

# George Vanier Catholic School

## May 2017



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### 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

- Congratulations to our Volleyball teams who participated in the MESAA tournament on April 12. GVCS Girls came out second overall.
- Congratulations to the 17 students from George Vanier who represented our school at the Chess tournament in Killaloe on May 2. Our "B" team brought home a trophy. Here they are:



- Congratulations to Ava Beggs who was one of the winners of the Madawaska Valley Public Library's Design a Bookmark contest.

- The Palmer and Area Lion's Club will be visiting the Primary class at GVCS on Tuesday, June 9 in the morning to offer child ID kits to students. Constable Yarmel from the Killaloe OPP will be accompanying them and explaining about personal safety. Students will be given kits to take home.
- Meeting for Grade 8 students and their parents on Wednesday, May 3 at 7pm to discuss the Graduation dance and the Graduation Mass and reception.

### School Council Information

- Next meeting is on May 25 at 5:30pm. New members are always welcome.
- Team entry fees raised over \$700 at Trivia Night. This money will be used for tournament bussing costs.
- Congratulations to the Readers' Choice team from the Madawaska Valley Public Library who won the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Trivia Night in overtime and to the Trumpers who came in second.
- Minutes from March 30 meeting attached

### School Board Information

- Dr. Greg Wells, who has dedicated his career to understanding how the human body responds to extreme conditions will be speaking on Thursday, May 18 at 7pm at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Renfrew. This event is sponsored by a Parents Reaching Out grant, the RCCDSB Parent Involvement Committee, and the RCCDSB. For more information check out the poster by the main door of our school.
- PIC meeting in Killaloe on Wednesday, June 7 (not May 31 as on the May calendar). More info. in next month's newsletter.
- There are two upcoming RCCDSB Virtual and Blended Learning School information sessions. The first is at St. John Bosco Catholic School in Barry's Bay on Monday, May 15 at 7pm and the second will be held at George Vanier Catholic School in Combermere on Thursday, June 1 at 1:00pm. The Madawaska home schooling community and anyone interested is invited to attend either session. This grade 4 to 12 Catholic school will be opening in September 2017.

### 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, May 3 at 1pm. This Mass will be part of Catholic Education Week.
- Confirmation will be held at 7pm on Monday, May 15 at Holy Canadian Martyrs. Classes have started and are from 1:45-2:45pm on the following dates:  
Lesson #7 May 4  
Lesson #8 May 12 (note change in date)
- First Communion will be held on Sunday, June 18 at 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs.
- Spring yard clean up Saturday, May 6 at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church. Mass at 8am for all volunteers and Father John Lacey will be providing BBQ hotdogs at lunchtime.
- Parish spring fundraising yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 20 from 8am to 2pm at 807 Riverside Drive, Combermere.

## 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](mailto:youth@crc-renfrewcounty.com).
- St. Andrew's Catholic School is hosting a Spring Craft Sale on Saturday, May 13 from 10am to 3pm.
- Valley Ball Hockey starts Friday, May 5 at the Wilno rink. Information page attached to this newsletter.

## Thank You To...

- Mr. Artymko for coaching our volleyball and chess teams.
- Madame Ropego for overseeing the scoring at Trivia Night and her helpers Jade Priestley, Maria Ziebarth, Michelle Lepinskie, and Julia Beggs.
- Mrs. Pecarskie and her class for looking after the bake sale table at Trivia Night and to Melody Priestley, Meghan Sernoskie and Alison Pecarskie for helping.
- Miss Marquette and her class for selling raffle tickets at Trivia Night.
- Grade 6/7/8 students for looking after coffee and tea sales and having a yummy three cake raffle at Trivia Night.
- Rose Brotton for baking the cakes for the Grade 6/7/8 Raffle.
- Mr. Olsheskie, Gloria Kosnaskie, Tracy Glofcheskie, and Brian Glofcheskie for help in setting up and organizing Trivia Night and to everyone who assisted with the clean up.
- Everyone who participated on a team in Trivia Night.
- Our MPP John Yakabuski for being our MC for Trivia Night and for providing us with updates on the NHL games, all of which went into overtime, just like our Trivia Night!
- Barry's Bay Metro, Northern Credit Union, Shulist Family Farm, Madawaska Coffee Company, Tracy and Brian Glofcheskie, Jackie Bouchard, GVCS staff, Father John Lacey, and anonymous donors for their generous prize donations for Trivia Night.

- Our Parish CWL who donated \$100 towards the restoration of Our Lady of Fatima Shrine area in front of the school in honour of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady to the children. We also thank Sandy Lynch and Patricia Duggan for their support of the project.

## Did You Know?

-April 30 to May 5 is Catholic Education week. Our theme this year is Walking Forward Together and daily subthemes are as follow:

Monday: Walking Forward Together with God

Tuesday: Walking Forward Together with Our Families

Wednesday: Walking Forward Together with Others (We join together with our families, friends, and neighbours at Mass 1pm at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church)

Thursday: Walking Forward Together with Creation (Prayer Service at 8:40 followed by each student receiving a stainless steel water bottle courtesy of Sip Smart Ontario)

Friday: Walking Forward Together in Hope (Check out our artwork on display in the Church until today)

- Our Grade 3/4/5 class is selling tickets on a Mother's Day basket (and coming soon tickets on a Father's Day basket!). Ask a student in this class or visit GVCS to purchase tickets. \$2 each or 3 for \$5. All proceeds go to help cover class trip costs.
- Any student from Grades 1-8 who would like to attend the area Spelling Bee held at St. John Bosco on Monday, May 15 in the morning can do so. See Miss Marquette or Madame Ropego for details and word lists.

## Looking Ahead...

- Thursday, June 1 RCCDSB Virtual and Blended Learning School information session at GVCS 1pm
- 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"
- Monday, June 12 Track and Field raindate
- Monday, June 12 End of School Year Family potluck, BBQ, and softball game (tentative date)
- Tuesday, June 13 Grade 3/4/5 Either Wraps or Salad Lunch fundraiser
- Thursday, June 15 Grade 3/4/5 Class trip to Ottawa
- Sunday, June 18 First Communion 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs
- Wednesday, June 21 Mass 1pm
- Friday, June 23 Three-pitch tournament in Palmer
- Tuesday, June 27 K-2 Class trip to Peterborough (will be back before Grad.)
- Tuesday, June 27 Grade 8 Graduation (Mass at 7:30pm followed by reception in gym)

- Wednesday, June 28 Grade 6/7/8 Lunch fundraiser
- Thursday, June 29 Last day of school for students
- Friday, June 30 PA Day “Numeracy and Special Education

**Perhaps...**

- You are considering accompanying your child on their class trip this spring. To do so you will need an up-to-date Vulnerable Sector Screening. Many parents and grandparents already have one done from the fall. If you are unsure if you have an up-to-date one on file or if you would like the paperwork to start the process with the OPP, please contact Ms. Landon at the School Office. It is important to note that it can take several weeks for a check to be completed.

**Action Items for Our Families**

- Consider completing the Game On Free Summer Camp Survey attached. Due back at the school asap.

**Attachments**

May 2017 Calendar	Game On Free Summer Day Camp Survey	Parent to Parent Newsletter
Valley Ball Hockey Registration Info.		

## Family Activity of the Month

Read together the following reflection which is taken from our 2017 Catholic Education Week materials.

*Slow Me Down, Lord*

*Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace. Give me, amidst the day's confusion, the calmness of the everlasting hills.*

*Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with soothing music of singing streams that live in my memory.*

*Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep. Teach me the art of taking "minute vacations,"...slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to read a few lines from a good book.*

*Remind me of the fable of the hare and the tortoise; that the race is not always to the swift; that there is more to life than measuring its speed.*

*Let me look up at the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew slowly and well. Inspire me to send my own roots down deep into the soil of life's endearing values...that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.*

*Slow me down, Lord.*

*~Wilfred Arian Peterson*

Then consider complimenting this with a snuggle up and read family sharing of the book "The Oak Inside the Acorn" by Max Lucado (put a note in your child's agenda if you would like to borrow a school copy). **Our K-2 class voted that it is their favourite shared reading book so far this school year!**

### BOOK DESCRIPTION:

It was hard for Little Acorn to believe he would ever be a big, strong oak tree. Soon, Little Acorn grew into Little Oak. But now, what was he to do? He just grew and grew until he became Big Oak, and his branches were big and strong – but still, he didn't know what he was to do. Then one day, Big Oak found that his strong branches were just right for a very special purpose. *The Oak Inside the Acorn* is the story of the miracle inside each of us. For within every child, is the special person God created, just waiting to grow. The book reminds us to trust that God is always with us in times of change and growth. As we journey to become the people we are called to be, we draw strength from the love of God, our steadfast companion.