

*September 21, 2007*

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**staracademy\***  
a unique independent school

Star Academy 905-891-1555

## *WELCOME NEW FAMILIES!*

Our New Parent Night was a great success and it was a wonderful opportunity to casually sit around and discuss various topics – especially homework!!

We thank you for taking the time to share with us and look forward to an exciting year together!

## *ANNUAL BALANCING LD CONFERENCE*

Balancing LD is a joint project between Mississauga Learning Disabilities Mississauga and Star Academy Charitable Corporation.

This year's focus of the conference is non-verbal learners (social skills), with keynote speaker Dr. Maggie Mamen. Dr. Mamen is renowned for her knowledge and insight into non-verbal learning disorders and is a wonderful speaker to listen to. The conference also includes a panel of professionals and parents who will be responding to audience questions.

The conference will be hosted at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga on Thursday October 25, 2007. Registration forms can be downloaded at [www.starcharity.ca](http://www.starcharity.ca) or [www.ldapeel.com](http://www.ldapeel.com)

A free Resource Fair will also be hosted with over 30 exhibitors in the atrium of the Living Arts Centre during the conference.

**PARENTS OF STAR ACADEMY RECEIVE A DISCOUNT PRICE, THOSE INTERESTED NEED TO REGISTER NOW!** Download your registration form from [www.starcharity.ca](http://www.starcharity.ca)

While many of our families are not directly affected by learning disabilities, Dr. Mamen [www.pamperedchildsyndrome.ca/](http://www.pamperedchildsyndrome.ca/) is an excellent speaker and informative for any parent to hear.

## *CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE*

Our Running/Walking Club members will be completing the Run for the Cure on Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. All other students will be lining the streets to cheer them on! Students are encouraged to wear pink on Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> and donate \$2 for the cause to show their support.

Participants have taken pledge sheets home and are asked to return them along with any donations on Friday September 28<sup>th</sup>. We encourage everyone to make a contribution to support this worthy cause - there is a donation box in the office. All proceeds will be donated to the CIBC Run for the Cure.

Parents are also welcome to cheer on our runners on Friday. Thank you for your support.

## *HOMWORK*

That dreaded word!

By now you should have a sense of the homework expectations for your child. Star Academy believes that homework provides an opportunity to ensure students have solidified concepts taught in class or review previously taught skills. Homework is NOT brand new material. There is a maximum amount of time for homework based on the class your child is in, please check your Parent Manual for details.

Tips for successful homework completion:

1. Have a designated location and time period.
2. Have a snack before and water.
3. Prioritize work – usually starting with the hardest works best.
4. Set time limits for each subject.
5. If the students cannot do an assignment independently, referring to daily notes, send a note in your child's agenda.
6. Do not correct your child's work, unless the have made careless or lazy mistakes – teachers need to see what they are doing independently.

## *FUNDSCRIP*

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*We cannot always  
build the future for  
our youth, but we  
can build our  
youth for the  
future.*

*Franklin D.  
Roosevelt*

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We failed to mention Fundscrip at our Parent Night (oops1). Fundscrip is an easy fundraiser that ties into your regular spending routine. By visiting [www.fundscrip.com](http://www.fundscrip.com) you can see all the participating stores and register. You simply order the gift card for the store(s) of your choice (Loblaws, Esso, HVM, Chapters, Canadian Tire, Staples and many more). Use your gift card like a debit card and a percentage of your purchase (varies by store) will be donated to Star Academy. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Crumpton at 905-891-1555

## *PARENT TO PARENT*

Carpooling seems to be settling in – if anyone missed out on this opportunity please speak to Ms. Crumpton.

## *STAR LEARNING CENTRE*

The Star Learning Centre is ready to begin its' third year! Mr. Simon Busse will be coordinating all sessions and assessments.

The after-school programme focuses on teaching students the skills needed in specific learning areas so they may become confident independent learners. These programmes are available to students outside of our school population and we would appreciate it if you would pass this information on to friends with children from Grade 1 to Grade 9.

Sessions are six weeks in length and provide two –1-hour sessions per week.

Session dates are:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 - week beginning September 10 | – week beginning October 15 |
| 2 - week beginning Nov 5        | – week beginning Dec. 10    |
| 3 – week beginning Jan 14       | - week beginning Feb. 18    |
| 4 - week beginning March 17     | – week beginning April 21   |
| 5 – week beginning May 5        | – week beginning June 9     |

Further information can be received through [slc@staracademy.ca](mailto:slc@staracademy.ca)

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*No act of kindness, no  
matter how small, is  
ever wasted.*

*Aesop*

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## *PATTY AND SANDY'S CORNER*

Thank you to those parents who came out today for our first Pizza lunch – everything went quite well and the kids were thrilled to have pizza again!

The school's annual Thanksgiving lunch is fast approaching! We will be in contact with parents to confirm their participation in serving lunch on Friday October 5<sup>th</sup> to the staff and students.

## *THE BAY GIFT CARDS*

The Bay is hosting a special day on Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Purchase “The Giving Day” gift card for \$5 and receive an automatic 15% off most of your purchases at The Bay on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Bay will also be hosting in store special events on this day, including entertainers, food and much more. Proceeds raised by the sale of the gift cards will go towards Star Academy Charity and the Balance LD Conference.

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*learn to love to learn*

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.staracademy.ca](http://www.staracademy.ca)

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## *MARK YOUR CALENDAR*

- Thursday September 27 – **School Picture Day**
- Friday September 28 – CIBC Run for the Cure, Star Academy
- Friday October 5 – Thanksgiving Lunch
- Monday October 8 – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Thursday October 25 – Balancing LD Conference
- Friday October 26 – Dance-a-thon
- October 29 – November 2 – Fall Break
- Wednesday November 7 – Parent Night Dinner

## *IMMUNIZATION*

Parents please note, the immunization clinic for Hepatitis B and HPV will be held at the school on Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> for grade 7 and 8 students. Consent forms were sent home with your child on Friday September 21<sup>st</sup>. Participation in this immunization programme is voluntary therefore, if you wish your child to participate please complete the form/s and return to the school by Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Should you have any questions please contact the office.

*There is always a lot happening in the Star Academy community! Make sure you stay in touch through this weekly newsletter! If you would like this newsletter to reach you at another email address please let us know at [info@staracademy.ca](mailto:info@staracademy.ca)*