

What's New, St. John XXIII? March 2016 Newsletter

Vision Statement: Inspired by our rich heritage and challenged by the struggles of our past, we at St. John XXIII 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.

St. John XXIII's 2016 Lenten Project—Antonci

As you know, we are raising funds during Lent for our sister school in Antonci . For those families who are new to our school, this fundraising project has been going on for over 20 years at St. John XXIII. Through the Grey Sisters of Immaculate Conception, we have been twinned with an elementary school in the town of Antonci in the Dominican Republic. Every year during the season of Lent, our social justice project is to raise funds for their school. Over the years we have helped them acquire a well for fresh water, repairs following a hurricane disaster, books, shelves, paint, windows, gym equipment etc. We don't know yet what the specific goal will be for this year, but we are already gearing up to help out our friends in any way we can. We have already raised over \$100 with our mini sticks day and our music over the PA days!

Walker Pick Up and Drop Off—Important Notice For Parents

Unfortunately, I have to send a reminder regarding our pick up and drop off zone as we have had many parents disobey parking signage as well as many parents becoming quite disrespectful to individuals (crossing guard, staff members & parents) attempting to enforce the rules for student safety. The goal of all members of our school community should be student safety. That means everyone should adhere to parking rules even if it means you have to park further down the street.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU PARK DOWN PAST THE BEGINNING OF THE CHAINLINK-FENCE OR THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE STREET. PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING DIRECTLY INFRONT OF THE SCHOOL (BY THE GYM, FRONT ENTRANCE OR STAFF PARKING). THERE ARE SIGNS INDICATING WHERE TO PARK AND WHERE NOT TO PARK.

It is also best to ensure that you clear the pick up / drop off zone in a timely fashion in order to avoid having children begin to play in an unsafe area.

Staff Changes

We say goodbye to Mrs. Greenaway as she is headed off on maternity leave. We wish her all the best with her new little bundle of joy upon his arrival!

We say goodbye to Mrs. LaRose as she is headed off on new and exciting endeavours. She will be missed and we wish her all the best.

St. John XXIII's Public Speaking Results

We had excellent participation in our school's Public Speaking contest this year and we congratulate all the students who made it to the competition in the gym. The results from the competition are as follows: Primary Division—1st Jake Redmond, 2nd Carter LaForest, Runner Up Lexie Chaput; Junior Division—1st Zoe Gough, 2nd Abby Patrois, Runner Up Westan Stiller.

Zoe and Jake represented St. John XXIII at the Arnprior Legion competition. We are pleased to share that Jake placed first in his division and will continue on in the competition and Zoe placed second in her division! Super work!

An extra special thank you to our volunteer judges: Cheryl Pulcine, Carol Byce and Jane Valentyne and to Mrs. Mulligan & Mrs. Boileau, who organized the school competition.

Recycling Club News

Our recycling club has been working hard each month to ensure we are sending more paper products to recycling than to the garbage. Thank you to: Leah Best, Phillip Greiss, Mary Coady, Carter LaForest, Sam Wilson, Rogan Mooney, Kade Chaput, James Coady, Sam Lavictoire, Nathan Lockwood, Lia Osborne, Claire Gallagher, Matthew Marcellus, Kayden Oberback, Isabella White and Keandra O'Brien for assisting Mrs. Rebertz's this past month with recycling.

Knight's of Columbus Free Throw Competition

Lia Osborne and Matthew Richard competed in the Free Throw Competition in Renfrew. Both students did very well. Lia sunk 8 baskets, and Matthew hit 12. This gave Matthew the gold and allows him to move onto the 3rd level in Ottawa. Well done, Lia and Matthew!



Junior Division Ski Day

On Friday, Feb. 26th our entire junior division went to Calabogie Peaks for a day of skiing. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped make this an enjoyable and safe day. In addition, thank you to all St. John XXIII staff who continuously go above and beyond for all of the children in your care!



News From School Council

We wish everyone safe travels this month either in the weather we are having or travelling somewhere warm and leaving it all behind. As Council warms up for our Big Fundraiser in May we are wishing for warm weather.

We were happy to see a good turnout to our Movie Night. It was busy and we are happy to report the changes we made this year helped make it run smoothly. The movie "HOME" was very popular and well received. We made \$275. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make this event happen. So much goes on behind the scenes to put events on for our school community. Thank you again.

Parent Council is helping to support our most beloved ART Show during Catholic Education Week which is the first week of May. More on that in future newsletters. Parent Council will be helping with the cost of a MASC artist in residence (Tine Le Moine) coming in April. She will be working with each class in the area of media arts.

School Council will not be holding any fundraisers through Lent, as we are hoping families send in donations to support the school's Antonci initiative.

So, we wish all families a Happy March Break. Be safe and enjoy the time to make some memories.

Tracey Jeror, Chair

Follow us on Twitter: @XXIIIJohn

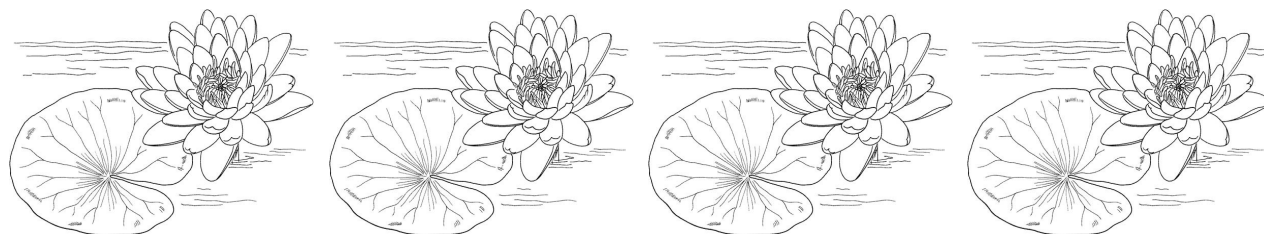
Milk & Food Order Changes—September 2016

Please be advised that in the new school year (September 2016), food and milk orders will ONLY be available for purchase through our school cash online option. School Council will no longer be sending home paperwork relating to milk and food orders as all of this information will come to you in an email/text. In addition, school council or the office will no longer be handling money from milk and food orders as all of the transactions will be online. This will save many, many, many volunteer hours as school council will no longer be able to manage this volunteer position in the capacity we are currently providing. School council thanks Mrs. Anas for her ongoing and tireless work in this area as she takes us through the remainder of the school year in the volunteer role.

If you have not already signed up for an account with School Cash Online (which you can get on your phone, ipad, laptop etc.), please do so at <http://renfrewcatholic.schoolcashionline.com>. For those who do not have access to the internet, you may come to use a computer here at the school that will be set up in the foyer for parents to access their school cash online account.

Primary Winter Carnival

The primary winter carnival was Feb. 26. Students enjoyed a movie at the O'Brien Theatre in the morning, then outdoor/indoor activities here at school. Considering we had to move to Plan B, all turned out great in the end. Thank you to those parents who assisted especially in the afternoon (monitoring games, bringing in mini sticks, getting hot chocolate etc.). In addition, thank you to Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Mulligan for organizing this event.



Coming soon...

After School Art Club

Paint a Masterpiece: Monet

April 13 - June 9

Ages 6 - 13

Where: St. John XXIII School

When: Wednesdays or Thursdays, 3:40 - 5:10

Cost: \$120 (supplies included)

The After School Art Club is back! During this session students will learn about the famous artist Monet and create artwork inspired by his beautiful style. They will complete two masterpieces with acrylic on canvas and will practice a variety of drawing techniques in their own drawing books. Non-toxic and high-quality art supplies are used.

For more information and to register visit:

www.blossomartstudio.ca

or call: 613.559.0394

A Message From Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium

In order to ensure we are all up to speed in anticipation of the next storm, we would like to address some concerns from our stakeholders. There have been concerns that some folks are still unable to get onto the "NEW" RCJTC web site (www.onthebus.ca) in a timely fashion in order to get the latest information on the status of their bus. If people are still using the old web site they will be automatically re-directed to the new web site unless they are using old cache and if so they should be clearing their old cache in order to get to the new site in an expeditious manner and then create a new favorite. In order to eliminate that it is our system vs some other system, we need to confirm a few things first:

Have you checked the speed of your ISP (Internet Service Provider) during these peak times:

Some simple speed tests would help determine if your ISP is the culprit:

<http://support.bell.ca/Internet/Internet-Speed-Test> (Bell mobility, Sympatico); http://vitesse.cogeco.ca/index_en.html (Cogeco); <http://www.nrtco.net/business/support/speed-test> (NRTCO); <http://speedcheck.rogers.com/en.html> (Rogers); <http://speedtest.shaw.ca/> (Shaw); <http://www.bandwidthplace.com/> (generic)

Have you updated your browser lately (<http://outdatedbrowser.com/en>):

Some simple upgrades will determine if your browser is the hold out:

Safari (<https://support.apple.com/en-ca/HT204416>); Google (<https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95414?hl=en>); Microsoft (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/download/internet-explorer.aspx>); Android (you'll need to select either Google or Firefox whichever is running on your machine); FireFox (<https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/products/firefox/download-and-install>); BlackBerry (<http://ca.blackberry.com/support.html>)

What is the current machine you are using: Some simple OS (operating system), RAM or CPU etc. upgrades might be in the picture in order to get the best results:

iOS (check with your manufacturer); Android (check with your manufacturer); Windows (check with your manufacturer); Macintosh (check with your manufacturer); BlackBerry (check with your manufacturer); Chrome OS (check with your manufacturer); RAM (enough memory so not to slow the machine); CPU (enough processor power so not to slow the machine); Network card (most current drivers, function test); Video Card (most current drivers, function test)

Above are some simple test you can perform to determine if it is your system that might be the culprit and if you would please share with your stakeholder groups. No doubt there are multiple potential failure points in any delivery model over the internet. The suggestions above are ranked by our analytic program of the different types of folks accessing our web page currently. As you can see by the differing ISP, Browsers and OS on every different machine we try to support all of these. But you must do your part as well and that means keeping your machine with the most current version in top running order as we cannot support older versions. On Tuesday February 16, 2016 we had 18,040 sessions on our web page (new record high) and we have had confirmation from users in Ottawa, Petawawa, Pembroke, Renfrew that they were able to access our site without any problems or delays, additionally we had some that did not, so where is the breakdown?

We too have been working hard to ensure the timely and effective delivery of this information to you our stakeholders. To that end we have increased our bandwidth with our local ISP, we have upgraded our Web server and added additional memory, we have upgraded our web page to work more fluidly with our transportation software which is also housed on a server of its own. With the new added feature of sending out email instantaneously notifying those (3,289 subscribers) that have signed up for bus status notification, this has added another layer of processing power that is required. Additionally we now post on both Twitter and Facebook our status, again another layer of processing. We recognize that if anyone of these 4 critical systems fails (Web page, Server, ISP, Bus Planner software) it affects the entire operation and anyone point of the notification. We will continue to monitor our system but we would ask you to do the same with yours as well.

We also recognise that it may be working today and not tomorrow as that is the life expectancy with any piece of machinery but we strive to ensure our system is up and functioning at peak performance to ensure the timely delivery of the information to you our stakeholder on any given day. I'm confident that if we work together we will have the best results for everyone.

Sincerely, Robert White, GM

St. John XXIII March 2016 Calendar

SATURDAY

FRIDAY

THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

5

4

3

2

1

Penny Jar for Antonci



12

11 St. Patrick's Day-
Dance—grade appropriate during the day—
\$2—Raising money for
Antonci

10

Milk & Food Orders
Home



19

18

St. Patrick's Day

17

16

15

March Break



26

25

Good Friday—No
School



24

23

Milk & Food Orders—
return

22

Guess what we are raising
money for - 10
cents a guess

21

31

School Council Meeting
6-8 pm Library



30

29

Easter Monday—No
School

28

27