



## St. Francis Catholic School Newsletter

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Principal - Mrs. L. Petryna

Vice Principal - Mr. Tarini

February 2010

Trustee - Estelle Scappatura 670-1858

### Virtue of the Month - Compassion

During the month of February we celebrate the virtue of COMPASSION. In Luke's Gospel we read "Be compassionate as God is compassionate." We understand compassion not only as the ability to empathize with one another but also to act on behalf of that other person. It is evident when we care deeply and want to help others, even if we do not know them. It is being kind and forgiving to someone who has hurt you. We practice COMPASSION when we:

- are helpful to a person or animal in need
- notice when someone is hurt or needs a friend.
- imagine how another person might be feeling.
- take time to show you care
- forgive others when they make mistakes
- reach out in the broader community to share our resources and skills

The more we talk, teach and learn compassion, the closer our graduates come to dedicating themselves to the common good and to doing God's work.

This month we are having a Pyjama Day. The students are invited to wear their pyjama's to school and pay \$1.00. The proceeds will go to the victims of the earth quake in Haiti.

Candy grams are being sold for 50 cents each during the week of Feb. 8th.

Many thanks to those students who bought cookies and/or made monetary donations to the relief fund earlier in January. We sent \$367.00 to St. Patrick's Church to help the victims of Haiti.

**Compassion lives within the hearts of the St. Francis students.**

### Prayer during Lent

Father in Heaven,

the light of Your truth bestows sight to the darkness of sinful eyes.

May this season of repentance bring us the blessing of Your forgiveness and the gift of Your light.



### Science Fair and Historica Fair

Grade 5 and Grade 8 students are participating in the Historica Fair this year, with the exception of Mr. Polischuk's class who are participating in Science Fair. Grade 7 students are involved in the Science Fair. The school event takes place during the first week of March here at the school. Backboards are available for students to purchase at the office for \$7.00 each. They are not allowed on the bus, so please arrange for pick up at the school anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. French Immersion students complete their projects in French.

### Parish School Connection

#### St. Patrick Church

Make certain that you contact the Church to register for Confirmation.

Parent meeting took place in January 2010.

#### Our Lady of Hope

Make certain to contact the Church to register for Confirmation, First Communion and/or Reconciliation.

**St. Stanislaus and Pius X Parishes** - Confirmation registration for Grade 7 and 8 students are being accepted. Registrations are available every Sunday immediately after Mass at 9:30 a.m. in Lively; 11:15 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in Copper Cliff until February 21<sup>st</sup>. Forms will only be distributed to potential candidates – they are not available from the Parish Office or the schools. Late registrations will not be accepted.

The Pastoral Council of St. Stanislaus/St. Pius X Parishes invite you to social gathering before Lent. The delicious meal will be prepared by parishioners. Free will offering to cover the cost of the meal. Seating is first come, first served. This will take place on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

### St. Benedict's Open House and Grade 9 Registration

Parents and students are invited to the St. Benedict's Open House to be held on Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School guidance department have been at the school going over courses and programs with grade 8 students. Parents are encouraged to review their child's course selection, sign and return the form to the school as soon as possible. If you do have any questions about the courses you may contact your child's teacher, Mrs. Petryna or St. Benedict School at 523-9235. We forward the registration forms to St. Benedict's Catholic School. Please try to have them returned to St. Francis by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Grade Eight Graduation

The Grade 8 Graduation Mass will take place at Our Lady of Hope Church on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 (revised date).

The Graduation Ceremony will be held at 12:30 on Thursday, June 24<sup>rd</sup> in the school gym. The Graduation dance will commence at 6:30 to 9:30 in the gymnasium on that same night.

### Pancake Tuesday - February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

We are planning to feed the entire school population on Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup>. Your assistance is required.

We will need a number of electric skillets and spatulas, not to mention some people to assist in working these items.

**Students are asked to bring their own plastic plate, knife and fork. This way we also help save our environment by causing less garbage.** If you are able to assist please contact the school by phone or e-mail. We want to feed the students first as they arrive in the morning so we will start cooking at 7:15 a.m. The grade 7/8 students are fed first as they come off the bus. The rest of the school are fed during the first part of the morning.

### JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Many thanks to all of you who came to the Open House held in January. If you missed it, please give the school a call to book a tour and/or to register your child. **Remember that we offer full time junior kindergarten starting in September 2010.**

Please bring your child's health card, birth certificate and immunization card. Come tour the school and see what St. Francis has to offer! We will have a welcome to kindergarten session for all new registrations in May 2010.

### Homework Club

St. Francis is running a Homework Club every Wednesday evening from 2:30 to 4:00 in our library. Students are invited to participate and get a head start on their homework or bring their notes to help review for upcoming tests. If you are interested, please call the school or e-mail Mrs. Petryna ([petrynl@scdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:petrynl@scdsb.edu.on.ca)).



### Peer Tutoring

Students from grade 1 to 6 are welcome to participate in peer tutoring every Monday and Wednesday mornings in the library during morning recess.

### Sports

☆ Congratulations to the winners and runners up in the Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Competition:

10 Years Old - Winner - **Tomas Majeski; Kayla Samarian**

Runner Up - Dougie Rheame, Scott Burns; Paige Joannis

11 Years Old - Winners - **Evan Davis; Meagan Monette**

Runner Up - Livingston Boyd; Christina Echylson

12 Years Old - Winners - **Matthew Lewis; Andrea Zulich;**

Runner Up- Kordell Simmonds; Kathleen Bertuzzi

13 Years Old - Winners- **Brandon MacDonald; Jade Tyson**

Runner Up- Michael Marcantognini ; Lisa Romanyszyn

14 Years Old - Winners - **Patrick Lezun ; Crystal Brkic**

Runner Up - Cullen Doucette

Congratulations to all our free throw participants.

The **winners** of each age category will participate in the Zone Playdowns. Date and time has not been determined as of yet.

☆ Basketball Tournaments - The two boys' basketball teams participated in tournaments this month at St. Benedict and Bishop Alexander Carter. The "A" team placed third at the St. Benedict tournament and first at the Bishop Alexander Carter tournament. Tate Kosmerly and Kordell Simmonds were members of the all star team at the St. Benedict tournament. Chase Pressacco, Conner Vande Weghe and Kordell Simmonds won in the skills competition at the Bishop Alexander Carter tournament. Many thanks to the boys coaches Mr. Bradley and Mr. Natale.

☆ The badminton team participated in a tournament at MacDonald Cartier. Twenty students participated and did very well at the tournament. Thank you to Mr. McLaughlin for coaching the students and to the parents who drove them to the events.

### Upcoming events:

☆ Boys' Basketball Tournament on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Charles College.

☆ Girls' Basketball Tournaments on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at St. Benedict and on February 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Charles College.

☆ Chess tournament here at St. Francis on Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup>.

### The Royal Canadian Legion Poetry Contest

Congratulations to Peter Boylan who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Remembrance Day Literacy Contest. His poem won again at the zone level. He won a certificate, medal and \$15.00.

### Parent Corner - Developing writing skills

Like reading, or anything else worthwhile, the best way to help your child improve their writing skills is through practice. Find fun ways to build vocabulary together such as: solving crossword puzzles, guess the meaning of personalized licence plates, playing word games, analyzing song lyrics, etc. Encourage your child to write as much as possible by creating a variety of different compositions:

- ★ emails
- ★ shopping lists
- ★ wish lists
- ★ songs/poems/raps
- ★ journals/diaries
- ★ invitations
- ★ trip Itineraries
- ★ budgets
- ★ jokes
- ★ letters to friends

This month have your child complete their own valentine cards for the class. JK students can practice their own name. SK students should be able to do their cards on their own. It may take them a while but it will be so rewarding for them to do them on their own.

### Please Note!

- ✓ Please contact the school by 9:15 if your child is at home sick. You may leave a message at any time.
- ✓ Please have your child dress appropriately for the winter weather.
- ✓ All students should have inside shoes for indoor wear. Gym running shoes would be appropriate for indoor and physical education class.
- ✓ St. Francis has a before and after school daycare program. For more information please contact Jubilee at 674-3334.
- ✓ Please send a note to the classroom teacher if your child is being picked up early or at the end of the day (not taking the bus).
- ✓ **We do have some students with serious peanut/nut allergies. Please refrain from sending lunches and snacks which contain nuts and might be life threatening to others within the school.**

