



Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School  
78 Glenabbey Drive  
Courtice, Ontario  
L1E 2B5  
905-433-5512



"do ordinary things with extraordinary love"

## JANUARY 2011

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Principal:

*Cathy Dykeman*

Vice-Principal:

*Stephen O'Sullivan*

Parish Priest:

*Fr. Stan Chu Ilo*

*Fr. Anthony*

*Ezeonwueme*

Secretaries:

*Linda Reynen*

*Jane Hunt*

CSC Chair:

*Amany Bastien*

*Johnene Milan*

Superintendent:

*Deirdre Thomas*

Trustees:

*Granville Anderson*

*Peggy O'Toole*

*"We are, each of us, and all of us,  
responsible for one another:  
friends, family and strangers.  
We are brothers and sisters because  
God has created us that way."  
Genesis 4:9*

Happy New Year to one and all! On behalf of the staff and students of Mother Teresa Catholic School, allow me to thank you for your continued support throughout 2010 and wish your families continued blessings and good health in 2011.

January brings renewed energy and commitment to our many responsibilities. Classes will be very busy with their studies. Please assist your children to complete homework to the best of their abilities and continue to communicate with their teachers via the Agenda book, letters, and phone calls. Together we can make the remainder of Term 2 most successful.

With warmest regards,  
Cathy Dykeman, Principal

#### A PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Let the rain come and wash away the ancient grudges, the bitter hatreds held and nurtured over generations.

Let the rain wash away the memory of the hurt and neglect.

Then let the sun come out and fill the sky with rainbows.

Let the warmth of the sun heal us wherever we are broken.

Let it burn away the fog

so we can see each other clearly.

So that we can see beyond labels, beyond accents, gender or skin colour.

Let the warmth and brightness of the sun melt our selfishness.

So that we can share the joys and feel the sorrows of our neighbours.

Let the earth, nourished by rain, bring forth flowers to surround us with beauty.

And let the mountains teach our hearts to reach upwards to heaven.

Amen

-by Rabbi Harold S. Kushner

**RESPONSIBLE PERSON IS ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS OR HER ACTIONS AND CHOICES  
( AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES) WITHOUT BLAMING OTHERS.**

### **CATHOLIC VIRTUES INTO ACTION—Responsibility**

January and making resolutions are age old friends. Resolutions and the virtue of responsibility are a natural fit. In this month of new beginnings our Catholic School Community will practise and celebrate how we honour God when we act responsibly.

We will work to find practical ways to demonstrate three important Catholic Graduate Expectations. We resolve to become:

• A self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential.

• A caring family member...who attends to family, school, parish and the wider community.

• A responsible citizen...who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

# Our SPELL-A-THON—A Tremendous Success

During the weeks of November 9th to December 14th the students of Mother Teresa participated in a Spell-a-thon fundraiser in support of the needs of your school.

We wish to congratulate all who took part. As a school community we raised a grand total of:

**\$7079.30**

This money will go a long way to help us in our plans to update and improve technology throughout the school. Congratulations to the following top overall

student fundraisers received our school sponsored prizes:

Marissa White—DSI Game System

Deanna Butt—Ipod

The top 3 fundraising classes were:

Grade 7 Mrs. Bruce

Grade 6 Mme. Clark

Grade 2/3 Mrs. Allain

The highest participating class with 90% was Miss Imray's Grade 1 class.

Special thank you to the Catholic School Council for providing us with the incentive prizes. Also to the volunteers who managed the returns and counted all the money especially Mrs. Hannah, Mrs. Lucchese, Mrs. Bastien, and Mrs. Pavicic.



## Wind Chill Hazards

Through out the winter months, parents and students are reminded to check the wind chill hazards before going outdoors. Students are reminded that they must wear for recess all the outer clothing they wear to school. Parents are asked to ensure that the students are well prepared for the weather as even moderate wind chills can be dangerous if a person is going to be outdoors for varied periods of time when not properly dressed.

The following chart produced by Environment Canada summarizes the main points:

0° to -10°

Dress warmly, with the outside temperature in mind.

-10° to -25°

Dress in layers or warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant. Wear a hat, mittens, and scarf and keep active outdoors.

-25° to -45°

Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant. Cover all exposed skin, particularly your face and hands. Wear a hat, mittens, scarf, and neck tube or face mask. Avoid exposing the skin directly to the wind and keep active.

Effects of Wind Chill:

Anyone who has every experienced a Canadian winter knows that he/she feels colder when the wind blows. The wind takes away the thin layer of warm air that is being repeatedly built up close to our skin, causing the skin temperature to drop and our bodies to feel colder. Wind also makes us feel colder by evaporating the moisture on our skin, thus drawing more heat away from the body. Good quality clothing with high insulating properties traps air creating a thicker boundary layer around the body, keeping in the heat. Further information may be found at the Environment Canada web site [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca).

## School Procedures re: Weather

The school checks the conditions on the weather network on those days when the temperature falls into the low numbers. Using the temperature and wind speed, we will use this chart to determine if there will be outdoor recess or not. On those days that there will

be outdoor lunch recess, this information will be used to determine the length of time the students will stay outside. At all times, the safety of the children will be the determining factor. As Canadians, we feel that it is important for the children to be comfortable in the environment

In which they are growing up, so we encourage them to learn to dress for Canadian winters and to enjoy the gifts they bring. Over time, our bodies learn to adapt to the cold. People who live in a cold climate are often able to withstand the cold better than those from warmer climates.

Our guideline for outdoor recesses on cold weather days is as follows: (including wind chill)

0 to -10- students will go outdoors

-10 to -19—students will go outdoors for 20 minutes maximum

-20 and below—students will stay indoors

### Ski/Snowboard Club

Our Ski/Snowboard Club begins on **Tuesday, January 11**. We will be leaving right after school. Students are asked to make sure they have all their equipment at school and ready to go. **Make sure to dress for the weather.** Extra mitts and socks are always a good idea. You don't want wet hands and feet! Make sure you also pack some dinner and snacks. There is a cafeteria available for those who wish to purchase their dinner.

Parents are asked to be at the school to meet the bus by 8:40 p.m. Please be prompt as the supervisors have been outside all evening and want to get home after a cold evening on the slopes.

If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Reynen at 905-433-5512.

**PARENT/POLICE COALITION  
MEETING**

**Monday, January 24, 2011  
7:00—8:00 p.m.**

We are excited to be hosting our first Parent/Police Coalition Meeting on Monday January 24th, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at M. J. Hobbs Public School located at 2296 Taunton Road, Hampton. (beside Darlington Skating Arena). We were originally going to run our first meeting the end of November but some of our administrators in the schools continue to send us names of parents that are interested.

The purpose of these meetings will be to discuss various topics, cyberbullying, drugs and substances, the youth criminal justice act, community problems and other areas of interest based on the teams suggestions. We would like to also utilize some of your experiences as well as expertise in different areas through this coalition.

All are welcome to this meeting. We will start off with introductions and the mission of our coalition.

Looking forward to meeting with you.

Constable Stacey Sullivan #3401  
Elementary School Liaison Officer-Clarington

***In Search of a new Director of Education  
and Secretary Treasurer...***

On **Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School**, Bowmanville, Trustees Peggy O'Toole and Granville Anderson will be hosting a public meeting for staff, parents, students and community members to provide input regarding the search process for the new Director of Education and Secretary-Treasurer for this Board.

**Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School**

**Grade 8 Parent Information Night Thursday,  
January 27, 2011**

**7 p.m.**

**Parents and students are encouraged to  
attend.**

***From the library***

**How many minutes can you read??**

Welcome back everyone! January is **Literacy Month** and this year, on **Wednesday, January 19, 2011** we will be having an assembly at

**10:00 in the gym** to kick off our **MS READ-A-THON**. I would like to ask everyone to wear RED on that day to show our support.

Parents are welcome to come and listen to our speaker from the MS Society explain what MS is and how we can help out.

It will end on Friday February 11, 2011 and **all money must be collected before Monday Feb. 21** and handed in to Mrs. White.

There will be prizes for each student participating and anyone raising \$25.00 or more will receive additional awards. Let's see if our school can get on the honour roll. We just need to raise **\$2,500 for the whole school!** We raised a lot for Terry Fox research how about MS research !!

I hope everyone will help out by reading and getting pledges. More information is available at <http://mssociety.ca/readathon/en/default.htm> There are also games for the children on this site.

Happy reading!!!

Mrs. White



**CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE**

**If a child lives with criticism,  
He learns to condemn.**

**If a child lives with hostility,  
He learns to fight.**

**If a child lives with ridicule,  
He learns to be shy.**

**If a child lives with shame,  
He learns to feel guilty.**

**If a child lives with tolerance,  
He learns to be patient.**

**If a child lives with encouragement,  
He learns confidence.**

**If a child lives with praise,  
He learns to appreciate.**

**If a child lives with fairness,  
He learns justice.**

**If a child lives with security,  
He learns to have faith.**

**If a child lives with approval,  
He learns to like himself.**

**If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,  
He learns to find love in the world.**

Anonymous

# Important Bus Safety Reminder

## WINTER SAFETY REMINDERS:

- Students are reminded to be waiting at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to scheduled pick-up time.
- Winter conditions may cause the sidewalks to be very slippery. Students must always walk to board the bus safely.
- Parents, please listen to local radio stations for inclement weather reports, bus delays and cancellations.
- Students are reminded to dress warmly when waiting for the bus.
- Students must refrain from playing on snow banks to prevent slipping into traffic.



## “Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) seeking feedback on bus service:

STSCO has recently advised the school that an online transportation service survey is available for families, parents and students to complete at their convenience. The intention of the survey is to obtain feedback and input on the bus and transportation service being provided to students this school year. Information collected will be used by STSCO to help meet its goal of continuously monitoring and improving the service provided to students, families and schools. Please follow the steps below and take a few minutes to complete the survey.



Step 1. Go to [www.stsco.ca](http://www.stsco.ca) and press the “Enter Parent Survey Here” button.

Step 2. Fill in the STSCO Parent Survey and press the submit button at the end.

Any questions regarding the survey can be directed to Joel Sloggett, C.A.O., or Steve Jackson, Operations Manager, with STSCO. Your participation in the survey will be most appreciated.”

# Bethlehem Comes to Life at Mother Teresa

On a clear, crisp December night angels appeared under the stars, the shepherds guarding their flocks were the first to hear the news that a very special Baby was born in a humble stable...

We would like to thank everyone for attending the Bethlehem Walk that took place on Thursday, December 16th. This truly inspiring re-enactment of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem was very well attended and received by the members of our community. Your support at these events is greatly appreciated by the students and staff.

Events of this magnitude could not be successfully carried out without a lot of work behind the scenes. We would like to thank the staff for all of their assistance.

A special thank you to volunteers who gave of their time and talents to help build the beautiful stable. Thank you to those who donated materials and costumes for this dramatization. Thank you to Mrs. Bastien for arranging for our brilliant “star” for our shepherds to follow. Also a huge thank you to Mrs. Johnston and the P.E.T. squad for preparing the hot chocolate for the end of the tour.

## Back to School In The Zone Traffic Initiative

The Back to School In The Zone Traffic Initiative will be taking place January 6, 7 and 10-14, 2011. Officers will be issuing tickets for speeding, stop signs, parking and other traffic violations during that time period specifically in around the schools.

The children are our future lets together keep them safe.

### YOGI BEAR—SENSORY FRIENDLY SHOWING—CHECK IT OUT! SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 10 A.M.

AMC Theatres® is bringing families affected by autism a special opportunity to enjoy their favourite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis.

With Sensory Friendly Films, the movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down.



To the Staff and Students who braved the cold night air to take us back in time... Bravo!

