



newsletter

Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation

Fondation de l'éducation catholique du Grand Toronto

MTCEF Sponsors Line Dancing

Come dance with me is what I hear Christina say to me each Thursday evening at Blessed Trinity Catholic School.



Dancing is a community building activity. It just doesn't build the community of dancers but forms them. The fruits of this weekly activity are many: exercise for the body, freedom for the spirit and friendship for all.

We at Sacred Heart have bonded around this dance Thursday. We have spent lunch time practising what we have learned; sharing with those who may have missed the lesson, giving those who are dance steps challenged an opportunity to master the many steps and just having fun. Some of us have shared what we have learned with our students.

Each week for an hour we are totally oblivious of the dirty dishes, the piled up laundry, and the chores of work life and just danced our cares away! We laugh; we mess up; we give up; we begin again. No stress; no anger; no fear! What a spiritual experience!!! When we dance we put ourselves on display. This is what we did in February of this year when a group of us danced the Cowboy Charleston in front of the whole school. We broke barriers and revealed our lighter side. What a lesson!

Dance is to the spirit what prayer is to the soul. It is one way of telling the world that I am fully human and fully alive.

So Christina, shall we dance again and again! Thank you for providing a safe place to be childlike. Thank you for being our dance guru.

Jean Pinto (Sacred Heart)

Note: Christina Chui offers line dancing classes in the spring and in the fall.

Ways to Raise Funds for MTCEF

Two ways to accrue funds for MTCEF that are simple and have lasting impacts are to recycle printer cartridges and to obtain a quote for house and car insurance with Johnson Insurance Company.

Send the printer cartridges to Fernando Violante c/o Printing Department, CEC. For the insurance quotes please call Catherine Turner, Home-Auto Consultant, 1-800-268-5764.



The Golf Course Beckons

Plans are well underway for the Annual Charity Golf Classic. Once again it will be held at Hunters' Glen Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, July 6, 2005. This event is hosted by the Toronto Principals' and Vice Principals' Association and organized by the remarkable Jon Austin. The golfers are ready. Pictures of this event will be published in the Fall Newsletter.



SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

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- Premier AV Xavier's Restaurant and Lounge Marchant
- Charles Tonna (QSP) TORONTO-EMS Cheese Boutique
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- Association of Professional Student Services Personnel
- TCDSB Supervisory Officers' Association Canada Bread
- Transformation Education Institute Bruno's Fine Food
- Heart Health Network Aero Pop Yum Yum Toshiba
- Sports Equipment of Toronto Pizza Pizza Wendy's
- Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries Office Central
- Toronto Catholic District School Board Sporting Life
- Toronto Fire Services B & B School Supplies CNE
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- Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers Chartwells CUPE Local 1328
- Toronto Secondary Unit Toronto Police Services RJ McCarthy Ltd.
- TCSB Employees Credit Union Ltd. GoodLife Fitness
- Toronto Catholic Principals/Vice Principals' Association

Voices of VOCE Choir Fill the Atrium



Lilting tunes and lofty voices combined to make a very pleasant way to spend Sunday afternoon. On Sunday, May 15, 2005, under the gentle guidance of Conductor Peggy Sheehan and budding conductor Sabrina Paoella and accompanied by the accomplished Edie De Pede, talented youngsters from 18 TCDSB schools combined to make harmonious music in the Atrium at CEC.

The Voices of Catholic Education Choir, made possible through the generous bequest

from Bob Wilson, has been providing musical entertainment for friends and family for a number of years. All junior students from our 168 elementary schools are eligible to join the VOCE choir. Invitations to participate are sent to the schools in the early fall.



From all parts of our beautiful city, students, parents, staff came to CEC on Sunday, May 1, 2005 to enthusiastically support the Annual MTCEF Fun Walk. A tremendous success, the event included: the celebration of Mass in the Boardroom, the 5km Walk through York Cemetery, a delicious barbeque, numerous door prizes, a huge yellow fire truck, a colourful hot air balloon, watermelon seeds spitting contest and funny face painting.

We are much obliged to all of the volunteers, participants and generous sponsors who helped to make this year's Walk the best ever.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation provides financial support to school communities to ensure that all children benefit from a wide spectrum of opportunities that sustain and enhance the educational process.



Barb Brodzki Tea



Congratulations to Marcellina Lobalsamo, St. Francis Xavier Catholic School, the proud recipient of the 2004-2005 Barb Brodzki Literacy Award.

George Ermellini Award



At a school assembly, held on Thursday, May 5, 2005, Judy Ermellini presented the George Ermellini Memorial Literacy Award to St. Michael Catholic School.

Nutrition News

Volunteers who devote countless hours to the Student Nutrition program were recognized at a Volunteer Appreciation and Best Practices Luncheon. This event was organized by the Community Representatives.

Ministry staff from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services visited Our Lady of Victory Student Nutrition Program on Wednesday, June 8, 2005. Congratulations to Ciclyn, the snack coordinator, volunteers and school staff for proving that it is possible to run a snack program for over 800 hundred students efficiently. Well done!

School staff and Student Nutrition Coordinators and volunteers are reminded that TCDSB and MTCEF staff as well as Ulla Knowles, our Community Representative are available to help you.



Dante Alighieri Academy student volunteers

Please do not hesitate to call David Letra – 416-222-8282 extension 2687, Sara Camilleri – 416-222-8282 extension 2195, Joan Lovell – 416-222-8282 extension 2844, Adelino Da Silva – 416-222-8282 extension 2591 or Ulla Knowles – 416-417-1311.

Students Express Their Appreciation

Two students have written letters to MTCEF expressing their appreciation of funds received so that all the students in their grade 8 class were able to participate in school excursions.

Sebastian writes: "I would like to thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity; through your assistance I was able to experience a different culture. The trip was a great way to rediscover Canada's past and to see how it is discernible in the present. Your help was extremely welcomed and without it I could not have joined my peers in this experience."

Brittany writes: "We were overjoyed when we discovered that we were finally going to have a full class for the trip to Ottawa. As we prepare for our trip, are thoughts are filled with gratitude towards our principal, teachers, CSAC committee and most of all MTCEF. If it were not for the support we received from the Foundation we would have had to leave some of our fellow students behind."

Message From the President



There has been a continued growth in monies available to the Metropolitan Toronto Catholic Education Foundation for needy students within the Toronto Catholic District School Board community. For this we give a hearty thanks to those who have been so generous. You have given inestimable opportunities to children who otherwise would have done without; done without food to get them through the day, done without participating in field trips and excursions with fellow students, done without many educational opportunities taken for granted by the better advantaged.

Our main Spring Fundraiser, the Annual May Walk, doubled in donations from last year, despite the threat of unsettled weather. Coming up shortly is the Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by TCPVPA. In the Fall, there will be a Charity Dinner, which we hope will become an annual affair.

While we have been able to raise funds for the needs of the students in the system, the sad reality is that these needs are not diminishing, but in many ways are increasing. There are too many children who come to school ill fed, inadequately clothed and face financial restrictions on their ability to fully participate in all educational experiences.

MTCEF appreciates the generosity of all in the TCDSB community who have contributed to our activities. Our hand reaches out to any who have yet to assist so that we may continue to give a full hand to those who so desperately need our services.

Please continue to keep an eye out for students in need and direct your inquiries to MTCEF to see what may be available. Keep our existence alive before your colleagues and encourage contributions to us so that we can continue to enhance students' educational opportunities.

Cents-Off – It's Easy

Congratulations! St. Michael, St. Simon and St. Timothy Catholic Schools are leading the way demonstrating how easy it is to have almost 100% staff participation in the Cents-Off Payroll Deduction Program.



Staff at St. Simon Catholic School

Board of Directors



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Barb Poplawski
Maureen Ryan
Mark Sherlock
Lou Zeni

Sara Camilleri (Executive Director)
416-222-8282, ext. 2195
Joan Lovell (Administrative Assistant)
416-222-8282, ext 2844

Visit the MTCEF website at
www.mtcef.org

Retiring Principal Remembers the Foundation



Gathy Edmunds, a strong advocate for all children, graciously donated the proceeds from her retirement event to the Maureen O'Neil Summer Camp Fund. Thanks to Gathy's generosity many more children will be able to reap the social and emotional benefits that come with a camp experience.