

George Vanier Catholic School

April 2015



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Vision Statement

Inspired by our rich heritage and challenged by the struggles of our past, we at George Vanier Catholic School are called to express our mission as church, to pass on the good news of Jesus Christ, to make it relevant in the world today, and to be the hope for the future.



Special thanks for your support during the month of March to:

- ✿ Ms. Landon for organizing the a basketball fundraiser for our Grade 7 and 8 students who are participating in We Day
- ✿ Fr. Ken for coming to the school on two separate days for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- ✿ Carol Ann and Sophia from St. Joseph's House for performing a puppet play for us
- ✿ Our bus drivers for the wonderful job they do in getting our students to and from school safely each day

Pasta and Problem Solving

We had wonderful attendance at our Pasta and Problem Solving evening in March! Thank you to everyone who attended. We had some excellent feedback on the evening and the activities and we are already discussing the possibility of hosting an event like this again! We were blessed to have so many of our students involved as hosts and as servers for the evening and their help was essential in making the night such a success.

Destination Imagination

Special thanks again to Becky DeCarle and Bobbi-Jo Coulas for managing our Destination Imagination teams and preparing them for the tournament that was held in Arnprior on March 7th. Thanks also go to the families who traveled to this tournament so their children could participate in the event.

Trivia Night

We will be hosting a Trivia Night on Friday, April 10th at 7pm. We hope to have a large number of teams register for this fun event! There will be a wide variety of questions ranging from history, to television, to sports and music. There will be something for everyone! Teams of up to 6 people are invited to register. The cost is \$10.00 per person or \$60.00 per team. Team members are invited to come up with a theme for their team and dress accordingly! There will be free raffles and snacks and refreshments for purchase. We look forward to seeing you there!

We Day

On Monday, March 30, Grade 7 and 8 students raised money at noon hour for the Me to We organization as they prepared to attend We Day in Ottawa on April 1. They were presented with the challenge of shooting basketballs from the foul line with the incentive of earning \$0.25 for each basket scored. In 25 minutes 138 baskets were scored raising \$34.50. Five minutes were then provided for free shots from anywhere and 65 baskets were scored at \$1.00 a basket raising \$65.00. Students were given 30 seconds to try to bring their total to \$100 and in six amazing seconds, they reached their goal. Well done Grade 7/8 students! Thank you to the private donors who graciously sponsored this fundraiser and to Ms. Landon for organizing and supervising the event.

On April 1st, Mr. Platt and our grade 7 and 8 students travelled to the Canadian Tire Centre to take part in We Day. The students were thrilled to have this opportunity and Julia agreed to write the following summary of the day to include in the newsletter.

Our trip to We Day 2015 in Ottawa was an amazing experience and changed our lives. There were some amazing speeches made by Spencer West (Me to We motivational speaker, Free The Children ambassador and author), Amanda Lindhout (Canadian author, humanitarian, speaker and activist), Mia Farrow (Award-winning actress and activist), The Honorable David Johnson (Governor general), and many other people whom are inspired by the Free the children's work. We Day was founded by the Kielburger brothers, Craig and Mark. They wanted to have a day to celebrate young people making change in the world. In 2007, 700 youth attended We Day. Now over 16 000 students attended We Day just in Ottawa! It also gets over one million views on livestreams and television. At We Day the 7 and 8's learned about economic empowerment, technological empowerment, social empowerment and educational empowerment. Empowerment means to have power or authority over something. So when we have empowerment, it means we have the power to access things. So if I say I want economic empowerment for others it would mean I want others to have access to resources, jobs, food, school and things like that. But as I learned at We Day, 1.2 billion people in the world are living on only a dollar twenty-five per day, that means that they can't afford school or food. They have no economic empowerment. But this is where we can help. As we learned at We Day, there are many organizations that support people in poverty, whether that's helping put kids in schools or giving a family a goat which provides needed nutrients. Some of the Me to We initiatives include We Scare Hunger, We Create Change, and We Bake for Change. It is super easy to sign up to help. Just go to www.freethechildren.com and click get involved. My overall lesson from attending We Day, was that youth can make a difference in the world.

Francais

The Primary French class will be performing a French play in the gym on Thursday, April 9 at 9:40. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for this performance.

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

Ms. Alicia Shulist has been completing her Teacher's College placement at George Vanier Catholic School. This placement will end on April 17th. We thank Alicia for all of her hard work and we wish her the very best in her chosen career. We were blessed to have her working in our school and know that she will continue to have a positive impact on many lives.

Movie Night

Mrs. Pecarskie and the Primary Class will be hosting a Movie Night on Friday, April 17th. All are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you there!

World Day of Prayer

This year, Holy Canadian Martyr's Church is hosting World Day of Prayer on Sunday, April 19th from 2 – 4 pm. We have been asked if our students would join the choir for the service. Mrs. Enright has the songs and lyrics and has started to practice with some of the students who are interested. We hope to have our school represented in the choir that afternoon. Practices will continue after Easter and all are welcome to attend the World Day of Prayer service.

Earth Day

Families and friends are welcome to join us at George Vanier on Wednesday, April 22 as we celebrate Earth Day 2015 and recognize our important role as stewards of creation. A prayer service thanking God for the beauty of the earth will begin at 9:30a.m. This will be followed by a snack of fruits from all over the globe and outdoor activities and play.

Book Exchange

On Monday, May 4 from 6 to 8 pm, our school will be hosting a community free book exchange evening. Bring a book, take a book. Bring books, take books. Novels, mysteries, non-fiction, paperbacks, recipe, hardcover, children's books, etc., will all be available and you just bring your gently used books, place them on a table, and browse for new treasures to take home. It's a great chance to spring clean book shelves holding books you've read once and are done with. Please spread the word to all the readers in the area. Refreshments will be available for a donation.

Parent Inspiration Evening

The School Councils of George Vanier, St. Andrew's and St. John Bosco each applied for a Parent Reaching Out Grant and received funding to co-host a parent night to be held at St. John Bosco on Wednesday, May 6th. The guest speaker will be Janet Podleski and we are looking forward to a wonderful evening. Please see the attached poster for all of the details.

School Council

Our next School Council meeting will be held in the school library on Thursday, May 21st at 5:30 pm. All parents are welcome to attend the meeting.

Baseball

Baseball season is just around the corner and both our Junior and Teens C.O. 3-pitch baseball teams are still in need of coaches for this season. Our Junior team is the 2014 champions and we have a strong community interest in both the teams but we are at risk of not having any team at all if parent volunteers don't come forward soon.

The meeting for all coaches will be Monday April 13th at 7 pm at Gloria Kosnaskie's home at 2667 Dafoe Rd. This will be the final chance to put in a team for Combermere.

There is complete equipment for both teams and both Andy Peplinskie and I would be more than happy to help out in getting the new coaches started and comfortable with things. If you are interested, please call me (Gloria Kosnaskie 613-756-5123) as soon as possible. Thanks so much!



The following students were 'caught' showing "Christian Spirit" sometime during the month of March:

Samuel	Amelia 6	Ava	Skyler 2	Cheyenne	Bastien 2
Edouardo	Emma Beggs 6	Spencer	Niomi	Sadie	Levi 4
Selina 3	Julia 3	Daniel X2	Matthew 2	Mackenzie 3	Nadia
Shawn 2	Shaelyn 2	Madison X3	Tyrell	Trinity	Josh 2
Taylor 2	Dominic 2	Mason X2	Abbey 2	Brady 3	Megan 3
Michelle 3	Maria 4	Thomas			

Congratulations and thank you to all of you!

Spirit Activities

On Friday, March 13th we had a "Bring Your Stuffed Animal to School" Sprit Day. The students also participated in outdoor winter carnival activities and enjoyed delicious hot chocolate before heading home for the March Break. Thank you to everyone who helped and especially to Skyler, Shawn and Dominic for being in charge of the activities. On **Thursday, April 30th**, we will be hosting a **Twin day**. Students can dress like a friend or a group of friends can all dress the same way.

