

George Vanier Catholic School

December 2017



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Combermere ON K0J 1L0
613 756 3708
Principal – Anne Marie Landon
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Vision Statement

Inspired by our rich heritage and challenged by the struggles of our past, we are an inclusive Catholic education community 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.

School Board

- In November each classroom had a guest visit from members of our Board's Indigenous Education team who talked about Treaty Week and the spirit of reconciliation. We are so glad that Ms. Hisko and Ms. Shoemaker spent time with us and we look forward to seeing them again.
- School Bus Cancellations and or Delays: Student safety is our utmost concern. As such, there may be times during the school year when it is necessary to cancel student transportation services due to bad weather (i.e. snow, freezing rain, floods, emergency road closures, etc.).

Transportation to and from school is provided by the Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium (RCJTC).

RCJTC will provide information on bus cancellations and/or delays via:

- [Website \(www.onthebus.ca\)](http://www.onthebus.ca)
- [@RCJTC_Trans](https://twitter.com/RCJTC_Trans)
- [Facebook \(RCJTC\)](https://www.facebook.com/RCJTC)
- [iTunes](https://itunes.apple.com) with iPhone App (verify with "RCJTC")
- [Google Play](https://play.google.com) with Android App (verify with "RCJTC")
- [Email](mailto:alandon@rccdsb.edu.on.ca) to parents who subscribe for notifications (confirmation email sent within 3min)

In a situation where school buses are cancelled schools remain open to students.

School Information

- Wednesday, December 6 is the 2017 GVCS Christmas Concert at 6:30pm. There will also be a final dress rehearsal at 9am that morning that is open to everyone to attend. Thursday,

December 7 is the Christmas Concert back up date in case of inclement weather. K-1 students are asked to meet in their classroom upon arrival. All students are asked to sit with their families when not on stage or preparing. Hot chocolate, juice, water, and rice krispy squares will be sold as a fundraiser for our K-1 class with proceeds going towards their spring class trip. Tea and coffee will be offered with donations going towards the Angel Tree at St. Francis Memorial Hospital.

The program for the evening starting at 6:30pm is:

- Kindergarten/Grade 1 performance
- French performance (whole school)
- Music performances (Grades 2-5, then 6-8)
- Intermission
- Basket raffle draw and stained glass draw (from Bazaar)
- Grades 6-8 performance
- Grades 2-5 performance

- You can purchase milk for the month of December using your School Cash online account. We also still accept cash \$0.75 a carton.
- Carmel Rumleskie and Helen Parisien are looking for a few more volunteers to help them with our Library program on Tuesdays. Please contact the office if interested.
- Basket raffle tickets are still being sold. For more information please contact the office.
- Miss Marquette has accepted a full time teaching job at St. John Bosco Catholic School starting January 8. We wish her all the best and thank her for her time with us. A posting has been made for a teacher to replace her 0.5 teaching time at our school.
- The names of all the families using School Cash on-line to pay for December's hot lunch (chilli and a bun) will be entered into a draw to win a free hot lunch next month.
- We recently recognized **PINK** week and remind all of our students to be **P**eaceful (both words and actions can hurt), **I**nclusive (everyone belongs), **N**oble (know what the right thing to do is and do it), and **K**ind (the "Golden Rule" – Treat others as you want to be treated).

School Council

- The annual Christmas Bazaar held on Saturday, November 18 was a success despite the weather. \$1513.15 was raised (although there are still a few small bills to be paid). Plus several classes raised money towards their class trips.
- The next School Council meeting will be advertised in the January newsletter.
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Parish Information

Parish Priest: Fr. John Lacey	
Weekend Mass Times:	
Holy Canadian Martyrs, Combermere Saturdays 5pm Sundays 9am	St. Francis de Sales, Latchford Bridge Sundays 11am

- Preparation classes for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion will be held in the School library at 1pm on:
 - Thursday, December 7, 14
 - Thursday, January 11, 18, and 25
 The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be on Thursday, January 25 at 7pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church. Please keep Levi, London, Clara, Hudson, Emelia, and Kaiden in your prayers as they engage in preparations for this Sacrament.
- Our School will be attending Mass on Wednesday, December 6 at 1pm for the “Feast of St. Nicholas” and Friday, December 22 at 9am.
- The following is information from our Parish regarding local Penance Services and Masses during the Christmas Holidays:

Penance Services

Sunday, December 10: St. Lawrence O’Toole @7:00
 Monday, December 11: Canadian Martyrs @ 7:00
 Wednesday, December 13: St. Casimir @ 7:00
 Thursday, December 14: St. Andrew @ 7:00
 Friday, December 15: St. Hedwig @ 3:30
 Sunday, December 17: St. Mary (Wilno) @ 3:00

Christmas Mass Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent (December 23-24)

Combermere

Saturday December 23: 5:00pm
 Sunday December 24: 9:00 am

Latchford Bridge

Sunday December 24: 11:00 am

Nativity of the Lord

Latchford Bridge

Sunday December 24: 5:00 pm

Combermere

Sunday December 24: 8:00 pm
 Monday December 25: 10:00 am

Weekday Mass during the Octave of Christmas (at HCM)

Wednesday December 27: 7:00 pm
 Friday December 29: 9:00 am

Feast of the Holy Family

Combermere

Saturday December 30: 5:00pm
Sunday December 31: 9:00am

Latchford Bridge
Sunday December 31: 11:00am

Mary, Mother of God

Combermere
Sunday December 31: 4:30pm

Latchford Bridge
Monday January 1: 11:00am

Weekday Mass during the First week of the Year

Friday January 5: 9:00 am

Thank You

- C.O. Country Market for their donation of \$250 to our school. It will be used for tournament bussing.
- Anne and Frank Higgins for their donation to our school.
- Sadie Trebinskie for representing our school at the Tree of Lights on Friday, December 1 in Barry's Bay.
- Father John Lacey, Ms. Landon, and Wanita Mayhew for donating door prizes for the bazaar. It is so nice that our door prizes reflected Parish, School, and Home.
- Tracy Glofcheskie for organizing the bazaar.
- All of our vendors who set up tables at the bazaar. We are truly blessed to live in an area with so many talents.
- Shirley McLean for tracking tickets sales after the bazaar.
- To the following who helped with set up and decorating, running tables, selling items, helping in the café and with clean up: Linda Kosnaskie, Mary Anne McCann, Tracy Glofcheskie, Brian Glofcheskie, Tammy Reimer, Michelle Lepinskie, Sofie Coulas, Julia Beggs, Abbey Ziebarth, Lucy Harrison, Sandra Novecosky, Jackie Bouchard, Fay Voldock, Melissa Brotton, Jessica Kuiack, Kate Phanenhour, Ally Hudder, Addison Thompson, and Taylor Brotton. Apologies to anyone we have missed.
- All families who donated items for the Sugar Plum Café.
- Mary Lowell for her kind quilt donation to our school.
- Gerard Olsheskie for setting up and cleaning up after the Bazaar.
- Edith Urbanik for her kind donation of a beautiful painting to our school.
- Brian Glofcheskie and family for their work on our rink.
- Carolyn Cannon, Theresa Golka, and Lucy Harrison for volunteering with our classes.

Congratulations

- Jasna Boyd, Sofie Coulas, and Ted Thompson who won door prizes at our Christmas Bazaar.

Community Information

- The **Game On** activity program is offered at GVCS every Tuesday after school from 3-6pm for students in Grades 3 to 8. Registration is on-going. For more information check out www.facebook.com/crcgameon/ or call Cheryl at 613 757 3108.
- **St. Andrew's Catholic School Council** is hosting a Christmas Craft Sale on Saturday, December 9 from 10am to 3pm in the St. Andrew's Church Hall, Killaloe.
- **St. Andrew's Parish** is holding a Turkey and Cash Bingo on Tuesday, December 6. Doors open at 6pm. Bingo starts at 7pm.
- **Scouts registration night:** Calling all boys and girls between the ages 5 and 10! The 1st Madawaska Valley Scouts group is holding a registration night on January 10, 2018 at George Vanier Catholic School in Combermere. [Come on out at 6:30 p.m. to learn about Scouts Canada, how to register with the local group and meet the Scouters.](#) For updates, find us on Facebook at 1st Madawaska Valley Scouts. For more information, contact Trish Green at patricia.green@scouts.ca or 613-552-0367.
- **Palmer Rapids and Area Lions Club Tree of Love** celebration Sunday, December 3 starting at 6pm. Tree bulbs \$5 each with proceeds going to the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation.
- The **Combermere Recreation Committee** is holding a Christmas party for children ages 10 and under at the Combermere Community Hall on Sunday, December 17 from 1-4pm.
- The Killaloe Resource Center shares the following information:



Food & Toy Drive

Helping every child have a Christmas!

Asking for donations of new & gently used toys, books, sports equipment, games, gift cards etc.

We also accept cash donations.

Tax receipts are available for donations over \$10.00 upon request.

If you are in need of help this Christmas sign up will start November 13th.

For more information or to sign up please call 613-757-3108

Did You Know?

- Thursday, December 14 is a very special day for our Madonna House neighbours. It is the anniversary of the death of Catherine Doherty, foundress of Madonna House. We are thankful for their presence in Combermere and will keep them in our prayers on this special day.

Looking Ahead...

- Monday, January 8, 2018 School resumes
- Monday, January 15 St. Joe’s Puppet Show “Emilyan and the Talking Pike” at GVCS at 10:30am
- Monday, January 22 to Friday, February 2 Kindergarten registrations for September 2018 (more info. in the January newsletter)
- Thursday, January 25 First Reconciliation for students preparing for this Sacrament 7pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church
- Thursday, February 1 OPP Broomball Tournament
- Friday, February 9 Primary (Grades 1-3) Floor Hockey Tournament at Palmer Rapids Public School
- Friday, February 16 Junior (Grades 4-6) Floor Hockey Tournament at Palmer Rapids Public School
- Friday, March 2 Chess Tournament (Grades 1-8) at St. Andrew’s, Killaloe
- Friday, March 23 Volleyball Tournament at MVDHS

Perhaps...

- You can help spread the word in our community about our Christmas concert on Wednesday, December 6 starting at 6:30pm or the dress rehearsal on Wednesday, December 6 at 9am. Both are open to the public.

Action Items for Our Families

- All raffle tickets, sold or unsold, are due back at the office by Tuesday, December 5 with the draw being held at our Christmas Concert on December 6.
- Come out to our Christmas concert and applaud loudly for the amazing efforts of our students. It will truly be an evening of warmth, hospitality, good humour and joy!

Thank you for your attention to these items. Together we’re better!

Attachments

December 2017 calendar	RCCDSB Notebook Publication	Advent 2017 Calendar for Families (students up to Grade 5, Grade 6-8 students will be using a teen version in class)
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Family Activity of the Month

The following activities come from Lynn Denault, K-12 Program Coordinator with the RCCDSB. Thanks Ms. Denault for sharing!



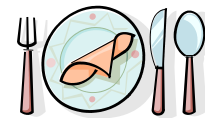
Christmas Math



Christmas is a time for wonder, joy and lots of questions! You would be surprised how much math and Christmas can go together!

Here are some questions and comments you might hear around the holidays.

- *“Five guests are coming to eat dinner with us. How many plates will need? How many utensils? Do we have enough chairs at the table for everyone?” How many cookies did we bake? Twelve is also called a dozen. Have we baked more than 10 cookies already? (**number sense**)*



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Use cues to let your child know the passage of time. Tell your child the time in the context of daily activities. With your child, use a clock to know how much time it takes to get to school, eat meals, get ready for bed or play a game.

- *How many sleeps until Christmas Eve? How many hours before we go to Grandma’s? Are we almost there yet? How long will our drive be? What time will we leave for Mass? What time will we have hot chocolate today? Do we have enough wrapping paper to cover this present? How do you know? I don’t think I have enough ribbon. (**measurement**)*
- *Involve your child in learning to organize personal and family events on a calendar. Have your child write on the calendar some favourite activities: visiting cousins on Dec. 26, skating party, leaving for a movie. (**measurement**)*



With your child, look for situations involving metric measures, and discuss and compare them:

When cooking or baking for Christmas, ask your child to help you discover what the measurements given in grams would be in kilograms (or the reverse).

When travelling, ask your child to find what the measurements given in kilometres would be in metres. If we drive 90 km/hour, how long will our journey take? What if we stop for lunch? What time will we get there?

*Merry
Christmas
Everyone!*