

George Vanier Catholic School

February 2017



2782 Dafoe Road
Combermere ON 1L0
613 756 3708
Acting Principal – Anne Marie Landon
alandon@rccdsb.edu.on.ca



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.

School Information

- Kindergarten registration for new students is from January 23 – February 3.
Documents required to register your child:

Proof of Age, Proof of Residence, Certificate of Immunization (Health Unit), 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, 2017.
 - Junior Kindergarten registrants must be four years old by December 31, 2017.
 - Pupils who are presently attending Junior Kindergarten do not have to register for Senior Kindergarten.

- Trees removal and pruning continues at GV. This project impacts where students are able to play at various times.

- Our in-school public speaking contest is on Thursday, February 16 at 9am. Students wishing to participate may do so. Medals will be awarded to school level winners and interested students will have an opportunity to participate at the local Legion on Saturday, February 25. All students in Grades 3-8 will be working on preparing speeches of between 3 and 5 minutes and presenting aloud to their class and/or teacher as part of their language program, oral communication. Students in Grades 1 and 2 may prepare a speech at home if they wish to present. If you want a copy of the Legion rules or the marking rubric (guide) used for public speaking please put a note in your child's agenda.

- On Monday, February 6 we celebrate 100 days of school! Classes have a variety of activities planned. Check your child's agenda for details.

- After March break the price for milk will be increasing to \$0.75/carton up from the current \$0.60/carton. This is to cover the cost of the program to our school. We are happy to support our local dairy.
- A community book tree has been installed outside of our school. All members of the community may leave a book or take a book at any time. Happy reading!



School Council Information

- Next meeting is on Thursday, March 30 at 5:30pm. New members are always welcome.
- See attached minutes for more information about your School Council

School Board Information

- Our Board has released a new five-year Strategic Plan that focuses on wellness, achievement, dignity, and integrity. A copy is posted by the main office and can also be found on the Board website at www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca.
- January 23-27 was Wellness Week throughout our Board. Students participated in a number of activities and especially enjoyed learning about how other people's actions can affect them through the straw challenge. Ask your child to share this with you and if you have some straws perhaps try it at home. Here's a photo of our youngest students participating in the straw challenge.



Parish Information

Parish Priest: Fr. John Lacey	
Weekend Mass Times:	
Holy Canadian Martyrs, Combermere Saturdays 5pm Sundays 9am	St. Francis de Sales, Latchford Bridge Sundays 11am

- Our next school Mass is on Wednesday, March 1 (Ash Wednesday) at 1pm. The K-2 class will be looking after music and the Grade 3-5 class will be looking after readings.
- Everyone is invited to attend an evening of fun and laughter on Wednesday, March 8 in honour of St. Patrick's Day. Mass is at 7pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church followed by a talent show in the school gymnasium. If you would like to share a song, tell a story, recite a poem, or share other such talents please contact Jerome Anderchek at 756-3589. Net proceeds from the evening will be shared between the Madawaska Valley Hospice and a summer project at Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish.
- Confirmation will be held on the evening of Monday, May 15 at Holy Canadian Martyrs. Preparation classes will be starting soon.
- First Communion will be held on Sunday, June 18 at 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs

Community Information

- Game On is a free youth activity program for community children in Grades 3-8 and is offered at GV every Tuesday after school from 3-6pm. For more info. please contact Cheryl at 613 757 3108 or email youth@crc-renfrewcounty.com.
- The Palmer Rapids Recreation Committee is holding a dance on Friday, February 3 from 8pm – 11pm, during their Winter Carnival, for students in Grades 6 to 8.

Thank You To...

- The Grade 6/7/8 class for preparing readings and music for the January 18 Mass.
- Michael Beggs for welding one of GV's broomball nets
- The Madawaska Valley Public Library Book Club for donating a book tree to our school and to Dan and Alex from the School Board Plant department for installing it.
- The MV Fire Department for continuing to flood our school rink.
- Trista Betournay for providing the healthy snack the third week of January. Very yummy cookies!
- Gerard Olsheskie and our students who shovelled the rink after a recent snowfall.
- Shirley McLean who celebrated 30 years of working at GV on January 30.
- Jason O'Brien and Emile Bouchard for coaching our school broomball team and organizing equipment and to John Artymko for supervising the team.

Did You Know?

- Students have the opportunity to skate at lunch recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays, weather permitting. A CSA certified helmet and gloves or mitts must be worn. Skates must be in a bag/carrying case to travel safely on the bus. Students should wear properly fitted skates. Parents, Grandparents and volunteers with completed Vulnerable Sector Screening Checks are welcome to come to the school on these days at 11:25am to help tie laces and/or skate with our students.
- On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays students from Grades 5-8 have the opportunity to practice their broomball skills on our rink at lunch recess. Again, a CSA certified helmet with cage and gloves or mittens must be worn. The school has a few extra broomball helmets if students need.
- GV raised a total of \$112 for the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation through a donation jar on the coffee and tea table at our Christmas bazaar and concert. Our Grade 7 class presented the donation to Erin Gienow from the Hospital Foundation last week.



Looking Ahead...

- Wednesday, March 1 Ash Wednesday
- Wednesday, March 8 at 7pm Mass then community concert in honour of St. Patrick's Day. See the Parish info. section of the newsletter for more information.
- Thursday, March 9 is the last day of school before the March Break. Classes resume on Monday, March 20.
- Friday, March 31 Volleyball Tournament
- Friday, April 21 Trivia Night at GV
- Thursday, April 27 Health Unit Dental Screening Kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, 6, and 8
- Wednesday, May 3 Chess Tournament
- Friday, May 5 Gray Matter Trivia Contest for students
- Monday, May 15 Confirmation 7pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs
- Friday, May 19 PA Day "Christian Community Day"
- Tuesday, May 23 to Monday, June 5 EQAO dates (Grade 3 and 6 students)
- Thursday, June 8 Track and Field Meet in Killaloe (raindate: Monday, June 12)
- Thursday, June 8 Grad. Dance for area Gr. 8 students (held at GV again this year!)
- Friday, June 9 PA Day "Reporting"
- Sunday, June 18 First Communion 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs
- Friday, June 23 Three-pitch tournament
- Tuesday, June 27 Grade 8 Graduation (Mass at 7pm followed by reception in gym)
- Thursday, June 29 Last day of school for students
- Friday, June 30 PA Day "Numeracy and Special Education"

Perhaps...

- You would like to become a library volunteer at GV. Carmel Rumleskie and Helen Parisien, our two current volunteers, would like the help of another adult on Tuesday afternoons. Contact the School office if interested.
- You are able to provide (or your workplace can provide) a prize for our annual trivia night which will be held this year on Friday, April 21. All money raised from this evening will go towards bus costs for our student teams to attend tournaments in the area.
- Your child, aged 11-15, is interested in taking the Red Cross Babysitting Course which teaches first aid and caregiving skills. If so, please contact the School Office. If enough youth in our community are interested we will pursue hosting an evening or weekend course here.

Action Items for Our Families

- You can help spread the word in our community that Kindergarten registration for new students is from January 23 to February 3.

Attachments

February 2017 Calendar	Festival of Outdoor Rinks	2015-2016 Director's Annual Report
School Council Minutes November 2016 and January 2017		

Family Activity of the Month

Check out www.homeworkzone.tvokids.com together. It is an easy to navigate environment in which children can practise concepts they've learned in school and get support for math, science, and literacy. It includes videos, shows, web games, printable worksheets, interactive practice tools and study tips.

Some examples of activities include:

"Out of Order" where you put the story pictures in order

"Letterella" where you can learn different letter sounds of the alphabet

"Word Magic" where you can practice spelling by yourself or with another player

"Bump-A-Word" where you use descriptive words in your writing to make it more interesting

"Big Escape" where you can learn about nouns, verbs, adjectives, and many other grammar goodies

"Shapeville" all about geometry and spatial sense

"Clock Talk" all about measuring time

"Flower Frenzy" all about patterning and algebra

"Math Castle" all about number sense and numeration