

Canadian Martyrs Catholic School

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Father Mnyagatwa

FEBRUARY 2009 Newsletter No. 7

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February is finally here. As we shiver towards spring, let's reflect a bit about who we are as a community. Not only is the virtue focus this month respect, this month also contains Valentine's Day...the day of love.

What do both these beautiful virtues mean at Canadian Martyrs? We have programs, students, parents and staff who continue to build a working relationship based on mutual respect. We see this each time an event is organized, when newsletters and class information is sent home or when we have Council meetings. Daily we see how we respect each other in the halls of the school, within classrooms, in the yard, in telephone calls and in the Kiss and Ride. How can we further display respect?

Our challenge as Catholics is to share this respect with the rest of the world. Many times it's about modeling this for everyone to see....much as a child learns so much from what their parents and other adults do around them. By giving respect you receive respect.

Love of course is the life blood of being Christian and fortunately everyone should have a sense of this...St. Valentine's Day is an annual tribute to this virtue. At Canadian Martyrs it is easy to see this everywhere....students are fond of their teachers, teachers are fond of each other and parents are appreciative and fond of staff. Love really does make the world go round at Martyrs....by reinforcing the need for respect and love of everyone in our community as well as the world around us, we will achieve the goal of a truly transformed Catholic community.

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

FEBRUARY: THE VIRTUE OF RESPECT

This month we celebrate the virtue of respect. God has given us the virtues of friends and companions to keep us company and to help out 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.

That respect should come first and foremost from ourselves. We have to respect ourselves. We should also be able to expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet – our brothers and sisters in Jesus.

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

A **respectful** person....

- 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;
- Avoids gossip.

SCHOOL LITURGY

On January 23rd the school held a beautiful Liturgy with a theme of new beginnings and peace. A special thank you to Mrs. Ciampa, Ms. Giovinazzo and Mrs. Vallesi and their classes for preparing such a beautiful celebration of our faith.

SCHOOL LITURGY

On Ash Wednesday we will celebrate with a liturgy in the school gym at 1 p.m. on February 25. Please join us as we begin the solemn Lenten season.

FIRST EUCHARIST RETREAT

April 4, 2009 at 9:30-10:30 or 11:00 to 12:00. or April 18, 2009 at 9:00-10:30 or 11:00 to 12:00 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church Hall.



DATES FOR RECONCILIATION

March 2, 2009 or March 5, 2009 at 7 p.m. at Sts. Peter and Paul Church.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND NEWS

LIVING OUR FAITH AWARDS

Living Our Faith Awards were presented to the following students for the month of January: Althea G., Madelaine C., Rachel N., Aponi H., Cassandra R., Jose Antonio R., Curtis C., Juanita C., Farrah C., Alexander G., Kimberly D., Franz F., Lily C., Keoni H., David H., Melanie F., Jasmin I., Nicole G., James L., Sunshine M., Andrea V., Victoria H., Daniel A., Charlie B., Larisa H., Rocio S., Jeremiah D., Angela C., Nathan G., Samantha T., Alexandra V., Cassandra P., Rhiannon D., C.J. S., Ravini M., Tanya B., Mahima T., Anthony G., Ansel H., Juan R., Austin D., Daniel G., Caitlyn P., Robin C., Jeralynne F., Patrick S., Patrick S., Elijah S., Elisa B., Azaria R., Damien J., Victoria L., Kayla B., Jacob L., Aleksander R., Troy T., Savina E., Kyle S., Ashleigh S., Daniel C., Abigail D., Alex M., Ashley M., Quinton K., Victoria D., Rosie C., Leandro B., Isabella C., Kevin A., Kyle H., Steven L., Luisa M., Francesco G., Natalie P., Adriel P., Julia A., Angelina C., and Augustine N. Congratulations students!

PARENT SESSION

Please join us for an informative session presented by M. Reist on February 7, 2009 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the school gym. The topic is Raising Kids In A New Kind of World.

GR 1 and 2 LIBRARY CHALLENGE

On January 23 our grade 1 and 2 classes joined in with the Mississauga Library to break a Guinness World Record for reading the most books in one sitting. We'll let you know when the results are recieved.

K REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for students new to the school Board will take place the evening of February 23 from 7-9 p.m. and during the day on February 25, 26 and 27 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

KINDERGARTEN ENTRY PLANNING FOR SEPT./ 2009:

Information Night for Parents of Students with Special Needs in the areas of Autism, Developmental , Hearing, Physical or Vision

On **Wednesday February 4th** Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB will present an Information Night for parents of students with special needs in the area of Autism, Developmental , Hearing, Physical or Vision. The session will run from **7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** and will be held in **Room 301** at the **Catholic Education Center on 40 Matheson Blvd West.**

Information will be provided regarding school entry planning for September 2009. At the session parents will be reminded to ensure they register at their local school so that the intake process can begin.

PIZZA DAYS

A reminder that Pizza Days are each Friday. During Lent, cheese pizza will be the only pizza available for sale.



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Check out our school website at www.dpcdsb.org/cec.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Catholic School Council will be held on February 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Our Trustee Anna Abbruscato will be our guest. Our next meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on March 9, April 20 and May 25. All are welcome to attend.

BULLYING STRATEGIES

Parents can also be helpful in addressing bullying behaviour with their children. Helping children understand how to treat one another and to value and make friends is an important, positive step to eliminating bullying behaviour.

The Top Ten Ways to Keep Your Friends

1. Show them kindness and respect.
2. Stick up for them.
3. Be supportive when your friends need help and advice.
4. Tell the truth but be kind about it.
5. If you hurt a friend, say you're sorry.
6. If you make a promise, keep it.
7. Put some effort into your friendships; otherwise your friends might feel neglected.
8. Don't try to change your friends – accept them the way they are.
9. If a friend hurts you and apologizes, accept the apology.
10. Treat your friends the way you want them to treat you.
11. Always be thankful for your friends.

(B. Coloroso: 2002)

NEWSLETTER READING CONTEST

Congratulations to Kaitlin D. who won the January newsletter reading contest. Entries for the February contest are due to the school office by February 13.

REMINDERS

Roles and Responsibilities of Parents

- Play an important role in the education of their children.
- Have a responsibility to support efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful school environment.
- Parents fulfill responsibility when they:
 - Show an active interest in the child's school work and progress;
 - Communicate regularly with the school;
 - Help their children be neat, appropriately dressed and prepared for school;
 - Ensure their child attends school regularly and on time;
 - Promptly report to the school their child's absence or late arrival;
 - Become familiar with the Code of Conduct and school rules;
 - Encourage their child to follow the rules of behaviour; and
 - Assist school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child.

PRIVATE BUSES

A letter was sent home in September to all parents/guardians of children transported by private carriers. Parents/guardians are reminded that the school and Board are not responsible for route information, insurance or other liability. This would be between the parent and private carrier. In addition, the private carriers will be reminded about the Safe Arrival Policy and will be directed to deliver and pick up students on time.

PD DAY

February 27 has been designated a staff Professional Development Day for the purpose of report card preparation and for JK/SK interviews. There will not be any school on this day for students.

MARCH BREAK

Please also be reminded that March Break is from March 16-20 inclusive.

SPIRIT WEEK

During the week of March 9-13 the students of Canadian Martyrs will be encouraged to participate in a school Spirit Week. The theme days will include hat day, crazy hair day, pyjamas day, sports jersey day, and wear the colors of your national flag day. Many thanks to Mrs. Hilton, Mrs. Mendolia and Mrs. Zeta for organizing this fun week.

GYM SAFETY

Please be aware that jewelry is not to be worn during gym class or during inter school or after school sports. Proper shoes that grip the floor of the gym must also be worn. Teachers will remind students of the need to comply with these safety guidelines.

INDOOR SHOES

Please ensure that your children have a pair of indoor shoes to put on at school during the winter months. If the fire alarm sounds and/or if we need to leave the building as soon as possible, there may be no time for students to put on footwear.

MOVING ?

Please let the school office know if you will be moving in the future. A transfer form is required and our secretarial staff need time to get these ready.

SUPERVISION IN THE MORNING – SCHOOL YARD

A reminder to parents dropping off children in the morning that supervision in the yard does not begin until 8:15 a.m. **even when it is very cold outside.** Parents **must not** drop off their child before this time because there is no staff available to supervise students.

SMOKE-FREE CAR LEGISLATION

As of January 21st, 2009, smoking in vehicles with children less than 16 years of age will be 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.

DID YOU KNOW.....

- The average Canadian child spends....
- 3 to 5 hours sitting watching television every day.
- 5 to 7 hours sitting every school day.
- 7 to 10 hours sleeping each night.
- 2-4 plus hours playing video games and on chat lines every day.

**ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION DPCDSB
ESL PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS**

We offer a variety of ESL, Citizenship and Coop Programs for Adults throughout Mississauga and Brampton. Registration is on-going for many of our programs. Please see our Winter Flyer posted on the board website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org> or call us at 905-891-9263

NIGHT SCHOOL SECONDARY SCHOOL CREDIT WINTER 2009

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
SECONDARY NIGHT SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES
WINTER SESSION 2009

February 9 to May 25, 2009

MISSISSAUGA LOCATIONS:

St. Aloysius Gonzaga S.S.
2800 Erin Centre Blvd. Mississauga, ON
Philip Pocock S.S.
4555 Tomken Rd. Mississauga, ON

BRAMPTON LOCATION:

St. Marguerite d'Youville S.S.
10815 Dixie Rd. Brampton, ON

<http://www.dpcdsb.org>

**ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION DPCDSB
GENERAL INTEREST COURSES FOR ADULTS**

Discover a new talent, explore a new interest, put a hop in your dance step....come join us ...Various General Interest courses available....Look for our General Interest information in our Adult and Continuing Education Flyer. Our courses begin February 2, 2009.

**ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION-DPCDSB
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES**

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM:

Elementary International Saturday morning classes are available to students in grades JK to 8. No prior language experience is necessary. International Language programs comply with the Ministry of Education curriculum. Please contact the Adult & Continuing Education Office at 905-891-9263 for information regarding language offerings at specific IL Sites and registration information as well.

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

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Please cut out and submit entries to the office by the February 13 deadline.

