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# Immaculate Conception Elementary School

## October 2009 Newsletter

### Empathy is the Theme for October

Once again, we are celebrating a Catholic Virtue and this month the virtue is Empathy. Jesus showed us great acts of empathy during his time on earth and we have the same opportunity today. Empathy is what helps people understand the hurting of others and to celebrate the success of others when they win. We strive to have empathetic students here at Immaculate Conception School and we'll be celebrating them this month. Acts of empathy are what strengthen our community and help us feel closer to God ...

#### October School Mass - Theme: Empathy

The Mass for this month is scheduled for **Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm** - **Mr. Smith's Grade 7 class will prepare readings for this mass.** Parents and grandparents are most welcome to attend our mass.

#### School Pictures

ALL STUDENTS IN SK - Grade 6 will have their pictures taken on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> in the morning. Junior Kindergarten students, Gr 7 & 8 and for students who were absent will have their pictures taken on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in the morning.



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### Immaculate Conception School

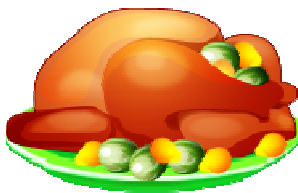
Volume 2

October 1, 2009

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#### Special points of interest:

- ☺ JK/Gr. 1 trip to Pumpkin Patch—Wed., Oct. 21
- ☺ SK/Gr. 1/2 trip to Pumpkin Patch—Thurs., Oct. 22
- ☺ Yearly Fundraiser Triathlon—October 30<sup>th</sup>
- ☺ Hot Lunch Dates: Oct 1<sup>st</sup>—Pizza; Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>—Hot Dogs; Oct 14<sup>th</sup>—Hot Dogs; Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>—Pizza and Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>—Sub Lunch
- ☺ First Bake Sale of the year—Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> by SK class
- ☺ Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>—Hep B and Meningitis shots for Grade 7 and HPV for Grade 8 girls
- ☺ News from Gr 8's—Garage Sale in November—look for more info and grade 8 class is learning to cook



### Thanksgiving Food Drive (Oct. 1—8)

#### Thanksgiving Food Drive

On Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> **we will start our annual collection of dry goods** for our Thanksgiving Collec-

tion. We ask that each student bring one item (such as canned goods, pasta, pasta sauce, vegetables, beans, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.) into the school **on or before Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**. This an-

nual food drive at Thanksgiving has always been a success and we ask for your help once again. **This food drive will help families in our area .**

*We appreciate your help.*

## News from the Library

### **Battle of the Books**

All students in grades 3-6 are invited to take part in the Battle of the Books. This is a club which reads books from a list of 30 predetermined titles. This club meets once per month to have games and contests, and discuss the books that they have read. Anyone who joins the club must promise to read at least 1 book on the list, but reading more books gives students a better chance of winning prizes.

There will be trivia competitions between all schools in our Board, in March. We are allowed to pick 12 students from the club to represent our

school. It is a lot of fun, and we came in **3rd place last year** in our Family of Schools competition and in the Board Wide competition.

We have all of the titles on the book list in our library, but families might have them in their own collections, or you could borrow them from other libraries, friends and family. Book lists have gone home with all interested students, but if you need another one, or if you have any questions, please contact Mrs. O'Rourke (librarian).

### **Book Fair—October 5-8**

Once again, the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Immaculate Conception.

The Book Fair is a great opportunity for students and staff to purchase high quality books at great prices and all proceeds go towards new books and materials for the library. Items sold

at the Book Fair range from 50 cents to \$25.00, with most books under \$9.00.

The Book Fair will be open from October 5-8 during school hours, and there will be a family night on Thurs. Oct. 8 from 6:00 to 7:30. Thank you for your continued support with this library fundraiser. Over the last 4 years, we have received over \$4000.00 in free books for the library with proceeds from the Book Fair.

## News from the Catholic School Council

Our Catholic School Council has had a strong start with 7 parents coming to the first meeting, along with Terry Keating, the Principal, and Sue Smith, the grade 1 teacher who works with us on accomplishing our initiatives and goals. If you weren't able to make the first meeting or feel slightly intimidated about joining an existing group, please know that you are welcome and wanted!

Remember that everyone on the council is a family or community member who wants to be involved in our children's lives. You don't have to attend every meeting. Come when you can on the second Tuesday of each month and see what a difference you can make when you're part of this team—it's fun and the meetings only last about an hour.

**This year childcare will be provided free of charge.**

Whether you want to help out for the long-term or for a single event such as the upcoming Triathlon fundraiser which will take place on Friday October 30, we are always happy to have help. The Triathlon is the one big fundraiser of the year and we're always looking for volunteers whether it's to supervise the dance-a-thon, bake a pan of peanut-free brownies or donate prizes to the fundraisers. Speaking of prizes we're pleased to announce the winners from the Volunteer survey that many individuals filled out on the night of the BBQ! The winners of the "Family night Out Prize Packs" which include a \$40.00 gift card from Reggie's hot Grill and two adult and two children's movie passes are: Mary McGillis, Angela Maljevac and Kathy Shewell. The winners of the "Free Hot Lunches" for students in your family in the month of October are Theresa Windsor (Jaycee and Katy) and Charlene Bellhouse (Ashley & James) **Congratulations!** If you have any questions, concerns or comments please feel free to call or email one (or both!) of your co-chairs, Christina Jones (743-1149) [ejones7@sympatico.ca](mailto:ejones7@sympatico.ca) or Kim Driscoll (742-9885) [Kimdriscoll@gmail.com](mailto:Kimdriscoll@gmail.com)

# JK Registration / Environment and Catholic Education

Please call the school to register your child for JK or for new SK students - a student for Junior Kindergarten must be 4 years old by December 31, 2010. Senior Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by December 31, 2010. *For families who presently have students at Immaculate Conception - please call the school to request a registration package.*



spring bulbs to plant now, too.

**Oct. 7th is Walk to School Day around the world.** We'll be registered for it. Decorate your running shoes! We soon will be part of a new initiative to track how many of our students are walkers. (P.S. Prizes are part of it!) Peterborough Green-up is leading this. Another area we need to address is Litterless Lunches. Please make every effort to cut down on garbage included in lunches that cannot be recycled or composted. Re-usable containers are helpful rather than plastic baggies. Though this takes a bit more work it will lead to less garbage generated from our school.

## **Environment Club**

Do you have any extra perennials left from your garden? We'd love to plant them here at the school. We also would appreciate any donations of

## **Participate in the Future of Catholic Education**

When you designate your tax support for Catholic schools, you help sustain a right that Ontarians have enjoyed for over 150 years.

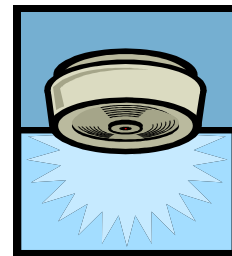
TO BECOME A SUPPORTER, please verify your property tax bill, or speak to your landlord to ensure that you are registered as a Catholic school supporter. Did you know, every time you move, your tax support does not follow you. You must re-declare yourself a Catholic school supporter.

THE NEXT MUNICIPAL ELECTION will take place in November 2010. In order to vote for a Catholic school Trustee, you should declare yourself a Catholic school supporter before the end of October 2009.

# Fire Prevention Week—October 4—10, 2009

This year's theme, "Practice Your Escape Plan" is a timely and important reminder to not only develop an escape plan but to practice it with everyone in the household. People can have less than a minute to escape a home fire safely. It is vital that everyone in the home knows exactly what to do if a fire starts and the smoke

detector . Parents are encouraged to participate in the Great Canadian Fire Drill—Plan your escape plan visit [www.safeathome.ca/drill](http://www.safeathome.ca/drill) to enter the contest. **Plan and practice a home escape plan. Pick a meeting spot outside. Check your smoke alarms every month.**



**Smoke Alarms can't do their job if they are not properly installed and kept in top working condition.**

# First Nation, Metis and Inuit News

## **Falling Leaves Moon**

The tenth moon of Creation is the Falling Leaves Moon, a time when Mother Earth is honoured with the grandest of colours. As all of Creation makes their offerings to her, we become aware of all the miracles of Creation before us and our spiritual energies are once again awakened.

## **Did you know that...?**

Corn is a staple food that was cultivated by aboriginal people for thousands of years. Today this plant is vital and grows practically everywhere in the world.

## **Grandfather Teachings:**

## **Bravery**

"Let the Great Spirit bless us with courage to keep the circle strong." Never give in. Never give up.

### **Websites:**

<http://www.hiawathafirstnation.com>  
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/>

## Immaculate Conception School

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Peterborough, ON K9H 1E8

Phone: 705-745-6777  
Fax: 705-745-9620  
Principal: Terry Keating

Website address: <http://schools.pvnccdsb.on.ca/immac06>



Healthy Families Workshop Series is offering two FREE workshops this fall: 'Cause It's Not My Fault: Understanding the Behaviour and Learning of Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder with Allan Mountford, FASD Specialist on Thursday, Nov. 5th from 7 to 9 pm at the Peterborough Lions Club Community Centre

### And

The Impact of Asperger's Syndrome: What Families Need to Know with Dr. Peggy Kirkpatrick, Pediatrician at the Hospital for Sick Children, on Thursday, December 5th from 7 to 9 pm at the Peterborough Public Library

**Website for Healthy Families:**  
[www.peterboroughhealthyfamilies.ca](http://www.peterboroughhealthyfamilies.ca)

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## More October news

### Professional Activity Day

**Friday, October 2nd** is a Professional Activity Day and therefore there is no school for the students on this day.

### Blessing of the Animals

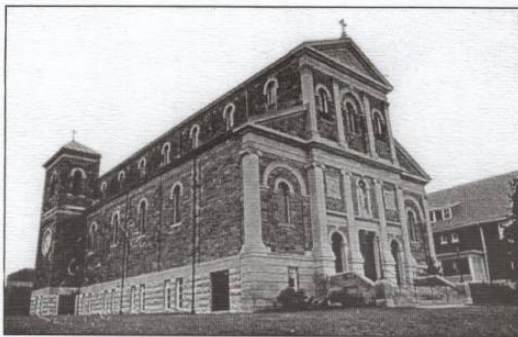
On Sunday, October 4th at 3:30 PM

In the parking lot at Immaculate Conception Church—386 Rogers St.

Father George will give your pet a special blessing. October 4th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, The Patron Saint of Animals.

Bring your pet for God's Blessing!!

Everyone Welcome



### NOTE TO PARENTS:

#### RE: OCTOBER 1ST PIZZA

FOR STUDENTS WHO ORDERED PIZZA AND WERE PART OF THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM—YOUR PIZZA ORDER WILL BE MOVED TO THE FIRST DATE IN NOVEMBER—WHICH WILL BE NOVEMBER 4TH. PLEASE WRITE ON YOUR NOVEMBER 4TH ORDER FOR PIZZA—THAT YOU ALREADY PAID FOR IT.

THANK YOU,  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

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