



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 # 7
APRIL 2009

EVERY CHILD, A PROMISE

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The Paschal Season



**Praise and glory to You, Lord Jesus!
By the mystery of Your Resurrection
You fill my heart with a wonderful hope.
One day, like You, I will overcome death
And I will join You near the Father forever and ever.**

**Praise and glory to You, Lord Jesus!
As You did on Easter morn with Mary of Magdala,
You call me by name;
You bid me be Your friend,
And on the path of my life, You are always with me.**

**“You have been raised to new life with Christ”
Colossians 3:1**

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**Taoi lieu naay quan troing, xin nhoo ngoooi chueyan doch.
Ta informacja jest wazna. Prosze zapoznaj sie z nia.**

Esta informacion es importante. Por favor traducirla al espanol.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The glory of the Easter season is upon us! The readings throughout Lent and Easter are the stories of our faith and our history as Catholics that are passed on from one generation to the next. We pray for God's blessings along with the peace, love and hope that the Easter season will bring.

As we celebrate the Easter season, we are also reminded of the value and distinctiveness of Catholic Education which is celebrated during Catholic Education Week, May 3 to May 9. This year's theme, "Catholic Education: Good News for All" is particularly relevant in reflecting on our unique identity as Catholics. We are called to recognize the gift of Catholic Education, and work together to ensure its presence in the St. Alfred community.

J. Tollis

FAITH ACTIVITIES

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

We celebrate Catholic Education Week from May 3 to May 9 this year. On Wednesday, May 6 we invite all parents to St. Alfred School to see the wonderful works of Art that the students have been working on since the beginning of this school year. On Thursday, May 7th we invite the new families who have registered their children for Junior Kindergarten in September 2009 to join us as we introduce the "Welcome to Kindergarten" program. Both evenings will begin at 7:00 p.m. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

CONFIRMATION

Grade Eight Confirmation will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at Sts. Martha and Mary Church. The confirmandi have been preparing themselves for this very important sacrament by attending preparatory classes at the church and working on activities at the school.

GRADE 2 FIRST COMMUNION

Our grade two students will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 24, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at Sts. Martha and Mary Church.

EASTER MASS AT ST. ALFRED SCHOOL

An Easter Mass will take place on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 9:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. This mass will be dedicated in memory of John Pham. Parents and guardians are welcome to join us in the gym as we pray and celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

PENNIES FOR SHARELIFE

The campaign for Share Life is well underway in our Parish. St. Alfred will be participating in fundraising activities to support our main catholic charity. We will be collecting pennies. Students are encouraged to bring in any loose change. Thank you for your support.

EASTER FOOD DRIVE

St. Alfred's Easter Food Drive began on March 30th. This year our Easter Food Drive will be donated to Canadian Food for

Children. Any non-perishable food items are welcome. The students in our grade four/five classe will tally the food items brought in. Please consider contributing and supporting this worthy cause during our Lenten Season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Holy Thursday, April 9th, please join us at 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. as we journey through the "Stations of the Cross", depicting the death and resurrection of Christ. Thank you to Mrs. J. Romano and her grade 8 class for organizing this special event.

SAFE SCHOOL

ANAPHYLACTIC REACTIONS

Bill 3, also known as Sabrina's Law, has been in effect for several years, requiring all School Boards to develop plans for students who have an anaphylactic allergy.

Several students at St. Alfred school have severe allergies to peanuts, nuts and many peanut/nut by products. These allergies can be life threatening. Due to the high risk of these products, we thank you in advance for not sending any peanut/nut products to school in your child's lunch and/or snack. We need to continue to work together to be an "allergen aware" school. No food that may contain these peanut/nut products should be sent to school.

School Board policy states that all food must be eaten indoors. Therefore, snacks are not permitted outside at recess.

MEDICATION

Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication and forms are updated annually for any student who requires medication to be administered at school. If your child requires medication such as puffers, epinephrine, Tylenol etc. please have the necessary forms completed and return them to the office as soon as possible. Absolutely NO medication may be stored or given to students without the proper documentation on file. Forms are available from the school office or the classroom teacher.



PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)

From time to time throughout the school year, we see cases of Pediculosis, better known as "head lice". Head lice are parasites that can affect anyone. They are not connected with dirt or neglect, but are an annoyance when someone becomes infested with them. As a preventative measure we ask that you check your children regularly. If you discover head lice, please keep your child at home, ensuring they have the proper treatment. They may return to school once the hair is entirely free of nits (eggs) and lice. We ask also that you notify the school of the situation.

Students are reminded to avoid sharing combs, brushes, hats, scarves and other headwear at all times.

NO SCHOOL ON GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER MONDAY (April 10 & 13)

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

Ta informacja jest wazna. Proszę zapoznaj się z nią.

SMOKE-FREE CAR LEGISLATION

As of January 21st, 2009, smoking in vehicles with children less than 16 years of age is against the law. This amendment to the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* protects children who are especially vulnerable to the health effects of second-hand smoke.

Why is Smoke-Free Car Legislation Important?

- Children are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.
- Children exposed to second-hand smoke are more likely to get ear infections, bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory tract infections. It can also trigger or worsen asthma.
- Second-hand smoke can reach very high levels inside small spaces like vehicles.
- There is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke for children or adults.

Call 905-799-7700 or visit www.smokefree-peelregion.ca for more information.

YARD SUPERVISION

To ensure your child(ren)'s safety, **do not send them to school before 8:30 a.m.** Staff supervision of students in the playground begins at 8:30 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. during the lunch hour. Student arrival at school must be planned accordingly.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND NEWS

WELCOME

Please join me in welcoming to our staff Ms. M. Sullivan who replaces Mr. Formosa. Mr. Formosa retired from teaching at the end of February. Ms. Sullivan joins us from St. Dominic's school. She comes to us with much enthusiasm, energy and experience. Welcome Ms. Sullivan.

CONGRATULATIONS

The staff and students of St. Alfred School extend our sincere congratulations to Sarah D. in grade 6 and Martin C. in grade 8 for representing St. Alfred School at the Mississauga East Family of School Speech Competition on Friday, March 27th. Both students spoke on the Value of Catholic Education. We are pleased to announce that Martin C. will be representing the Mississauga East Family of School at the Board level on April 14th.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.



St. Alfred Catholic School Council Invites You to:

A **Free** Parenting Information Night with

Guest Speaker: Michael Reist

On Thursday April 2nd

Starting at 7:00 p.m.

In the gym at St. Alfred School

Babysitting will be provided.

Esta informacion es importante. Por favor traducirla al espanol.

CLASS PLACEMENTS /MOVING

Please inform the office if you know that you will be moving and your children will not be returning to St. Alfred School for September 2009.

Due to the "tentative" nature of our enrolment for September 2009, teacher assignments and grade placements cannot be finalized until late August. At the beginning of June the staff will be working on drafting tentative class lists for the next school year. This is a complex process, which takes into consideration not only the needs of the individual child, but frames those needs in the context of the larger student group. In each class, we strive for a balance of learning styles, a balance of gender, a balance of learning needs, and a cross-section of abilities.

Any parental requests as to the teaching style preferred for their children are to be submitted to Mrs. Tollis in writing by May 8, 2009.

Any requests received after the above date may not be accommodated. Also, please note that no requests will be considered in September.

EARLY RELEASE –THURSDAY, APRIL 2nd, 2009

The third and final Early Release day is scheduled for Thursday, April 2nd. Students from grade 1 to 8 will be dismissed at 11:45 and there will be no Junior or Senior Kindergarten classes in the afternoon.

EQAO DATES

For parents and guardians of students in grade three and six, please avoid making any appointments for your child/ren during the EQAO testing period of Tuesday, May 26 to Thursday, May 28 for grade 6 and Tuesday, June 2nd to Thursday June 4th for grade 3 students. Thank you for your co-operation.

FLEXIBLE BOUNDARY POLICY

Some students attend our school under the "Flexible Boundary Policy". This offers convenience for many parents as they access daycare in the area. Parents who have requested flexible boundary admittance for their children must be aware that the policy will be considered annually on a student-by-student basis, taking into consideration the class size of the students who are enrolling. Although we offer as much support as possible to all our students, please understand that availability of the flexible boundary policy should not negatively impact on the school resources. Please remit all requests for flexible boundary in writing to Mrs. Tollis by May 8th, 2009.

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