



NEWSLETTER
February 2009

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St. Joseph Elementary School

We C.A.R.E.: Catholic Community, Acceptance, Respect, Excellence

A Lenten Prayer

*Lord Jesus Christ,
by Your passion, death, and resurrection
You have set us free from sin and death.
May Your grace renew our hearts this Lent and help us
turn from sin in our own lives.
May we learn to appreciate more deeply the sacrifice you
made for us.
Accept our prayer, fasting and acts of charity we seek to
draw closer to you during this holy season.
Strengthen the faith of Your people so that we may be a
sign of Your love to all the world.*

Amen

VIRTUE OF RESPECT

Let us now pray...

for the virtue of RESPECT

so that everyone we meet will feel

like we are their brother or sister in Christ.

AMEN

Celebrating our Faith...

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 7:30p.m. at St. Joseph's Church.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 25. A liturgy and distribution of ashes will take place in each class.

RECONCILIATION

The grade 2 classes will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church.

LENTEN MASS

Our school Lenten Mass will be celebrated on Friday, March 27 at 10:00 a.m.

SLEEPING CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

Many thanks to all who have contributed to Sleeping Children Around the World (SCAW) this year. We raised \$1645.00 which will be sent directly to the Dryden family to help support the purchase of "slumber kits" for youngsters in third world countries to have a little more comfortable place to sleep. Your generous response is so kindly appreciated by all.

Curriculum & Student Activities

VIRTUES ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to all "Students of the Month: for the December virtue of Hope and the January virtue of Self-Control.

On Wednesday, February 4, we introduced the February virtue- Respect- with a liturgy presented by the students in Mrs. Lopreiato's, Mrs. Awoyomi's and Ms Mesic's classes. Thank you to the teachers and Ms Sandford for their assistance.

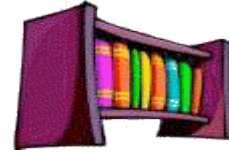
FOOD DRIVE

During the season of Lent, St. Joseph's School will be collecting food items in support of the parish food drive.

All items collected will be forwarded to St. Joseph's Church. We thank you for your support.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

February is Public Speaking month for students in grades 4 to 8. The date for the school competition is Wednesday, February 11th. The Junior competition will take place at 9:15 a.m. and the Intermediate competition will begin at 1:00 p.m.. The winners in both divisions will complete at the Mississauga North Family Public Speaking competition on February 18th at St. Teresa of Avila school.



READING AT HOME

As a parent, you are a powerful influence on your child's success in reading. Reading with your child conveys a critical message that reading is both important and enjoyable. Try to make reading together a daily routine that your child looks forward to. It is essential to plan reading times when there will be minimal distractions and interruptions. Your child will learn that time spent reading together is a priority in your home. Reading with your child can open the door to a life-long interest in stories and books.

FOREST OF READING

The **Forest of Reading Program** has started in the library. This is a fun reading program that is organized through the Ontario Library Association. Each year the OLA nominates 10 books in a variety of categories:

Blue Spruce- grades K-2

Silver Birch Express- grades 3&4

Silver Birch (Fiction/Non-Fiction)- grade 5&6

Red Maple (Fiction/Non-Fiction)- grades 7&8

Students are encouraged to read as many of the nominated titles as they can. If students read 5 of the books in a nominated category they are eligible to vote for their favourite! Voting takes place in April. Our school's Award Winners are then forwarded to the OLA along with the votes from hundreds of schools from across Ontario. The Forest of Reading Awards are announced and presented in May. Which books will win this year?

Happy Reading!
Ms Szymczak

TORONTO MAPLE LEAF SCHOOL ASSIST FUNDRAISER

St. Joseph School participated in the School Assist fundraising program from January 14-23, 2009. Our school sold Maple Leaf coasters valuing a total of \$5890.00. From this, our school will receive \$4123.00 This will be used to upgrade our school sound system and to paint our school logo on the gym wall.

Thank you to all parents, students and teachers for their support! The fundraiser ended with a school assembly on January 27, 2009. All students who sold coasters were eligible to win numerous valuable prizes. The winners were:

Early Bird Family Movie Pass: Madeleine- gr. 1

Class Pizza Party: Mrs. Sajda's grade 4/5 class

Autographed Matt Stajan Jersey: Alessandro- SK, Matthew- gr. 1

iPOD Dock CD Boom Box: Sofia- gr. 1

iPOD Dock Clock Radio: Anton- gr. 7

Maple Leaf T-Shirt: Cory- gr. 2, Mercedes- gr. 8, Nicholas- gr. 7, Liam- gr. 7, Nicole- gr. 6

Marlie Tickets: Hailie- gr. 1, Sebastian- gr. 1, Duncan- gr. 4, Kyle- gr. 4, Fernando- gr. 2, Stephanie- gr. 8, Leon- gr. 3

Autographed Matt Stajan Photo: Ryan- gr. 4, Laura- gr. 3, Anthony- gr. 3, Julian- gr. 1, Ryan- gr. 1

Home-School Communication

BUS SAFETY

Please take some time to review with your children, the importance of playing safely while waiting for the school bus. Winter conditions can be hazardous at the bus stops, especially around snowbanks. When the snowbanks are high, the appropriate location to wait for the bus is where the area has been shoveled and a pathway exists. Bus drivers have been instructed to be cautious about where students are picked up and dropped off. Please ensure that arrangements are made for your children to be picked up from their bus stop.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration will be held at St Joseph and all Dufferin-Peel Catholic Schools on:

February 23 7 – 9 pm

February 25,26,27 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

All children born in 2005 and who are otherwise eligible may attend Junior Kindergarten beginning in September 2008. Senior Kindergarten children who are otherwise

eligible may attend if born in 2004. Both JK and SK are voluntary programs.

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

- proof of age
- original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman Catholic or
- Byzantine Rite, for both the parent and child
- updated immunization records
- tax assessment form showing separate school support
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status
- proof of address (utility bill, bank or credit card statement)

If your child is presently attending Junior Kindergarten at St. Joseph School, it is **not necessary** for you to register for Senior Kindergarten.

SAFETY REMINDERS

Safe and Fair Play

Your child[ren]'s safety is a major concern. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation with our enforcement of the NO CONTACT and NO INTERFERING with other students' rule. Although it is normal for children to have disagreements, this form of conflict does not appear to be a major problem, and is resolved at the school level. Physical contact, interfering and rough play are a concern. We are working with all children to heighten awareness of what safe play means. The children are cautioned frequently that the components of Safe Play are NO CONTACT and NO INTERFERING with other children. Students who play together are of quite different athletic and/or intellectual abilities; to ensure safety of students with varying abilities, you are asked to reinforce these principles with your child[ren].

Community

SCHOOL COUNCIL

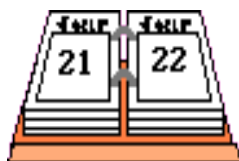
Our next School Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. All are welcome.

Reminders:

February 16- Family Day Holiday

February 27- P.A. Day

March 16-20- March Break Holiday



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- Feb 3 Skating, Gr. 1-8, PIZZA LUNCH
- Feb 4 Virtues Assembly- 1:00 p.m.
- Feb 10 Grad Photos,PIZZA LUNCH,
Confirmation @ 7:30 p.m. @ Church
- Feb 11 School Speech Contest
- Feb 13 Skating Gr. 1 to 8
- Feb 16 **Family Day Holiday- NO SCHOOL**
- Feb 17 PIZZA LUNCH
- Feb 18 Mississauga North Family Speech Contest
- Feb 23 Kindergarten Registration, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- Feb 24 Skating, Gr. 1-8, PIZZA LUNCH
- Feb 25 Ash Wednesday, Kindergarten Registration,
9:00-11:00 a.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- Feb 26 Kindergarten Registration, 9:00-11:00 a.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- Feb 27 **PA Day- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
Kindergarten Registration, 9:00-1:00 a.m.,
1:00-3:00 p.m.