

George Vanier Catholic School

December 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.

As we enter the Year of Mercy, His Holiness, Pope Francis, encourages us to offer God's mercy "to every person who asks for it with an honest heart." As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus in this season of Advent, may we also be conscious of our need to show and receive mercy.

The following is an excerpt from Pope Francis' Prayer for the Year of Mercy:

Lord Jesus Christ, You have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

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

- ✿ Brian, Skyler and Brady Glofcheskie for putting up the rink boards.
- ✿ Mary Ann McCann and Linda Kosnaskie for selling tickets the day of the Bazaar
- ✿ Susan Yaraskavitch for her help setting up for the Bazaar and for her donation of the funds made at her very popular Touch and Take table
- ✿ All School Council and staff members who prepared for and helped on the day of the Bazaar
- ✿ All who came out to support our Christmas Bazaar
- ✿ Our families who donated items to sell at the Sugar Plum Café on the day of the Bazaar
- ✿ Mrs. Monique Schweig who volunteered to chaperone our grade 6,7 and 8 dance and to Sandra Novacosky, Gloria Kosnaskie, Veronika Jakelic and Maureen Lepinskie for their help as well.
- ✿ Sandra Novacosky and Jackie Bouchard for selling raffle tickets at the church
- ✿ Barry's Bay Dairy for donating the creamers for our Bazaar

School Mass

Our school mass will be held on Tuesday, December 15th at 1:00pm. Please join us for this celebration! Fr. John is going to come to the school that morning to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation to our students and staff members.

Open Wide the Doors of Mercy!

On Tuesday, December 8th, a special mass will be held at St. Columbkille's Cathedral in Pembroke to open the Extraordinary Year of Mercy. The schools of the RCCDSB have been invited to send some student representatives to this mass. George Vanier will be sending 5 students along with Mrs. Shirley McLean.

School Council

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14 at 6:00pm in the school Library. All parents are welcome to attend.

Special Donation

We are very thankful to the Parent Association of St, Mary's School in Wilno. With the closure of the school, the Association had some money left in their account and they made a donation of \$200 to our primary class on behalf of Senior Kindergarten student London Beanish. We thank them for their generosity!

Legion Poster and Poetry Contest

Our students were, once again, very successful in the Legion Remembrance Day Poster and Poetry Contest. Congratulations to all who entered and to the following students who placed in the top three:

Riley Bedard – 3rd in Primary Colour Poster

Logan Beanish – 1st in Junior Poetry and 1st in Junior Colour Poster

Michelle Lepinskie – 1st in Intermediate Black and White Poster

Julia Beggs – 3rd in Intermediate Black and White Poster

All first place entries have moved on to the Zone competition and we wish these students good luck!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Michelle Lepinskie on winning the Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation's Christmas Card contest! We are so proud of your accomplishments! Below is a copy of Michelle's winning picture and a photo of her after the award presentation.



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!

Both of these fundraisers will run until December 11th.



Basketball Tournament

Good luck to Mr. Artymko and our students at the Basketball Tournament to be held on Friday, December 4th at MVDHS.

CRC Toys for Kids Toy Drive

The CRC is looking for NEW toys, books, sports equipment, games, gift cards etc. for children newborn to 18 years old. Cash donations are also accepted. Receipts will be available upon request. Please drop off your donations until December 11th. If you are in need of help this year, call to sign up at Community Resource Centre Killaloe, 15 Lake Street, or for more information, please call 613 757-3108

CPAN Snowsuit Drive

We are still collecting for the Snowsuit Drive. Please drop any donations off at the school. If you or someone you know is in need of help, please feel free to call CPAN at 613735-2374 ext. 250.



Christmas Concert

Practices are well underway for our Christmas Concert that will be held on Wednesday, December 9th (December 10th, in case of bad weather). The students have been working hard to prepare for the show and are looking forward to performing for a large audience. Please invite any family, friends and neighbours who would enjoy this concert. Donations will be collected to add to our Tree of Lights donation.

St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation Tree of Lights

This year, Grade 1 student, Emma Brotton will be the angel representing George Vanier Catholic School at the Tree of Lights Ceremony. Our donation includes the funds from our hot dog day and from the donations we collected for coffee and tea that we collected at the Bazaar. We will also include any donations collected at our Christmas Concert.

Winter Dress

All students are required to come to school dressed warmly (hats, mitts, boots, snow pants) during the winter season. Students are required to be outside for all recesses so they can be supervised. The only exception is when everyone stays inside if the temperature is below -21 degrees, but even then, we may go out for brief periods in order to get some fresh air.

Christmas Bazaar

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar was held on Saturday, November 14th, 2015 and was a great success! Thank you to everyone who helped to set up, baked, asked for donations, sold tickets and supported our vendors! Our endeavor raised approximately \$1,700 for School Council.

Second Annual Pasta and Problem Solving Evening

Thank you to all who attended our Pasta and Problem Solving night! We had a great evening and are looking forward to hosting another.

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 10 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.



*"May the Blessings of Christmas be with you,
May the Christ Child light your way,
May God's holy angels guide you,
And keep you safe each day.*