The Bosco Beat

St. John Bosco Catholic School
Box 339, 99 Peter Street
Barry’s Bay, ON K0J 1B0

Telephone: 756-2616  Fax: 756-1207
Website: www.jbosco.rcdcsb.edu.on.ca  Twitter @ https://twitter.com/BbayStJohnBosco

JUNE 2016

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

June is upon us in all of its splendor. We have had less than desirable temperatures this past spring, however, we embraced the beauty of it all anyways. The skipping ropes have been turning and the baseball bats are swinging - all beautiful signs of the season.

Our fifteen grade eight students will be leaving us and going on to the next chapter of their lives. We pray that they keep God in their lives and remember to continue to exercise good judgement and kindness in the years ahead.

We welcome twelve new kindergarten students and two new grade one students next year, which helps us to maintain our classroom organizations.

Mrs. Gertie Blank will be retiring from her position after forty years as Secretary/Vice Principal/Nurse/Caregiver/Therapist/Mom/Friend at St. John Bosco School. She trained six principals and has served countless staff and students. Her presence will be missed greatly by the entire community. The golf courses will benefit from her increased attendance and her scrapbook collection will grow even more. Her grand-daughters will benefit greatly from more "Nana time" whenever they so desire. Bless you, Gertie.

Mrs. Halinka Shulist is retiring this June as well. Mrs. Shulist has been a fabulous resource and has taught many grades over the course of her career. She consistently comes to school with a desire to make a difference in each of the students she teaches. Her extra contributions to our school community are extensive. She is involved in almost every aspect of extra-curriculars at the school each and every year. Her heart and soul are poured into her classroom. She will soon be able to give her whole self to her family, including her two grand-sons who now reside down the hill from her family home.

We warmly welcome Ms. Elizabeth Burchat as Principal in September, accompanied by Ms. Julia Graydon, Vice-Principal. Both ladies will be a solid anchor for SJB and are exceptional instructional leaders with devout faith and character to further enhance this beautiful school community.

We welcome back Ms. Shannon Corrigan from her leave.

Classroom assignments are not yet complete. Stay tuned for this announcement later in June.

I would like to personally thank all parents in this beautiful community for their unending support and friendship. Your children have been profound gifts to me in my career. This is my 12th year as a teacher/Principal at SJB and I will miss each and every one of you immensely as I return to Ottawa. We have built solid relationships over the years and I treasure all the memories. Fr. Coulas and Fr. Shalla have been steady supporters of our school and to me personally, and I owe much to
both of them for their spiritual guidance and leadership.

May God continue to bless you with faith, hope and love.

Marie Finnerty, Principal

NEW CHAPEL AT ST. JOHN BOSCO

I am beyond pleased to announce that our new chapel will be officially blessed and opened on May 31st by Frs. Coulas and Shalla. This chapel is meant to further enhance the catholicity presence in our school and to provide a sacred place to worship, pray, reflect and celebrate liturgies. Reconciliation for students will also take place in the chapel going forward. This has been a personal desire of mine for years and I am so thankful that my vision has been realized and come to fruition.

A huge thank you and acknowledgment must be given to Liz Murray (Abbey’s mom) for hours and hours of work, painting, decorating, designing and completing this chapel. She worked tirelessly to meet the deadline and her dedication to St. John Bosco is clearly visible in the finished product. Liz’ footprints are all over this school (front entrance way mural, The Zone, the Library, and now the chapel).

Gratitude is extended also to Clint Lehovitch (A.J.’s dad) for building the benches for the chapel. They are absolutely beautiful. Clint completed these benches in a short time frame and his workmanship is outstanding.

We so appreciate these parents for sharing their gifts with the St. John Bosco Catholic school community.

The School Council 2016/17 deserves much credit for their generous financial donation towards the purchase and lighting for the chapel.

Fr. Shalla donated our altar. Randy Burchat shared a candle stand with us. Both items add so much to this chapel.

Murray Brothers Ltd. is to be acknowledged and thanked for another generous donation of lumber for the benches.

Mr. Peter Cybulski generously donated lumber for the coffee tables and end tables. Thank you to Tracy Murray (Grayson and Beckham’s mom) for arranging for this generous donation.

Mr. Pinkerton is to be thanked for his crafty work in making the wall sconces.

Please join us May 31st at 5 pm in the chapel, where Fr. Coulas and Fr. Shalla will bless the chapel and officially "open the doors" for all of us to use in God’s service.
SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school will run from **Tuesday, June 28th to Friday, July 22nd**. Along with some solid Math and Language, summer school promises to be bigger and better this year with outdoor and/or indoor play, art, music and more! Consider signing up for St. John Bosco summer school this year. Registration forms were sent home last week and are due in the office tomorrow.

VOLUNTEERS

Over the year the school has relied heavily on volunteers for all kinds of work - School Council, special readers, healthy snacks, class trips, etc. The school is a better place because of volunteers and parent involvement in general. BRAVO!

YEAR-END MASS

Our final year-end school mass will be held on **Friday, June 24, 2016**, at 9:00 a.m. at St. Hedwig's Parish. Please join us.

AGENDAS

Managing time is an important life skill. Completing tasks on time is also a valued trait. Agendas have been proven to be a beneficial tool to students in improving student achievement. Your School Council spoke on your behalf at the last meeting and would like students to use this tool on a daily basis. To this end, they will fully fund the purchase of the agendas for the next school year. It is their hope that the agendas will be utilized fully.

We thank the 2015/16 School Council for their financial support and for purchasing one agenda for every student at St. John Bosco Catholic School for 2016/17.

SENIOR KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

The Senior Kindergarten Graduation will be held in the school chapel at 1:15 p.m. on **Wednesday, June 22, 2016**. All Senior Kindergarten parents, grandparents, family members and friends are welcome to join our celebration. This is an important milestone for the Senior Kindergarten students, and they are looking forward to sharing it with everyone.

BOUQUETS TO...

**Barb Walsh** for washing and ironing the linen tablecloths for the Volunteer Supper.

**Viola Cybulskie, Terri McLeod, Theresa Prince, Carmel Rumleskie and Maxine Smaglinskie** for leading us in the living rosary during Education Week.

**Mary Ann Dombroskie, Amanda Levean, Leslie Dupuis, Nicole Villeneuve and Tracy Yandernoll** for preparing healthy snacks.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

For safety and efficiency reasons, Renfrew County Catholic District School Board would like to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into the schools. Payment for class trips, milk, sporting tournaments, etc. will be available online. Please register and enjoy the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page [https://renfrewcatholic.schoolcashonline.com](https://renfrewcatholic.schoolcashonline.com) and select the “Get Started Today” option. Payment can be made to the school by eCheck, myWallet or Credit Card. No banking information is stored; the banking information is re-entered upon checkout each time you make a payment.

After you have registered, you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming
events/fees involving your child(ren) which are available for purchase online.

**PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT 2016**

EQAO Assessments have begun for our grade 3 and grade 6 students. Our teachers and educational assistants have worked hard to ensure that students are prepared for this assessment, academically and emotionally. We have reassured our students that their uniqueness and gifts cannot be measured by this test alone. It is a snapshot in time of their knowledge. Our focus is always on simply doing your best at a given time and we truly CELEBRATE this achievement. Standardized testing does have its merits and our compliance with provincial legislation helps ensure we meet all curriculum needs of our students, but not at the expense of stressing out our students either.

*Mr. Robin Pinkerton* worked beautifully with many students in our after-school program to help bridge the gaps and move students towards their full potential. Parents are to be commended for allowing their children to take advantage of this wonderful program.

We pray that each student simply does their best and puts in the required efforts so that they can shine in their unique ways. We have an amazing group of students. We are proud of each and every one of them, for all that they bring to St. John Bosco Catholic School.

**STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS**

The Student Council would like to thank all of the generous people who have donated, volunteered and participated in all events that they've hosted. Please check calendar for the Spirit Day in June.

Thank you for making this the best year possible.

**CHESS UPDATE**

St. John Bosco School was very excited to host the Chess Tournament for the fourth consecutive year on **Wednesday, May 4, 2016**. All of the Bosco participants played very hard - often it was so quiet in the rooms, that you could hear a pin drop!!! Excellent effort! The A and B Divisions were won by St. Andrew’s. The C Division winner was George Vanier. A huge thank you to **Mr. D. Afelskie** for organizing the tournament. Thank you to the many wonderful chess players at Bosco. Half of Bosco’s players were made up of grade 1 and 2 students, who eagerly participated in this wonderful strategic game. Continue that enthusiasm.

**COLLECTING**

Please continue to collect batteries and can tabs during the summer months. You may send them to school with your child at the beginning of September. Thanks for your assistance in this collection.

**GRADE 8 GRADUATION**

The Grade 8 Graduation Mass will take place on **Wednesday, June 22, 2016** at 7:00 p.m., at St. Hedwig’s Church, followed by Graduation Ceremonies in the church hall.

Our congratulations to all the graduates and their parents. We hope that your time here at St. John Bosco will be a great stepping-stone to all your future studies and endeavours. We are very proud of each and every one of you. You are indeed created in God’s image.

**GRAY MATTER RESULTS**

St. John Bosco’s Gray Matter Team travelled to Palmer Rapids on **Friday, May 6th** to participate in the annual Gray Matter Challenge. The Gray
Matter Challenge tests a student’s knowledge of sports, music, mathematics, science, geography, history and current events. After 170 questions, St. John Bosco’s team of Breanna Pecarskie, Sarah-Grace Kerr, Hannah & Jacob Afelskie emerged victorious over a fast-closing Palmer Rapids team in the school competition. Congratulations to the entire team who showed patience, team-work and perseverance! Honorable mention to Jacob Afelskie who had the highest individual score of the competition. Way to go everyone!

Special thanks to Mr. D. Afelskie for coaching the team.

We would like to thank all parents, students and staff for supporting School Council efforts for the 2015 - 2016 school year. Thank you to each and every council member who helped us have another successful year: Erin Plebon, Sarah Lehovitch, James Visutskie, Krissy Fleguel, Chrissy Lundy, Marie Finnerty, Liz Murray, Lori Gonzalez, Ronda Lundy, Tracy Murray, Stephanie Plebon and Tracy Yandernoll. Your help, support and dedication are much appreciated. As always, you could be counted on when needed.

September meeting date to be determined.

PROVINCIAL REPORT CARDS

Final report cards will be sent home the last week of school. Parents are reminded to complete the last page of the Provincial Report Card (Response Form) and return it to the school. This Response Form provides an opportunity for parents and students to assess and comment on student progress within the final term. This information will help teachers in meeting the needs of their students.

Parent/Guardian and student comments on the Response Form should be related to student achievement, goals and home support. Returned forms which are supportive of student learning will be placed in the student’s Ontario Student’s Record (OSR).

SMASH WRESTLING

Many of the wrestlers who wowed the fans last year will be back this year. They will be at the school on Friday, June 3, 2016 for a presentation given by female wrestler Xandra Bale.

They will be in Barry’s Bay on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the P.J. Yakabuski Arena. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. First Bell - 6:00 p.m. General Admission - $5.
ST. JOSEPH’S HOUSE

Grades JK-5 are invited to a Varenka – a Russian Fable (marionettes/string puppets) performance on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the school gym. Two ladies from the St. Joseph's House in Combermere will be performing for us.

SJB STAFF HELPING OUR OWN FAMILIES

Over the years, our staff has willingly supported families in their times of need. We will continue our mission to do this and want to remind families to please ask for our support when needed (class trips, clothing.) It is always a confidential request and if we can help, we are so very happy to do so!

MEDICATIONS

If your child has medication (epi-pen or other) kept in his/her classroom or the office, please make arrangements to pick it up on the last day of school.

In September, new forms must be filled out for these medications.

BUSSING FOR 2015-16

RCJTC is OPEN all year long, including the summer months, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays).

The Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium (RCJTC) is responsible for providing transportation service to over 11,000 Renfrew County students in 53 different schools for both the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board and the Renfrew County District School Board. Four routers are responsible for creating bus routes, setting up bussing, and making changes to bussing for these students. They work closely with the various bus Operators in each area to ensure safe, efficient, effective transportation to and from school.

As safety of students is a priority, it takes time, and occasionally a physical review of a designated stop to process transportation requests, especially from mid-August to mid-October when there is a high volume of requests which results in delays in responding to individual requests.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit our website (www.rcjtc.on.ca) at any time throughout the year to find the forms that you need to email us (trans@rcjtc.on.ca) in order to request new bussing or make changes to existing bussing.
- Over the course of the summer, if your address information has changed (your home, your sitter, etc.) contact us as soon as possible by filling in the Student Transportation Request form and email us (trans@rcjtc.on.ca) the form.
- If you know of someone who has just moved into the area over the summer months, have them contact us as soon as possible by filling in the Student Transportation Request form and then email us (trans@rcjtc.on.ca) the form.
- Only those students whose bus information has changed will get a notice of transportation change letter in late July.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Resources for Parents: There are many decisions to be made when it comes to searching for and receiving the best services for children and youth affected by mental health challenges. The goal of this guide is to provide you with current information to help you navigate Ontario's child and youth mental health system and access resources and supports that best meet your needs.

http://www.kidsmentalhealth.ca/parents/introduction.php

Parents’ Lifelines of Eastern Ontario

www.pleo.on.ca
Parents' Lifelines of Eastern Ontario is a non-profit, family support organization for parents and caregivers whose children, youth or young adults up to age 25 are dealing with mental health and/or addiction challenges.

**Confidential Telephone Helpline:** 1-855-775-7005 (Toll Free) Available Monday through Friday and if you happen to get voicemail, just leave a message and your call will be returned within one business day. All conversations are confidential and your privacy is always respected.

**Spring Clean Your Mind • • •**

- Springtime often inspires us to declutter our homes and yards. It’s also a good time to consider cleaning out our mental and emotional spaces: our thoughts and feelings.

- Here’s a mental and emotional spring-cleaning checklist to help you get started!

- **Cultivate Quiet Time:** Plan some alone time to take an internal inventory and identify what has been cluttering your heart and mind. Meditation, prayer, and hiking are excellent examples of external acts that promote internal reflection and allow time to tune in to your inner world. Take a planned break from technology and spend time visualizing how you want to feel in your life and in your relationships.

- **Jot It in a Journal:** Putting pen to paper and identifying your thoughts and emotions helps clear out your emotional space, make emotions seem more manageable and gives you a different perspective. You may not realize how cluttered your insides have become until you start articulating them.

- **Give Up a Grudge:** Releasing your grip on a gripe can free up emotional energy that you can then invest in other, more positive areas of your life. I’ve heard it said that holding onto resentment is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies. While having a range of emotions, including anger and hurt, is normal, letting those feelings take up permanent residence in your heart ultimately hurts you. Ask yourself: Am I holding on to past hurt that I’d be willing to let go of?

---

**IMPORTANT - LAST CHANCE**

**YEARBOOK ORDERS ARE DUE FIRST THING THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 26TH, AT THE OFFICE.**

---

St. John Bosco Staff wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer!

**First Day of School for students is September 6, 2016**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masses: St. Hedwig's 8 a.m. &amp; 11 a.m.</td>
<td>In-school Track Meet</td>
<td>Blessing of Chapel - 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Track &amp; Field Killaloe Public</td>
<td>Smash Wrestling Visit to School 10 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Lawrence O'Toole – 9:30 a.m</td>
<td>Volunteer Supper follows</td>
<td>St. Lawrence O'Toole – 9:30 a.m</td>
<td>Toasted W. W Bagel w/light cream cheese</td>
<td>Bonnechere Park Visit Gr's 1,2,3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Council Meeting after Volunteer Supper</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Spirit Assembly 12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Gr. 8 Grad Dance G. Vanier 7 - 10 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frozen yogurt tubes with clementines</td>
<td>Spirit Assembly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spirit Day Backwards Day</td>
<td>P.A. DAY!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Puppets/ Marionettes JK-5 - 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Track &amp; Field Killaloe Public</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bonnechere Park Visit Gr's 1,2,3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit Day Backwards Day</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>P.A. DAY!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frozen yogurt tubes with clementines</td>
<td>Fruit Platter</td>
<td>Fruit Platter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spirit Assembly</td>
<td>Spirit Assembly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spirit Assembly</td>
<td>Spirit Assembly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Raindate) MESAA Track &amp; Field Meet.</td>
<td>Gr. 7/8 trip to Toronto</td>
<td>Senior Kindergarten Graduation in chapel 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Gr. 7/8 trip to Toronto</td>
<td>MESAA 3-Pitch, Palmer Rapids</td>
<td>T-Ball, Madawaska</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Kdgn. Class Trip - Logos Land</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tosti &amp; Salsa</td>
<td>Tosti &amp; Salsa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAPPY FATHER'S DAY</td>
<td>(Raindate) MESAA 3-Pitch, T-Ball</td>
<td>Senior Kindergarten Graduation in chapel 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Summer Fun Day</td>
<td>Year End Mass St. Hedwig’s 9 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td>Graduation Mass St. Lawrence O'Toole – 7 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year End Assembly - 12:35 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Snack</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tosti &amp; Salsa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last day of classes for students.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gr. 3 & 6 EQAO Assessment**

**Happy Father's Day**