

YOUR 2006 GRADUATION EDITION

# Congratulations Graduates!

2006

*Halton Catholic School Board*

## St. Joseph School enjoyed rich and flourishing year

As this school year draws to a close, it is with much pride and gratitude that I recognize the very successful and fulfilling year in all aspects of school life that has been experienced this year, especially in Catholic education in Halton Hills and around our region.

I am very proud of our schools. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to our partners in education.

To our students whose talents, diligence, and hard work consistently keep our schools "top notch." To the staff whose creativity, teaching skills, and especially their love of children enhance the learning experience for students. To our volunteers who give of their time and efforts to keep our schools running efficiently and add that extra sparkle of fun. To our parents, who constantly encourage and instil a love of learning in their children.

To Father Bob Bulbrook whose spiritual leadership continues to guide our staff, students and parents on their journeys of faith.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School has had a very rich and flourishing school year. We bid farewell



**Irene McCauley**  
Catholic Board Trustee

to Principal Gail Rutherford, who will be moving on to St. Brigid Catholic Elementary School in Georgetown. We are grateful for the many innovations she brought to St. Joseph and her valuable Catholic leadership. The Board thanks you and wishes you great success in your new school. We welcome back Colin Simpson, who is returning to St. Joseph School. We look forward to his leadership and guidance once again.

St. Joseph in Acton has once again this year excelled in its charitable activities. Mackenzie Carroll, a grade 3 student raised \$500 by making and selling her handiwork for the students' annual "Pennies from Heaven." A

total of \$2,900 was raised for the Special Muscular Atrophy Association to help a Grade 1 student at St. Joseph School.

The EQAO scores in Mathematics achieved by Grade 3 students at St. Joseph School during the Spring 2005 testing were among the top percentage in the province.

St. Joseph's "Battle of the Books" students placed first in the Junior Division and second in the Senior Division. Forty students won awards at the Acton Fall Fair in art, poetry, story-telling, and penmanship.

Sports activities are an integral part of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School community. Their teams are always well-coached and they are always competitive. Taylor Masse placed first in the Special Olympics Basketball Throw as well as picking up other medals in various events. The students learned valuable leadership skills, team co-operation skills, and communication skills in their house league games and varsity sports.

Our school enrolment is growing in various areas across the region. There are long term accommoda-

*Continued on page 16*

*Halton District School Board*

## Outstanding work of Acton students, staff is recognized

One of the guiding principles of the Halton District School Board states, "We are committed to providing learning opportunities which enable individual growth and encourage students to become critical thinkers, creative problem solvers and achieve their personal best."

As this school year ends and one reflects on the learning opportunities provided to our Acton and area community schools, it is clear that students have been exposed to, and have participated in, many activities inside and outside our classrooms, which bring this guiding principle to life.

Staff and students from Acton have been recognized regionally, provincially, and even nationally for their outstanding work in many areas. Whether these accomplishments are individual or group endeavours, all schools have a great deal of which to be proud.

Through academics, the arts, athletics and technology, students have been encouraged to become critical thinkers, creative problem solvers and achieve their personal best. At the secondary level our athletic teams and individual athletic performances have been outstanding. Our music and drama programs are second to none, and our tech programs simply put, are superior.

At the elementary level, schools are recognized for outstanding environmental initiatives, healthy living programs, athletic teams, the



**Ethel Gardiner**  
Public School Trustee

science fair, quality daily fitness, bands, choirs, public speaking and a host of other activities.

Every school has demonstrated good citizenship through participation in such activities as food drives, Jump Rope for Heart, UNICEF, and Relay for Life. We are exceptionally proud to observe our students becoming caring, responsible citizens of the larger community.

Of course, the key focus of all our schools is student achievement. Over the past year much work has been done by staff in the areas of literacy, numeracy and school culture. We applaud all staff and students for their exceptional work in these areas.

In our community schools, we are blessed to have outstanding staff providing rich learning experiences for students. Thank you to administrators and staff who work tirelessly to improve student achievement.

School council members of each school are to be commended for supporting our schools, staff and students in so many positive and tangible ways. Your many contributions are greatly appreciated.

In all communities schools welcome and appreciate the support of volunteers. We are fortunate in Acton to have many parents who give so freely of their time and talents to enrich student learning. Local businesses also provide exceptional support to our schools. To all community partners, I offer my thanks.

Finally, I extend warm congratulations to all students on your success over the past year. Some of you will be moving on to new schools, college, university or the world of work. Best wishes for continued success in all that you do.

Some staff have retired or will be moving to new positions in September. Thank you so much for your many contributions to Acton students, and we wish you well in your future endeavours.

I would also like to acknowledge and say farewell to Heather Maxwell, the very first Student Trustee from Acton. Heather has served on our board for two years, and has been an outstanding ambassador for our community. She is representative of the many exceptional young people who attend our community schools.



Al Bailey, Chair of the Board  
Lou Piovesan, Director of Education

# Graduates of 2006

**Congratulations &  
best wishes for success  
in all your future endeavours!**



Paul Tate, Chair of the Board  
Wayne Joudrie, Director of Education