PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Happy New Term!

I hope you celebrated the progress and results of term one with your son or daughter, as well as set new goals for Term 2. Setting new goals is a critical component of students’ motivation, self-regulation and achievement. A conscious effort to improve in a specific subject or learning skill is much more effective than simply saying, “I will do better next term!” Specific and achievable goals should be the focus.

Our Lenten focus this year is on sacrifice and we use a “nail” as our gimmick to remind us of the crucifixion of Christ, and its meaning to us personally. Each classroom has a large nail in their prayer centre and several small nails which they bring to the display at the office when they consciously do good deeds, pray or make a sacrifice in the name of Jesus. The nail is meant to make us think about the suffering and death of Jesus…and about the meaning of that suffering and death. Students have been asked to be kinder to their parents (please let me know if it’s working) and to be kinder to their classmates. 40 days! I hope we are up to the challenge!

Blessings,
Marie Finnerty, Principal

BOUQUETS TO...

Mrs. W. McGrath on the birth of a beautiful daughter, Annika.

Viola Cybulski, Terri McLeod, Theresa Prince and Carmel Rumleskie for leading our students in rosary.

Mary Ann Dombroskie, Amanda Levean, Stacie Pecarski and Tracy Yandernoll for preparing healthy snacks.

Barb Walsh for washing school jerseys after the broomball tournament.

Our parents for returning the last page of their child’s report card.

Yvette Sullivan for a bag of puzzles for Zone Room.

Fr. C. Shalla for the beautiful Ash Wednesday Mass.

Sr. Bernice Mintha for donating items to the school.

MARCH BREAK

March Break is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2015, to Friday, March 20, 2015, inclusive. Classes will resume on Monday, March 23, 2015. Have a restful break!

MILK PROGRAM

Attached to this newsletter is the monthly pre-order for April.

Milk credits will only be issued to students who were absent and paid for the full month. Otherwise the milk will be given on a day your child didn’t order. The credit slip will be placed in your child’s agenda and needs to be attached to your April pre-order.
**JUNIOR COSOM HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

On Friday, February 6, 2014, students from Grades 4 and 5 travelled to Palmer Rapids to take part in a Junior Cosom Hockey tournament. Both St. John Bosco teams played very well and won their share of the games. It was a wonderful day spent being active and making new friends from other schools! Well done Grade 4/5.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY POETRY AND POSTER WINNERS**

Congratulations to the following students who placed at the Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Poem and Poster Contest.

**Poetry**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
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<td>Jacob Afelskie</td>
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**Black & White Poster**

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<td>Junior</td>
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<td>Hannah Afelskie</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Candace Hudder</td>
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<td>Kara Madigan</td>
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**Intermediate**

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<td>Kalli Recoskie</td>
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<td>Brooke-Lyn Lundy</td>
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<td>Ashley Burant</td>
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**Colour Poster**

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<td>Primary</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Joseph Afelskie</td>
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<td>Jeremiah Nicholson</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Courtney Pilgrim</td>
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<td>HM</td>
<td>Kaylee Stamplecoskie</td>
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<td>Brooke-Lyn Lundy</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Ashley Burant</td>
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Special congratulations to the following students who placed in the Upper Ottawa Valley Zone:

**Poetry**

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<td>Hannah Afelskie</td>
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**CLERGY VISITS**

Fr. C. Shalla will be visiting the Grade 6 class on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. and will speak about the importance of forgiveness and other Lenten topics.

**YEARBOOK ADVERTISING**

The yearbook committee is wondering if you would be interested in advertising your business in their annual yearbook. The ad would be a business card that you already have. The cost per ad is $25.00. Please send business card with payment, to the school by May 1, 2015, if you are interested.

**FUN NIGHT**

Mark your calendars for our Annual Fun Night which will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2015, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Our committee this year is off to a great start with plans for this well-loved and well-attended event. This year, the rock wall will be returning along with 2 NEW bouncers (bouncy castle and a 50 foot obstacle course). If you are able to help out on that night please contact the school. This is a family event and the committee would love any support you can provide. EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to be part of the planning and organizing. Stay tuned for more details in the near future. Mark the date!!!

**SPELLING BEE**

Students from grades 1 through 8 have received their Spelling Bee words and will shortly begin recess practices, by division. Students are asked to listen to the morning announcements to see when the practices will be. The Bosco Spelling Bee will be held in April, and the 3rd Annual Madawaska Valley Schools Spelling Bee will be held during Education Week in May.

Thank you to this year’s coaches: Shannon Corrigan, Halinka Shulist, Margaret Greene and Ingrid Coulas.

**SKATING**

Students are encouraged to bring their skates and helmets to skate during the lunch hour. Kindergarten to Grade 3 will have the opportunity to skate on Monday and Wednesday and Grades 4 to 8 on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
CHESS CLUB

The students love of chess at Bosco is evident and continues to grow, with new members every year! Students have been playing chess for over a month and they are eagerly anticipating the Chess Tournament in May! There are around 50 students continuing to develop their chess skills. Every grade plays twice a week, with the grade 7/8 students playing daily - frequently coaching the younger students. Thank you to: Jonah Kluke, Nathan Yandernoll, Noah Shepherd, and Bryden Mask for mentoring these younger chess players!

In April, we will begin to keep score and students will be playing off for the 24 member chess team. Thank you to Mr. D. Afelskie and Ms. I. Coulas for coaching and supervising this extracurricular activity. If any parents are interested in volunteering their chess expertise, (we play at 11:40 in the Family Studies room), please contact one of the coaches.

WE DAY

On Friday, March 13, 2015, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. the WE DAY TEAM will be hosting a coffee house buy-out for all students in the school as well as a buy-in for any family members from the community who would like to join us. The coffee house will showcase talent from all grades in the school as well as talent from staff and other community members. Refreshments will be available for purchase.

Admission will be $2.00 per student and $4.00 per adult. For families with 3 or more siblings in the school, admission will cost $5.00 per family not including parents. Please send in coffee house admission by Wednesday, March 11, 2015, with student’s name and grade.

Due to a limited number of tickets to the WE DAY event, not every student on the WE DAY TEAM will be attending. Our goal is not necessarily to get to the WE DAY event (although it’s tons of fun), it is more about creating and facilitating a life-long interest in social activism and awareness in the world and in our community. The students on the team are aware of their responsibilities in order to earn a ticket to WE DAY on Wednesday, April 1, 2015

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Please check calendar for Spirit Day events. On Thursday, March 26, 2015, we will have a ‘Clash Day’ – wacky hair, mixed up colours in clothing, etc.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Little Caesars Pizza kits will be delivered on Wednesday March 11, 2015. Parents will be able to pick up their orders between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the school. A total of 250 kits were sold by the students. Thanks to all who supported this school fundraiser.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Thank you to all primary, junior and intermediate students who participated in the Inschool Public Speaking competition that was held on Friday, February 13, 2015. There were 31 public speakers who chose very informative topics about Animals, Hockey, Environment, Tim Hortons, Colour, and Waiting To Date, among others. Participants were as follows: Chadd Stoppa, Stephen Kerr, Hayden Pecarski-Kuijack, Sophie Villeneuve, Genevieve Nicholson, Piper McGrath, Ava Cybulskie, Lily Plebon, Mackenzie Levean, Ben Afelskie, Danielle Shalla, Avery Etmanskie, Beckham Murray, Tanner Dupuis, Joseph Hempstead, Jeremiah Nicholson, Kayla Dombrowskie, Hannah Afelskie, Jacob Afelskie, Maria Shalla, Abbey Murray, Madeleine Nicholson, Courtney Pilgrim, Isabelle Gonzalez, Ashley Burant, Brooke-Lyn Lundy and Colter Lapenskie.

Thank you to Mrs. Carmel Rumleskie and Mrs. Shawn Eagles who judged the students.

Contestants who placed at the in-school competition were:
Primary (Grades 1-3) 1st Ben Afelskie
2nd Tanner Dupuis
3rd Ava Cybulskie
3rd Chadd Stoppa
Honorable Mention Avery Etmanskie
Beckham Murray

Junior (Grades 4-6) 1st Jacob Afelskie
1st Abbey Murray
2nd Maria Shalla
3rd Isabelle Gonzalez
3rd Hannah Afelskie
Honorable Mention Madeleine Nicholson

Intermediate (Grades 7-8) 1st Brooke-Lyn Lundy
1st Colter Lapenskie
2nd Ashely Burant

We have a very eloquent and well-spoken number of students at St. John Bosco and it is wonderful to celebrate their gifts of speaking in public. The Royal Canadian Legion Competition took place on Saturday, February 21, 2015, in Barry’s Bay, Ontario.

Congratulations to the winners who placed at this competition:

**Primary Division (Grades 1-3)**
- 2nd Ben Afelskie

**Junior Division (Grades 4-6)**
- 1st Abbey Murray
- 2nd Jacob Afelskie

Thank you to Ms. I. Coulas and Mrs. H. Shulist for guiding these students.

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**BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT**

St. John Bosco participated in the annual OPP Elementary School Broomball Tournament at the end of January. Our first two games were played at the outdoor rink in Wilno. We lost a close match against George Vanier (1-0) but triumphed over St. Mary’s (5-1). In the B-final we were matched up against St. James and Bosco came out victorious (2-0) in difficult playing conditions. St. John Bosco clinched its first trophy of the school year and its third consecutive broomball trophy in recent years.

Thank you to Mr. D. Afelskie for coaching the students.

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**PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT 2015**

Grades 3 and 6 students will be involved in EQAO Provincial Assessments between May 25, 2015, and June 8, 2015. Please check your calendar to ensure that these weeks remain clear of appointments.

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**ANNUAL ST. PATRICK’S TEA**

You are invited to attend the Annual St. Patrick’s Tea at St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish Hall on Sunday, March 15, 2015, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Admission is $7.00 for adults and $3.00 for children. Tasty sandwiches and hot tea will be served! There will be door prizes, raffles and music. All are welcome. This event is sponsored by the CWL of St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish.

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**8TH ANNUAL BOB IZUMI’S KIDS & COPS FISHING DAY**

OPP Detachment, Whitney Recreation Committee and Township of South Algonquin invite children 16 and under to participate in the 8th Annual Bob Izumi’s Kids & Cops Fishing Day on Saturday, March 7, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Poverty Lake, Whitney. This is a fun FREE event for your child with yummy food and great prizes! All participants must supply their own fishing equipment and bait. For more information, contact Provincial Constable Ryan Szczegiel or Laurie Siydock at Whitney OPP Satellite Detachment at 613-637-2622.

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**ART AND MATH**

Art and math have a lot in common with each other. In fact you can see the math in art and the art in math! Patterns, shapes, geometry, symmetry, spatial reasoning, proportional reasoning, etc... are all a part of the arts (visual art, music and dance), as they are of mathematics.

Some of what you see your child doing in school in the arts, is also an engagement with mathematical ideas at the same time! By blending mathematics and the arts, students learn in ways that are intellectual, emotional and physical. Children learn in many different ways, and research tells us that participating in the arts is one way that is very engaging for all of us.

A child stringing beads in a pattern on a string or creating a patterned bracelet is creating an understanding of patterning, although to them it may look simply like a pleasing design. When a child learns to play the piano, they are developing mathematical understanding of the relationships between scales, notes and chords. Symmetry can be seen in the symmetrical features of a butterfly or in a design when building. Children may notice patterns in wallpaper, tile tessellations on the floor or on a phone cover, rhythmic beats or repeated choreography in music videos or chords in a popular song. There is math everywhere!

How might you and your child notice and name the mathematics in the arts (visual, music and dance) that you encounter? Making the links helps deepen the understanding of both!

Interested in more?! Search on the internet for “golden ratio” to see an example of mathematics at work in nature and art!
Thursday, March 12, 2015, is going to be a FABULOUS day at St. John Bosco. Our grade 8’s will be planning/running a Winter Fun Afternoon for all students. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed warmly.

A Teacher Swap Morning is planned as well. Teachers will be switching classrooms for the morning! Who will be the Principal for the day? Who will be the French teacher? Who is the Kindergarten Teacher? Stay tuned… random assignments will be selected at the Spirit Assembly next Friday.

INDOOR RECESSES

Kudos to the staff (especially our Educational Assistant’s) who have made recesses fun, regardless of the weather! Freezing temperatures have resulted in several indoor recesses. Staff have organized sock hops, intramurals, etc. so that kids have something to do during their free time! Spring is around the corner…isn’t it?

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PARENT TIP

Children do really well when they’re able to understand and handle their emotions. Here are steps that we can take to encourage children to understand and effectively manage emotions:

- Identify the emotions we’re feeling – this is a skill that children need to learn – ask your child what they are feeling and identify feelings on tv or in story books that others have

- Understanding why we’re feeling the way we are – linking cause to feelings helps to diffuse the intensity

- Examining options for how to react in light of those feelings – problem solve – asking “what can you do about this to help you feel better?”

SEAC SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Parents are invited to the SEAC Spring Symposium that will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015, at St. Joseph’s High School, Renfrew. It is a full-day conference open to all parents, featuring keynote speaker: Amalia Starr, Transition and Independent Living Coach, and Creator of Autism Independence Project. Guest speakers and breakout sessions on topics geared to parents with children who have special needs. Supervised children’s activities will be provided in a safe and friendly environment. The day will include a catered lunch. Watch for more information.

Funded by a Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant

COLLECTING

Please continue to send in batteries, pop can tabs, and Campbell soup labels. You may send them to school with your child at any time. Thanks for your assistance in this collection.

MADAWASKA VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Free crafts and activities for children on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Public Library.

There will be a Gaming Tournament on Thursday, March 19, 2015 and Friday, March 20, 2015, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Public Library and the Railway Station for students ages 10-18. There will be prizes, prizes! Registration is required and space is limited. To register contact the Library at 613-756-2000 or by email at admin@madawaskavalleylibrary.ca

LET’S PLAY VIDEOGAME TOURNAMENT

Videogame tournaments will be held at the Eganville Arena on Saturday, March 14, 2015. Cost is $10.00 to enter. There will be a $200 cash prize for the winner…plus more! Sign up today on their facebook page! https://www.facebook.com/letsplayca
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<td><strong>Masses:</strong>&lt;br&gt;St. Hedwig’s-5pm&lt;br&gt;St. Lawrence O’Toole – 7 pm&lt;br&gt;Remember to set your clocks 1 hour ahead before going to sleep tonight.</td>
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<td><strong>Kaszubian Embroidery – Gr 4-5/8:45-10:00</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Rosary 12:40 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Healthy Snack – Cheese and crackers</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spaghetti Lunch orders due today</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Spirit Assembly - am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Masses:</strong>&lt;br&gt;St. Hedwig’s-8 a.m. &amp; 11 a.m.&lt;br&gt;St. Lawrence O’Toole – 9:30 a.m&lt;br&gt;<strong>World Day of Prayer</strong>&lt;br&gt;- St. Hedwig’s - 2pm&lt;br&gt;Reception to follow</td>
<td><strong>Spaghetti Lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Spirit Day - Dress like a Snowflake - wear white</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kaszubian Embroidery – Gr 4/5-8:45-10:00</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Spirit Day - Beach Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spirit Day - Wear your favourite pyjamas.</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Healthy Snack - Vegetable tray with dip</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Admission for Coffee House due today.</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>$2/student</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>$4/adult</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>$5/3 or more students</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Little Caesars Pizza Kits - pickup between 3-5 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vaccinations - HPV - Gr 8 girls</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Hepatitis B - Gr 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Milk pre-orders due today.</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Teacher Swap Day - am</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Winter Carnival – Play Day - pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Dress Warm)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Spirit Day - Tacky Toque</strong></td>
<td><strong>Coffee House-1-2 pm - gym</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Spirit Day - Irish colours</strong></td>
<td><strong>Masses:</strong>&lt;br&gt;St. Hedwig’s-5pm&lt;br&gt;St. Lawrence O’Toole – 7 pm</td>
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<td><strong>MARCH BREAK</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Healthy Snack – Fruit Salad</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Grad Photo Retakes - 8:50 am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spirit Day - Clash Day</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>MESAA Volleyball Tournament, MVDHS</strong></td>
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