

George Vanier Catholic School

June 2015



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Principal – Maureen Enright



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 May to:

- ✿ Mrs. Helen Parisien for supervising our Gray Matter team at the tournament
- ✿ Tracy Glofcheskie for volunteering with our Healthy Snack program
- ✿ Ms. Landon for organizing the Book Exchange
- ✿ Heleana Coulas for completing her placement at George Vanier
- ✿ Fr. Ken and the Parish of St. Francis de Sales for inviting us to celebrate mass and have lunch in Latchford Bridge
- ✿ Our School Council members (Gloria Kosnaskie, Tracy Glofcheskie, Jackie Bouchard, Trista Betournay, Sandra Novocosky, Fr. Ken and Mrs. Pecarskie) for giving of their time to attend meetings and support our students!

Arbour Week Presentation – Special to the Newsletter

Written by Cheyenne Byers

On May 4th, at school, there was an Arbour Week presentation. We saw a bucket truck and a man went in the bucket truck and climbed down on a rope. The man worked for Hydro One. He had to use a safety harness. The bucket on the bucket truck could go sixty feet in the air. Wow! That is high isn't it? They planted a tree and white and purple flowers. The tree was a willow tree. They have a lot of equipment. They have small, medium and large chainsaws. Hydro One has a rope that can hold 7,000 pounds and a rope that can hold 12,000 pounds. Wow, that's a lot of weight! Plus, we saw pictures of other machines that they use. They had signs that might keep people safe when they are working near a road, rubber gloves would allow them to touch lines safely and stabilizers on the truck to keep the truck balanced when the bucket is up. It was kind of scary when the man went up in the bucket truck because it looked scary to be up that high, but I am glad they came to our school because they usually don't come to small schools. Everyone enjoyed the presentation and we all learned something that day.





Chess Tournament – Special to the Newsletter

Written by Matthew Brotton

On Tuesday, May 5th, our School Chess team went to the Chess Tournament at St. John Bosco School. Our team had been practicing for 2 months. Ms. Landon coached our Chess teams. At the tournament we played well and had fun. I hope we have even more fun next year!

Cultural Lunches

On Thursday, May 14th our students and staff were treated to a Thai Lunch and on Thursday, May 28th, they were treated to a Polish lunch. Both lunches were delicious and we thank Mme. Ropego for contacting the



caterers to set up these events. The lunches were paid for by the Metro Green Apple grant our school received. On Monday, June 15th, Mme. Ropego and Mme. Urbanik will work with a small group of interested students to teach them how to prepare Japanese sushi. Any students who wish to have sushi for lunch will be able to try it. On Wednesday, June 17th, we will have a Mexican lunch for all students and staff. Students are encouraged to bring their own lunches if they do not want to eat the food provided on these days. Pictured at left are the students who helped to prepare wraps the day of the Thai lunch.

Huge Thanks to School Council!

At our School Council meeting on May 21st, Council heard about the strain that busing costs put on our school budget. Our students have the privilege of being invited to many tournaments and outings and have all had the opportunity to go on a field trip this year. We do try to keep our costs lower by sharing buses and or/driving students to events when possible. During our meeting, School Council made a motion to generously donate money towards our busing costs. Council decided to give an amazing total of \$600! Five hundred of this will go towards busing for the remaining Track and Field and Three Pitch tournaments. The remaining one hundred was donated directly towards the deficit that remained on the cost of the Primary class trip. It is important to note that this donation is in addition to the \$25 that Council gives for every student towards busing for class trips. We are so appreciative of the work that the Council does because they help to make it possible for all of our students to have the opportunity to attend fun and affordable trips.

Dress Code Reminder

With the arrival of the beautiful weather, please be mindful of our dress code, as outlined in the front of the agendas. Students who are wearing clothing that does not meet the code will be asked to call home for a change of clothing or will be given something to wear on top of their own clothes if a change can't be brought for them.

Primary Class Trip

On Wednesday, May 20th, the Primary class went to Peterborough for their class trip. They had a very busy day and, from all reports, it was an amazing adventure! These are some recounts of their stop at the zoo, as told by the Kindergarten students who were on the class trip.

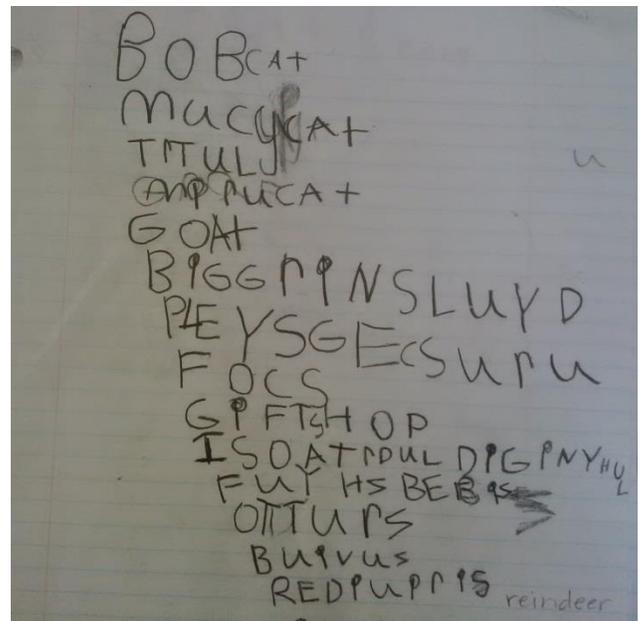
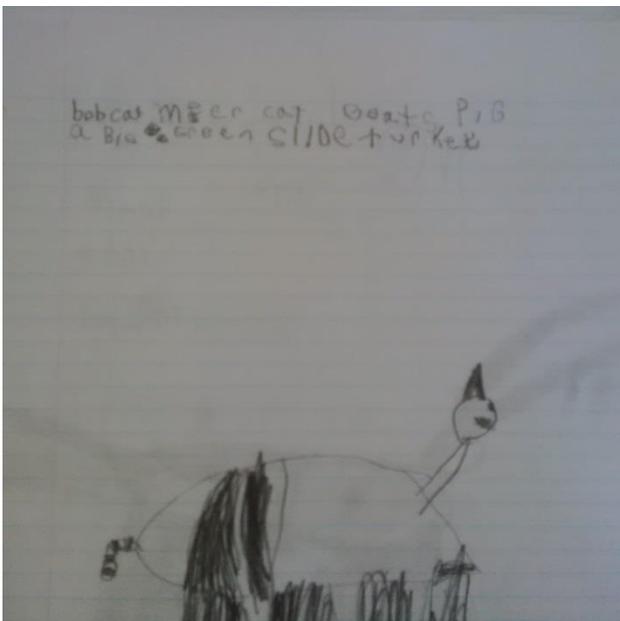
"We saw animals first and then we got to play." ~ Emma

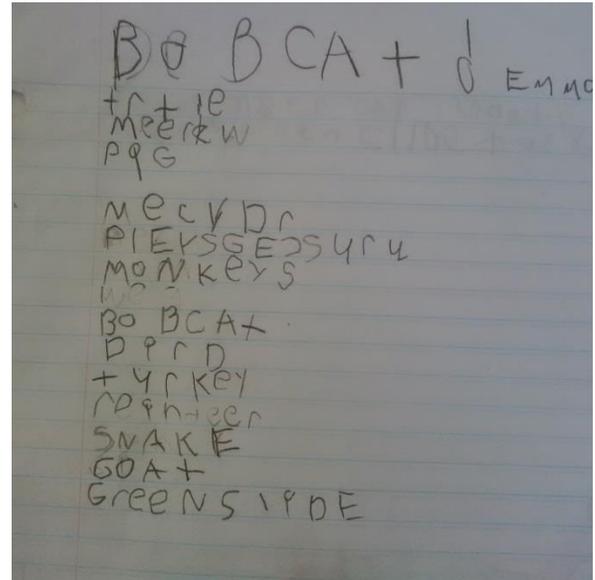
"I saw a yak, then we saw pigs. We saw squirrel monkeys and it looked like there was a predator in their cage. I liked the black and pink flamingos. The monkeys had more water in their cage than the flamingos did. A meerkat was trying to escape under the fence while we were watching!" ~ Michael

"We saw sheep, turkeys, goats, and a bobcat. The bobcat was chewing on a black cardboard box. We saw reindeer standing in the field. We saw monkeys climbing branches and there was a peacock. We saw a big, giant snake that was black with yellow on it." ~ Levi

"I saw a turtle digging a hole for her eggs." ~ Nadia

Here is some of the writing the Kindergarten students completed about their visit to the zoo.





Movie Night

Mrs. Pecarskie will be hosting a Movie Night on Friday June 12th. Families are invited to come to see “**Big Hero 6**”. The movie will start at 7pm. Popcorn and drinks will be sold and admission is by donation. All proceeds will be contributed to the remaining costs from the Primary Class trip.

First Communion

Our prayers are with Bastien Boulais and Edouardo Nino, students of George Vanier, and Alexandra, Evany and Isabelle as they prepare to receive their First Communion on Sunday June 7th.

Graduation Dance

On Friday, June 19th, we will be hosting the Graduation Formal for all of the Grade 8 graduates from the surrounding schools.

Graduation

We have 4 graduates this year. We wish Shawn Coulas, Shayla Coulas, Skyler Glofcheskie and Dominic Spina the best as they prepare to move on from George Vanier Catholic School. Our graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 23rd. Mass will be celebrated at Holy Canadian Martyr’s and then the staff, graduates and their guests will come to the school for speeches and presentations. All who wish to attend the mass are welcome!

Year End Celebration

Our school year end celebration will be held on Wednesday, June 24th at 12:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. We will have a special performance by our kindergartens and there will be presentations to the students who have made their First Communion and to those who are graduating.

School Visit

During the afternoon of Tuesday, May 5th, we welcomed 4 RCCDSB principals and RCCDSB Superintendent, Jaimie Perry to George Vanier Catholic School as part of the Principal Inquiry Circle that all Principals in the

Board have been a part of throughout the year. These visits are designed to take the place of the former District Review process and offer the opportunity for Principals to give feedback to each other to share with their staffs. We had an excellent visit and the feedback we received was very meaningful. After sharing with the staff, I decided that some of this information would be great to share with parents as well. Here are some examples of the written feedback we were given.

- “there is a strong sense of belonging”
- “there is a powerful sense of peace and calm here”
- “evidence of rich and relevant tasks that are engaging”
- “students were engaged in a variety of tasks, including use of technology”
- “evidence of a rich faith presence in the classrooms”
- “a staff that takes pride in their school”

We have so much to be proud of at George Vanier Catholic School!

Celebrating St. Mary’s

On Sunday, June 14th there will be a celebration of the more than 50 years of Catholic Education at St. Mary’s Wilno. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00am followed by a luncheon at the school. This event is open to anyone who would like to attend, especially those who have ties to the school.

Growth Mindset Reflections on Faith

A difference in mindset doesn’t simply involve our view of ourselves or our children.

Even more important is our view of the universe. If there is no God, then our ultimate fate really is ‘carved in stone’. Finitude, human fallibility, mortality and the law of entropy will eventually prevail.

But with God, every moment becomes different and open to possibilities for growth and reconciliation.

For Christians with a fixed mindset, spiritual formation is about being like Jesus and for those with the growth mindset it is about becoming like Jesus. Since the first sees talents and abilities as innate, any struggle or setback leads us to stop trying, while for the second each challenge is viewed as an opportunity to grow.

Spiritual transformation is not about a smooth road protected from difficulty. Tragic losses, physical illness, or unspeakable childhoods. These individuals can be formed through time, trials and trust in a merciful God.

I wonder if the fixed mindset with its concern for maintaining superior positioning based on an innate quality can actually practice humility? It seems that the growth mindset with its better recognition of abilities and areas for improvement or reconciliation may have the upper hand in actually living a life of humility.

Do you see yourself as being transformed by God as you journey with God through this life, or as having already arrived? Is your mindset one of growth or is it fixed?

The following students were ‘caught’ showing “Christian Spirit” sometime during the month of May.

Abbey (2)	Alec	Amelia (6)	Ava (4)	Dominic (3)	Daniel (7)
Emma Beggs (10)	Julia (2)	Johnny	Josh (4)	Levi (5)	Emma Brotton (4)
Shayla (2)	Sadie	Matthew (2)	Madison (2)	Tyrell (3)	Mason (3)
Maria	Michelle	Niomi	Samuel (3)	Shaelyn (4)	Skyler (2)
Shawn (2)	Spencer	Selina	Taylor (2)		

Congratulations and thank you to all of you!