

# George Vanier Catholic School

## November 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 October to:**

- ✿ Mrs. Yaraskavitch for all of the 'extras' she does for our school community
- ✿ Mr. Olsheskie for going above and beyond for our staff and students
- ✿ Ms. Landon for organizing and involving our students in fundraisers
- ✿ Mr. Artymko for coaching our soccer teams
- ✿ Mrs. Pecarskie for hosting a Movie Night
- ✿ Our School Council members who are organizing and planning for our annual Christmas Bazaar
- ✿ Our families who have donated items for our Raffle Baskets and who will donate items to sell at the Sugar Plum Café on the day of the Bazaar
- ✿ Holy Canadian Martyrs and St. Francis de Sales Parishes for donating Children's Sunday Missals to our K – Grade 4 students
- ✿ Mrs. Schweig for taking so much time out her day to recognize the students who have demonstrated Christian Spirit throughout the month
- ✿ Mr. Andy Peplinskie for coming to the school to give Fire Safety Presentations to our classes



### **School Mass**

Please join us at our School Mass on Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. We are so blessed to have this time to celebrate Mass together and look forward to seeing you!

### **Parent Involvement Committee**

The Parent Involvement Committee is looking for new members. PICs are an important advisory body that operate as a direct link between parents and a board's director of education and its trustees. Where school councils focus on the local school and community, Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) participate at the board level and focus on things that affect more than one school. If you are interested in learning more about the Parent Involvement Committee, please contact Mrs. Enright and I will get you the contact information for the Committee Chair.

## School Council

We will be hosting our School Council Pot Luck Supper on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. All parents and staff members are invited to join us. We would love to have a big group to share in our meal and learn about the role of School Council.

## Learning Skills Conferences

Thank you to all of the families who came to our Learning Skills Conferences! It was wonderful to see so many of you that evening. We really enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you as a group and see a great benefit in hosting our conferences this way in the future. We were very tight for time and did get off schedule, so in the future, we will look at holding the meetings over two evenings in order to avoid this. We apologize to those of you who had to wait past your scheduled time to meet with us and we thank you for your patience.

## Progress Reports

All grade 1 – 8 students will receive a Progress Report on, or before Monday, November 16th. Unlike report cards, which go out at the end of both terms, the Progress Report does not have any 'marks'. It is designed to show a student's development of the Learning Skills and work habits during the fall, as well as a student's achievement of the curriculum expectations in all subject areas. Please take the time to read over this report carefully. We will be pleased to meet with you about the report if requested.

## School Improvement Plan

Each year, we create a School Improvement Plan for George Vanier Catholic School. This year, as a staff, we set a goal that we will work on throughout the year. We are going to try to increase student perseverance with difficult tasks through focusing on the Learning Skills. Students will be asked to self-assess their learning skills and to reflect on where their strengths and areas of need exist. This will involve explicit teaching of the Learning Skills and is reflective of why we held our Conferences the way we did.

## Bus Safety

Bus Safety presentations will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. The feedback from these presentations last year was excellent, so we are looking forward hearing the information again.



## Remembrance Day

On Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10:50 am, Ms. Landon and her grade 4 students will lead us in a prayer service to remember all of the soldiers who fought and those who died to ensure our freedom. All are welcome to attend this meaningful service.

## Christmas Bazaar

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar is being held on **Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 10am until 2pm**. We are hoping to have a great turnout. All of the money raised by School Council at this event directly benefits the students in our school. Please come out to support the local vendors and to contribute to our school.

## **Fundraisers for School Trips**

The Grade 7 and Students have created beautiful Christmas cards to sell as a fundraiser for their class trip. The cards are being sold by the students and will be sold at the Christmas Bazaar as well. If you would like to purchase cards, please call the school or speak to a grade 7 or 8 student. The cards sell for \$15.00 for a class set.

The Grade 4,5,6 students are busy creating a recipe calendar that will be sold as a fundraiser for their school trip. The calendar will feature some beloved family recipes and original artwork by the students. The calendars will be sold by these students and will be sold on the day of the Bazaar as well. Calendars will be sold for \$15.00 each or 3/\$40.00 and will make great Christmas gifts!

## **Picture Day**

Picture Day at George Vanier will be held on November 18, 2015. This will also be the day graduation photos will be taken and no retake day will be offered.



## **Second Annual Pasta and Problem Solving Evening**

We will be hosting our Second Annual Pasta and Problem Solving Night on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We will follow a similar format to last year, meaning that we will gather to eat in the gym at 6:00pm and will then make our way through the school to try the activities that are set up throughout the school. We will then gather back in the gym for dessert. We are hoping for a successful night with a high family and community member turnout. All are welcome, so please invite neighbours, grandparents and aunts and uncles to attend as well to see what math Problem Solving is all about (and enjoy a delicious meal too)! Please return the attached sheet to help us plan for the proper amount of food preparation.

## **School Cash On-Line**

The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board has offered an incentive to all schools to encourage parents to sign up for School Cash on-Line. If we get half of our students signed up, the Board will give us \$500! If we get 90% of our students registered, we will receive \$1000 for our school! As of right now, we have 8 students registered. I have included the sign up information with this newsletter for your convenience. I hope you will consider signing up for this service.

## **Christmas Concert**

For your planning purposes, our Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:30pm.

## **Math Survey Data Results**

Attached to this newsletter are the results from the data that the grade 7 and 8 students collected through the survey they created for our Open House in September. The information collected provided the students with the opportunity to work with real life responses and we thank you for your participation in the survey!

## **Soccer**

Thank you to Mr. Artymko coaching our Junior and Intermediate Soccer teams. Both teams had a great day at their respective tournaments.

## Healthy Snack

We are running our Healthy Snack program again this year. Thank you to Ms. Landon, Ms. Trista Betournay and Mrs. Susan Yaraskavitch for volunteering to provide a Healthy Snack for the school. We have also involved the students in snack preparation on a few occasions and it has been very successful. Please let me know if you are able to help out with this at any time. Many hands make light work!

## Partridge Run

The Partridge Run was held in Wilno on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> and the team from George Vanier had a successful day! Congratulations to all of the students who participated. Our top place finishers are as follows:

Michelle Lepinskie - 3rd in 1600m 14 and under

Taylor Brotton - 3rd in 1600m 12 and under

Katarina Jakelic - 3rd in 3000m open

Michelle Lepinskie - 2nd in 3000m open

We also had many top 10 finishers including, Lukas Jakelic, Julia Beggs, Selina DeCarle, Maria Ziebarth, Mason Brotton, Cayden Beanish, Davor Jakelic, Logan Beanish and Francisco Holt. Well done, everyone!

## Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you to all who donated to our Food Drive. We would also like to thank the Knights of Columbus who made a financial donation to accompany our donation of items.

## Babysitter Course

A Baby Sitter course will be held on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 4:00 pm at the St. John Ambulance Hall at 310 Mackay Street in Pembroke. The cost is \$50 for ages 10+. For more information, call 613735-0772, or email [renfrewcounty@on.sja.ca](mailto:renfrewcounty@on.sja.ca)



## Transportation

As we head into the next season, this is a reminder about possible cancellation of school transportation. Please listen to local radio stations if you think there may be a cancellation. You can also check the transportation website, [www.onthebus.ca](http://www.onthebus.ca) or go to the [rccdsb.edu.on.ca](http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca) website and click on the Cancellations and Delays button to find out if there are cancellations. If a bus does not run in the morning, it will not run in the afternoon. Bus students are not counted as absent on these days.

## PARENTS HAVE THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY

As parents, you have the first responsibility to decide whether or not it is safe and reasonable to send your child(ren) out to the “stop”, or to school, on days of extreme conditions. Check the internet, listen to the radio/T.V. and check the weather conditions outside firsthand. Make the safest choice for your child.

## KNOW YOUR CHILD(REN)’S TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER AND ROUTE NUMBER

You need to know your child’s/children’s Transportation Provider and Route Number in order to properly identify the status of your child(ren)’s transportation service when you see it on the web or hear it from other media sources.