

Father Serra Catholic School

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Father Serra Times

March, 2010



A. Perron

Director of Education

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2009-2010

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CSAC Co-chairs: Karen Lorenowicz and Shereen Persano

Principal's Message

As we enter the season of Lent, I ask that you join us in preparing your children for this significant period in our lives as Catholics. We encourage the children to take time to reflect upon and celebrate the true meaning of His resurrection.

Kindergarten registration continues throughout this month. To date we have registered 27 junior kindergarten students for September 2010. You are encouraged to inform your Catholic neighbours who plan to enroll their children at our school. I would also be pleased to give them a tour of our school.

On Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010 you will receive your child's second term report card. The Parent-Teacher Conferences for this reporting period will take place on Thursday evening, March 4th, 2010 and Friday morning, March 5th, 2010.

Please note that the March Break begins on Monday, March 15th, 2010. The students return to school on Monday, March 22nd, 2010.

The attached calendar provides details of the many events occurring this month.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Father Serra Catholic community for your continued support of our school programs.

Enjoy the March Break with your children!

J. Pannozzo

Prayer for the Family

Heavenly Father, You have given us a model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Help us to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace and joy reign. May it be deeply contemplative, intensely Eucharistic, and vibrant with joy. Help us to stay together in joy and sorrow through family prayer.

Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our family. May we love one another as you love each one of us, and forgive each other's faults as you forgive us. Amen

Adapted from a prayer of Mother Teresa



CSAC News

Thank you to the army of dedicated volunteers who have been working behind the scenes to deliver CSAC initiatives including the popular Pancake Tuesday and Pizza Lunches to our students. Preparations will soon begin for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion, and Confirmation that will take place in the months ahead. We thank the committee members who have generously offered their time and energy to make these important life events memorable for our students.

In February we tested two hot lunch suppliers and will be rolling out a program with Kidssentials later this month for families who are interested in purchasing a hot lunch. Information packages and menus will be sent home right after the March Break and you can also visit the website at kidssentials.com. Hot Lunches will be available beginning in April on Fridays alternating with our Pizza Lunch Fundraiser.

Thank you for your support,

Karen Lorenowicz and Shereen Persano
CSAC co-chairs

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC News)

In no time Spring will be nipping at our heels and with that we are happy to spread the word that the Scarborough Parent Conference is back by popular demand! Save the date - this year's event will take place on Saturday April 24, 2010. This is a joint conference serving the parents from the Toronto Catholic District School Board AND the Toronto District School Board – working together for our children's success. There will be great workshops, interesting exhibits, childminding will be available, and it will feature student talent from the TCDSB and TDSB. Come on out and share a great day of learning. Registration brochure coming soon – your CSAC will be providing you with more information as it becomes available.

The Catholic Parent Involvement Committee website has been updated with some of the latest and new information...check it out by visiting: <http://www.tcdsb.org/parents/cpic.htm>. Get acquainted with your local CPIC area representative under the area: **Your CPIC Representatives**, you will be able to send your representative an email and introduce yourself, we look forward to hearing from you!

As the March Break approaches, we wish you and your families a safe and happy week!



Girls' Intermediate Basketball 2009-2010



The Senior Girls' Basketball team practised diligently in preparation for the Board Divisional Tournament held on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at St. Gregory School.

Right from the "get-go", the girls were pumped and ready to play. Our first game was against St. Gregory, the toughest team in the tournament. We ended up losing this game by only 7 points. Next, we played against Nativity and won the game by a score of 27 to 15. This placed us 2nd in the tournament, which meant we needed to play Nativity in the semi-finals. After winning the game, we faced St. Gregory for the Finals. Unfortunately, we lost and placed second overall in the tournament.

Mrs. Lui would like to thank the following girls for a wonderful basketball season: Alessandra Cicci, Alessandra Sacco, Cassondra Hartman-Hayes, Serena Marzario, Alessia Papisodaro, Samantha Papisodaro, Lauren Sabotig, Stephanie Sabotig, Lia Domenis, Tania Corbo, Rachel Colle, Katrina Ceccarelli, Cristina Urso, Natasha Bruno, Gabrielle Major.



Intermediate Boys' Basketball Team 2009-2010

The intermediate boys' basketball tournament was held at St. Gregory's Catholic School on February 2. Father Serra played three games. We lost a tight first game by two points to St. Gregory. In the second game we won with a last second steal and basket over Nativity of Our Lord. The boys were very excited.

In our third game we kept missing easy baskets and we eventually lost to Nativity of Our Lord.

The tournament was a success and the boys had a lot of fun participating in it. Special thanks and recognition must be given to Mr. Bandiera and Mr. MacRory who came to coach the boys each morning at practice as well as the tournament.

The team members are: Marco Bandiera, Adrian Stellato, Michael Ragazzo, Steven Wolwyn, Nicholas Mazzoli, Daniel Trentadue, Matthew Sguazzin, Lukas Gabrys, Peter Bonanno, Daniel DeLuca.

Student Leaders

Our Father Serra Student Leaders continue to work hard to make a difference in our community and in the communities of others around the world. On January 22nd, 2010, some of our grade 7 Student Leaders attended the Daily Bread food bank to sort and package food. We worked great as a team and managed to sort through over 2000 pounds of food. Daily Bread food bank praised our students for all the hard work, great behaviour, and teamwork. On January 26th, the student leaders hosted a red and blue civies day to symbolize our support for Haiti. We raised a fantastic \$2100.00 that day. Through Free The Children, we donated this money to Canada for Haiti, and our Canadian government matched our contributions which made a total donation of \$4200.00. Our Student Leaders are still working to achieve our goal for Free the Children. The students continue to sell popcorn at the Snack Shack, and we will also be hosting another themed Dress-Down Day on March 26th. The theme has not yet been determined.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our students and all of our parents for participating in the many different special events that take place at our school; together we are all making a difference. Thank you.

Miss C. Salgadoinho
(CYW)

DANCE-A-THON FUNDRAISER FOR LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY OF CANADA

Our annual Valentine's dance took place on February 12th. It was a great success! Our decorations were amazing and everyone had a good time dancing and singing. This was the best Dance-a-thon yet, but most importantly, our school and community danced for Ian Macdonald, who passed away from leukemia. All the money raised from the dance-a-thon will go to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada. We'd like to thank all the student leaders who helped make the great decorations and posters and Ms. Lucia for working extra hard on organizing the dance. We would also like to thank the Hollywood Tickle Trunk for donating the red carpet, velvet ropes and many other props for our spectacular Hollywood-themed dance. Thank you also to Mr. Di Corte of "Ecowater Systems" at 8633 Weston Road, Unit #4, Woodbridge, Ontario for donating the water for the Dance-A-Thon for the past 7 years.

This year wasn't only about dancing but also about raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada. Our goal this year is \$20,000. With hard work, we can achieve our goal. We have reached our goal many times in the past and we will continue to do so. The Father Serra community has raised more than \$80,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada. The top 10 classes will receive a chocolate fountain party so work hard and give from the heart! Remember to hand in your pledge forms and give from the heart.



Serena Mazario & Mackenzie Sousa

Family Math Night

Family Math Night was held on February 9th, 2010. Monica Rohel, our Mathematics Resource Teacher, facilitated a presentation for JK – Gr. 3 students and parents. We had over seventy parents and students attend this evening. Parents were given a TCDSB booklet entitled "Supporting Your Child's Mathematics Learning" and a ministry document entitled "Helping your Child Do Mathematics". We would like to thank the following student leaders who did a great job assisting during the Family Math Night: Katrina Ceccarelli, Julia Petro, Alexandra Hopkins, Olivia Consentino, Mikahla Iuele, Gulia Tripodi, Sierra Gri.

The second Family Math Night will be held Tuesday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. for parents that have a child in grades four to six. We look forward to seeing you on this evening.

PARISH NEWS

During The Lenten season, we are fortunate to include a Parish Mission. For each of us this is a time of particular blessings, change, renewal, repentance and conversion. Think of it as Jesus making a special house call and He invites each of us personally to join Him.



The School Community and our responses to Jesus' invitation to this Parish Mission would be incomplete without you and your children here. On behalf of Fr. Claudio, his associate Andreina Brann and me, we encourage you to make room in your calendars for this blessed event. Also, please reach out and invite your friends, family members and those that you know are less connected to the Church and his or her Catholic faith. I look forward to seeing you each evening and as always you are in my prayers.

The Mission begins each evening at 7:30 p.m. from Sunday, March 21st until Friday, March 26th.

Rev. Andrzej Glaba
Pastor

Forgiveness

How timely that the virtue for this month is FORGIVENESS, not only because we are in the season of Lent but also because it is an important cornerstone of our faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in His life and death. We are reminded that forgiveness is a gift to ourselves as we let go of the burden of resentment when we forgive another person and it's a gift to our children when we teach and model it to them. This month, at Father Serra, we will be exploring the virtue of forgiveness by taking responsibility for our own actions.

Chess Tournament News

On Friday, February 5th, Father Serra School entered a Chess competition for the Girls' Individual Tournament at Monsignor John Corrigan C. School. Representing our school in this chess tournament were Haley Pinto (Mrs. Simonelis's class) and Julia Stancati (Mrs. Troina's class). They both competed diligently where Haley came in 3rd place and Julia came in 5th place. Congratulations to both girls. Thank you to Mrs. Zastawny and Mr. Olijnyk who have been supervising the team and to Coach Goran.

Mrs. J. Leo-DelDuca

Eco Corner

This month let's remember to bring our lunches and snacks in reusable containers, and avoid using aluminum foil or plastic bags. Remember that together we can make a difference!

We will be celebrating Earth Hour on Friday, March 26th at 10:00a.m.



STUDENT(S) OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students.

The theme for **February** was **LOVE**.

M. Palermo-Saraco (JK.)

Emilia Russell, Roman Sena, Olivia Pinto,
Samantha Porcarelli

J. Salvadori (SK.)

Alessia Morsillo, Marcus Tung, Justin Ierullo

P. Cameron (Gr. 1)

Alexa DaCosta, Daniel Buttigieg

A. Pocklington (Gr. 1)

Idanna Staltari, Michael Harquail

C. Traynor (Gr. 2)

Isabella Frasca, Hannah Szczepanowski

A. Ferraro (Gr. 2)

Kalia Culmone, Gianfranco Cosentino

L.Pimento (Gr. 2/3)

Madeleine De Paoli, Laura Francavilla

I. Barton (Gr. 3)

Jessica Opacak, Charlie Waddell

A. Simonelis (Gr. 3/4)

Tessa Carr, Trevor Tung, Shane Paron



B. MacRory (Gr. 4)

Rosalia Jaffray, Samantha Persano, Matthew Clements,
Julia Yamasaki

R. Troina (Gr. 4/5)

*Anthony Colucci, Joseph Giovenco, Antonija Ljubicic,
Julie Shin*

T. Ganano (Gr. 5)

Julia Hopkins, Francesca Mazzuca

J. Berneche (Gr. 5/6)

Natalie Di Ilio, Catherine Del Rosso

M. MacDonald (Gr. 6)

Austin Green, Jack LoParco, Alyssa Sanborn

S. Bellisario (Gr. 6)

*John-Steven Giannantonio, Adam Bottero, Molly
Duprey, Nicole Di Falco*

G. Lui (Gr. 7)

*Luke Di Giulio, Rachel Milloy, Daniella Pulsinelli,
Alessandro Stefenatti*

M. Parzei (Gr. 7)

Gabrielle Major

D. Farrell (Gr. 8)

Jasmin Miranda-Cascante, Matthew Sguazzin

R. Gargano (Gr. 8)

Joseph Dominicis, Alessia Papasodaro, Julia Tarsitano

M. Torrieri (Gr. 8)

Jenessa Avila, Alessandra Cicci, Michael Ragazzo

