



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



"do ordinary things with extraordinary love"

OCTOBER 2010

From the Principal's Desk



Principal:

Cathy Dykeman

Vice-Principal:

Stephen O'Sullivan

Parish Priest:

Fr. Stan Chu Ilo
Fr. Peter Selvaraj

Secretaries:

Linda Reynen
Jane Hunt

CSC Chair:

Amany Bastien
Johnene Milan

Superintendent:

Deirdre Thomas

Trustees:

Maureen Day
Granville Anderson



During the month of October we celebrate the Catholic Virtue of EMPATHY. The link of Empathy to our Catholic School Graduate Expectations is strong and powerful - Empathy makes one a more caring family member, helps to develop responsible citizenship, assists us in listening critically and communicating with sensitivity, and reflects values founded in Catholic social teaching. Our school patron, Mother Teresa, is a shining example of Empathy.

Throughout this month, the children will be learning about the virtue of Empathy. Jesus showed us great acts of empathy during his time on earth. We have the same opportunity today to model empathy in our dealings with everyone in our lives. We understand empathy to mean the ability to identify with and feel other people's concerns. We believe that as members of a Catholic faith community, we share our identity as human beings coated in the image and likeness of God. Since we are one in the body of Christ, we are all brothers and sisters. As members of one family, we need to treat each other with care and concern for our feelings.

The link of Empathy to our Catholic Graduate Expectations is strong and powerful. Empathy makes one a more caring family member, helps to develop responsibility in our students and assists us all in listening kindly to others.

Most children have an innate sense of empathy that has been developing throughout their childhood. During this month, the theme of empathy will be addressed both implicitly through modeling or explicitly through classroom lessons and teachable moments, We would encourage your whole family to echo this approach at home as we work together to assist the children in our care as they develop into caring, peaceful citizens.

Please pray for the staff and students as we explore this essential virtue.



October is the
Month of the
Rosary.

Sincerely,
Cathy Dykeman
Principal

Steve O'Sullivan
Vice-Principal

Empathy is truly knowing and understanding how others feel, the ability to walk in their shoes for awhile, and letting them know you understand.



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

Trustee Candidates Meeting Municipality of Clarington

Sponsored by the District Catholic School Council and Holy Family Catholic School Council.

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 - 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Holy Family Catholic Elementary School
125 Aspen Springs Drive, Bowmanville

Candidates will have five minutes to present their reasons for seeking the position of Catholic School Trustee. A question/answer session will follow.


Clarington Trustee Candidates include:

Granville Anderson
Barbara Malone
Peggy O'Toole
John Slemko
Nicholle Stanisz



CONTINUING THE MARATHON OF HOPE

On Friday, September 17th Mother Teresa Catholic School held its first Terry Fox Run in over a decade in support of the Terry Fox Foundation. Each student was asked to bring loose change in order to participate in the run. We are very pleased to announce that this year we raised over \$1800. Thank you to all participants for your spirit and enthusiasm in helping Mother Teresa continue the legacy of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope!



CALLING ALL SKIERS/ SNOWBOARDERS

We are hoping to run the ski/snowboard club again this year on Tuesday evenings from January 11 to February 15 for students in grade 4-8. Numbers have been dwindling the last few years so if you are interested make sure you listen for further announcements. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Reynen 906-433-5512.



COMMUNITY AGENCIES INFORMATION NIGHT

On October 26 from 7-8:30 p.m., in the library at Mother Teresa School we will be hosting a Parent Information Night. Eight family service agencies from the area will give information about their mandate, their contact numbers and how they can help families in times of need. Each agency will provide print material as well. Agencies involved will be: Big Brothers and Sisters, The Canadian Mental Health Association, Kinark, Resources for Exceptional Children, Catholic Family Services, The Association of Parent Support Groups in Ontario and H.O.P.E. (Helping Other Parents Everywhere). Refreshments will also be served, so please come out and take advantage of this great opportunity!

Check out our website for up to date newsletters, information, pizza forms and Lunch Lady forms.

<http://schools.pvnccdsb.on.ca/mothe16/>

Volunteers Needed for Big Brothers and Sisters of Clarington In-School Mentoring!

In-School Mentoring is a fun and rewarding program that matches an adult volunteer (Mentor) with a child (Mentee) in the school environment. The commitment is just one hour a week from September to June. The children involved are elementary school students who would benefit from a one-to-one friendship with a caring adult. An effort is made to match mentors with children who have similar interests, and the school accommodates the time and day of the visit that best suits the mentor. If you or anyone you know would be interested in the program please call **Elisabeth Mellor** at **905-623-6646** or e-mail **bbsclarington@rogers.com**.



Durham Regional Police Service- Clarington Youth Citizenship Award

Commencing this year I would like to recognize those students that have assisted Durham Regional Police with investigations by awarding them the "Durham Regional Police Service- Clarington Youth Citizenship Award".

This award will be presented to students who have provided some crucial information about a crime that was going to take place or pertinent information regarding an active police investigation.

For example, two boys from one of the Clarington schools brought forth to the administration that a fight was going to take place after school and that one of the boys involved in this "planned" altercation had mentioned on Facebook that he was going to bring a knife to the fight. The administration contacted police, the boy was removed from the classroom, the knife was seized and the boy arrested. This information was crucial and assisted in keeping our community safe. This incident is similar to an incident at one of the Oshawa high schools last year in which a young man lost his life.

I would like to change the perception that both children and parents have of helping the police with their investigations. It is not "narking" or "ratting" or "snitching," but rather good citizenship. It keeps your neighbourhood and your community safe. It can be done in a safe and anonymous way to prevent peer pressure, intimidation or verbal abuse.

If a student is selected, a private ceremony will take place likely at the end of the school year. It will not be made public. It will be a ceremony at the police division or another location to present a plaque and possibly a gift certificate. The Staff Sergeant or Inspector along with the parents of the youth will be present. I do not want to ostracize these students, but want them to understand how important their efforts are for frontline police officers. They should be rewarded for their efforts and take full advantage of the recognition when applying for jobs in the community by mentioning the designation in their resumes.

Together we can make our community safe.

We have so much to be thankful for!

In Canada we set aside the second Monday in October to celebrate our gratitude to God. As a country, as a school community and as individuals we have received many gifts and blessings. Let each of us take time to reflect on these gifts and to express our thanksgiving to God.

*As a Catholic School Community we will be collecting donations for the **St. Thérèse Parish Food Bank**. Please give generously. We will continue to accept non-perishable items until **Friday, October 15th**. Thank you for your generosity!*

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

*We thank you God for all your gifts. May we appreciate and value the wonders of our life and the wonders of people and nature in our country Canada. In valuing people and nature may we protect, affirm and build a better, more peaceful world.
Amen.*



St. Thérèse Parish, Courtice

3800 Courtice Road North, Courtice, Ontario L1E 2L5

Phone: 905-436-2126 ~ FAX: 905-436-9589

sacraments.st.therese@bellnet.ca

sttherese@bellnet.ca

Parish Web Site: www.st-therese-church.com

On **Saturday October 23, 2010** there will be a Parent ONLY "Welcome Home" retreat morning in the church Hall for **ALL** parents of the Children who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion this year. At this meeting there will be a handout of information for all the Sacraments. **You are strongly encouraged to attend.**

Fr. Stan is hoping for a good turn out.

2009-2010 EQAO Results

The individual student results of the Grade 3/6 EQAO assessment for 2009-2010 have been released. Students in Grades 4 and 7 who wrote the test in June have officially received their results.

Our **Grade 3 and 6** Results of students scoring at level 3 or higher are as follows:

	GRADE 3	GRADE 6
READING	66%	60%
WRITING	83%	72%
MATHEMATICS	77%	45%

School, Board and Provincial Results can be viewed on the EQAO website (www.eqao.com).

Detailed information regarding our school results will be shared with our Catholic School Council at the October 21st meeting.

An EQAO Guide for Parents will be made available to all Grade 3 and 6 families as we get closer to the 2010-2011 assessment.

From the Sports Desk—Cross Country

Congratulations to our amazing cross country team. Mother Teresa placed 3rd out of 10 schools. We had several students who placed in the top 10. In grade 4 we had Alex and Tara who placed 1st and 2nd, Anthony and Luke who placed 3rd and 5th. In grade 5 Kylie placed 9th, in grade 6 Brooklyn placed 1st and Jacob 8th. In grade 7, Courtney placed 2nd and Matthew 5th. Finally in grade 8, Ryan placed 2nd.



Soccer is Alive and Kicking at MT

The boys fought hard and played an amazing tournament despite the bitter cold. The first game was a tough loss to Good Shepherd 5-1, then a win against College Park 2-0 and a win against Msgr. Leo Cleary 3-0. Team members include: Cory T, Luke K, Zach J, Cory L, Husam H, Lorenzo D, Sam S, Nick G, Mike D, Aaron B, Raniel M, Ryan M, Nick J, Sean H, Zach B, Tomas A, James W, Tim S, and Colin G.

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Soccer Team for their outstanding effort at the recent soccer tournament. The girls displayed great sportsmanship and worked well as a team in all three games. Team members include: Mackenzie, Alexis, Candace, Shannon, Alexandra, Cassidy, Emma, Jordan, Veronica, Brooke, Taylor, Devan, Alyssa, Sami, and Lysnay.



A Special Thank You to Our Amazing Coaches!

Cross Country—Mrs. Potts, Mrs. Walchuk

Intermediate Soccer

Girls—Mrs. Collicutt

Boys—Miss Gibson

GO, MAGIC!

GO, MAGIC!

MARATHON KIDS

A great bunch of runners from Mother Teresa ran 5 km at the Waterfront Marathon Event in Toronto on September 26. They will also run 37 km at school. A total of 42 km—a whole marathon!



Congratulations!



Safety is our #1 Concern!

SCHOOL ACCESS

Parents are reminded that we welcome you and other guests in the school, but respectfully request the following from you:

- ◆ For everyone's safety, parents and other adults arriving to collect students are to enter the school through the front doors only, stop at the office and wait for students there. Students will be called from their classrooms or the yard. Please sign your son/daughter out if you are taking them for any reason.
- ◆ Visitors who have an appointment with school staff are asked to sign in at the office upon arrival. The office will call the staff member to greet you.
- ◆ Parents wishing to meet with a teacher must call ahead and make an appointment. It is not always convenient for teachers to meet before and after school as they are often busy with duties, preparing for classes, attending meetings, etc. Dropping in on classes without notice can be disruptive. We greatly appreciate your consideration in this matter.
- ◆ Volunteers are asked to sign in at the office each time and wear a badge during their visit.
- ◆ Our school has a security entrance policy. All visitors must ring the buzzer in order to enter the school. If there isn't an adult in the office to greet you when you arrive, please be patient. Someone will be along to assist you shortly.

Safety is our #1 Concern!

Knowing who is on the premises is essential to ensuring the safety of our students and staff.



Hallowe'en—October 31st

Sunday, October 31st is Hallowe'en so Friday the 29th may prove to be an exciting day for our students here at Mother Teresa. There may be special activities planned in various classrooms on that day.

Students in Grades 1-8 are asked to wear the Hallowe'en colours orange and black in order to show their spirit for the day. Masks and costumes are not permitted. Information about individual classroom events will come from your child's home room teacher.

We wish our students a safe and enjoyable Hallowe'en!

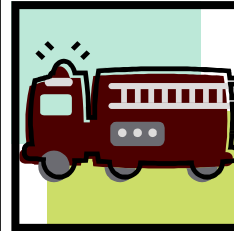
ALLERGY ALERT—ALLERGY SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We remind everyone that students who have severe life-threatening allergies to certain foods attend this school. Please do not send treats on October 29th unless authorized by the classroom teacher. Foods sent to school must not contain nuts of any kind.

When buying candy, or packing lunches, please look for the "SAFE TO SHARE" symbol on the package indicating a "nut free snack".



We thank you for your co-operation!



Fire Drills in October will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 5th and Friday, Oct. 22nd.

A LOCK DOWN

Practice will take place on Friday, November 12th @ 9:30 a.m. Our community officer, Stacey Sullivan will join us.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we participate in these important safety procedures

Important Bus Safety Reminder

Please be aware that students are permitted to ride only the bus to which they have been assigned. Occasionally students will approach the principal or teacher requesting permission to go home on someone else's bus. Often these requests are to accommodate transportation to birthday parties, sleep-overs, etc. We cannot approve these requests. Alternate transportation arrangements must be made ahead of time between the parents of the children involved.

Students who do not normally ride a particular bus to and from school are not permitted to travel on that bus even occasionally as they would not be covered by the Board's Insurance Policy. Thank you for your understanding.



Please Note:

In the event of emergency situations only, exceptions can be made. There is a BUS PASS procedure in place to cover emergencies. Requests must be made in advance to the principal.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



The inaugural meeting for the 2010-2011 Catholic School Council was held on September 23, 2010.

Meet the new Catholic School Council Executive

Co-Chair: Johnene Milan, Amany Bastien

Recording Secretary: Dave Simkins

Treasurer: Debbie Cullen

Parish Rep.: Iman Deal

Community Rep.: Edie Pavicic

Student Reps (announced pending parent permission)

Parent Reps.: Dawn Hannah, Karen Walker, Ruth Goodfellow

OECTA Rep.: Tina Collicutt

Our next meeting will be October 21, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

IDEAS TO SHARE WITH YOUR CHILDREN

What does Empathy sound/look/feel like at Mother Teresa Catholic School?

EMPATHY SOUNDS LIKE...

"I am happy for you!" "You look upset."

"I know how you are feeling." "I bet that hurts."

EMPATHY LOOKS LIKE...

...a sad face when someone is hurt or upset.

...helping a friend with their work when they look like they need a helping hand.

...a big smile on your face when someone else is feeling happy or excited.

...going over to someone who looks like they are in pain, and trying to make them feel better because you know how it feels to be hurt.

EMPATHY FEELS LIKE...

....knowing inside what it feels like to be happy, sad, and glad, and letting others know that you understand.

...understanding how a friend feels when they are happy.

...a pat on the back.

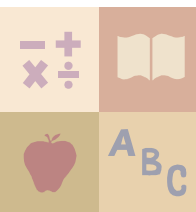
...a hug!

Hot Off the Press

WE HAVE NEW STAFF!

Please welcome Mrs. Ulrich, Educational Assistant. We are very fortunate to have her on our staff.

Good Bye to Mrs. Ryan, Program Support Teacher. Good luck to you in the future.



SCHOOL MASSES:

Our next Masses will take place at St. Therese Church.

Friday, October 22nd @ 9:45 a.m.

Friday, November 12th @ 9:45 a.m.

Staff and students will be travelling by bus.

All students in Grades 1-8 are required to attend school Masses.

Other Important News!

REPORTING TO PARENTS

A Progress Report will go home to parents/guardians on Tuesday, November 16th. Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place on Thursday, November 18th beginning @ 3:45 p.m.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD In the main hallway of the school, there is a bulletin board that may be used to post items of interest to the Community: church bulletins, school newsletters, workshops for parents, etc. Please see Mrs. Reynen if you have items to post.





Happy Thanksgiving from St. Therese Parish



Dear Principals, Teachers, Parents and Students,
As Thanksgiving approaches, it gives us a chance to look at all the blessings we have in our lives. Let us take the time this Thanksgiving to thank God for all the wonderful blessings He has given to us: our families, our friends, our principal, teachers and our parish community.

Father Stan Chu Ilo



Upcoming at Your Parish

October 3rd. Pot luck after our 11 am Mass.

Bishop DeAngelis will be joining us. All are welcome!

Oct. 4th—Blessing of animals following 7pm Mass

October 8th—Visit of Cap de Madeline to our Parish at 6:30pm

October 14th—7:30 pm—Free Seminar “How to Keep Cool with Your Kids” A presentation in the church hall at 7:30 pm.

There is no charge. To register please contact Stacey Gauvin at 905-433-1924 or sign up at the entrance to the Church.

October 23rd—Parent “Welcome Home” Sacrament Meeting in the hall for First Communion parents, 10 am—Noon.

October 28th – Mass with Prayers for Healing @7pm

October 28th—Seniors Tea 11:30 am

October 28th at 7:30 pm — Family Movie Night in the hall.

No Admission, refreshments will be sold.

October 30/31st – Youth Masses hosted by our Parish and the students of Good Shepherd School. All youth are encouraged to attend one of the weekend masses and join with the youth in the reserved youth pews.



Thanksgiving

