

# The Buddy Bulletin



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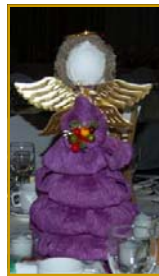
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## Spotlight on Students at The Evening To Feed The Soul Dinner Event

The 4th annual **Evening to Feed the Soul Dinner Event** took place on November 7, 2008 at DaVinci Banquet Hall. This year's theme was "TCDSB Students." The evening highlighted the achievements of the 4 remarkable students who received assistance from The Foundation. Student Trustee **James Dempsey** was the evening's emcee and guests heard the inspiring stories of **Jeffrey Fernando (Pope Paul II)**, **Jenna Hijazi (Marshall McLuhan)**, **Justin MacNeil (James Cardinal McGuigan)** and **Stephanie Marino (Msgr. Percy Johnson)**. Poignantly, they shared stories of how the Foundation has changed their lives. The theme of students echoed throughout the entire event. **Aneta Gronowski** and the students from **Father John Redmond** performed during the cocktail hour; **grade 8 students at St. Raphael** created eye-popping angel centerpieces under the direction of **Antonette Covello, Maria Coulter** and **Kristin Tocci**; and artwork prepared by the **Grade 7 students** who participated in the **Bob Wilson Art Camp** adorned the podium area. The Evening to Feed the Soul Dinner Event is held annually to raise funds for Student Nutrition Programs in schools. Providing a healthy breakfast, snack or lunch is essential for learning and the Foundation has proudly sponsored such programs for over a decade. **Special thanks** to **Bishop Boissonneau** and **Toronto City Councillor Maria Augimeri** for joining us, the **Dinner Committee Members** and all of the **volunteers!** The event was a true success!



## President's Message

As the new President of The Angel Foundation for Learning, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of *The Buddy Bulletin*. We changed our newsletter format to better showcase how The Angel Foundation for Learning is able to impact the lives of TCDSB students. We hope that you will be moved by the stories featured. Since the Foundation's inception in 1987, we have provided financial assistance to over 330,000 TCDSB students! We feel privileged to have touched so many lives. We have just wrapped up our successful *Evening To Feed the Soul Dinner Event*. Thank you to everyone who joined us. This year's dinner theme was "Students." It was a true joy to hear the stories of 4 remarkable students and learn of the ways that the Foundation has changed their lives. Their personal accounts affirm for me and our Board of Directors, that the work that we do, is important work. It is only through your help that we can continue to make a difference in students' lives. Thank you donors! Mark your calendars for the **Annual FUN WALK at CEC!** Join us **Sunday, May 3, 2009** for a fun-filled, family event! Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. **Diana Riopel**

# Student Nutrition Program News

## Feeding Hungry Students



*I like the breakfast program because I feel safe. The people that give us our food are very nice. Jacob, Gr. 3*



*"When a child's stomach is empty, everything else is secondary."*



*My favourite part of the day is the lunch program. Lunch helps me to concentrate better in class. Ashley, Gr. 12*



## Exciting News for Student Nutrition!

The Provincial government is providing additional funds to start student nutrition programs in many more schools. Student nutrition programs provide students with healthy, nutritious food that improves their ability to concentrate and attend to their lessons. There are many secondary benefits that students and their school communities realize as a result of a successful student nutrition program: improvement in academic achievement, increase in attendance and punctuality and an appreciable amelioration in social and behavioural attitudes are also noted.

If you are interested in starting a student nutrition program in your school please contact **Sara Camilleri** at [sara.camilleri@tcdsb.org](mailto:sara.camilleri@tcdsb.org)



## Leader in Catholic Education – Carmel Preyra

**Carmel Preyra** was recognized by the Toronto Catholic Principals' and Vice Principals' Association as the 2008 Leader in Catholic Education. Her initiatives in many areas were remarkable but those in the area of **student nutrition** were outstanding. Carmel, in her selfless and giving manner, graciously accepted the stipend associated with this prestigious award and then donated it to The Angel Foundation for Learning for Student Nutrition Programs. Thank you Carmel!

## December: The Virtue of Charity

It is more blessed to give than to receive. *Acts 20:35*

Next time you reach for an apple, think about the thousands of students who attend school without a nutritious breakfast, snack or lunch. Did you know that The Angel Foundation for Learning feeds 10,000 hungry students daily? And that a small donation of \$5.00 can buy a hungry student a lunch?

The Angel Foundation for Learning encourages you to **Spread Your Wings this Christmas Season and donate a lunch!** Your donation could be the very **"Angel Food"** needed to nourish a student body, mind and soul. Encourage your friends and colleagues to join forces for this worthwhile cause and change a life. The Foundation is passionate about students and we are aware of the grave impacts that hunger can have on learning. The Angel Foundation for Learning is guided by this statement: **"When a child's stomach is empty, everything else is secondary. Before developing a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for learning, one must first satisfy the body's thirst and hunger."** *Roméo LeBlanc, Former Governor General of Canada*

## ✂ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Form: It is more blessed to give than to receive

**Make a Change in the life of a hungry student. Your donation will help The Angel Foundation for Learning feed thousands of students every day.**

- I enclose my donation of \$5.00 to purchase 1 lunch for a student
- I enclose a donation of \$20.00 to purchase 4 lunches
- I enclose a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form To The Angel Foundation for Learning, 80 Sheppard Ave. E. Toronto, ON M2N 6E8

A tax receipt is issued for \$10.00 or more.  
Charitable Registration : 10807-5946-RR0002

# Serving Students Everyday!

## Spreading Our Wings



Angels like **Mr. Leon** make a difference. Thank you **Leon Family** and Angel Foundation for Learning for the gift of hearing. **Jeffrey Fernando, Gr. 10**, receives new hearing aids.



We learn more than music at the **Bob Wilson Music Camp**, we also make life-long friends. **Jessie, Gr. 10**

Dear Angel Foundation for Learning, Thank you for assisting with the purchase of new eyeglasses for my son. He can now see the chalkboard.



Summer Camp was a blast. We swam a lot and I even got to try out the canoes. **Michael, Gr. 4**

## Changing the lives of students

The Angel Foundation for Learning administers a number of Funds that help TCDSB students. Here's a snapshot of how the Foundation able to help students via the various Funds. (Please note, in some instances the student's name and school are not mentioned).

### Social Work Emergency Fund

Social Worker writes: Student and his family are new to Canada. They are Tsunami survivors from Sri Lanka. This student has many medical problems and finances are very tight for the family and they do not have health care. Money will be used to help students with medication, clothing and food.

### Tom Leon Family Support Fund

Social Worker writes: Student's family has had a house fire. The family consists of two parents and six children. The family is now renting a home with minimal insurance money. Money was put toward food, household essentials and clothing.

### Melina De Meneghi Vision Fund

Principal writes: Grade 3 student requires prescription eyeglasses. Student's mom is a single parent, working part-time because she has an infant. Mom requires financial assistance to pay for her child's eyeglasses.

### Maureen O'Neil Summer Camp Fund/Jane Creba Memorial Fund

Each year 120 students are given the opportunity to attend a residential summer camp. Grade 6 student attended the Columbus Boys Camp and writes: "Thank you Angel Foundation for Learning for the summer camp experience. I would have had a really lonely summer if I didn't go to camp. I liked the making new friends and archery was the best."

### Bob Wilson Fund for the Arts

#### Bob Wilson Music Camp (Grade 10 students)

Dante Alighieri participant says: "I love music and without the Bob Wilson Music Camp Fund, I wouldn't have been able to attend the camp. It was my first time away from home and I learned so much. The best part was that we also got to perform at the FUN WALK in May."



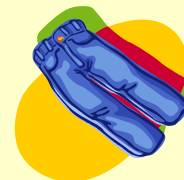
## A Cool Idea! Cold, Hard Cash

The staff at **St. Edmund Champion** serves up a new way of raising funds. During the season of Lent the staff prepares "Lenten Lunches" for each other. Each staff member pays \$5.00 for the lunch and the money goes into a canister that is stored in the freezer. The contents of the canister, appropriately labelled "**Cold Hard Cash**," is then sent as a donation to The Angel Foundation for Learning. **Thank you St. Edmund Champion!**

## Casual Day Fridays is Growing!

There are a growing number of schools that are supporting the Foundation by donating the money collected from Casual Fridays. Thank you staff at:

**St. Luke**  
**St. Ursula**  
**St. Lawrence**  
**Regina Mundi**  
**St. John Bosco**  
**St. Nicholas of Bari**  
**St. Gabriel**  
**Cardinal Leger**  
**Transfiguration**



## TCDSB Schools Support the Work of the Foundation

The Angel Foundation for Learning is blessed to have the support of many schools across the Toronto Catholic District School Board. This support is communicated in a variety of ways but the end result is that a student in one of our neighbouring schools is benefiting from this support. **A very special thank you to the staff at St. Helen** for your generous donation. Your donation will help students who need a nourishing breakfast, a warm winter coat and will make it possible for some students to join their peers on their next excursions.

## Mission Statement

The Angel Foundation for Learning is a charitable organization that serves the needs of students of the Toronto Catholic District School Board. Through the generosity and compassion of donors, we support vulnerable students by nurturing their body, mind and soul through nutritional, educational and spiritual programs.

## Board of Directors

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## We're on the web!!

[angelfoundationforlearning.org](http://angelfoundationforlearning.org)

Check out our newest  
web feature:  
**DONATE ONLINE!**

## Contact Us:

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Toronto, ON M2N 6E8  
(416) 222-8282 ext.2195  
[sara.camilleri@tcdsb.org](mailto:sara.camilleri@tcdsb.org)

# Making A Difference in the Lives of Students

## Schools Bid Godspeed with a Donation to the Foundation

The staff and students of **St. Florence**, **St. Gabriel Lalemant**, **Sacred Heart** and **St. Bede** were sad to learn that Father Ben Ebcas, Father Nick Defina and Sister Haydee Librojo were leaving St. Barnabas Parish each to pursue new challenges. On behalf of these revered individuals each school made a generous donation to the Foundation. The Angel Foundation for Learning joins these school communities in wishing them Godspeed.

## Book Sale Raises Funds

**Annemarie Parente-Manion**, the Angel Ambassador for **Our Lady of Sorrow**, organized a used book sale. The proceeds of the book sale were donated to the Foundation to help TCDSB students. Many students of the school will be enriched with knowledge and the Foundation is enriched knowing that students are helping other students. Thank you Our Lady of Sorrow Catholic School!



## Retirees supporting the Foundation

The Angel Foundation for Learning graciously acknowledges the very generous donations made by **Brian Armstrong** and **Margaret Gardonio** upon their retirement. Both these individuals have been strong supporters of the Foundation. **Brian** spent a number of years serving on the Fun Walk Committee. **Marg**, an enlightened educator, was well known for the letters of recommendation that she wrote for her students in support of their applications for Foundation bursaries. We wish both Brian and Marg happy and healthy retirement days.

## Behind the Scenes Support

### *Maria Sanzo - Exceptional Educator and a Dedicated Foundation Supporter*

**Maria Sanzo**, an Educational Assistant at **St. Francis Xavier**, works tirelessly to accomplish many ends. Of first and foremost importance is the formation of her students. Maria collaborates with **Mrs. Lobalsamo**, and together, they ensure that their students receive an education filled with authentic and relevant learning experiences. Maria relishes the opportunity to witness the ingenious enterprises that the students undertake. As part of the newly incorporated organization established in May 2005, **Planting Seeds Inc.** the students have developed a Mission Statement with the tag line "God has no hands but ours". Fulfilling their mission on a daily basis has become an underlying fundamental practice for this group of individuals. Under Maria's tutelage the students explore, investigate, discover, problem solve, plant, create, produce, showcase, and demonstrate that they have the talent and skills to be productive, contributing members of society. Filled with a sense of generosity, led by an understanding of social justice and guided by professional and ethical practices they are revolutionizing the business of learning. The Angel Foundation for Learning has been the welcome recipient of their industry and commerce. What began as a small venture in "spicing up the Fun Walk" has turning into a thriving practice of building bird houses, making caplets and jewellery and selling them at the Fun Walk and creating gift baskets for the Silent Auction at Evening to Feed the Soul. **Thank you Maria Sanzo!**

## St. Benedict Soccer Spectacular

On October 10th, 2008 the staff and students of **St. Benedict** took to the soccer field to partake in the **Soccer Spectacular**, a fundraising game with all proceeds going to The Angel Foundation for Learning. A bi-annual event, each student was asked to bring in a suggested donation of a Loonie to attend the game. Given last May's results of the Basketball Loonacy game, where the teachers were victorious over the students, there was an obvious desire for the students to make a comeback in this game. With obvious wheezing on the part of the teachers at halftime, it looked hopeful for the student



side as they planned and plotted their second-half strategy with Ms. Galati. Sure enough, the second half fared well for the students, scoring their own goal in response to the staffs' only goal. Regular time ended in a 1-1 tie. A shoot-out was called. Through skilled goal tending and crafty shot placement, the teachers scored one more lone goal to win the game! The students took it well, and vowed a rematch in the spring in the second annual Basketball Loonacy game. **Special thanks** to **Mr. Migliaccio** for organizing the game, and to **Mr. Swanek** and **Ms. Martins** for their on-going support.