

# George Vanier Catholic School

## December 2019



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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.*

### School Information

**-Our Christmas Concert is on Wednesday, December 4 at 6:30pm with an afternoon dress rehearsal at 1pm (back up date in case of inclement weather is Thursday, December 5). Both performances are open to the community and popcorn and drinks will be for sale at the evening performance with proceeds going towards class trips for Grades 2-4 and 5-8. The tentative schedule of performances is:**

**Kindergarten-Grade 1**

**French**

**Grade 5-8**

**Music**

**Grades 2-4**

**Students are asked to meet in their classrooms prior to their performance and should join their families in the audience after they are done performing.**

## 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

- We will be attending **Mass at the Church on Friday, December 20** at 9am.
- Parents of students in Grade 2 (or of Grade 2 age) please note the following:  
Sacrament classes for First Reconciliation will take place in the school library on the following Thursdays at 1:00 pm:  
Dec 12: Home lesson #1 should be completed for class.  
Jan 16: Home lesson #4 should be completed for class.  
Jan 30: Home lesson #6 should be completed for class.  
Feb 27: Home lesson #10 should be completed for class.  
Mar 12: Home lessons should be completed. Class will include final review of material covered, and a tour of the church and Confessional.  
Mar 23 at 7:00 pm. Celebration of First Confession with the parish Penitential Service.

## Thank You

- to the **Palmer Rapids and Area Lions Club** for their generous fall donation towards our school.
- to the **Barry's Bay and area Girl Guides** for giving us a bag of Liberation tulips which student representatives from each class planted on Remembrance Day. These tulips should bloom in 2020 which marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands. Thank you also to the Royal Canadian Legion for this program and to our student and Girl Guide **Myra Towns** for leading the planting.
- to the **C.O. Country Market** for another kind monetary donation to our school. The money is raised from their used book corner and so they in turn wish to thank all of you in the Combermere area who support this initiative. The donated money will be used for more flexible seating which was high on the priority list for students when they were surveyed earlier this fall.
- to **Talli Chaimovitz, Sherry Jones, and Tammy Reimer** for organizing and cooking for our November hot lunch.
- to **Talli Chaimovitz and Tammy Reimer** for working with students on the Tower Garden by the office. Check it out when you come to our concert!

## Congratulations

-to Liam Shulist who will be representing our school at the Tree of Lights celebration in Barry's Bay on Friday, December 6.

## Community Information

- On Sunday, December 1 from 2-4pm the Combermere Recreation Committee is hosting a children's Christmas party at the Combermere Hall. There will be balloons, face painting, crafts, cookie decorating and even a visit from Santa.

-The **Game On** activity program will be offered at GVCS after school from 3-6pm on Tuesday, December 3. The program is free and is for students in Grades 3 to 8. Registration is on-going and forms are available at the school office. For more information check out [www.facebook.com/crcgameon/](http://www.facebook.com/crcgameon/) or call Cheryl at 613 757 3108.

- The **Community Resource Center Food & Toy Drive** is now accepting donations of gently used and new toys, gift cards and cash donations. If you are in need of help this Christmas please call and sign up. 613-757-3108. We also have our Angel trees and wreaths throughout the communities if you would like to pick an angel to buy for this Christmas.

-**Prenatal:** CRC strives to be a fun and relaxed place for expecting parents to meet new friends, share experiences, discuss healthy eating and enjoy good food. In Barry's Bay we meet Tuesday mornings at St. John Bosco School. The Killaloe group meets Wednesdays at the Community Resource Centre. Our groups offer grocery gift certificates, prenatal vitamins, connections to new friends and service providers. Partners/support persons are welcome as well as older children. Please contact San at the Community Resource Centre 613 757 3108 for more information and to register.

-Starting immediately, **GVCS will be collecting new and/or gently used snowsuits and footwear on behalf of CPAN (Child Poverty Action Network Renfrew County)**. Please take this opportunity to check your closets and donate any snowsuits and/or boots that your child (or children) may have outgrown. Please note: These must be clean and in good repair as CPAN does not have facilities or the manpower to clean or repair these items. We are always very short of snow pants and larger snowsuits boots etc. (men's and ladies sizes), as our youth also need to be kept warm and dry. New items and/or cash donations are also very gratefully accepted. Monetary donations should be delivered or mailed to CPAN, cheques made payable to CPAN with Operation Snowsuit in the memo. Deliver or mail to CPAN, 130 Pembroke Street West, Pembroke, ON K8A 5M8.

If you (or someone you know) are in need of help with snowsuits and winter footwear, please apply online at: [www.renfrewcountycpan.ca](http://www.renfrewcountycpan.ca) - Go to the programs and click "Operation Snowsuit". If you have difficulties CPAN can be reached at 613-735-9579. We ask that you leave a brief message including your name, number and we will return your call ASAP. Since this program started we have been able to keep hundreds of local children warm and dry, thanks to our generous community we have always been able to fill each and every request.

Last year, CPAN helped 563 local children and youth (these included children who had not yet been born, up to 17 year olds). We already have over 200 children and youth on the list and already are already in need of certain sizes! Please 'like and follow' us on Facebook as we regularly post updated lists.

- This Christmas, *Give the Gift of The Picture That's Priceless* with a donation to the **Tree of Lights Campaign** and help support a critical upgrade for the X-Ray Unit at St Francis Memorial Hospital. Purchase a bulb in honour/memory of someone special. Join us as well for the Annual Tree of Lights Celebrations Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Barry's Bay Railroad Station and the Palmer Rapids Tree of Love, Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Palmer Rapids Community Centre. Lots of fun for the whole family! For more information call 613-756-3045 ext. 217 or visit [www.sfvhfoundation.com](http://www.sfvhfoundation.com). Every kind gift matters, no matter the size.

-**St. Andrews School Council is hosting a Christmas Craft Sale** on Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 10:00 am till 3:00 pm. Lots of vendors and food and drink will be available. Located at St. Andrew's Church Hall in Killaloe Ontario.

## Looking Ahead...

Monday, January 6	Back to school
Thursday, January 16	Sacrament class 1pm in library
Thursday, January 30	OPP Broomball tournament, Grades 5-8 Sacrament class 1pm in library
Friday, January 31	PA day "Reporting"
Friday, February 7	Primary Floor Hockey tournament, Grades 1-3
Friday, February 14	Junior Floor Hockey tournament, Grades 4-6
Monday, February 17	Family Day Holiday
Wednesday, February 26	Ash Wednesday – start of Lent
Thursday, February 27	Sacrament class 1pm in library
Friday, February 28	Basketball tournament, Grades (5?) 6-8
Thursday, March 5	Chess tournament, some students Grades 1-8
Thursday, March 12	Sacrament class 1pm in library
Friday, March 13	Last day of school before March Break
Monday, March 23	Back to school Sacrament of First Confession at 7pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs
Tuesday, March 24	Arctic Games at Shaw Woods (4 students)
Friday, April 10	Good Friday
Monday, April 13	Easter Monday
Friday, April 17	Feast day of St. Kateri Volleyball tournament, Grades (5?), 6-8
Sunday, May 3	Catholic Education Week starts "Igniting Hope"
Friday, May 8	Gray Matter Trivia Challenge (4 students from Grade 7 and 8)
Wednesday, May 13	Gauss Math Challenge (Grades 7 & 8)
Friday, May 15	PA day "Christian Community Day"
Tuesday, May 19	EQAO starts
Friday, May 29	EQAO ends
Monday, May 18	Victoria Day holiday
Thursday, June 4	Track and Field, Grades 2-8

Friday, June 5	PA day "Reporting"
Friday, June 19	3 pitch, Grades 5-8
Sunday, June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
Thursday, June 25	Last day of school for students
Friday, June 26	PA day "Closing the Gaps in Student Achievement and Literacy"

## Action Items for Our Families

-Please register for **School Cash On Line**. For safety and efficiency reasons the RCCDSB would like to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into schools and the amount of class time being spent collecting money. It takes less than 5 minutes to register at <https://renfrewcatholic.schoolcashionline.com> Please contact Ms. Landon or Mrs. Villeneuve for more information. **This year GVCS will only be accepting cheques or School Cash on line** for most purchases. We currently have an adoption rate for School Cash On Line of 53.85% for registered students.

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

## Attachments

December 2019 GVCS calendar	Advent 2019 calendar	Junior Broomball Clinic Community Information
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## Family Activity of the Month

Check out the attached Advent Calendar from Novalis. How many activities can your family do in joyful anticipation of Christmas?