



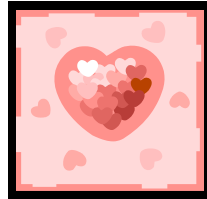
St. Jerome School  
790 Paisley Blvd W.  
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Tel (905) 273 3836 Fax (905) 273 9539

## **Newsletter**

### **February**

### **2017**



Mississauga South  
Family of Schools

Trustee:

**B. Iannicca**

**905 270 0536**

Superintendent:

**D. Finegan-Downey**

Principal:

**A. Aquino**

H. Secretary:

**M. Vritsios**

Parish Priests:

**Fr. Joyson Pottackal**

**St. Martin of Tours**

**905 279 5742**

Catholic School

Council Chair:

**M. Fleese**

Web-site:

[www.dpcdsb.org/jerom](http://www.dpcdsb.org/jerom)

**God of life and love you created us in your image.**

**You sent your Son to bring us life.**

**Instill in us a respect for all life and all people.**

**Give us the courage to speak the truth.**

**Empower us to work for justice.**

**Help us extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness.**

**Amen**

### **Our Virtue of the Month: Respect**

Respect is a lesson that everyone should learn.

Respect must be given before an expected return.

Respect is something that's given for free.

Respect is about us and never about me.

Respect is the basis on which relationships are founded.

Respect is the anchor that keeps a person well grounded.

Respect builds the character and defines who we are.

Respect sets the standard and raises the bar.

Respect is magnanimous and helps to fulfil.

Respect is the partner that sits with good will.

Respect is like honey so sweet it's perceived.

Respect a taste to savour for when it's received.

## Faith Life



### **Grade 2 First Communion**

The rite of enrolment for First Communion will be at any of the following masses: Saturday, February 11 at 5:00 pm, Sunday, February 12th at 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12:00 pm, Saturday, February 25th at 5:00 pm or Sunday, February 26th at 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12:00 pm. The celebration of the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be the following masses: April 29th at 10:30 am, April 30th at 2:00 pm or May 6th at 10:30 am. You must be registered with the church to receive First Communion this year.

### **Grade 7 Confirmation**

The Grade 7 Confirmation this year will be held at St. Martin of Tours Parish on Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. You must be registered with the church to receive Confirmation this year.

### **Shrove Tuesday**

Once again all the students at St. Jerome will receive pancakes. This initiative is supported by the Catholic School Council. We thank them for their generosity in sponsoring and running this event. This year Shrove Tuesday is Tuesday, February 28th. Please look for more information coming home under separate cover! If you would like to volunteer to help on Shrove Tuesday, please call the school.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Our Ash Wednesday Liturgy and the distribution of ashes will be on Wednesday, March 1st at 11:30 a.m. Please join us if your schedule permits.

### **Public Speaking**

It is that time of year again. Students from grades 4 to 8 will be selected to enter a competition to represent St. Jerome School at the Mississauga South Public Speaking Competition. The winning candidates are invited to move on to the Mississauga South Public Speaking Competition held at St. Margaret of Scotland on February 17th (Snow Date February 21st). We wish all of our students the best. You all make us very proud!

## Around the School

### **Parking on School Property**

If you are choosing to park in the school parking lot, please park **only in designated parking spaces**. We ask that you do not double park or park along the back fence. For the safety of our staff and students please be careful when pulling out of parking spots and ensure that your child does not run in the parking lot or between parked cars. If your child is in grade 1 or higher, we ask that you use the Kiss N Ride when dropping off your child in the morning, allowing kindergarten parents to use the parking lot. If you are parking on school property please turn your car engine off when you are parked, we are an idle free zone. We thank you for your continued support.

### **Attendance**

Late and absent students **MUST** be reported to the office. Please call our attendance line (this line is available 24 hours a day) at 905 273-3836, push "one" and leave a message. It is often very difficult to reach parents in a timely fashion and as always, the safety of your child is of our utmost concern. Remember to always inform the office if any of your contact numbers change. It is vital that our contact records are accurate at all times. We must always have the most current information in case your child needs you during the school day. We thank you for your continued support in this matter.

### **Medication**

A reminder that students are not allowed to bring any medication to school. This includes prescription and non-prescription medication. As per Board protocol, all medication must be stored in the office, accompanied by appropriate paperwork and a doctor's signature. Please note that this includes Advil, cough medication, cough drops, etc. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. As always, we care about the safety of all our students.

### **Student Immunization**

Peel Public Health is reviewing immunization records of all students at our school beginning in January 2017. Peel Public Health must have proof that your child has been fully vaccinated (immunized) according to the Ontario Immunization Schedule. If you receive a letter, please ensure that your child has received the required vaccine(s), then give the date(s) your child received the vaccine dose(s) to Peel Health immediately to update your child's records. Not adhering to the Peel Public Health request may result in your child being suspended from school. For more information, please call Peel Health at 905-799-7700 or visit [www.ImmunizaPeel.ca](http://www.ImmunizaPeel.ca).

## **Kiss 'N Ride**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT CARS ARE NOT TO USE THE BUS LANE AT ANY TIME.** Parents are also asked to use our proper Kiss 'N Ride lanes and not to pull into the school lanes. This is especially important this year as we begin to offer Full Day Kindergarten classes.

**Parents please do not leave your car unattended in any of the Kiss 'N Ride lanes at any point in the school day, most especially at lunch time.** If you are dropping off a lunch for your child please park your car in a designated parking spot or on the street. Please note that if you are using the Kiss 'N Ride you should not be getting out of your car to help a child exit, you should not pop open your trunk to retrieve knapsacks, and all students must exit from the right passenger side of the car for their safety. We ask that parents use extra caution when using our Kiss 'N Ride lanes in the winter months. Please drive safely and take your time. Our focus is always to keep all of our students safe.

## **School Yard Safety**

**Just a reminder that student supervision begins at 9:00; students must not be dropped off at the school before this time.**

## **Reporting Head Injuries**

Even when it may appear to be insignificant, we inform parents of **ALL** head injuries at school which are reported to us. We do this in recognition of the potential danger of any injury involving the head area. We are not intending to alarm you, rather to keep you informed. Please remind your child to let a staff member know if they bump/injure their head at school.

## **Lockdown Procedures**

Our school board has established safety procedures should a high risk incident occur in the school, on school property or in the neighbourhood, that could endanger the lives and/or safety of students and/or staff. We will continue to practice the Emergency Lockdown Procedures, Hold and Secure Procedures and Fire Drills with the students this term.

## **EQAO**

The EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office) testing of our grade 3 and 6 students will take place from May 24th through to June 7th. Please try to avoid scheduling any doctor's appointments or anything else that will take your child out of school during the testing dates. A letter to grade 3 and 6 parents with further information will be sent home closer to the testing dates.

## **Criminal Reference Check**

In compliance with Ministry directives, a Criminal Reference Check is **mandatory** if you wish to volunteer your services in the school, transport students and assist on trips. Copies of the Criminal Reference application forms are available in the office. An annual declaration is required for all valid Criminal Reference Checks that are on file in the school office. A Criminal Reference Check is mandatory this year if you plan to volunteer for both in school and out of school activities.

## **Website**

Parents are encouraged to visit our website! The site is **[www.dpcdsb.org/jerom](http://www.dpcdsb.org/jerom)**. Please take the time to check it out. All school information and parent information is on the site and updated regularly. All previous and current newsletters are on the site. Our web-site is another excellent tool to keep parents connected to what is happening at school.

## **Report Cards and Interviews**

The report card for Term I will be going home on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017. Interviews will take place on the evening of Thursday, February 9th, 2017 and on Friday, February 10th, 2017. Forms will be sent home soon to schedule an interview time. Confirmation of the interview time will be sent home with your child's report card. It is our hope to see all parents during this interview cycle.

## **Family Day Holiday**

This is a reminder to parents that Monday, February 20, 2017 is designated as Family Day. There will be no school for students on that day. Enjoy your children!

## **National Flag Day**

February 15, 1966 was declared National Flag Day of Canada. This is when our red and white maple leaf flag was raised over Parliament Hill in Ottawa, and in communities across Canada. Red and white were designated as Canada's official colours in 1921 by His Majesty King George V. You can get more information at [canada.gc.ca/flagday](http://canada.gc.ca/flagday).

## **Recycling/ECO School**

At St. Jerome School we encourage you to reduce the amount of garbage going to landfill sites. We collect recycling materials from classrooms each week. We want to encourage students to bring litterless or boomerang lunches and reusable water bottles, as we did last year! It is very important for us to treat our earth with respect and to preserve our earth for future generations!

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Please consider helping our wonderful team! Your time is truly appreciated and is valued by all our staff and students! Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

### **Cold Weather**

With the arrival of colder weather, students are reminded to dress appropriately (hats, mitts, boots, etc.) and to wear all clothing that they came to school in when they go out for recess. We recommend that clothing is labelled for our primary students, so that we can easily identify who owns what. During the winter season it is generally accepted in Dufferin—Peel that when the wind chill factor drops below  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$ , students should not go outside for recess.

### **Recess Reminders**

We at St. Jerome have a NO CONTACT policy. This policy states that students are not to play any games or be involved in any activities in the schoolyard that involve physical contact. Games such as tackle football, touch tag, manhunt and like games are not allowed. If a game develops during the course of a recess break where contact becomes part of the game or activity, students are reminded to remove themselves from that activity and to report the contact to the nearest staff member on yard duty. Staff can easily be identified by their bright orange vests. Please reinforce with your children the inherent dangers of rough play, even when the intent is fun.



### **Snowballs**

When the cold months arrive and snow on the ground is plentiful, we all like to play in it and with it. Throwing snowballs and sliding on ice is fun. However, as much fun as it is, snow and ice can be very dangerous when lots of people are in a small area. Our school yard is a small area where approximately three hundred thirty students have recess. In order for our school to be as safe as possible, the school rule must be that snow stays on the ground. There will be no snowballs, kicking of snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful. We thank you for reinforcing this expectation with your child.

## **Dates to Remember Mark your Calendar**



February 3	Term 2 begins
February 7	Term 1 Report Cards go home
February 9	Interview Evening
February 10	PA Day –no school
February 15	Catholic School Council 6:30 pm
February 20	Family Day –no school
February 28	Shrove Tuesday
March 1	Ash Wednesday
March 8	Lenten Mass 10:00 am at school
March 13-17	March Break
April 4	Grade 8 Graduation Pictures
April 14	Good Friday –no school
April 17	Easter Monday –no school
April 25	Grade 7 Confirmation 7:00 pm

### **Planning Ahead:**

#### **PA Days:**

Feb 10, May 12, June 12, June 30

#### **March Break:**

Monday, March 13 to Friday, March 17, 2017 inclusive



### **St. Jerome's Annual BBQ**

Planning will start soon for our annual BBQ, which will be taking place on Friday, May 26th. The annual BBQ raises significant funds which the school council allocates for various items and activities that add to your children's educational experience at St. Jerome. Please support the BBQ with items such as gift certificates, tickets for events, new electronics, housewares, tools, toys and sporting goods. Please forward donations to the school. Thank you for your anticipated support! In the coming months we will be seeking parent volunteers, if you would like to help at the BBQ, please call the school. We look forward to seeing you at the BBQ!



### **Grade 8 Graduation Pictures**

A reminder that grade eight graduation pictures will be taken on April 4th. Further information from the photographer will be sent home closer to the date.