



St. Michael's Choir School

The Guiding Light

September 2010

Virtue of the Month *Hospitality*

"Only Those who have opened their hearts to Christ can offer a Hospitality that is never formal or superficial but identified by gentleness and reverence." Pope John Paul II

2010 Ontario University Fair: Sept. 24 -26

This year, all the grade 11 and 12 students will be attending the Ontario University Fair on Friday Sept 24.

The grade 11 students will have the opportunity to explore various universities, while the grade 12 student will have an opportunity for more specific questions.

Family and friends are invited to attend this free event. Faculty, staff and students from Ontario's universities will be available to answer your questions.

Approximately 108,000 students, parents and educators will attend the OUF this year.

[View the Safety and Conditions of Admission and Participation](#) for the 2009 Ontario Universities' Fair.



Visit www.electronicinfo.ca to begin your research into Ontario's 21 universities and the programs they offer.



College Fair 2010

Ontario colleges will be at the Direct Energy Centre (Exhibition Place) on Tuesday Oct. 19 from 10:00am to 7:00pm.

Do take the time to visit if your child is interested in going to college this coming year.

Bullying Prevention

Parents are the best advocates for their children. Bullying takes place both on and off school grounds and parents need to understand how to identify bullying situations, and what courses of action are available to them. For instance, cyberbullying is on the rise and parents require skills and support to deal with it appropriately.

Parents bring an important perspective on student behaviour and play a critical role in developing a more complete picture of the issues. Wider support and understanding from parents and caregivers will help to ensure a safe environment for their son and others in the community.

Please remember that if your son is being bullied, please contact the administration and/or guidance immediately.

International Languages: Grade 8 - 12

Over the years, many parents have had their children study their native language.

Now that the boys are in high school, they can continue with their studies or possibly begin to explore a new language. The TCDSB is offering Saturday courses, in various languages at no cost and the boys can earn high school credits. Classes begin on Sept. 11/10 and end on June 4/11

These courses are open to the grade 8 students and they will begin to earn a high school credit while they are in grade 8. It has been a great success with our students in the past.

For more information contact Mrs. Zanette or go to www.tcdsb.org/continueinged

2011 The Mathieu Da Costa Challenge: Unity in Diversity

The Mathieu Da Costa Challenge is an annual writing and artwork contest that asks students to learn more - and share what they learn - about the contributions that Canadians from diverse cultural backgrounds have made to our country. All entries must be in by December 10/10.



The categories for various age groups are: Original writing in English: Original writing in French and Original artwork.

For more information check out the website www.mathieudacosta.gc.ca or call 1-888-776-8584

Scholarship 2010 - 2011

The summer was a perfect time for students to start looking into scholarship opportunities, however it is never too late. The grade 12 students should start organizing themselves with a scholarship calendar using the site

www.scholarshipscanada.com

Or

Studentawards.com

Many things do not change from year to year, and this exercise would benefit the grade 11 students in preparation for their graduation.

It is important to note that universities offer scholarships also. There are two types: the ones that are automatically given and require no application and those that require an application. Start looking into the various universities of your interest.

Here are some dates to keep in mind:

1. The National Scholarship University of Toronto
Due Oct 4/2010
www.adm.utoronto.ca/awd/natschps.htm
2. TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership
Due Sunday October 31/10
<http://www.tdcanadatrust.comscholarship>
3. Xerox Canada Ltd Scholarship
Due: Sept 20/10
www.nbmbaa.ca



Homework Gr. 3 - Gr. 12

With the new school year, many kids need to get back into a routine. Please ensure that your son is up to date with his homework. If in doubt, do contact the teacher.

This is a reminder that on **Wed. Sept. 22 at 7:00pm**, we will be having our **Curriculum Night** for the entire school. This is a perfect evening to have questions answered regarding homework and work expectations.



Racism. STOP IT! - National Video Competition

The Racism, Stop IT! National Video Competition is looking for youth between the ages of 10 and 20 years old to create a 45 - 60 second video sharing your thoughts on eliminating racism. Work in a team of up to five people for your chance to win an all-expenses paid trip to Canada's Capital Region in March 2011. Submission date is Dec. 31/10. For more information go to www.march21.gc.ca



Music Credits

Many boys have written / performed their RCM exams during the summer months. This is a gentle reminder of the possible high school credits that all students can attain at St. Michael's Choir School.

- **Grade VII Practical and Grade I Rudiments of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto – AMX 3M (Grade 11 Credit)**
- **Grade VIII Practical and Grade II Rudiments of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto – AMX 4M (Grade 12 Credit)**

A request for an official transcript from the Royal Conservatory of Music can be obtained online at: www.rcmexaminations.org. Go to tab "Online Forms" and then to "Transcript Request". Official transcripts for both courses must be handed into Guidance so that the credit can be granted. An official report card will also be accepted from both courses.

For further information, please contact Mrs. Zanette.



Grade 9 - Take Our Kids to Work Wed. Nov. 3 2010

Permission forms will be distributed in October. Parents should start looking into making possible arrangements with their employers for their son.

International University Fair 2010 - 2011

Various universities from USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand and Switzerland will be in Toronto providing general information about the country's university system on Sunday September 26th from 11:00am to 4:00pm at Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. (600 Hwy 7 at the corner of Hwy 7 & Hwy 404) For more information go to www.universityfairs.ca



University of Guelph

The following new programs will be offered effective Fall 2011:
Bachelor of Commerce - Management Economics and Finance
Bachelor of Commerce - Agricultural Business
Bachelor of Science - Environmental Geoscience and Geomatics
Bachelor of Science - Nanoscience now has a Co-op stream

Parent Workshop Series

The Turning Point Youth Services is offering the following workshops to parents:

Brains, Bodies and Behaviours: Making Sense of Your Teen

Wednesday October 20, 2010 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm



Adolescence can be an exciting and challenging time for both parents and teens. This workshop will provide an overview of adolescent development from a bio-psycho-social perspective as well as information on some issues and resources related to adolescent mental health.

Adolescents & Substance Use

Wednesday, November 24, 2010 from 6:00pm -7:30pm

This presentation will take a look at some of the most common substances that youth are experimenting with and what signs parents can be looking for. Risk factors, protective factors and how parents can talk to their teens about substance use will be discussed. There will also be an opportunity for question.

To reserve a spot by contacting Patty Hayes at 416-925-9250 x 233. The workshops are free and held at Turning Point Youth Services, 95 Wellesley St. E. (5 minutes East of Wellesley Station)



SAT Preparation

If your child is interested in attending an American University/College he must write the SATs. The College Board offers courses throughout the year. The First Session starts on Sept. 19 for the November Exam. The Second Session begins on Oct 17 for the December Exam. For more information go to www.coll-prep.com or coll-prep@interlog.com or see Mrs. Zanette

Please share all this information with you children.

If you have any concerns, please get in touch with me at the Guidance Office.

Test Anxiety Tips



From grade school to college, tests are an important part of the educational process. Unfortunately, they can also be intimidating, leading to test anxiety that can adversely change a person's test results.

This site offers some test anxiety help:

www.testanxietytips.com It is pretty helpful. Please share this with you child.



ENTER

NOW!

August 16th to October 17th, 2010

The Learning Partnership, in partnership with Scotiabank®, is launching the The Ultimate Dream Job Contest on August 16th, 2010. This national online photo contest runs from August 16th to October 17th for Canadian students starting grade 9, Senior 1 (Manitoba) and Secondary III (Quebec) in a publicly funded school in the fall, and who are a minimum of 13 years of age and are legal residents of Canada.* Students submit photos representing their 'Dream Job', along with a short description (25 words or less) about why this would be their dream job. Limit one entry per entrant per day. PHOTOS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 10, 2010. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Each week the five best photos will be displayed on-line for public voting. One prize per week for 8 weeks is available to be won, including, where available, Pizza Pizza lunches for each winner's class. The top vote getters will win one of these exciting prizes:

- Sony PRS600S eBook digital Reader Touch
- Ricoh R8 Digital Camera
- HP Mini 10.1" Netbook
- And more!

All weekly winners are eligible to win the Grand Prize return trip from their home to Ottawa, with their parent/guardian, to meet The Honourable Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons, on Take Our Kids to Work day November 3, 2010. While in Ottawa they will tour national attractions such as Parliament Hill, The National Gallery of Canada, The Royal Canadian Mint and the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Odds of winning depend, in part, on the number of eligible entries received. Approximate retail value of Grand Prize is \$2,450.00 CDN. Eight (8) weekly prizes will be awarded ranging in value from \$250.00 to \$490.00. Complete contest rules, prize details and approximate retail values available at: www.dreamjobcontest.ca. Prizes may not be exactly as shown. Potential winners must correctly answer a mathematical skill-testing question and sign a publicity/liability release in order to be declared a winner and receive a prize.

THE GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OCTOBER 25, 2010.

Help spread the word and get snapping.

Visit the contest site for more information at www.dreamjobcontest.ca

To learn more about The Learning Partnership visit

www.thelearningpartnership.ca