

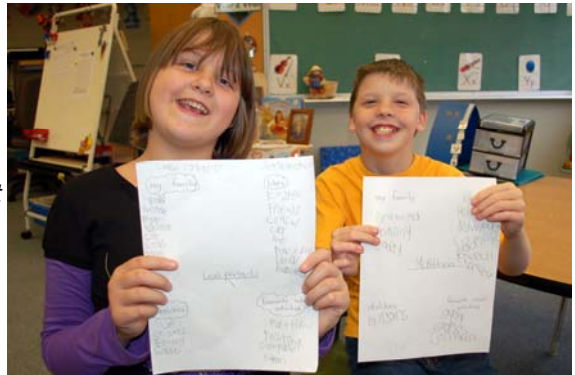


**For Immediate Release  
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## **First Day of School...for the 50th Time!**

**(North Bay, ON)** – The freshly waxed floors and squeaky-clean hallways of Corpus Christi and St. Alexander Schools are as bright and welcoming to students and staff in 2010 as any other year. One would never guess today was in fact the fiftieth time these two Catholic centres of learning excellence opened their doors for the first day of school. Corpus Christi School, located at 630 Brennan Street, and St. Alexander School, located at 900 Bloem Street, are each hosting 50th anniversary celebrations this year with details and invitations to follow in the near future.

It seems, fifty years later, students are still aiming high. “This year, I want to be better at grammar, math and reading,” said Matthew Dech, a Grade 5 student at St. Alexander. Along with his classmates, Matthew spent part of the first day writing out his “*All About Me*” sheet (pictured at right) where he shares his likes, dislikes, family details and favourite school activities, which include computers in addition to math.



At Corpus Christi School, the Grade 4/5 students in Ms. Boulet’s class spent some time getting to know one another while building trust and patience. “This exercise is meant to build our own class community, which is very important,” said Ms. Boulet. The students sat facing each other in two rows with their eyes closed (pictured at right). The first students in each row squeezed the hand of the person next to them, and that person had to wait for that hand to be squeezed before passing the squeeze onto the person on their other side. The chain of hand squeezes was a silent race to a pylon sitting at the end of each row.



The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board wishes to welcome back all students, parents and staff in each of its thirteen Catholic schools in North Bay, Callander, Mattawa, Powassan and West Nipissing.

We invite all members of our Catholic education community to come together for our first **Parent Engagement Symposium of the year at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 25 at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School.** Free workshops will be offered and keynote speaker, Barbara Coloroso, an internationally renowned author, will offer her presentation, *The Bully, The Bullied and The Bystander*. Details and online registration coming soon to [www.npsc.ca](http://www.npsc.ca). Call 472-1201 for more information.

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