30 pm
- March 26 - Jr. B.Ball @ home vs All Saints
P.A.L.S. Training 9:00-11:00 am
- March 28 - Hep B Meningitis C for Gr 7 students,
March 28 – Assembly 9:00 am and 10:30 am
- April 7 – Officer Allen visits classes
School Council Meeting
- April 8 – 2nd Term Report Cards sent home
- April 10 – 2nd Term Interview evening
- April 22 – Early Release Day students dismissed @11:30 am
No p.m. classes.
- May 19 - Victoria Day - School Closed
- May 26 – June 6 – EQAO Grades 3 & 6
- June 11 – 13 Grade 8 Muskoka trip
- June 24 - Report Cards sent home
- June 24 – Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony and Dance
- June 26 – Last day of school

Electronic Devices – Board Policy An Important message for Parents/Guardians and Students regarding Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) on School Property

The Board acknowledges that the dignity of the human person, as promoted by the Catholic Church, may be compromised by the potential for invasion of personal privacy made possible by inappropriate use of PEDs on school premises. The board also recognizes that unregulated use of PEDs may pose a risk to the individual safety of students, staff and visitors in our schools. In some cases, unregulated use of PEDs may facilitate illegal activities in the school environment or during school-sanctioned activities. Further, the board realizes that the promotion of academic excellence and the preservation of academic integrity may be compromised by the unregulated use of PEDs during the instructional day, at assessment times and on formal exam days.

In this regard, effective immediately, all PEDs must be kept out of sight, turned off and not used within school premises (including portables) or during school-sanctioned activities such as retreats, field trips, sports events, etc. To prevent the loss or damage of PEDs, we encourage students to leave their PEDs at home or in their lockers.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in the confiscation of the PED and/or disciplinary action as outlined in the Catholic Code of Conduct.

GENERAL DEFINITION OF A PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE (PED)

Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) are **Wireless and/or Portable Electronic Handheld Equipment** that include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging **Mobile Communication Systems and Smart Technologies** (cell phones, smartphones, walkie-talkies, pagers, etc.), **Portable Internet Devices** (mobile managers, mobile messengers, BlackBerry™ handsets, etc.), **PDA's** (Palm® organizers, pocket PCs, etc.), **Handheld Entertainment Systems** (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods®, Walkmen™, etc.), digital or film **Cameras**, digital or analogue **Audio Recorders** or **Video Recorders** (tape recorders, camcorders, etc.), **Spy Gadgets** (spy cameras, covert listening devices, etc.), and any other **Convergent Communication Technologies** that do any number of the previously mentioned functions.

PEDs also include any current or emerging **Wireless Handheld Technologies** or **Portable IT Systems** that can be used for the purpose of communication, entertainment, data management, word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.

Council Corner

The School Council is working diligently on the Chocolate Drive which ends on March 6. We have had terrific support from the community. We will report in the next newsletter on how much was raised.



PRINCIPAL
C. GALE

VICE-PRINCIPAL
M. RAMSAY

SECRETARY
M. DZIEDZIC

SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIR
SUSAN O'HARA

SUPERINTENDENT
N. MILANETTI
(905) 890-1221

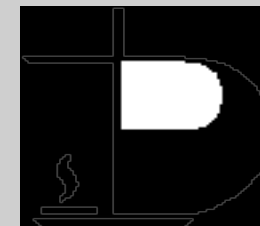
PASTOR –
Msgr. J. Shiels
Fr. Paul Hogan
Fr. Lester Mendonsa
(905) 820-1444

TRUSTEE WARD 8
SHARON HOBIN
(905) 301-1210
sharon.hobin@dpcdsb.org

ST MARK SCHOOL
3675 SAWMILL VALLEY
MISSISSAUGA, ON
L5L 2Z5

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ATTENDANCE
(905) 820-9477
Press # 1
FAX
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School Website:
www.dpcdsb.org/schools/MARKE

St. Mark School

March 2008

Sharers of Life!

What if Lent,
instead of a gray time, a cold time,
were a time of warmth,
a time to prepare for spring?
What if we saw Lent as a
positive time,
instead of a gloomy, serious time?
Lent could be a time to see all
the little ways
that life reveals itself everywhere!
Sometimes these ways are hidden,
but they are always there,
waiting for us to discover them
and bring them into the light.

And what if Lent,
were a time of increasing joy,
rather than a time of uneasiness?
Sharers of life,
that's what we are!
We become, more and more,
sharers of life!

Principal's Message



Dear Parents,

Time is passing quickly as we enter the month of March. As the saying goes, March has definitely “come in like a lion” and we hope it goes out like a lamb. We have entered the Lenten season, a very sacred time in our Catholic faith. It is a time for reflection and sacrifice. We are called, at this important time, to focus on others and how we can be of service. This season is a reminder that

Principal's Message,
cont'd



as Catholics we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us. Please join us for our Lenten mass on March 4th at 10:30 am in the gym. Other classes will also be involved in special prayers and activities during Holy Week to enhance their understanding of the Holy Season of Lent.

March Break is just around the corner! I hope you will take time to enjoy the break and become rejuvenated and ready for the last term. Whether you are travelling or staying local, please be safe and have fun!

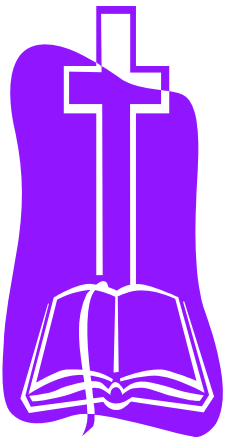
Our monthly assemblies will take place on March 28th at 9:00 am and 10:30 am. I hope that parents will join us to celebrate all the good things that go on at St. Mark School.

Thank you to all the parents who volunteer in the school to make us a better school, A particular thank you to the School Council who work very hard in partnership with staff to educate our children.

Remember to ,”Make Your Own Sunshine”.

God Bless,

Mrs. Connie Gale



Congratulations!

to our Grade 2 students who made the sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, February 27.

Lent

The word “Lent” comes from Lenten, a very old word that means springtime. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, and lasts for forty days. During these 40 days of Lent, we are trying to become more aware of the presence of God in our daily lives. Lent is a journey we make together, in solidarity with each other. We look at ourselves to see how our relationship with Jesus can become stronger and more meaningful.

Children’s Tips for Lent

1. Make an extra effort to be nice to someone you don’t get along with
2. Promise to attend Mass every week and bring a friend
3. Make a list of people you know who are in need, and pray for them daily
4. Read the Bible every day
5. Collect food and clothing for the St. Vincent de Paul Society
6. Promise to use please, thank you and you are welcome at least 5 times a day
7. Do a chore or something nice for your parents without being asked
8. Don’t fight with your siblings.

Stations of The Cross

“They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have injured all my bones.” The Lenten Season concludes at St. Mark with a mediation of the 14 Stations of the Cross. Teachers, students, parents are invited to spend some time on Holy Thursday as Mr. Freeman and Ms. D’Ettore’s classes re-enact “The Way To The Cross”. There will be meditations at 9:00 am and 12:45 pm.

Assemblies

The next Assembly will be held on March 28th. Ms. Nevins Gr 2 class and Ms. Seyarto’s Gr 1/2 class will be hosting the Primary Assembly at 9:00 am and Mr. Kennedy’s Gr 7/8 class will host the Junior and Intermediate Assembly at 10:30 am.

P.A.L.S. Comes to St. Mark

Starting in March, a group of students from grades 6 to 8 will become P.A.L.S. (Playground Activity Leaders in Schools). These students will be trained to lead fun, safe and structured playground activities for students in Grades 1 to 5, during the lunch recess. By bringing P.A.L.S. to St. Mark, we hope to promote physical activity, reduce bullying behaviour and provide leadership opportunities for our students. P.A.L.S. is in 150 schools across Peel Region and promoted by Peel Health. It will be supervised by Mrs. Soehner, CYW and Mrs. Eschli and Mrs. Godfrey our ERW’s.



Reporting Days

Interviews, with regard to second term work, will be held on Thursday evening, April 10. We look forward to speaking with you about your child’s progress. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher at any time.



Snowballs

With the increased snowfall we are dealing with more incidents of students throwing snowballs, which has resulted in some student injuries. Classroom teachers and administration have frequently reminded students of appropriate behaviour in the schoolyard. Students who continue to disregard the Code of Behaviour in this instance will be consequence.

Peel Public Health Nurses Announce...

March is Nutrition Month and this year the Dieticians of Canada are promoting Cook it Up Healthy! This campaign encourages creative healthy eating options and provides lots of great resources to unleash your inner chef! Have a look at their website www.nutrition2008.ca for practical eating information and tips to support health eating for your family. Also, check out the new Eating Well with Canada’s Food Guide at www.healthcanada.gc.ca/foodguide for additional interactive tools.

St. Mark school continues to celebrate Virtues with a special spotlight on a different virtue each month.

This month we celebrate the virtue of **kindness.**

God has given us the gifts of friends and companions to keep us company and to help us out along the way.

A kind person

Says nice things about others so they feel good about themselves

Sticks up for people who are picked on or need help

Refuses to join others who are insulting, intimidating, mean or hurtful

**MARCH 7 IS A P.D. DAY
TEACHERS WILL BE WORKING ON
ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION
SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED FOR STUDENTS.**

**MARCH 10 – 14 IS MARCH BREAK.
SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED.**

St. Mark School entered In World Math Day!

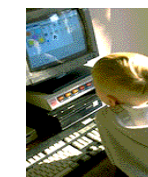
Under the guidance of Ms. Paquin St. Mark School has registered to join the World Math Day Team. The challenge is open the entire 48 hours that is Wednesday 5 March somewhere in the world! It begins in Auckland, New Zealand at midnight Mar. 4 and follows the timelines around the world with participating countries! It finishes in Honolulu 1:00am Thu 6 March. St. Mark is adding to the 1 million students who are registered to participate. Be sure to look at the great prizes for both schools and students. We would like to thank 3P Learning, Voyager Expanded Learning and Cartoon Network for making these possible. http://static.3plearning.com/wmd/wmd08_prizes_math.pdf The latest figures are:- 1 million students- 20,000 schools- 150 countries- 250 million practice questions already answered!

Public Speaking Thrives at St. Mark!

All the divisions at St. Mark have been giving their all in preparation of our St. Mark Public Speaking Contests. Congratulations to all participants. Three students represented St. Mark School at the annual Royal Canadian Legion in Streetsville Branch 139. They were all excellent ambassadors of St. Mark. Vana L. delivered a speech on “The Secret” in the Intermediate Division, Ryan P. speaking on “Immunizations in Childhood” placed first in the Junior Division, Lachlan O. speaking on “Brothers” placed second in the Primary Division. Ryan P. went on to the Brampton Legion to again place first. He will be competing in St. Catherines, in the near future. Thank you to all the teachers for their time and effort in the area of public speaking and to Mrs. Paquin for organizing the Speech Contest.

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, 2008
Senior Kindergarten—Children must be 5 by Dec 31, 2008



**MARCH
2008**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2	3 Lunch Lady "Huddle Up" Assembly Gr 3-8	4 Gr 7/8 Poetry Living Arts Centre Primary Dance Club Lenten Mass Communion Enrollment	5	6 Pizza Day Fr Paul Gr 8 12:40 pm Gr 2 1:30 pm	7 PA Day	8
9 Daylight Savings Time begins	10 March Break – No School	11 March Break – No School	12 March Break – No School	13 March Break – No School	14 March Break – No School	15 St. Joseph
16 Palm Sunday	17 Monday of Holy Week Lunch Lady St. Patrick's Day	18 Tuesday of Holy Week Living Arts Centre Dance Wkshp in Gym Primary Dance Club	19 Wednesday of Holy Week Miss. Fire Dept class Visits Gr 1 & 2	20 Pizza Day Holy Thursday Stations of The Cross 9:00 am and 12:45 pm	21 Good Friday	22
23 Easter Sunday	24 Easter Monday	25 Primary Dance Club Jr. Div. Geography Contest 12:30 pm Gym	26 PALS Training 9:00-10:00 am Jr. Boys & Girls Basketball @ Home vs All Saints	27 Hockey Tournament Tomken Arena	28 Assembly Gr JK-3 9:00 am Gr 4-8 10:30 am Gr 7 Meng. C Clinic	29
30	31 Lunch Lady Fr. Lester Visit Gr 4					

2008