

George Vanier Catholic School

February 2016



2782 Dafoe Rd. Combermere, Ontario K0J 1L0

Phone: 613 756-3708 Fax: 613 756-1931

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 January to:

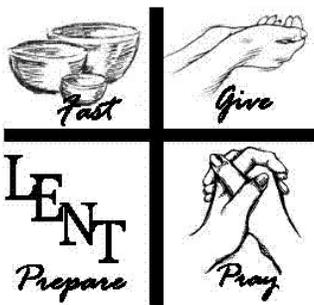
- Mr. Emile Bouchard for, once again, offering of his time to coach, organize and dry equipment for our broomball team
- Ms. Landon for co-coaching our broomball team, running chess club at lunch and coaching our floor hockey teams
- Mr. Olsheskie for shoveling the rink
- Mr. Ralph Parisien who did not hesitate to take time from his busy work day to come to the aid of a visitor who needed help with her car
- Mrs. Susan Yaraskavitch, Mrs. Carmel Rumleskie and Ms. Landon for providing healthy snacks this month

School Mass

Our school mass will be held on Ash Wednesday (February 10th) at 1:00pm. We look forward to celebrating with our school community. Please join us if your schedule allows.

School Council

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10th at 5:30 pm in the school Library. All parents are welcome to attend.



Lent

As we look towards the Lenten Season, we are reminded to use the time to fast, give, prepare and pray. Dynamic Catholic had a fantastic online Advent resource this year and they have recently announced that they will be offering a Lenten resource called The Best Lent Ever. By signing up, you will receive daily emails with reflections, scripture readings and short videos. Please visit DynamicCatholic.com/BestLentEver for more information or to sign up.

Congratulations!

We would like to sincerely congratulate Ms. Pia Voorand on her retirement. Pia has worked for our School Board since 1989 and has been the Music teacher for the Madawaska family of schools for the last 6 years. Pia has shared her talents with so many over the years and we are sad to see her go. We wish her all the best on the adventures that she has planned for her retirement. Enjoy, Pia!

We would also like to congratulate Mr. Joseph Platt who will be replacing Pia as the Music teacher for the Madawaska family of schools. We will be glad to see Mr. Platt back at George Vanier and look forward to the wealth of knowledge he will bring to our students.

Special Visitor to George Vanier Catholic School

On Monday, February 1st, MPP John Yakabuski came to George Vanier to speak to the students about his work as an MPP and his role in the Legislature. We were very happy to welcome Mr. Yakabuski to GVCS and thank him for making time in his busy schedule to come to see us!

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is being held until Friday, February 5, 2016. As always, we will take registrations at any time. Documents required to register your child include:

Proof of residence, immunization record, child's individual health card, baptismal certificate and birth certificate. Your 911 address will also be required.

Senior Kindergarten registrants must be five years old by December 31, 2016. Junior Kindergarten registrants must be four years old by December 31, 2016.

If you know any families with Kindergarten aged students, please pass this information on to them. Thank you!

Outdoor Rink

The older students have played broomball on our outdoor rink several times already. We are really hoping to be able to skate soon but, of course, this activity is weather/temperature dependent. Students are encouraged to bring their skates to school if they would like the opportunity to skate during lunch recess when the weather is suitable. Students will only be allowed to skate if they are wearing a CSA approved helmet. No hockey sticks are permitted when skating. We have a number of pairs of skates and many helmets that students can borrow should they want to skate.

Mental Health and Anxiety

On Thursday, February 4th, RCCDSB Mental Health Lead, Kimberly Recoskie, will be presenting information and strategies to our staff for dealing with anxiety. While her presentation is focused mainly on anxiety at school, she notes that many of the strategies are transferable to home life as well. If you are interested in joining us for the presentation, Kim will be speaking at 3:15pm. I have heard this is an excellent presentation and I would like to open it up to our families and community members so that as many people as possible can benefit from Kim's informative presentation. Please call Mrs. Enright if you have any questions.

Legion Public Speaking Competition

Students are invited to participate in the Legion's Public Speaking Competition. The public speaking competition provides our students with an opportunity to share their excellent oral communication skills to

entertain, persuade, or inform us about a topic that they are interested in. Students in Gr. 1-3 should strive to keep their talk between 1-3 minutes long. In Gr. 4-6 and 7-8 speeches should be between 3-5 minutes in length. Your child may use cue cards to assist them, however memorizing their speech is encouraged. The in-school competition will take place on **Wednesday, February 17th**, in the Music Room, beginning at 9:00am. Parents are welcome to attend. Please help your child choose an age-appropriate and engaging topic. The Royal Canadian Legion Public Speaking Competition will take place on **Saturday, Feb. 20th** at the Legion Hall. Information regarding rules and scoring guide will be available to students, if they would like to participate in either or both of the competitions.

Grade 8 Information

MVDHS is hosting a Grade 8 transition information session on **Wednesday, February 3, 2016** at the high school. This session will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for parents and grade 8 students. **Mrs. C. Sweeney** will also be visiting our grade 8 students at George Vanier on February 23rd to further discuss questions about course selections and other student inquiries.

GVCS Jerseys

As we prepared for the broomball tournament, we realized that a number of our jerseys have gone missing from the school. If your child has a broomball jersey or a sleeveless GVCS jersey, please return it to the school so that we will have enough for all of our teams throughout the year. Our Floor Hockey teams will be using these jerseys when they attend their tournaments on Friday, February 5th (Junior) and Friday February 19th (Primary). We wish our teams the best of luck as they represent George Vanier!

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, so warm winter wear is always required.

Provincial Assessments

Grades 3 and 6 students will be involved in EQAO Provincial Assessments between May 25 and June 8, 2016. Please check your calendar to ensure that these weeks remain clear of appointments.

Math Problem Solving

Thank you to those of you who entered last month! The winners of our first problem solving challenge are Abbey and Gloria Ziebarth. Congratulations on winning a gift certificate from Vito's Pizzeria! If you would like a chance to win a prize, please find two ways to solve the following problem and bring your solutions to Mrs. Enright. You will then be entered into the February draw.

You have three piles of counters. There are some blue counters. There are twice as many reds as blues. There are 3 times as many greens as blues. How many counters might you have? How many of each colour?

Show two possible answers and how you got them.

Have fun with this and good luck to all of our families!

Broomball

The Annual OPP Broomball Tournament was held on Thursday, January 28th, 2016. The George Vanier team had a very successful day and brought home the C trophy! Congratulations to all team members and thank you to our dedicated coaches, Ms. Landon and Mr. Emile Bouchard.



Colds and Flu

With winter comes flu season. As a means to help stop the spread of germs, we encourage good handwashing throughout the day. It is also standard practice that if a child is well enough to come to school, he/she will be expected to participate in all school activities, including recess.

HOCKEY DAYZ IN THE BAY

The Barry's Bay and Area Minor Hockey Association is once again holding their now annual 'Hockey Dayz in the Bay' Feb. 12-14th at the Paul J Yakabuski Community Centre. Activities happening all weekend long!

Friday February 12th - 7:00 -10:00 p.m.

Teen Dance for ages 10-14yr olds

DJ music by Red Rock Music

\$5 cover charge.