



St. Justin, Martyr C.S.

A Prayer for Parents and their Children

God of Compassion and holiness

We praise You and thank You for the gifts you have given our children

May we teach them to have grateful hearts through our own examples.

May they know that;

If we want forgiveness, we grant forgiveness

If we want respect, we give respect



If we want fairness, we act fairly

If we want compassion, we act compassionately.

God of Love

Touch us with hope and joy

May we help our children become discerning believers

May they be loving companions on our own journeys of Faith.

Amen

St. Justin, Martyr Catholic School

Principal: Mrs. S. Knetsch

Secretary: Mrs. A. Coutts

Superintendent: Mr. Robert Lostracco

140 Hollingham Road
Unionville, ON 905-474-0284

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Santianni

Secretary: Mrs. R. Cornacchia

Trustee: Mrs. C. Cotton



OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER



Principal's Message

The year is off to a great start thanks to the efforts and enthusiasm of staff and students, who make St. Justin, Martyr a great place to be. We are well on our way to adjusting to the demands of a new school year. Classroom routines are being established and expectations clarified. Many special programs and extra-curricular activities have already started for the students.

We are pleased with the wonderful turn-out at our Pizza/Curriculum Night. Thank you to all staff for the great efforts put forth on the evening, from beautifully organized and decorated classrooms to informative and professional presentations. The parents in attendance were most appreciative of the evening. A special thank you to Mrs. Jennifer De Souza, Mrs. Julet Williams Kong and all volunteers for their great work in organizing the pizza event. Thank you also to Domino's Pizza for supplying the pizzas for this event.

On behalf of the entire staff, we wish all our students and families a very Happy Thanksgiving on October 10th. What a wonderful time of year to take the opportunity to thank God for the many blessings in our lives, particularly for the blessings we take for granted every day.



Communities of Faith

October is the month of the Rosary

In the church year October and May are especially devoted to our blessed Mother Mary. October is recognized as the month of the rosary. Students will be reminded to pray the rosary in honour of Mary.

Me to We Day

On September 27, thirteen students and 3 teachers had the opportunity to take part in Me to We day at the ACC. These thirteen students were chosen after writing a short reflection as to why they would want to attend this event and their ideas as to how they could make a difference at our school. The Air Canada Centre was filled to the rafters with 18,000 screaming youth from all across North America for [Free the Children's](#) annual [Me to We Day](#) event. Spearheaded by former York Catholic students, Marc and Craig Kielburger, the Me to We Day was filled with inspirational messages, music and celebrities all meant to mobilize the power of youth as a social movement to make a difference not only in their communities but around the world. The 13 ambassadors will now share the message of the day with the school community. This year SJM School along with our Luke 4:18 committee will partner with Free the Children to support local as well as global initiatives to make a difference in our world.



Character Matters

The Catholic virtue for the month of October is **compassion**. Compassion is seeking to understand another's struggles from his or her point of view and then doing whatever is necessary to heal the hurt.

Halloween for Hunger

Because millions of people go hungry across North America every year and many of them are children, our school will be part of Halloween for Hunger. On October 31st we will join thousands of people across North America who will be taking action to fight local hunger and poverty. By trick or treating for a non perishable food item, we can help strengthen our local food bank while raising awareness. We will be collecting food items at the school as well to deliver to our local food banks. More information will follow.



Catholic School Council

The first School Council meeting of the new school year was held on September 28. Elections were held at this time as well. Thank you to the parents who put their names forward for election. We encourage all parents to come out to our monthly meetings as an opportunity to meet new people and discuss ways you can become actively involved in your child's school. Many hands and new ideas are always welcome. Meetings take place approximately once a month. We welcome our new Council for the 2011/2012 school year and look forward to the many areas of expertise and enthusiasm our members will bring to our school. Our new council:

1. Annie Tang -Co-Chair
 2. Ricky Yuen- Co-chair
 3. Juliet Williams Kong – Vice Chair
 4. Andrew Fung – Treasurer
 5. Carmen Chan –Secretary
 6. Helen Soehner – Community Representative
 7. David Bell – Member
 8. Abel Fung – Member
 9. Sheilagh Blight – Member
 10. Christine Xue – Member
 11. Dominic Gnanaseelan-Member
 12. Roxanne Chan
 13. Jennifer D' Souza – Member
 14. Abby Armanious – Member
 15. Julia Elefano-Member
 16. Anna Torres- Member
 17. David Cheung-Member
 18. Leslie McConnell-Member
 19. Grant MacLean/PeterD"Adamo-Teacher Representatives
- Corinne Santianni – SJM Vice-Principal
Susan Knetsch – SJM Principal



Our next School Council meeting to set the budget will be on October 12 @ 7 p.m.

Fundraising Begins!

Fundraising week will be Oct 24th to 28th. Exciting details of this exciting week will follow.

The sole purpose of fundraising for St. Justin, Martyr Catholic School is to provide resources that enhance the students' curricula. With funds, we are able to: provide guest speakers, artists, scientists, authors, and safety awareness programs; subsidize the cost of some trips; celebrate the Sacraments with our students; enhance technology and provide new technology for student use such as digital cameras, printers, laptops computers etc.

If you have any corporate contacts or could assist our fundraising initiative by donating gift cards or other incentive prizes, it would be most appreciated. Please forward incentives to the school office with the donor names attached as we wish to acknowledge all our sponsors.

We are very appreciative of all the support given to us as a school and also most appreciative of the work of the parents on the Catholic School Council and the Fundraising Committee. We look forward to another successful year!



Safe and Caring School Communities

The York Catholic District School Board has a primary responsibility and goal to ensure a safe learning environment for all of our students and staff in our school community.

As part of our safety initiative, St. Justin, Martyr, along with all the other schools in York Region, will be practising a variety of safety protocols with students and staff throughout the year.

We will be rehearsing a variety of emergency school procedures to acquaint students and staff with the precautionary steps to take in the event of such occurrences as a warning of severe weather, an intruder, or a bomb threat. Teachers will review these procedures with students in class prior to our practice drills.

Paul Davies

On Tuesday October 18, Paul Davies will speak to our Junior and Intermediate students on online social networking safety.

All parents are invited to attend an evening session on the same date October 18 at 7 pm at the school. Parents will have an adult presentation similar to what the students heard in the day. Topics will include FACEBOOK, Cyber bullying, Handheld devices, Texting, Legal Matters and a common sense approach to dealing with technology...

Please mark this date on your calendar. A flyer is attached with this newsletter and an RSVP for attendance is required.

Immunization Clinic - October 3 at 1 pm

Hep B and HPV immunizations will take place for grade 7s and grade 8 females in the gym.



Grade 8 PACE Classes Paddle North October 4th-8th

Mr. Edmonds' and Mr. Tacchino's grade 8 PACE classes are heading north for the annual canoe and camping experience, and we are praying for good weather! The students, Mr. Edmonds, Ms. McNaught-Symmes and Mr. MacLean will be at Camp Mini-Yo-We in Port Sydney where many outdoor skills will be taught and practised by all.

Cross Country

Several of our grades 4 - 8 students have been busy training for the area Cross Country Meet at Bruce's Mill on October 14th. Our runners have demonstrated perseverance, dedication, discipline and commitment toward achieving their goal. We look forward to a successful meet. Thank you to our coaches - Mr. Iannelli, Mr. Leone, Mr. MacLean, and Mr. Manaloto for preparing our runners.



Good News**

We are happy to announce that our school raised over \$3300.00 for the Terry Fox Run! This amount has surpassed our goal of \$3100.00. We thank all students for bringing in their donations and keeping Terry's dream alive for this 31st year of his Marathon of Hope. **More information will follow.** Thank you to everyone for your generous donations.

Quality Learning by All

Attendance Matters!

Another school year is upon us, and we would like to stress the importance of school punctuality and regular attendance.

Regular attendance is vitally important and can lead to improved classroom learning, better test results, important relationships and friendships, good reference for future education and healthy habits.

Regular attendance is directly linked to success at school. Poor attendance patterns increase risk of failure and dropping out of school. Early intervention by home and school increases the likelihood of a student remaining in school.

The following points are proven factors in ensuring that a child will be successful in maintaining regular and punctual attendance:

- Have a regular morning routines (wake up on time, breakfast, leave home to get to school on time)
- Following a consistent nighttime routines (homework time, prep for next day, bedtime)
- Set alarm clock the night before
- Get enough sleep and eat properly

If you have any concern in regards to your child's attendance and punctuality please contact the school's Principal.

Grade 4 Testing

Our grade 4 students have completed the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test last month. These tests provide us with information that helps us with programming for all the students, as well as enable us to begin a selection process for the Program for Academic and Creative Extension (PACE).

Going to the Zoo

To complement units in Social Studies and Science, our grade 6 classes will be heading to the Toronto Zoo.

Mr. D'Adamo's and Ms. Dalimonte's classes will be visiting the zoo on Wednesday October 7th.



Star Party

On Wednesday October 19, Ms. McNaught and Ms. Sit's Grade 6 classes will be hosting a "Star Party" with an astronomer from "Cosmic Connections" to enhance the Science curriculum. Students will participate in "tour of the night sky" using powerful laser pointers, telescopes, floodlights and other methods. Hopefully the weather will cooperate.

Halloween



Halloween at St. Justin will be celebrated on **October 31th**. We encourage all students to wear costumes for the morning activities, or to follow the directions of the individual classroom teachers. Please remember that accessories such as replica axes, guns,

knives, swords, etc. are NOT permitted in the school.

REMEMBER: Food Sharing may put students with life-threatening allergies at risk.

Please do not send any food items with nut products to school.

EQAO

We are pleased and proud to provide you with the attached highlights of our school results on the provincial EQAO test written by our grades 3 and 6 students last May. We will be reviewing our detailed EQAO results and other school assessment data in order to build on our strengths and address areas requiring improvement. The students who participated in the assessment have received their individual results last week. For further information please visit www.eqao.com



From the Library

The library is open for student use and classes visit the library on a regular basis. In the library, students are taught various skills, such as how to gather research for projects, computer literacy and, of course, the love of reading! Reading offers a productive approach to improving vocabulary and word power. I recommend for all students to indulge in at least half an hour of reading a day to not only improve literacy, but to awaken their imaginations. Pick a comfortable reading place in your home and cozy up to reading! The Accelerated Reading program has begun for many classes. This is a computerized reading and learning system that allows students to read at their own level and ability. Studies have shown that children show the most improvement when they are reading at a level that is not too challenging or too easy. This program helps teachers to manage and monitor what their students are reading. This helps to enrich student literary experiences both in and out of the classroom. There are many exciting events coming up in the library! Stay tuned for information regarding the Book Fair, author visits, book clubs and other library events!



World Teachers' Day - October 5th

We are grateful to all our teachers for their dedication to student learning and wish them a very "Happy World Teachers' Day" on the 5th. We congratulate Laura McNaught-Symmes, Grade 6 PACE teacher for receiving the Toronto Star Teacher Award as an outstanding teacher. We are most proud of Ms McNaught-Symmes and all our talented and dedicated teachers.



Parent Handbooks

We encourage you to visit our board website at www.ycdsb.ca to reference our York Catholic District School Board Parent Handbook. It provides an overview of the key curriculum expectations for each grade level and highlights board policies as well. For those unable to access this resource on line, please request a hard copy from the school.

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The York Catholic District School Board has officially launched it's very own Twitter account:

<http://twitter.com/ycdsb>.

Now parents/guardians can get updates and information on things like:

- School closures, transportation or class cancellations due to severe weather or other circumstances
- Lockdowns, Hold and Secures
- Interesting good news stories and education related information
- Times and dates for upcoming board and committee meetings

"We are excited about our launch of Twitter. This is just one more way for us to connect with our school communities," said Susan LaRosa, Director of Education.

"Parents and guardians can stay in touch with what's going on and receive up-to-date, relevant and interesting news about all the great things happening across our Board."

Along with the Board's YouTube account (<http://youtube.com/user/YorkCatholicDSB>) which was launched in September 2009, the addition of York Catholic's Twitter account is a welcome addition to the Board's growing social media network.

Spread the word and follow York Catholic on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ycdsb>!

Thanksgiving Blessings to All!

















SJM School Council's Website:

www.sjmcouncil.com



October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 	3 1:00 Hep. B Gr. 7 & HPV—Gr. 8 Girls	4 Outdoor Ed Trip—Gr. 8 Pace—Oct. 4—7th 	5 Gr. 6 Toronto Zoo Trip 	6 9:00 Elections Polling Station 	7 HOT LUNCH 	8
9	10 	11	12 	13 9:00 Visit to MSH Ms. Giardini Gr. 2 & 3 Watershed on Wheels 	14 9:00 Cross Country Meet JK/SK Green Acres Farm 1:00 Swim to Survive—Ms. Campanella & Papandrea	15
16	17	18 1:00 Jr. & 2:45 Int. Social Networking Safety—Paul Davis	19 1:00 Astronomy Presentation & Star Party for Gr. 6 Pace	20 9:00 Visit to MSH— Mrs. Chan 	21 HOT LUNCH 1:00 Swim to Survive—Ms. Campanella & Papandrea 	22
23	24	25 Gr. 4—Harbourfront Trip 	26	27 Girls & Boys—FMM Invitational Volleyball Tournament 	28 1:00 Swim to Survive—Ms. Campanella & Papandrea 	29
30	31 Intermediate Halloween Dance 					



Detailed School Results



Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics
Primary Division (Grades 1–3) and Junior Division (Grades 4–6), 2010–2011

School: St Justin Martyr (816450)
Board: York Catholic DSB (67075)

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with this report on the results of the 2010–2011 Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics for the primary and junior divisions. Enclosed you will find student results for both the 2010–2011 school year and previous years, so that you can gauge progress over time. You will also find demographic and attitudinal information about the student population assessed, which will support deeper analysis and provide an important context for these results.

Since the creation of this agency, EQAO data have been a catalyst for improving student learning and achievement at all levels of the education system. From Ontario’s classrooms and staff rooms to its school boards and Ministry, educators and education professionals from across the province have become increasingly sophisticated at using EQAO data as an integral part of their continuous improvement efforts.

Within schools, EQAO data are used regularly to guide school improvement initiatives by helping to identify areas of strength and areas needing improvement and by helping to support changes in instructional practices that may be required. The provincial test results can also help schools engage in meaningful discussions about student achievement with their parent community. We all know that parents can and do exert a powerful influence on their children’s work habits, behaviour, attitudes toward school and, ultimately, learning and achievement. EQAO is pleased to help strengthen the partnership between home and school by offering a series of resources for parents and educators, available on the agency’s Web site, to help school communities engage in the kind of meaningful, data-based dialogue that supports student success.

Of course, EQAO data are only one of the sources of information that should be used to assess student achievement. Provincial testing results should always be considered alongside other school and school board-based information.

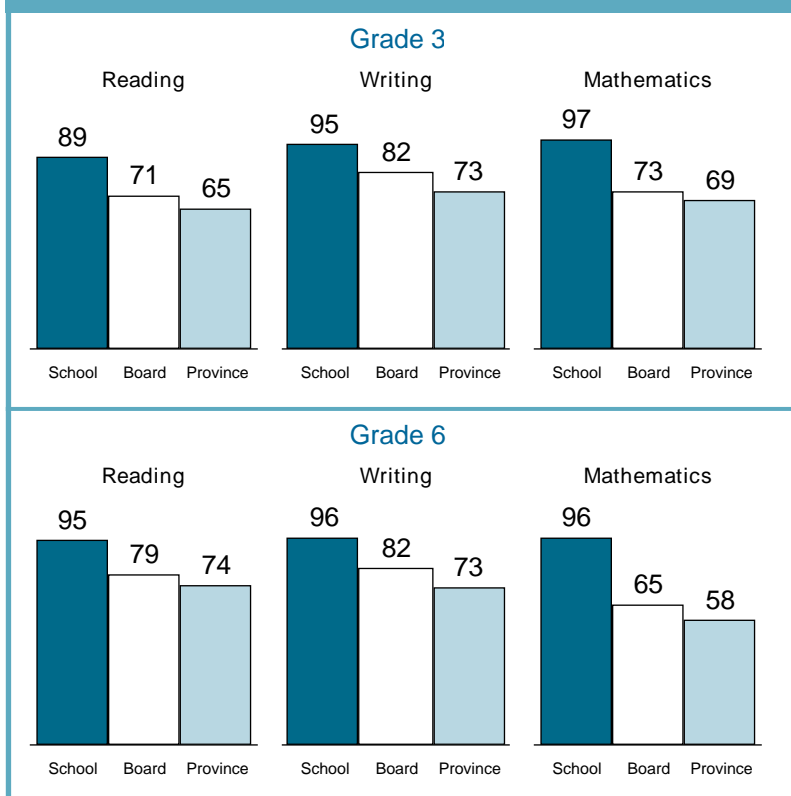
At EQAO, we are proud to deliver powerful information that supports Ontario’s parents, educators and administrators in their efforts to improve student achievement. I trust that this report will provide you with a valuable set of tools to further support the drive toward excellence in your school community. I am confident that the information in the report will contribute to our shared commitment and purposeful actions toward helping each student reach his or her highest potential.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Jackson
Chief Executive Officer
Education Quality and Accountability Office

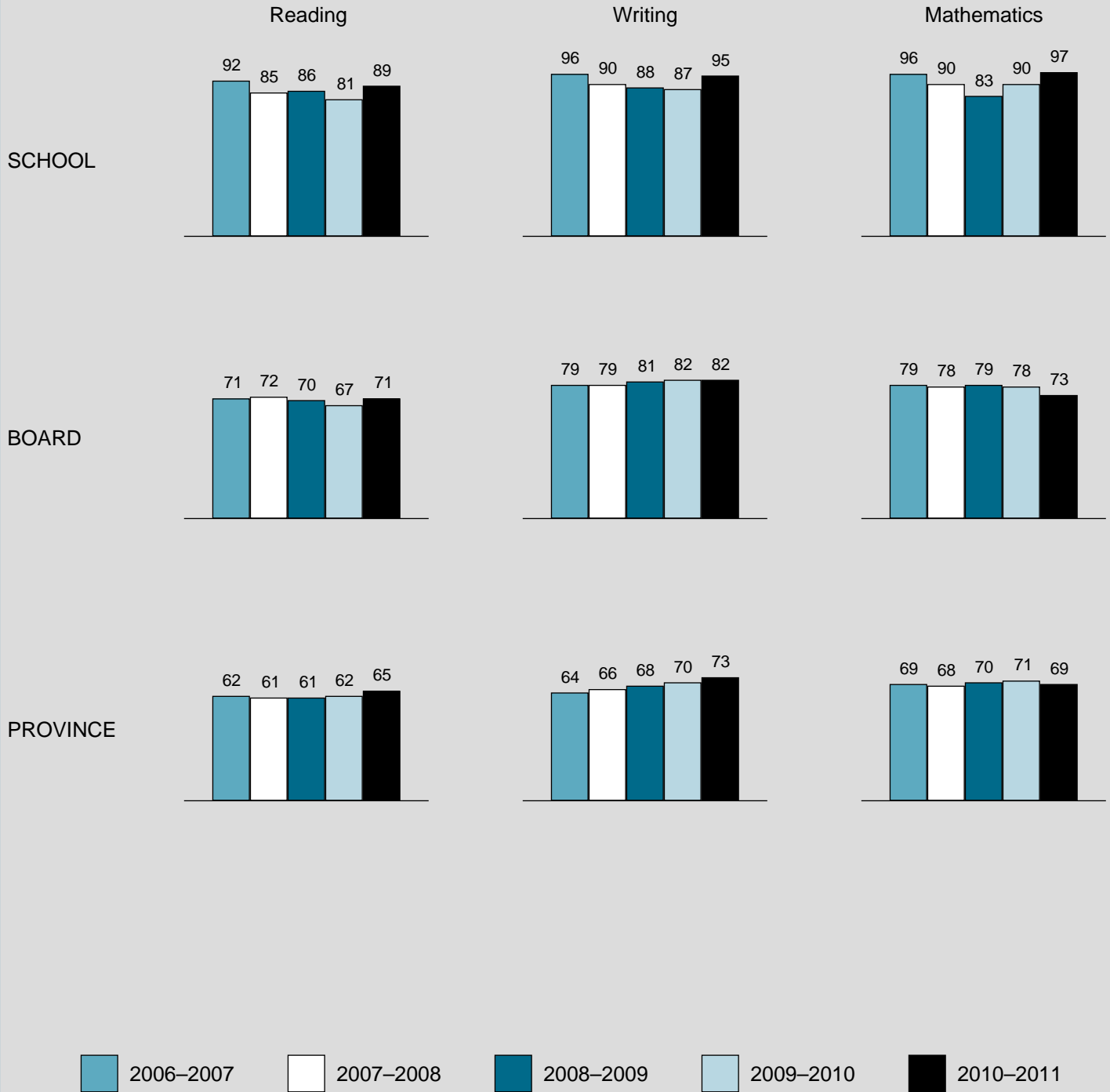
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	Grade 3	Grade 6
Percentages of all students at or above the provincial standard:		
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Contextual information: 2010–2011	5, 6	13, 14
Results for groups of students: 2010–2011		
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• Participating students	8	16
• Students by gender	9	17
• English language learners	10	18
• Students with special education needs	11	19
• Students enrolled in French Immersion	12	N/A
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PERCENTAGE OF ALL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD (LEVELS 3 AND 4), 2010–2011



RESULTS FOR ALL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD (LEVELS 3 AND 4) OVER TIME

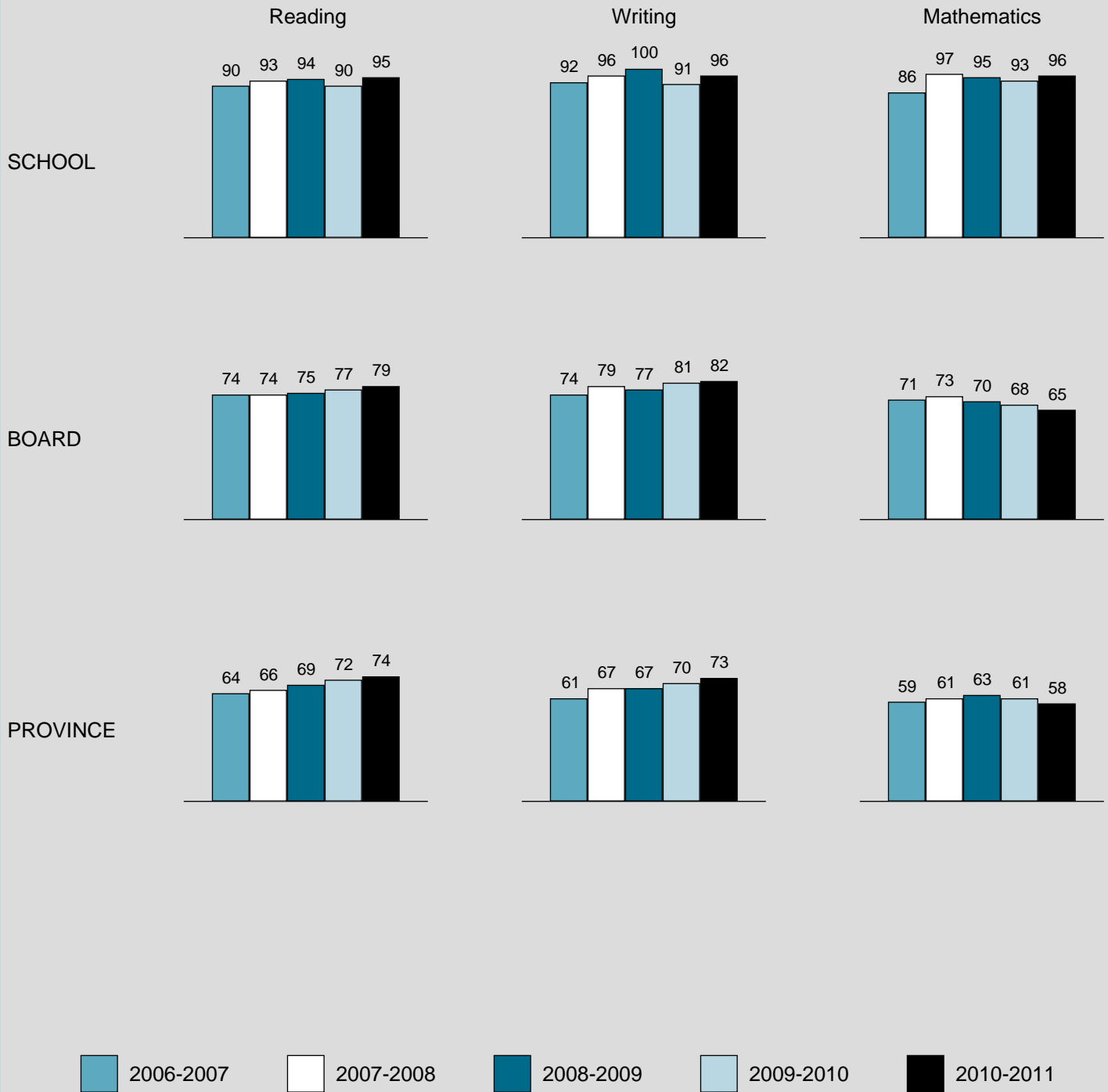
Percentage of Students: Grade 3



	Total Number of Grade 3 Students				
	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>
School	53	52	64	63	63
Board	3 700	3 705	3 721	3 888	3 831
Province	131 012	128 660	125 481	127 789	124 117

RESULTS FOR ALL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD (LEVELS 3 AND 4) OVER TIME

Percentage of Students: Grade 6



	Total Number of Grade 6 Students				
	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>
School	86	96	87	87	79
Board	4 164	4 040	4 169	3 932	3 902
Province	145 901	140 420	136 076	134 294	132 308



St. Justin, Martyr Parish

3898 Highway #7 East, Unionville, Ontario L3R 1L3

Tel: 905.479.2463 • Fax: 905.513.8077 • Email: administrator@stjustin.com • Web Site: www.stjustin.com

The month of October is upon us, and many parish programs and events are happening. Please consult the website or the weekly bulletin for updates.

Sacramental Preparation:

First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion 2011/2012 - Registration for the 2011/2012 program occurred on September 24. If your child is not yet registered for this year's program, please contact Sue Reid at extension 27 as soon as possible.

Confirmation 2012 - Registration for the Confirmation Program will occur on **Saturday, October 15** in the church hall. Please pick up a registration package from the church office if you missed the Information meeting in September. Call Rita Perta at ext. 51 for further assistance.

Music Ministry: Our new choir director, Julia Hauser, welcomes adults and children to join one of the various choirs which enhance our weekend celebrations. Children in grades 3 to 6 are invited to join The Children's Choir while teens are invited to the Just Youth Band. Adults are welcome to join the Saturday, 5 PM or the Sunday 8:30 AM or the 10:30 AM choirs. Please call Julia at the parish office.

New Altar Servers Needed: Boys and girls, as altar servers, have an important role, assisting the priest in the celebration of the weekend Mass. If your child has received the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, and is interested in serving, please pick up a registration form from the parish office, or the sacristy.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC): Open House Saturday, October 22 at 10 AM

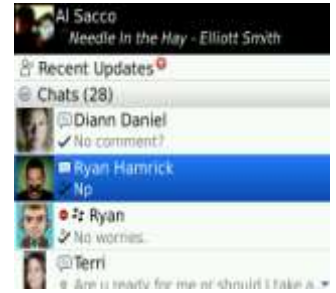
This program is for non-baptized children and children who were baptized in the Catholic or Protestant tradition and have reached the age of reason (7 years old and up), who with the help of their family, are seeking the sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation &/or First Communion. At least one parent must be Catholic for the child to be registered. Parents please attend the Open House with your children. To register, please pick up a RCIC registration form at the parish office or from our web site.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: If you would like to enrich your child's relationship with God & His Church, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd can help you do this. The Good Shepherd ministry recognizes that a child already has a relationship with God. In a worship setting called the atrium, "children can fall in love with God by themselves". Level I is for children ages 3 to 6 years & will run on Sunday mornings, and Tuesday afternoons and evenings. Level II classes for children ages 7 to 10 are also held on Tuesdays. For more information or to register, visit www.stjustin.com and select the ministries/faith development/Catechesis of the Good Shepherd tabs or contact Susan Reid at the parish office for registration forms and further information.



ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKING SAFETY 101

St. Justin, Martyr, ALL WELCOME!



Date: **Tuesday October 18**

Location: **St. Justin, Martyr School**

Time: 7:00 pm / Duration: 90min Plus Q&A



Guest Speaker:



Paul Davis

From socialnetworkingsafety.net

Topics: FACEBOOK, Cyber Bullying, Handheld Devices, Texting, Legal Matters, and a Common Sense Approach to dealing with the technology your children have, or are asking you for!

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED! This presentation is targeted for adults only. Your children (Grade 4 onwards) will have an age appropriate presentation given to them during the school day.

Babysitting:

We hope you can make it! As Paul's talk is for an adult audience, we will be providing a movie for the children while you hear the presentation. Our Intermediate students will perform a community service by remaining with the children who will gather in the Library.



RSVP

Susan Knetsch, Principal 905-474-0284

Please call with numbers of Parents/Teachers attending the talk

