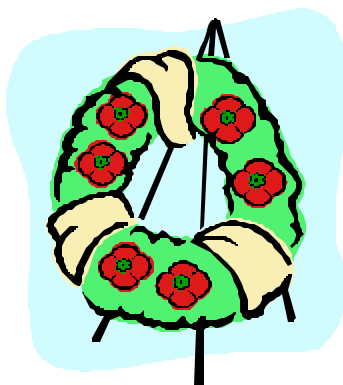


November 2004  
Newsletter

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

60 Willowbrook Drive  
Whitby  
(905) 430-8597



**NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 2004**

**Principal  
P. Cauley**

**Vice-Principal  
R. Chacko**

**MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE  
TEAM**



Dear Parents:

Our Thanksgiving Food Drive was a huge success. Due to your generosity we were able to donate several boxes of non-perishable food items to St. Vincent's Kitchen.

To recognize and honour the men and women who fought so bravely for our freedom, we will hold a Remembrance Day ceremony on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in our gymnasium. Please join us if you can. We will be wearing a poppy on that day to show that we appreciate our freedom and that we are thankful to those who served Canada during the wars.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parent volunteers who consistently and regularly assist with the different programs we have at our school. Without your help it would be impossible to run these programs for our students. It is heart-warming to note that despite the absence of a Parent Patrol Coordinator, the Kiss N' Ride program is still running very smoothly with several parents signing up to assist. We cannot thank you enough for your time and effort in this regard.

October was a busy month at St. Matthews. Our students participated in the Cross Country Regional Meet and Flag Football. Primary Indoor Soccer has begun and so have volleyball practices. Our milk program, milk shake days and pizza days are up and running! Curriculum is in full swing! We encourage parents to check your child's agenda daily to keep abreast of school activities and reminders of upcoming events.

We thank you for your ongoing support of our school. May God bless each one of you.

Sincerely,

.....  
P. Cauley  
Principal

.....  
R. Chacko  
Vice-Principal



## SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

8:30 am	Yard Supervision begins
8:45 am	Morning classes begin
10:15 am	Morning Recess
11:30 am	Lunch
2:00 pm	Afternoon Recess
3:10 pm	Bus dismissal
3:15 pm	School Dismissal



## Parent Advisory Council News

Parents from St. Matthew's School joined other school communities on Tuesday October 19, 2004 at Holy Family Parish to celebrate Mass. Father Reddy welcomed everyone and shared prayer cards with members of each school council. Father encouraged council members to become more involved in process of preparing students to receive the Holy Sacraments. Following Mass a Parent Council Meeting was held in the church hall.

On November 8<sup>th</sup> the Grade 2 students will make their 1st Reconciliation at Holy Family Parish. Special thanks are extended to Mrs. O'Donnell and Mr. Prior for the love and commitment that they have extended to our students as they prepare for this special event. A group of parents have volunteered their time to assist in the preparation of First Holy Communion. Further details will be provided next month.

Congratulations to all of the students who participated on the following School Athletic Teams: the Cross Country Team; the flag football team, the junior and senior boys and girls volleyball teams, the inter-mural volleyball teams, and the indoor soccer teams. It sure has been a busy month at St. Matthew's and we are truly appreciative of all the time and effort that the teachers invest into the extra curricular activities for our children.

An extra-special thank-you is extended to Mrs. Henry for her enthusiasm and commitment to the personal development of our students. She co-ordinated the School Spirit event at the Oshawa Generals Hockey Game, motivated our students to perform their best at the Cross Country Meet, coached our intermediate students to victory on the flag football field and offered her time to support the after school music program. Mrs. Henry is also the Teacher Representative on the Parent Advisory Council and teaches over 65 Grade 8

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students. Please know Mrs. Henry that the parents and students of St. Matthew's are truly grateful.

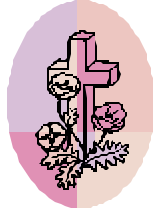
Parent volunteers are an intricate part of the St. Matthew community. Thanks to the commitment of many parents, our students are able to participate in school trips, school teams and school spirit initiatives. The milk, pizza, milkshake and safety patrol Programs have been well received by our students. If you would like to become more involved please talk to Mrs. Chacko or attend the next Parent Council meeting on **Tuesday November 30, 2004** at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Hope to see you there.

Johanna Hopper  
PAC Chairperson

### THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

A big thank you to all our families who helped with our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. The drive was a huge success this year due to your overwhelming generosity! Thank you again for your awesome response to the needs of the less fortunate. All the food that we collected was donated to St. Vincent's Kitchen.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY



Everyone is welcome to join us for our Remembrance Day Assembly which will take place on November 11, 2004 at 10:30 in the school gymnasium. Our grade 7's and 8's will be participating in the memorial service at the Whitby Cenitaph.

## REPORTING



Our reporting schedule for the first term is as follows:

### **Grades 1 - 8**

Report cards for First Term will be sent home on **Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004.**

Teacher and Parent Conference Evening has been scheduled for **Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

### **Junior Kindergarten:**

Conference - in Term 2  
Report Card - in Term 3

### **Senior Kindergarten:**

Conference - in Term 1  
Report Card - in Term 2  
Report Card - in Term 3



## **ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM**

Congratulations to all our Cross Country participants this year. We proudly represented St. Matthew's school with 117 runners/walkers this year. The "first time" students had the experience of a life time, with memories of sunshine and friends. The trail for the 7-11 year olds was 1500 metres in length, whereas the 12-14 year olds ran 2500 metres! Many parents volunteered their services for the day. We thank them for their presence, support and encouragement. There were about 16 parents who volunteered on that day. Without the help of parents and teachers (Ms. Cushing, Mrs. Albis, Mrs. Bortoluzzi and Mrs. Michaud the day would not been the success it was. Congratulations to everyone who participated. Well done!

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**Cross Country Winners 2004**

Place	Age	Name
1 <sup>st</sup>	11	Matthew L.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	11	Mark V.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	13	Ainslee S.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	8	Tristan D
5 <sup>th</sup>	10	Blake M.
5 <sup>th</sup>	9	Kevin C.
6 <sup>th</sup>	10	Cailyn C.
9 <sup>th</sup>	10	Laura R.
10 <sup>th</sup>	9	Eric S.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Henry

**FLAG FOOTBALL**



On Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Matthew's hosted a Flag Football Tournament. St. Mark, St. Matthew, St. Theresa and St. Paul school teams were in the tournament and we are proud to announce that we are the tournament champions! A special thank you to our grade 8 teacher Mrs. Henry and parents Mr. Odei and Mr. Clarke for their hours devoted to coaching. Special thanks also to Daniel Barone, Craig Armstrong, Joey Allegro and Tyler Cooper for volunteering their services as score keepers and linesmen. Congratulations to the team for their good sportsmanship and dedication.

Team Members:

Matti C.	Colin K.
Kristen P.	Danielle D.
Chris E.	Brendan H.
Kevin T.	Kyle M.
Caidin S.	Jacob S.
Ben W.	Michael S.
Felicia C.	Alex C.
Alysse S.	Paul W.
Rebecca B.	Kevin B.
Amanda W.	Sebastain W.

## WINTER IS NEARLY UPON US!



With the approach of winter, students will once again need to be properly clothed to protect themselves from the wind and cold and to help prevent illness.

Recesses are much more enjoyable for children when they are dressed warmly. We do have indoor recesses when conditions are wet or extremely cold. But, on most winter days children will be going outside to play.

## WINTER CLOTHING EXCHANGE

This year is the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Oshawa/Whitby schools winter clothing exchange program. This is a joint effort by the Durham Catholic District School Board and the Durham Public School Board. The purpose of the program is to assist needy families with winter clothes. **This year the exchange is being hosted by "Village Union Public School" at 240 Simcoe Street South, Oshawa. It will take place on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12 noon.**

**If you have any type of winter clothing you no longer need or cannot use, please bring it to our school washed.** This includes snowsuits, coats, pants, hats, toques, mitts, scarves, sweaters, shirts, blouses, jeans, boots, shoes, etc. If any items you have donated need to be drycleaned, please take them to any one of the following drycleaners who have offered their services free of charge exclusively for this program. Please note that you cannot pick up the clothes from the drycleaners. The clothes will be picked up by personnel from the Winter Clothing Exchange program. Cleaners participating this year are...

K & M Cleaners  
112 Colborne St. W.  
Whitby  
905-668-2831

Ted's Cleaners  
1330 Ritson Rd. N.  
Oshawa  
905 433-1638

Carriage Trade Cleaners  
1271 Simcoe St. N.  
Oshawa  
905 576-7500

Professional Dry Cleaners  
850 King St. W. (Thornton Centre)  
Oshawa  
905 576-0024

Premier Dry Cleaners  
3445 Garrard Rd.  
Whitby  
905 725-2600

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If you would like to participate in this program, please send your old winter clothes, washed, to us at St. Matthews by **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>**. We will deliver your donations to Village Union Public School. Thank you in advance for your participation in this year's winter clothing exchange.

**MILK PROGRAM**



The milk program at our school offers cold nutritious white and chocolate milk to our students for a nominal fee. A special thank you to the students who distribute milk to the classes and to Mrs. Pierre and Mrs. D'Souza for placing all the milk orders.

**SACRAMENTS**



A reminder to our parents that grade 2 students will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday, November 8, 2004 at Holy Family Church at 1:00 pm. Parents of grade 8 students are also reminded that Confirmation is on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family Church at 7:15 pm.

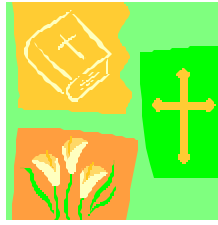
**PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY**



Picture retake is on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. On this day those students who were absent on Picture Day will have an opportunity to have their individual pictures taken. Also, those students who were not satisfied with the original sitting may order a retake with parental permission.



## GRADE 4 BIBLE PRESENTATIONS



On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, the grade 4 students received their Bibles from Fr. Mariush. The celebration took place in each of the classrooms. We learned from Fr. Mariush that the Bible contains poems, songs, letters and stories Jesus told. We thank Fr. Mariush for spending time with us.

Below is a reflection from a grade 4 student upon receiving her Bible...

*"When I received my Bible after it was blessed, I thought about how lucky I am to live in this world. How lucky I am to have a family, how lucky I am to have food to keep me alive, how lucky I am to be a Christian and how lucky I am to receive a Bible that has been blessed and that is now my very own! A Bible is a book through which God speaks to us, except that you can't see him."*

*~ Jessica B.*

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH**



**Congratulations to the following students for your ongoing demonstration of good Catholic values!**

Mark C.	Mrs. Kennedy (Gr. 1)	Helpfulness
Jared S.	Mrs. Kennedy (Gr. 1)	Helpfulness
Erin W.	Mr. Prior (Gr. 2)	Problem-Solving
Hayley C.	Mr. Prior (Gr. 2)	Responsibility
Justin B.	Mr. Prior (Gr. 2)	Helpfulness
Antonio M.	Mrs. O'Donnell (Gr. 2)	Participation
Allison P.	Mrs. Papapetrou (Gr. 3)	Responsibility
Christopher H.	Mrs. Papapetrou (Gr. 3)	Politeness
Emilie M.	Mrs. Papapetrou (Gr. 3)	Helpfulness
Aidan C.	Mrs. Colucci (Gr. 3)	Respect
Conor C.	Mrs. Colucci (Gr. 3)	Hardwork
Rachel F.	Mrs. Colucci (Gr. 3)	Hardwork
Adam O.	Mrs. Colucci (Gr. 3)	Hardwork
Rachel D.	Mrs. Bortoluzzi (Gr. 4)	Creativity
Richard W.	Mrs. Bortoluzzi (Gr. 4)	Goal-setting
Jessica B.	Mrs. Lynk (Gr. 4)	Participation
Terrin S.	Mrs. Lynk (Gr. 4)	Participation
Marshall O.	Mrs. Lynk (Gr. 4)	Participation
Samantha C.	Mrs. Albis (Gr. 5)	Helpfulness
Na'arah A.	Mrs. Albis (Gr. 5)	Creativity
Marquell W.	Mrs. Albis (Gr. 5)	Respect
Jessica P.	Mrs. Cushing (Gr. 5)	Patience
Samantha W.	Mrs. Cushing (Gr. 5)	Patience
Benjamin M.	Mrs. Michaud (Gr. 6)	Politeness
Kristen E.	Mrs. Michaud (Gr. 6)	Helpfulness
Danielle C.	Mr. Cavallari (Gr. 6)	Politeness
Brandon E.	Mr. Cavallari (Gr. 6)	Goal-setting
Julia B.	Mr. Cavallari (Gr. 6)	Helpfulness
Sebastien K.	Mrs. McDonald (Gr. 7)	Compassion

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH  
(Contd...)**

Sorina P.	Mrs. Stewart (Gr. 7)	Helpfulness
Cody M.	Mr. Walo (Gr. 7)	Community Service
Angela M.	Mr. Walo (Gr. 7)	Community Service
Meghan M.	Mr. Walo (Gr. 7)	Politeness
McNein H.	Mr. Walo (Gr. 7)	Politeness
Danielle D.	Mrs. Henry (Gr. 8)	Helpfulness
Quinn T.	Mrs. Henry (Gr. 8)	Helpfulness
Stephanie M.	Mrs. Henry (Gr. 8)	Helpfulness
Brendan Hopper	Mr. Walsh (Gr. 8)	Hardwork
Ainslee Smith	Mr. Walsh (Gr. 8)	Hardwork
Zachary Smith	Mr. MacDonald (Gr. 8)	Helpfulness
Felicia Collura	Mr. MacDonald (Gr. 8)	Hardwork

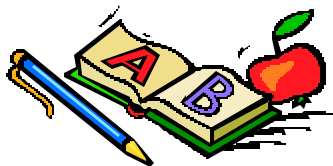


**SCHOOL SPIRIT DAYS**

This year we plan to have "Spirit Days" on the last Thursday of every month. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> IS "SPORT JERSEY DAY" at St. Matthew's. Please note this very important date in your calendar! Reminders will be put on the announcements closer to the the date.

## NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

### Mr. Lia's JK/SK Class...



During the month of October the children met and learned about "Annie Apple" (letter Aa) and "Bouncy Ben" (letter Bb).

Our trip to Pingle's Farm Market was a positive and enjoyable learning experience. Thanks to all those who assisted us that day.

During the month of November, the children will be learning about the importance of Remembrance Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, I would like to emphasize how proud I am of the children. They are adjusting well. Keep up the fantastic work boys and girls!

### Mrs. Andrews' SK Class...



The Senior Kindergarten children are now busy working with the Letterland Program to recognize and reinforce letters and letter sounds. We are also learning to print numerals 1-10 and recognize numbers out of sequence. We enjoyed carving our pumpkins which we received from our fun trip to Pringle's Farm Market.



### Ms. Simms' Grade 1 Class...

Hope you all had a safe and fun Halloween! Thank you to all the parents who helped out on our trip to Nature's Bounty Apple Orchard. Thanks also to the parents who came in to our class and helped us to make delicious apple crisp... (Mrs. Banlaki, Mrs. Andrades, Mrs. Virgillo and Mrs. Villemaire). It was soooo good! The kids really enjoyed it. The children did a wonderful job on their end of the unit Apple tests. Bravo grade ones!

We are preparing our Remembrance Day poem for the assembly on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Parents are welcome to attend. The children are also learning all out "Energy" in science right now with Mrs. Chacko. "Scientists in the School" will be coming to our classroom on Tuesday,

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November 23<sup>rd</sup> in the afternoon. We will need four parent volunteers to help out. Please let me know if you would like to help out. The sessions are a lot of fun.

First term report cards will go out on Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Parent-teacher conferences will begin after report cards go home. I look forward to meeting with all of you!

**Mrs. Kennedy's Grade 1 Class...**



October in Grade One has been full of fun. Early in the month we went on our trip to Nature's Bounty apple orchard. We learned about how apples grow. We especially liked picking and eating the apples. Following the trip we wrote a class book about what we did at the orchard. It will make its way to the home of each student so he/she can read it with the family. We also made apple crisp together with some apples that we picked. Thank you to Mrs. Cummins, Mrs. Holland, and Mrs. Nearing who helped us with the baking. We hope you enjoyed the pinecone turkeys that we made for Thanksgiving, as well as the book of thanks that each child wrote. The children have also written another book entitled *All Like Me*. In math, we have been exploring number relationships. We hope you have been doing some of the suggested activities at home. In Science the children have been learning about various animals and their activities in the Fall.

**Mr. Prior and Mrs. O'Donnell's Grade 2 Classes...**



We have completed our map and globe unit. Our students are using cardinal directions (north, south, west and east) more skillfully now.

This month we are working on our first science unit – Air and Water in the Environment.

The children in our class have studied the lives of numerous saints. At the end of October they came to school dressed as their saints. It was great to have a room full of saints for the day!

Please continue to enter books read into the reading log. Students receive special certificates for every 50 books or chapters read.

Thank you to parents who helped on our Safety Village trip in September.

First Reconciliation is on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for us.

Students of the month are Justin, Hayley and Erin from Mr. Prior's class and Antonio from Mrs. O'Donnell's class. Well done!

### **Mrs. Papapetrou and Ms. Colucci's Grade 3 Classes...**

October has been a very busy month. Students enjoyed sharing their Halloween stories. We are finishing our science unit on Soils. In Math, we have been working with 3-digit numbers in a variety of ways, using organized lists to solve problems, counting with ordinal numbers using a number line, and trading with coins and bills. Please continue to review money concepts with your child. Our next unit in Math will be Data Management. In Social Studies, we will be learning about the Aboriginal peoples of Ontario. Thank you to all the parents who contributed to our Halloween Black and Orange Day Celebration. Keep up the good work with the reading logs. Remember daily reading makes a difference!



### **Mrs. Bortoluzzi & Mrs. Cowen's Grade 4 Classes...**

We are having a great year so far. We've started our spelling program and Language Power program. In Math, we are surveying, graphing, adding and measuring. In Language Arts, we are reading fantastic novels related to the grade 4 curriculum. We have finally completed our unit on Canada. Do you know what Nunavut means? Ask us, we know the answer!



### **Mrs. Lynk's Grade 4 Class...**



We are beginning another mathematics unit. For about the next three weeks we will explore characteristics of figures as we investigate the question : How can we describe figures? On Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Fr. Mariush from Holy Family Catholic Church visited our classroom and blessed our new Bibles. We are looking forward to our zoo trip on November 16<sup>th</sup> and our skating outing on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to Jessica B., Marshall O., and Terrin S., for earning Student of the Month awards.

### **Ms. Cushing and Mrs. Albis' Grade 5 Classes...**



What a great year so far! We have been exercising our brains with math games as well as multiplication and geometry. Everyone looked great on picture day. What a gorgeous class we have! We had a great time at the Science Centre learning about the Human Body and the Forces of Nature.

Ms. Cushing's class is enjoying their novel study My Teacher is an Alien by Bruce Coville. The activities are fun and we are learning a lot of things.

The grade 5's are looking forward to meeting the Mayor in November. Also, our first skating day is on November 30<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see a lot of parents on the ice!



### **Mr. Cavallari & Mrs. Michaud's Grade 6 Classes...**

In science, the grade 6's have just completed a unit on Flight and a unit on Electricity. Students continue to enjoy various experiments as well as constructing model airplanes. Soon they will be starting a new unit on Space. In Language, the class has explored various types of writing. We have superstar readers in grade 6. Our Independent Reading program continues to be a success. In Social Studies, the students are continuing to learn about Aboriginal life and culture. In Religion, the grade 6 symbol is a lantern which represents God as our source of light. The class has read a variety of Bible passages and stories that reflect God's light.

Please continue to monitor your child's agenda daily with regard to homework and upcoming assignments.



### **Mr. Walo, Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. McDonald's Grade 7 Classes...**



The year is moving along quite swiftly. October has been busy but exciting. We had our first class trip to the Peterborough Liftlocks. We learned about how liftlocks work and how boats go through them. We also learned about the history of the Trent Severn Waterway. We had technical difficulties with our buses but we still managed to have a great time.

We had Picture Day in October and everyone was dressed in their best clothes. We are anxiously awaiting the return of our pictures. Hopefully, we are looking great!

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We are now looking forward to our Halloween Dance. Unfortunately, we have to take our Hepatitis shots on the same day!

We just started a project in history called "Passport to the Past." We had a presenter by the name of Grace Morrison who inspired us with her presentation on New France.

We also had an eventful afternoon with two visitors from the Cricket Association who taught us how to play cricket. We had a lot of fun playing cricket and we hope to see them again some time soon.

Submitted by : Jane O and Eija J.

**Mr. Walsh, Mr. MacDonald, & Mrs. Henry's Grade 8 Classes...**

October, needless to say, was a busy month! Cross country and Flag Football tournaments, tests in all subject areas, assignments in some areas, volleyball try-outs, final registration completed for Confirmation, Intramurals (Volleyball), picture day, student letter assembly, Spirit day, Pizza day, food drive, Thanksgiving, introduction to the school band, and our grade seven and eight Halloween dance are only a few events to mention. November will fly by so quickly. It is hard to imagine what will envelop us in only four weeks time!

Second term begins on November 26th. We will once again set new goals and expectations. The Intermediate report cards will be sent home on November 26th. Conferences will commence soon afterwards.

Congratulations to Danielle D., Amanda W., and Luisa Q. They represented the Grade 8 Intermediate division from St. Matthews at the "Spirit Day" workshop last week. Mrs. Stewart was their leader. We will all look forward to their commitment of fulfilling their roles as school leaders and role models.

Congratulations to our leaders attending "Teens Tackling Tobacco" workshop run by the Durham Public Board of Education. Felicia C., Diana F., Kaylee V., and Sebastian W., will attend.

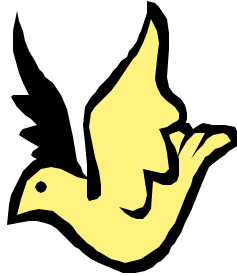
As October comes to an end, the students are preparing for their Halloween celebration and dance. October 28th is Black and Orange Day.

On November 11th, the students in grade eight will be attending the service at the Whitby Cenotaph to remember those from their past. Please feel free to join us there on that day. Students will be bussed to the Cenotaph early in the morning, after school starts (9:30 a.m.), in order to watch and appreciate the Remembrance Day Parade. A student will be leaving a wreath, donated from St. Matthews Intermediate division, in remembrance of those who died. The cost for buses and wreath will be \$3.00 each.

Please continue to encourage your child to review notes daily and to properly organize and time manage their ongoing assignments, projects, and future assessments. Feel free to ask your child to see their duotangs for each subject area and their agendas. All homework in every class is reinforced by teacher and peers at the end of each day. It is the child's responsibility to properly record required homework information.



## **Prayer for Victims of War**



**Jesus,  
you know that around our world  
people are fighting  
and are at war with one another.  
They argue over race and nationality  
and try to settle their disagreements  
with guns and bombs.  
Today we remember the victims of war,  
especially the children.  
Many have lost their families and their homes  
and everything they own.  
Be with them in their hour of need  
and help us to find a way to help them.**

**Amen.**

**Bless This Day, Patricia Mathson**

Student Writing Corner



Normal is nice and cool  
Our parents send us to school  
Reading and writing make us cool

Male and female students have to follow one important rule  
Always do your best  
Learning and organization are the best habits to acquire.

Great students like you and me  
Really put their best efforts like busy bees  
And ofcourse you have to have your own thoughts and feelings  
Day after day, we give the word "school" a meaning  
Every year we graduate, a good student must at least like learning.

**7** days in a week

Sunday goes by and Monday comes...my how quickly time flies  
Tuesday's here, let's give a cheer or at least say "Hi"  
Under the ceilings of St. Matthews our teacher calls...  
"Denise will you take this down to the office?"  
Every student must do their best to get an A+ on their test  
No school is better than this, this by far is the best  
Time to go home, let's put our busy heads down to rest.

Submitted by : Denise T  
Mrs. McDonald  
Grade 7