



# 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 # 6  
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009

## *EVERY CHILD, A PROMISE*

**Principal:** J. Tollis  
**Vice Principal:** C. Klein  
**Secretary:** D. Suchocki

**Trustee:** M. Pascucci  
mario.pascucci@dpcdsb.org  
(905) 624-3663  
Fax (905) 624-6823

**Superintendent:**  
E. McGuire  
(905) 890-0708

**Parish:**  
Sts. Martha & Mary  
(905) 625-5670

**Pastor:** Fr. E. D'Souza  
E-mail:  
stsmadm@stsmadm.org

**School Council Chair:**  
A. Vercillo

### LET US NOT FORGET TO BE RESPECTFUL

Keep us, O God, from all pettiness.  
Let us be large in thought, in word and in deed.

Let us be done with faultfinding and finger pointing.  
May we put away all pretense and meet with others face to face,  
without self-pity and without prejudice.

Lets us always take time for all things,  
And make us grow calm, serene and gentle.

May we never be hasty in judgement;  
And always generous.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses,  
To be straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize that in the little things of life  
We are as one.

And, O Lord, let us not forget to be respectful.  
Amen

**St. Alfred School**  
3341 Havenwood Dr.  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L4X 2M2  
Tel: (905) 625-0584  
Fax: (905) 625- 4490  
Attendance Line:  
(905) 625-0584

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Safe Schools
- Calendar of Events
- Kindergarten Registration
- P.A. Day – February 27, 2009
- March Break – March 16 to 20
- Grade 2 Reconciliation -March 30



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

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As Catholics we observe the forty day period known as Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 25. Lent will take us through to Holy Thursday, Good Friday and end on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009. This is a very special time for all Catholics. Our faith reminds us of Jesus' crucifixion and most importantly of Christ's resurrection. During these next forty days let us support each other through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Along with the beginning of Lent we anticipate the arrival of spring. The days are getting longer and the sun's rays are getting warmer and stronger. Winter will soon pass away, the snow will all melt but until it does we are asked to be patient.

The virtue that students and staff have been working on in February is respect. We encourage all community members, staff, students and parents to show courtesy, consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness towards oneself and one another in keeping with the virtue of RESPECT.

J. Tollis

## FAITH ACTIVITIES

### RECONCILIATION – GRADE 2 – DATE CHANGE

Students in grade 2 and any other students who have not received this sacrament and are registered with the Church will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation at Sts. Martha and Mary's Church on **Monday, March 30, 2009** at 7:00 p.m. Please note that due to a double booking on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the date for Reconciliation has been changed.

### ROSARY CLUB

We are very proud of our Rosary Club who meets faithfully every Wednesday in Mrs. Klaming's room during the lunch time to pray the rosary. New members are always welcome to join.



### VIRTUE FOR FEBRUARY: RESPECT

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

Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God – and so every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ.

As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity, and thoughtfulness, which are different ways of saying respect.

Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at respecting ourselves as well as respecting those around us.

People of Respect ...

- Treats himself/herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy;
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language;
- Avoids swearing, name-calling, put-downs, and inappropriate gestures;
- Says "excuse me", "please", "pardon me"
- Avoid gossip

Esta informacion es importante. Por favor traducirla al espanol.

## SAFE SCHOOL

### ABSENTEE ROUTINE

We ask that you call the school, (905) 625-0584, and inform us of your child's absence. This is a safety precaution to ensure all students are accounted for. Thank you for your continued support in following this procedure.

### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

It is **imperative** that the school has all up to date phone numbers for parents and emergency contacts in the event of illness or injury to your child. Please inform the office of any changes to work, home and emergency contact numbers.

### DISMISSAL – KISS AND RIDE

It must be understood that parents using the Kiss & Ride must not park and leave their vehicles at anytime. If you leave your vehicle, this prohibits the flow of traffic and is in direct violation of the by-law, which governs the use of these lanes. Vehicles left unattended may be subject to a fine. The entry, exit, and bus lane on school property must allow access to school buses and emergency vehicles and must be respected at all times, that includes lunch time.



### 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.



### INDOOR SHOES

Please ensure that your children have a pair of shoes to put on at school during the winter season. If the fire alarm sounds and/or if we need to leave the building as soon as possible, there may not be time for students to put on their boots.

### LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

We will be having a second official lock down drills in the next few weeks. This drill is to prepare students and staff for the unlikely eventuality that a dangerous person is in the school. At a signal, the teachers lock the classroom door and students lie on the floor away from doors and windows. Board policy requires two such drills a year. We hope we never need to use this process but we want everyone to be prepared.

### 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



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child requires medication such as puffers, epinephrine 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.

### SMOKE-FREE CAR LEGISLATION

As of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 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](http://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

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3, 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 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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.

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Junior and Senior Kindergarten registration will be held on Monday, February 23, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, February 25, 26, and 27 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the school.

Parents/guardians should bring the following documents when registering their child:

- proof of age
- original Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (for parent and child) or Baptismal Certificate of other rites in communion with the Holy See of Rome
- updated immunization records
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address

Junior Kindergarten students must be 4 years of age, and Senior Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age, by December 31, 2009 to register.

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

Please be advised that Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> is a Professional Activity Day and there will be no school for students.

### REMINDERS

#### ATTENDANCE...LATE ARRIVALS

A reminder to parents and students that it is important that students arrive to school on time. Being consistently late interrupts the learning environment in the classroom, creates delays in the office and sets a poor example for those who arrive on time.

#### PLASP – AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

PLASP Child Care Services will operate only an after School Program at St. Alfred School commencing March 1, 2009. Unfortunately their was not sufficient enrollment in the Before School Program to sustain it for the remainder of this school year.

#### Fee assistance is available.

For further information, call 905.890.1711 or visit the website at [www.plasp.com](http://www.plasp.com).

### MARCH BREAK

There will be no school for students and staff for the week of Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.