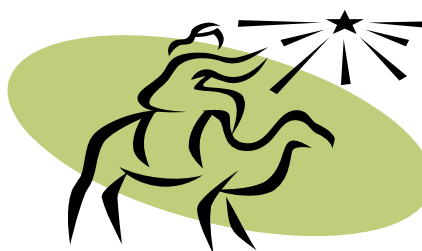




St. Mark School

January 2009



Let the Earth Rejoice

Jesus, thank you for coming among us
to reveal just how much we are loved.

I join with your people everywhere to give praise and thanks to you today.
May the whole world come to know of your great love for us.

PRINCIPAL
C. GALE

VICE-PRINCIPAL
M. RAMSAY

SECRETARY
M. DZIEDZIC

SUPERINTENDENT
N. MILANETTI
(905) 890-1221

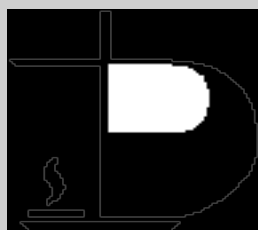
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Principal's Message



A Very Happy New Year to all! Welcome to 2009! I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful Christmas and New Year and feel rejuvenated and ready for our second term. Thank you for all your kind wishes at Christmas.

A special thank you to Mrs. Legere for organizing the beautiful Christmas Concert, organizing the Choir and for the sing-a-long Assembly. As well, I would like to thank the Primary Division (Mrs. Kuta, Ms. Ramelli, Ms. Seyarto, Mrs. Finkham, Mrs. Malison, Mrs. Pereira and Mrs. Eschli for a wonderful Christmas Concert. Thank you to our custodial staff, Mrs. Herceg and Mrs. Goncalves, for getting our school ready and for setting up the chairs in the gym.

I would like to thank the St. Mark community for your generosity on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The families we helped were extremely grateful for your kindness extended to them with gifts. Special thanks are extended to Miss Ramelli and Mrs. Kuta for co-ordination St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Baskets.

Principal's Message cont'd...



Thank you to Mrs. Lien and Mrs. Mahoney for organizing the candy-gram sales with Student Council. A donation has been made to World Vision and to ShareLife. Please join us for this month's assembly hosted by the Primary classes of Mrs. Kuta and Ms. Ramelli and the Junior class of Mrs. Keddy.

Also a reminder of the upcoming presentation by the CCCSC an evening with Joe Rich "Parenting—The Long Journey—What to Pack" on February 12th at the Mississauga Convention Centre. Ticket requests are on a first-come-first serve basis.

We focus on our virtue of Self-Control this month. God wants us to do what we know and feel is right. God Bless ,

Connie Gale

Professional Activity Day



Tuesday, January 13th is an Early Release Day. There will be no afternoon classes for students on this day, which has been set aside for Curriculum Professional Development. All students from Grades 1 to 8 will be dismissed at 11:30 am for the remainder of the day. Morning Kindergarten will be dismissed at their regular time of 11:00 am. There will be no afternoon classes for Kindergarten. Students will not be eating their lunch at school on this day. Transportation will be provided at 11:30 am for those students who take the bus.

Wednesday, January 28th is a Professional Activity Day for teachers, educational assistants and administrators. There is no school for students on that day

Grade 1 French Immersion

Parents interested in **Grade 1 French Immersion** for the school year 2009/2010 may wish to attend an information meeting on **Monday, January 26th at 7:00 pm** at St. Margaret of Scotland School.

Grade 5 Extended French

A Parent Information Meeting for students interested in attending the Grade 5 Extended French program for the 2009/2010 school year. Interested parents are invited to a presentation on **Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 pm** at St. Christopher School.



Canadian Opera Company Coming to St. Mark



- Once again the COC will be working with the Gade 7 and 8 students.
- Our intermediate students will have the chance to see an Opera at the Four Seasons Centre on May 13th "A Midsummer Nights Dream".
- Beginning in March, each Grade 7 and 8 class will "Build an Opera" from the ground up on a theme that interests them. An artist from the COC will guide our students through a collaborative process of finding a story, writing the text, composing the music and staging the final work. It is an excellent opportunity to bring the "life of the opera" into our school and to see the hard work of the final product our students present.
- During Catholic Education Week the Grade 7 and 8 classes will perform their Opera on May 5th at the school.



Severe Weather

Children will be kept in at recess if the wind chill equivalent temperature is minus 20 degrees Celsius or lower.

This is in accordance with the policy of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board. We will, of course, monitor the weather situation on a daily basis. The safety of our students is always of utmost concern.

Grade 4 program

This year marks the eleventh year teaching the Boardwide Grade 4 Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program.

There is an opportunity for parents to be informed about the content of the lessons which the children will be receiving by attending the Parent Awareness night offered at the Board Office, 40 Matheson Blvd. W. This is an important program and life skill for Grade 4 classes and their parents. Further information will follow.





Bus Cancellation Website

The Peel District School Board and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board have been added to the 'SchoolBusMonitor.com' website, and can be accessed for bus cancellation information effective immediately. SchoolBusMonitor.com provides up to date bus cancellation and school closure information on the web for a number of jurisdictions across Ontario.



Kindergarten Registration

JK/SK registration for **2009/2010** school year takes place on: **February 23rd from:**

7:00-9:00 pm (snow date is February 24)

and **February 25th, 26th, and 27th from:**

9:00-11:00 am and 1:00-3:00 pm

Please provide a birth certificate and an original Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent and child), immunization record, proof of Canadian Citizenship or Landed Immigrant Status.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will host a Kindergarten Entry Planning Information Night. This meeting is for parents of children with special needs which effect their learning, such as vision, hearing, physical, developmental or autism, who are entering Junior or Senior Kindergarten in September 2009. Further information will follow. Parents may contact the School for information.

Full Day Kindergarten in future

For those of you who like to plan ahead, beginning in 2010 or 2011 all day kindergarten will be coming to schools! The Ministry of Education will be supporting this initiative. We will keep you posted as we learn more.

Virtues Program



In the month of January, St. Mark School will focus on the Virtue of *self control*.

Through prayer and concentration, the students are encouraged to get better at controlling their reactions. We strive to get better at showing self control.

Self control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret.

Self control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that will harm ourselves or others.

Self control is one of the marks of a spiritually mature person.

When we all use self-control, we can be sure that our school will be a safe, caring and inclusive place to live and to learn.

School Council Meeting



Please come out and support our School Council at our meetings. Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 2nd at 6:30 pm in the school library. Babysitting is available at all meetings.

Dates to Remember



January 5	Classes Begin
January 9	Pizza Day
January 12	Lunch Lady, Erin Mills Lodge—A. Paquin Gr 5/6
January 13	Early Release Day—No afternoon classes
January 19	Hep B Gr 7 and HPV Gr 8 girls, Lunch Lady
January 23	Gr 7 & 8 dance workshop, LAC, Pizza Day
January 26	Fr, Immersion for Gr 1 Parent Info mtg @ St. Margaret Of Scotland @ 7:00 pm, Lunch Lady
January 27	Diversity Conference Grade 7—Iona Catholic S.S.
January 28	Professional Activity Day no school for students
January 29	Extended French Grade 5 Parent info mtg @ 7:00 pm at St. Christopher School
January 30	9:00 am Primary School Assembly K-3 Mrs. Kuta and Ms. Ramelli classes and 10:15 am Juniors Gr 4-8 Mrs. Keddy's classe
February 2	Lunch Lady, School Council Mtg @ 6:30 pm
February 6	Gr 7 & 8 Trip to LAC—Mississauga
February 9	Lunch Lady
February 12	Joe Rich—Miss. Convention Centre @ 7:00 pm
February 16	Family Day—No School

