

# Canadian Martyrs Catholic School

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905-273-6630  
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Father Mnyagatwa

**JANUARY 2009**  
**Newsletter No. 6**

## *A Reflection of Hope to Begin the New Year*

*Hope demands that we expect something more of ourselves, of our world, of our God. To be formed by God's Word is to be challenged by anticipation of new possibility, to be passionate in longing for peace, wholeness and new life. To hope is to believe things can be different, to have faith that God's power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.*

*Ephesians 3:20*

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

*"We do not have to be saviours of the world! We are simply human beings, enfolded in weakness and in hope, called together to change our world one heart at a time." J. Vanier, 1998.*

Jean Vanier always seems to put into words what many of us feel. Sometimes the beginning of a new year can make many of us feel like such failures if we don't change the world around us through resolutions and promises. We are challenged by the commercial interests in our culture to get thin, buy that flashy new car or shop till you drop for bargains.

Our faith challenges us to begin again, renew and reach out to those around us. The conflict that results can almost paralyze a person and certainly distracts us from focusing our purpose. Vanier's statement 'to change one heart at a time' is so practical and manageable. Who can't change one heart at a time? We all have the potential to do that.

The result of each person changing a heart in our community can result in a beautiful revelation of Jesus' love. Loving your neighbour comes to life.....each and every one of us has the potential and power to ignite this love in the hearts of those around us. Now there's a new year's resolution we can probably keep if we really tried. Happy New Year everyone!

The virtue of self control can also help us focus this promise and to change the heart of everyone we encounter in our world. Will we decide to make ourselves, our families and the world around us a better place? How do we start? By making a decision to do just that....

## **A person with self control....**

Is patient  
Knows how to wait his/her turn  
Can calm themselves down and think before react in situations  
Knows how to avoid physical aggression  
Can think things through and do what is best for everyone.

## **FAITH ACTIVITIES**

### **STS. PETER AND PAUL PARISH MASS TIMES**

Monday to Friday  
12:10 p.m. English  
Tuesday  
7:30 p.m. Italian  
Wednesday and first Friday  
7:30 p.m. Devotions to Mother of Perpetual Help  
Saturday  
5 p.m. English  
Sunday  
7:45 a.m. English  
9:00 a.m. Italian  
10:30 p.m. English  
Noon English

## *Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Prayer*

*Dear Lord,  
Speak to us so that we members of the  
Canadian Martyrs Catholic School community  
witness that each of us  
is special in our own way.*

*Make each one of us  
like a little light that glows  
in the darkness of this world,  
A little flame that shines brightly,  
spreading Your peace, love and joy  
throughout the world.*

*Guide us through each day and night  
And let Your light shine through us.  
Amen*

## **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

• Mitten Tree  
Thank you for your generous contribution of new mittens, hats and scarves. The parish and St. Vincent du Paul Society were most thankful for your generous support.

• Advent Mass  
Our Advent Mass on December 11 with Sts. Peter and Paul School was a beautiful celebration of hope and preparation for the coming of Baby Jesus. Thanks to Mrs. Rygelis and Mr. Sestito for organizing the mass and to Mrs. Perozzo, Ms DelMonte and Mrs. Pelletier for preparing the beautiful voices in our choir.

• The Christmas Story : On December 17 Mr. Sestito organized an in school pageant to tell the Christmas Story. Students from many classes were involved and presented an enlightening and timely story of the true



meaning of Christmas. It was a beautiful celebration. Our choir sang many songs that really prepared all for the season.

• Staff Advent Liturgies: Each Monday of Advent the staff gathered to reflect and pray. Thank you to Mrs. DeLauro, Mrs. Ciampa, Mrs. Bartollotta, Mrs. Valtas and Mrs. Veselinovic for their spiritual leadership as Adult Faith Ambassadors.

### **NEW YEAR LITURGY AND LIVING OUR FAITH**

Our New Year's liturgy and Living Our Faith celebration will be held on January 23, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the school gym. Please join us as we celebrate our faith, the start of a new year and the wonderful things happening at Canadian Martyrs.

### **CURRICULUM NEWS**

#### **HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT THE LEARNING PROCESS**

1. Provide a quiet place and quiet time for your child to read and write.
2. Make books, newspapers and magazines, paper and pencils readily available in the home.
3. Proudly display the results of your child's creative efforts.
4. Make reading and writing a regular part of your family life so your children can see that they are important to you.
5. Encourage language activities the family can enjoy together – for instance, stories taped or dramatized by the children and presented as family entertainment.
6. Foster – and share – your child's delight in discovering ideas and information through language.
7. Join the local library regularly and sign up for a library card with your child.
8. Work with your child on the internet to retrieve information for school projects and discussions.
9. Encourage your child as they develop language skills. The English language is one of the most complicated languages in the world to learn so be patient and give praise for all accomplishments.



### **SCHOOL EVENTS AND NEWS**

#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The next meeting of the Catholic School Council is set for February 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Please join us if you are available.

#### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW**

On Saturday January 17 the Knights of Columbus Free Throw will take place at Canadian Martyrs in the gym. Information for participants will be available soon.

#### **CHOIR AT ST. MICHAEL'S MAJORS**

Our school choir will share their gift of music on Sunday, January 18 at St. Michael's Majors. Many thanks to our choir and the teachers who organize them – Ms. DelMonte, Mrs. Pelletier, Mrs. Tunney and Mrs. Perozzo.

#### **SAFE SCHOOLS CONCERT**

We will have assemblies on January 27 to continue to focus on bullying prevention strategies. JK to gr 6 students will attend a Safe Schools Concert in the a.m. and grade 7 and 8 will attend in the afternoon. Our community is welcome to join us.

#### **EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION MEETING**

Grade 4 parents/guardians, who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 French Immersion class for September, 2009 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

School: St. Thomas More

Address: 3270 Tomken Road. Miss. Ont. L4Y 2Y7

Telephone: 905-279-6472

Date: Tues. Jan. 27, 2009.

Time: 7:00 pm

At the present time, the above mentioned school is the designated centre for our area. Applications will be accepted at the centre until 3:00 pm. **Wednesday, March 4, 2009.**

#### **FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION MEETING**

SK parents/guardians, who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 1 French Immersion class for September, 2009 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

School: St. Margaret of Scotland

Address: 2266 Council Ring Road. Miss. Ont. L5L 1C1

Telephone: 905-820-5115

Date: Mon. Jan. 26, 2009.

Time: 7:00 pm

At the present time, the above mentioned school is the designated centre for our area. Applications will be accepted at the centre until 3:00 pm. **Wednesday, March 4, 2009.**

#### **SAFETY IN THE YARD**

We need your help in emphasizing with your children safety rules for the school yard. These rules are especially important when there is snow in the yard:

**Play safe** – pushing, shoving, tripping and hitting are not safe or friendly activities to engage in anywhere.

**Snow** – snow is fun to play in (make sure your child brings snow pants and appropriate coats etc to school) but throwing snow is not permitted: injuries usually occur when snow is thrown in the yard. Your child will receive a warning the first time; second occurrence you will receive a letter warning of suspension; third occurrence your child may receive a suspension from school.

**Washroom passes** – students are always permitted to go to the washroom in the building. All teachers have washroom passes. Students may ask teachers who are on duty for the passes.

**Security** - once the school day begins, parents are not welcome in the school yard: other students see you as a stranger. Students are also never to leave the school property without parent permission. This permission will always be noted at the front office in the sign out book.

We continue to have assemblies, announcements and classroom discussions about behavioural expectations with our students. Your support of these guidelines will help continue the safe environment we enjoy at Martyrs.

#### **PIZZA DAYS**

Our Pizza Days on Fridays continue to be a success. However, our Council needs more volunteers to help out. If you have some time Friday mornings to help out it would be appreciated. Remember, many hands make light work.

#### **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER CONTEST**

Congratulations to Ashleigh S. for reading the December newsletter. Look for the entry form at the end of this newsletter. The deadline for January submissions to the office is January 16, 2009.

## **REMINDERS**

### **EARLY RELEASE AND PD DAY**

January 12 is an Early Release Day for students. All Gr 1-8 students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. All classes including the kindergarten program will not be available in the afternoon.

January 28 is a Professional Development Day for all staff to focus on Provincial Government priorities. There will be no school for students during this day.

### **SUPERVISION**

A reminder to parents that supervision in the yard begins at 8:15 a.m. Students should not be at the school prior to that time and will not be permitted to enter the building prior to 8:30 a.m.

Students who do not ride the bus home and are picked up by parents must be picked up at dismissal time – 3:00 p.m. Do not contact the office during the day requesting the office to supervise your child after this time. We do not have staff available for this service and the secretarial staff are not permitted to supervise students unless in emergency situations.

### **HEALTHY SCHOOLS-TRANS FAT STANDARDS**

As part of the overall plan to develop healthier schools, as of September 1, 2008 any food or beverage (or ingredients used in their preparation) sold in a school must meet the prescribed amounts of trans fat set out in O. Reg. 200/08-Trans Fat Standards. All foods sold at Canadian Martyrs have been reviewed and are within the prescribed standards.

### **DENTAL SCREENING**

Our JK, SK, Gr 2,4,6 and 8 students will participate in a dental screening service at the school on January 14 and 16. Information and forms will be sent home shortly.

### **INDIA RAINBOW COMMUNITY SERVICES OF PEEL**

India Rainbow Community Services of Peel (IRCS) is a charitable, non-profit, community based organization. Our services are non-religious and non-political.

Our mission is to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to the Peel immigrant community, enabling integration and supporting their settlement, social services, health, and educational needs.

Head Office: 3038 Hurontario Street, Suite 206 Miss. Ont.

Phone: 905-275-2369 Fax: 905-275-6799

Email: info@indiarainbow.org

### **PARKS AND RECREATION PLAYGROUND**

A reminder to our school community that the park next to our school - Greenfield Park- is the property of the City of Mississauga. As such, this area, and the playground equipment, is not supervised by Board employees.

The Board does not recommend the use of the Parks and Rec structures as are found in this park and recommends that parents/ guardians and caregivers supervise their children there at all times.

### **VALUABLES**

Students are reminded not to bring any valuable items such as game boy, CD players, cell phones, cash etc. to school. In addition, laser pointers are considered weapons and are **not permitted** on school property.

### **CELL PHONES**

A reminder to all students, staff, parents and visitors: cell phones are to be turned off and put away while on School Board property. We have posted reminders on all doors to this effect. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **KISS AND RIDE**

Thank you to those parents who are following procedures in the morning and at dismissal time. Remember not to park in front of buses or on the sidewalk at any time. It is also understood that parents are not to leave their cars unattended when in the Kiss and Ride lanes and could result in Parking Control issuing tickets.

### **VISITOR AND PARENT SIGN IN**

It is important for the safety of our students and staff that **all** visitors and parents check at the office prior to entry to the school. All visitors need to have a visitor's sticker for entry and will be directed to the office by staff if they do not have one.

As you have been made aware, entry to the school during school hours is through the buzzer security system at the front door. All other doors to the building are locked during the day. Thank you to all those parents and visitors who consistently sign in and follow our procedures. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### **WINTER DRESS**

It is that time of year when students need to be reminded of the necessity of dressing properly for the weather. (mittens, hats, scarves, boots, etc.) Labeling items would be helpful, as many boots and mittens look very similar. Many items make their way to the Lost and Found Box and are often not claimed. We ask that each child have indoor footwear e.g. running shoes to wear in the school and boots to wear outside when the weather becomes rainy or snowy. (a second pair of socks is always a good idea for younger students).

Also, remind your child(ren) to zip their coats before going outside. Please help us (and your children) by listening to the weather reports before deciding what they should wear to school each day.



Except under unusual conditions, students go outside during recess and lunch hour. Research indicates that fifteen minutes of fresh air allows students to refocus on their studies. The Board, with advice from the Peel Public Health Department, has established the policy that all children will be kept inside when the temperature outside reaches -25 degrees Celsius (including the wind chill factor). We will monitor the weather conditions daily and make decisions based upon our local conditions. Please bear in mind that children who are too ill to go outside should be resting at home and should not be at school.

### **BOARD INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES**

Please be advised that during the winter months, inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 am, and will be announced on the following radio and television stations:

CKFM 99.9	CHUM 1050
CFTR 680	CFNY 102.1
CFTO	CBC
CJCL 590	CHFI 98.1
CFRB 1010	ENERGY FM93.1
CJEZ	EZ ROCK
	CJBC (FR)

860 AM  
FM/1540 AM  
CJMR/CHWO 1250  
THE WEATHER NETWORK  
CJEZ

CHIN 100.7  
TALK 640  
Z103.5  
FOXY 88.5 FM  
CITY PULSE

Amen

### SCHOOL BUS MONITOR WEBSITE

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

I have read the January Newsletter and would like my child's name entered to win a prize.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian

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Please cut out and submit entries to the office by the January 16 deadline.

### Panalangin ng Paaralang Katoliko ng Canadian Martyrs

Mahal na Panginoon,  
Kausapin mo kami upang kaming mga kasapi ng  
komunidad ng  
Paaralang Katoliko ng Canadian Martyrs  
ay maging saksi na ang bawat isa sa amin  
ay bukod ang katangian sa sariling kakayahan.

Gawin mo na ang bawat isa sa amin  
ay tulad ng maliit na ilawan na nagniningning  
sa kadiliman ng daigdig.  
Isang maliit na ningas na maliwanag ang kislap,  
at nagpapalaganap ng lyong kapayapaan,  
pagmamahal at kaligayahan  
sa buong daigdig.

Patnubayan mo kami sa bawat araw at gabi  
at  
hayaan ang lyong ilaw ang magbigay ng liwanag sa  
amin.