

George Vanier Catholic School

April 2018



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Vision Statement

Inspired by our rich heritage and challenged by the struggles of our past, we are an inclusive Catholic education community 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 Board Information

-Catholic Education Week is May 6-12. This year's theme is "Renewing the Promise."

The theme for CEW 2018 draws upon previous documents on Ontario Catholic education, namely, "This Moment of Promise" (1989), "Fulfilling the Promise" (1993) and "Our Catholic Schools" (2006-2007). These three documents, while several years apart from each other, all speak of the unique mission of Ontario Catholic education, the importance of its shared leadership by all those involved in Catholic education and the critical role of Catholic education in contemporary society.

Catholic Education Week 2018 combines the themes of reconciliation, solidarity, love, justice and ecology.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

- Day 1: Remembering the Promise
- Day 2: The Promise is Within You
- Day 3: Praying the Promise
- Day 4: Living the Promise
- Day 5: Proclaiming the Promise

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources as well as our own developed activities, we have prepared a series of activities which will highlight how our school is

Renewing the Promise. We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations. They will be listed in the May calendar and newsletter.

-Information about Summer School 2018 which runs from July 3-26, 8:30-11:45am daily, can be found on line at www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca or ask at the GVCS office. Transportation will be provided to the closest Summer School site and this summer the program is locally being offered at St. Andrew's Catholic School in Killaloe. Registration deadline is Thursday, May 24.

-On Thursday, April 26 at 7pm the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee will be hosting Dr. Jean Clinton as a guest speaker at Bishop Smith Catholic High School in Pembroke. All parents and community members are welcome to attend. There is no need to register ahead of time. Dr. Clinton is a Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University, division of Child Psychiatry. She is on staff at McMaster Children's Hospital with cross appointments in Pediatrics and Family Medicine, and an Associate in the Department of Child Psychiatry, University of Toronto and Sick Children's Hospital. She is an advocate for child mental health and well-being. Her special interest lies in brain development and the crucial role relationships and connectedness play therein. Dr. Clinton will specifically speak to youth well-being and the role parents play in an increasingly complex "digital age".

School Information

-You can purchase milk for the month of April using your School Cash online account. We also still accept cash \$0.75 a carton.

- During the school year, Health Unit Registered Dental Hygienists provide dental screening of children in elementary schools throughout Renfrew County and District. All children in George Vanier Catholic School will receive a dental screening in the near future unless parents have followed the steps outlined in the letter from the Health Unit sent home two weeks ago. Good oral health is important to children's overall health. The Ontario government has publicly funded dental programs to assist with dental care. Healthy Smiles Ontario is a free dental program for eligible children and youth and covers regular check ups, preventive care and treatment. For more information contact the Renfrew County District Health Unit at 613 735 8661 or 1 800 267 1097, ext. 661.

-Please remember Mrs. Helen Parisien in your prayers. Mrs. Parisien was a longtime library volunteer at our school and several of her grandchildren attended GVCS. She passed away on Tuesday, March 27 following a short illness. There will be a Memorial Service for Mrs. Parisien on Saturday, April 7 at 11am at the Purdy Baptist Church, 13 Centreview Road, Combermere. Anyone with cards or drawings for her family may leave them at the school for delivery to her husband Don, son Ralph, daughter Sherry and her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be missed.

School Council

-At the March 20 School Council meeting your Council voted to approve the following purchases and expenses:

Six graduation gifts (cost yet to come), \$27.12 for First Communion gifts, \$36.95 for medals for Trivia Night winners, \$63.28 for advertising for Trivia Night, and \$17.95 for table snacks for Trivia night. \$20 per student towards class trip costs has already been paid. The balance in the School Council account is \$2124.78.

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

- Preparation classes for the Sacrament of First Communion will be held on the following dates at 1pm in the School Library: April 12, April 26, May 10, May 17, and May 31. First Communion is on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 3 at 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs or 11am at St. Francis de Sales.
- We will be attending Mass at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church on Friday, April 6 at 9am.

Thank You

- Mr. Artymko for coaching and accompanying our Chess team to the tournament in Killaloe.
- Miss Dick for coaching our Junior Floor Hockey and accompanying them to their tournament in Palmer Rapids.
- Theresa Golka for being such a flexible volunteer.
- Melody Priestley for volunteering in our library along with Carmel Rumleskie.
- Miss Dick and her Grade 2-5 students who made beautiful Easter egg wreaths for Father John to deliver during his visits to Parishioners who may be ill or shut in.
- Madame Ropego for directing the Grades 3-8 French plays and for overseeing food preparation and the celebration following the plays.
- Ms. Manwell for coaching our Volleyball teams.
- Families and friends who came out to be part of the audience for our French plays.

Congratulations

- To our Junior Floor Hockey teams for placing first at the tournament in Palmer Rapids. It is of special interest that you tied 2-2 with each other in the final game!
- To our Chess teams. We earned both the B and C trophies at the Killaloe tournament because of your outstanding efforts.
- To all of the students who performed and took part in the French plays through set design, lighting, curtains, acting, sound, or clean up.

Community Information

- The **Game On** activity program is offered at GVCS every Tuesday after school from 3-6pm for students in Grades 3 to 8. Registration is on-going. For more information check out www.facebook.com/crcgameon/ or call Cheryl at 613 757 3108.
- Information about Camp Lau-Ren located 10Km west of Deep River is available by the office.

Did You Know?

-Our application was selected! We are one of only three schools in Renfrew County who received an indoor Tower Garden through the Good EGG (Edible Grassroots Gardens) program and the Child Poverty Action Network (CPAN). Ms. Manwell and her K-1 class will be starting to plant soon and students will be able to enjoy fresh produce they have grown.

Looking Ahead...

- Tuesday, May 1 morning HPV, Hep. B vaccine dose #2 for Grade 7 students
- Friday, May 4 Gray Matter Trivia Challenge in Palmer Rapids – Grades 7 & 8 students if interested please see Ms. Landon
- Sunday, May 6 to Saturday, May 12 Catholic Education Week
- Monday, May 7 Spelling Bee at St. John Bosco, open to students from Grade 1-8. See Madame Ropego if interested.
- Wednesday, May 9 “Climate Change” Shaw Woods trip for students in Grades 4/5/6
- Thursday, May 10 Junior Soccer Tournament (still to be confirmed)
- Friday, May 11 Mass at 9am
- Friday, May 11 Intermediate Soccer Tournament in Barry’s Bay
- Thursday, May 17 Grade 6/7/8 trip to Ottawa
- Monday, May 21 Victoria Day Holiday
- Tuesday, May 22 to Monday, June 4 EQAO Assessments Grades 3 and 6

- Sunday, June 3 First Communion 9am at Holy Canadian Martyrs
- Thursday, June 7 Provincial Election Day
- Thursday, June 7 Track and Field Meet in Killaloe
- Friday, June 8 PA Day “Reporting”
- Friday, June 15 3 Pitch Tournament Grades 6-8
- Thursday, June 21 K-1 and Grades 2-5 trip to Ottawa
- Friday, June 22 Mass at 9am
- Tuesday, June 26 7pm Gr. 8 Graduation Mass and ceremony
- Thursday, June 28 Last day of school for students
- Friday, June 29 PA Day “Numeracy and Special Education”

Perhaps...

- You can gather some friends or coworkers together to participate in the annual GVCS trivia night, Friday, April 20 starting at 7pm. 6 people per team, \$60 a team – register at office. All proceeds go to student activities bussing costs.
- You can volunteer to help with the canteen for our April 20th Trivia Night which last year was attended by over 140 members of our community. See Ms. Landon for details.
- You know of a high school student who would like to complete Community Service hours by helping at our Trivia Night fundraiser. Tell them to contact Ms. Landon.
- You (or your workplace) can donate an item to be used for a door prize at Trivia Night.
- You can continue to spread the news that registration for the 2018-19 School Year is on-going at GVCS. Knowing approximate student numbers now helps in planning for staffing and classes for the fall.

Action Items for Our Families

- Students in Grades 6, 7, 8 are reminded to return their volleyball forms to Ms. Manwell asap.

Thank you for your attention to these items. Together we're better!

Attachments

April 2018 calendar		
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Family Activity of the Month

On a recent “snow day” students who were at school were asked to share about favourite things to do with their families. Here are some responses:

“Have breakfast for dinner”

“Snuggle up and read”

“Laugh and tell jokes”

“Play games”

“Play sports”

“Dance to the radio”

“Make cookies and then pop bubbles in the sink while waiting for the cookies to bake in the oven”

“Be outside”

“Go places together”

“Take care of our animals”

Perhaps your family enjoys these things too!