



THE MESSENGER

THE VOICE OF ST. ALFRED CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Saint Alfred Catholic School Community respects the uniqueness of all persons and enhances their potential. We are committed to promoting a love of learning and to creating an environment which fosters the lifelong development and spiritual growth of each person.

NEWSLETTER # 3
NOVEMBER 2008

EVERY CHILD, A PROMISE

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Remembrance and Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
Those whom we remember this month are examples of your words.
“greater love than this no one has than to lay down one’s life for a friend.”

This month we remember all those who lived and died for us;
their energy and their effort to defend our freedom for our loved ones and
for our country.

Teach us to appreciate the value of patriotism...
a true and Christian love of country.

Let us grow in a love for our country that consists not of following
blindly, but of working together to make it the land of goodness that it
should be.

Let our patriotism be such that it will not exclude the other nations of the
world, but include them in a powerful love of country that has room for
all others too.

Amen

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- P.A. Days – Nov. 14 & Dec. 5
- School Council Next Meeting
- Community Advent Mass –
Dec. 11 @ 7 p.m.
- Calendar of Events



Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

Taoi lieau naay quan troing, xin nhoo ngoooi chueyan doch.
Ta informacja jest wazna. Proszę zapoznaj się z nią.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As we move from the warmth of October's sunshine into the cooler days of November, we are reminded at the beginning of the month to give praise to those who have gone before us and who are now with God. On November 11th, we honour those who sacrificed their lives in times of war so that we may enjoy the gifts of peace, freedom of speech, and democracy and at the in the final days of the month we begin the journey of preparation for the celebration of Christmas, with the beginning of Advent. Let us take some time to reflect on ways that we as a Catholic community can make a special effort of peace in order that our school, homes, and community continue to be safe.

Throughout the month of November and into early December teachers will continue assessing and evaluating student achievement and learning skills in preparation for the first report card that will be going home on Tuesday, December 2, 2008.

Please continue to check your child's agenda and backpacks for letters outlining future events and accomplishments. Also, please log on to our St. Alfred School website, www.dpcdsb.org/ALFRD, for current updates and events.

J. Tollis

FAITH ACTIVITIES

ADVENT MASS INVITATION

All parents, students and staff are invited to participate in the St. Alfred Community Advent Mass at Sts. Martha and Mary's Church on Thursday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. Students, including our School Choir, will be participants in the mass as we prepare for the coming of Christmas. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our community celebration.

SACRAMENTS OF COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

A reminder to parents and students who have not registered for the above sacraments, that they must meet with Father D'Souza and make the appropriate arrangements with the Church.

VIRTUE FOR NOVEMBER: CONSCIENCE

God has given us the ability to know the right and decent way to act. We trust that the common Spirit we share inspires us and guides us to make good decisions if we allow our conscience to be well formed.

A person of conscience:

- Chooses to do the right thing and feels good about it.
- Can see how his/her actions may hurt others.
- Admits his/her mistakes and feels badly.
- Says sorry and tries to make up for mistakes.
- Does not make promises, he/she cannot keep.

SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVES

COLD WEATHER EXPECTATIONS

As the month of November progresses, the colder weather will be upon us. Students should dress appropriately in order to spend full recesses and lunchtime outdoors. Parents, please outfit your

Esta informacion es importante. Por favor traducirla al espanol.

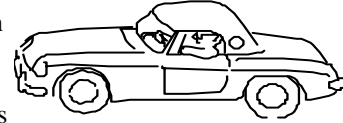
children with hats, scarves, mitts, winter outerwear and boots. Where possible, please put identification on your child's belongings. Students should have a pair of indoor shoes so that classrooms are kept clean and dry. We strive to keep all students safe. Thank you for your co-operation.

KISS' N RIDE

Thank you for your support in using our Kiss' n Ride program.

Please continue to demonstrate care for the safety of our students

by being vigilant and committed to following the rules of the Kiss' n Ride.



LITTERLESS AND HEALTHY LUNCHES

Recent research on children's eating habits in Canada shows that they are not eating enough vegetables and fruit or getting enough milk products to meet their recommended nutrient needs. At St. Alfred school, staff are promoting healthy eating habits among our students.

Students and parents are reminded to bring healthy, litterless lunches to school. Staff will ask students to bring all uneaten food and wrappers back home so parents are aware of what their children are eating. Pop and unhealthy foods will also be returned home with the students.

We are also asking parents to support our endeavours by not bringing in any Fast Food items such as MacDonald's and Burger King. If you wish your child to consume these meals, then parents are requested to take their children home for lunch. A copy of Canada's Food Guide is available from the office upon request.

LOCKDOWN DRILL

It is a policy of the Dufferin-Peel CDSB that all of the schools practice a "Lockdown Procedure" twice a year. This will be initiated should an emergency exist on school property or in the surrounding neighborhood.

During the week of November 24th, we will be conducting a Lockdown Drill with our staff and students. Students and staff will be instructed that when they hear the announcement "Initiate Lockdown Procedure" followed by the continuous ringing of the school bell, to follow the following actions:

- All students and staff inside the building will remain in their classrooms.
- Students or staff in the hallways or washrooms will go to the closest classroom.
- Students and staff will remain in the classroom until further instructions are given.
- All students and staff who are outside the building are to quickly move to our evacuation site at St. Sofia School and remain there until further direction.

Taoi lieau naay quan troing, xin nhoo ngooui chueyan doch.

Ta informacja jest wazna. Prosze zapoznaj sie z nia.

Staff will be very sensitive, when practicing the drill, to student needs and concerns. Please contact the school if you have further inquiries.

PARKING

Parents are reminded that the parking lot on the south side of the school is closed to cars every morning between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. and after school between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. If you choose to park in this area, the expectation is that you do not move your vehicle until all students/pedestrians and busses have cleared. Please remember that we must ensure safety for all our students.

SAFETY AT SCHOOL

All parents are reminded that when they come to the school they **MUST** check into the office and pick up an identification pass or sticker before proceeding to any other area of the school, both indoors and outdoors. This request is made for the safety of all pupils.

Also, please understand that during instructional time, teachers are unavailable to meet with parents or to take phone calls. Please leave a message with the school secretary and your call will be returned promptly.

STUDENT INFORMATION

It is important that we have up-to-date records of your address, phone numbers, and emergency contacts in the event that the school must contact you regarding your child. Please inform the office or your child's teacher if any information changes throughout the year.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Supervision begins at 8:30 a.m. Please do not bring/send your children to school earlier than this time. Given safety concerns, it is not a good idea to leave your children outside unattended as student supervision in the yard begins at 8:30 and not before.

Please make other arrangements for the care of your children prior to 8:30 a.m.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND NEWS

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, beginning at 7:15 p.m. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.



EQAO RESULTS

The individual Grade 3 and 6 student EQAO results have been sent home with students currently in Grade 4 and 7.

Parents may wish to view student achievement information on the Board website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/EQAO/>.

DUFFERIN-PEEL INFO-page

An on-line resource for information about awards, scholarships, fundraising opportunities, educational resources, professional development opportunities, parent/guardian resources and community events is available at www.dpcdsb.org

Esta informacion es importante. Por favor traducirla al espanol.

GRADE EIGHT STUDENTS

Parents of Grade 8 students are reminded that many secondary school open houses take place in November. Parents are encouraged to attend these gatherings, especially if there is an interest in a particular secondary school. Teachers will be sending home information as it becomes available.

PALS TRAINING

We are currently accepting applications from our grade 5 and 6 students to volunteer to be trained as PALS (Playground Activity Leaders in Schools). Once chosen the leaders are taught a variety of games and ways to motivate younger students to play games at recesses. The leaders are also taught conflict resolution skills in order to deal with conflicts that may arise on the playground. Public Health Nurse, Ms. J. Bull, will be providing the training to the 35 students selected.

Thank you to Ms. Klein, Ms. Hammond, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Emick, Mrs. English and Mrs. Marsala for their support of this program.

PEEL REGIONAL POLICE YOUTH EDUCATION OFFICER

Welcome to Constable Brown who will be facilitating workshops with our students. An anti-bullying presentation is scheduled for the grade 6, 7 & 8 students on Friday, November 21, 2008.

ROSARY CLUB

Mrs. Klaming continues to facilitate a Rosary club throughout the year during Wednesday lunch for all students who wish to participate.

TIMELINES FOR REPORTING

Professional Development days for the remainder of 2008 are as follows:

- Friday, November 14, 2008
Gr. 1-8: Evaluation of Pupil Progress and Report Card preparation
JK/SK Evaluation of Pupil Progress
- Friday, December 5, 2008
JK- Grade 8: Reporting to Parents on Pupil Progress

Report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, December 2, 2008. Interviews will be conducted on the evening of Thursday, December 4 and during the day on Friday, December 5, 2008.

REMINDERS

ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

It is important for the safety of all our students that no dogs be brought into the schoolyard before, during and after school hours. Even the gentlest dogs can get over excited with so many distractions and children. Please keep your pet safe at home for their safety and that of the students.