

---

# ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2020



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.andrewselementary/>  
Twitter: @StAndrewsRCCDSB.  
Website: <http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca/our-schools/st-andrews/>



---

613-757-3113

T.J. O'Grady, Principal

---

### **Principal's Message**

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful and fun-filled Christmas break. We begin this new calendar year refreshed and ready to set new goals. Staff and students are approaching tasks with renewed energy and are setting course for a rewarding 2020.

I wish to once again thank our students for delivering the Gospel message of Christ's birth through our Christmas concert and musical. It was an absolutely incredible performance, and I am so proud! What talent we have at St. Andrew's!

Thank you for the many Christmas wishes, cards, goodies and gifts. Your generosity is truly appreciated. We have many exciting things happening in our classrooms this month. We continue to study the Catholic Graduate Expectations. In the coming weeks, we will learn what it means to be a **Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker** in our daily interactions. We define a Reflective and Holistic Thinker as someone who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good. I encourage you to talk to your children about effective communication and what it means to live life in the footsteps of Jesus regularly.

January is Wellness Month. St. Andrew's will be participating in a school board wide BINGO game during the month of January. Each day we are challenged to participate in a short wellness task and each class is to keep a record of their progress. Each week our BINGO card (progress report) will be sent

to Mrs. Paulsen who is organizing the game. What fun this will be!

New Kindergarten registration begins later this month. I invite you to please spread the word and encourage prospective families to schedule a visit and register at St. Andrew's. It is very important that we complete our registrations early to ensure proper planning for September 2020. We are truly a place of learning and believing and we welcome all siblings as well as new and prospective families to register for the 2020/2021 school year.

I encourage anyone interested in volunteering at the school to please contact the office. We are looking for volunteers to read with children. Term One reports will be going home mid-February and we look forward to celebrating student success at that time. May God bless each of you. Best wishes for a healthy and happy 2020!

***Mr. T.J. O'Grady***

### **December Was a Wonderful Month!**

#### **Did you know?**

- Our Christmas Concert, *Carol & the Belles*, was a huge hit! Special thanks to students and staff who gave it their all to share their talents! A BIG thank you to Pete Mahoney and the Knights of Columbus for the tasty treats following the concert, to Fr. Shalla for the use of the church and hall, and to Andrew Johnson for his clean-up. Students with speaking roles gave an excellent performance – congratulations on your hard work!
- Proceeds from the donation boxes at the Christmas Concert, as well as our 50/50 draw totaled

\$454.55 and were donated to the St. Francis Valley Health Care Foundation. Thank you so much to Curtis Spitznagel (Ms. Pallen's husband) who won the draw (\$155) and donated it back to the Foundation!

- Father Shalla, Father Murray and Father Garrett assisted us in preparing for Christmas through a thought-filled penitential service.
- Many parents and relatives helped bake and deliver cookies, make Christmas ornaments, and helped in so many other ways in our classrooms to make Christmas a wonderful time!
- We celebrated Mass with Father Shalla on December 20th
- We enjoyed School Council's pizza luncheon, "Jesus' Birthday Party" on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to School Council for sponsoring this party.

### **Birthdays**

Lauren Gienow	January 5
Mikey Jeffrey	January 6
Kerri-Lynn Fulcher	January 10
Dakota Sitler	January 16
Owen Bush	January 17
Julian Herron	January 26

### **Safe School Arrival**

We are grateful for the ongoing support of our families as we work together to keep our students safe!

- In an effort to keep our children safe, students should not be dropped off on the school yard until after 8:20 a.m. - there are no staff on duty prior to this time.
- If you know your child is going to be absent from school, please call us to let us know or send a note with a sibling. We now have a dedicated extension for student absence messages when you call the school during non-office hours. You will be prompted with this option when you call.
- If you are picking up your child early or there is a change in end-of-day transportation, please let us know as early as possible, prior to lunchtime if possible.

- All visitors are required to sign in at the office if they are going to be visiting a classroom for a visit that has been pre-arranged.
- Parents and guardians are asked **to wait at the office** if they arrive early to pick up their children.
- Parents and guardians are asked to wait outside of the playground when they are dropping off or picking up their children.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Do not hesitate to contact the school if you have questions or concerns.

### **School Council Meeting**

Our next school council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **27th Annual Craft Sale**

The St. Andrew's School Council Craft sale was, once again, very successful with 40 tables filled with unique and different items! Thanks to the School Council for hosting this event and to all the parents, staff, students and friends who supported the sale. Thank you to all those who donated prizes for our raffle table Sincere thanks to Father Shalla for the use of the hall and kitchen, to Andrew Johnson for his clean-up and to Judy Kuiack for organizing the raffle. A special thank you to all the parents and students (current & former) who helped at the Craft sale or donated food and prizes. School Council's gross profit for the day was as follows:

Canteen	\$ 214.23
Raffle	241.00
Table rentals	<u>600.00</u>
Grand total	<u>\$1,055.23</u>

Congratulations to the following people who won our raffle prizes:

- Wreath -- Linda Levair
- Light-Up Nativity Picture -- Debbie Murack
- Tim Horton's Gift Basket - Hilary Pecarskie
- Fruit Cake Bag -- Laurel Ann Sernoskie

- Family Gift Basket -- Xavier Recoskie
- Younique Box of Cosmetic products, earrings & purse -- Byron Yeretch
- Wood Nativity Set -- Angela Cybulski
- Christmas basket - Lauren Gienow

### **Healthy Snack Program**

We would like to thank Cory Lee MacMunn and Jennifer Yantha who have been providing Healthy Snacks during the year once per week for all students at the morning recess. This year, we will also be receiving cheese curds donated by St. Albert Cheese. Any parent volunteer who would like to help prepare healthy snacks, please contact the school. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

### **Offence Declarations**

All parents who have had a Vulnerable Screening Check done in the past will be required to sign and return the attached Offence Declaration for 2019-2020. If you **have not** had a Screening done, please call the school and the appropriate forms will be sent home to you. Please note that every person who is involved as a volunteer in the school (driver, chaperone for class trips or tournaments, baking cookies, helping in the classrooms, etc.) is required to have a Vulnerable Screening Check on file at the school.

### **Inclement Weather**

In the case of bad weather, transportation may be cancelled. There are a number of places to learn about cancellations, including <https://www.onthebus.ca/en/busStatus.aspx> and on Facebook or Twitter by searching RCJTC. You may also choose to download the Bus Planner App. The school remains open when transportation is cancelled and we look forward to seeing students if families are able to arrange transportation for children to and from school.

### **Skating Schedule**

Our local rink is not yet available for use, but once it is up and running, we will be taking advantage of the

rink for our physical education classes. Please note that skating is part of our Phys. Ed. Program so all students are expected to participate in skating days. The schedule will be sent out once it has been finalized and the rink is open..

**Skates may have to be put on outside on the benches. All students are required to wear CSA approved properly fitting hockey helmets.**

**Primary teachers would greatly appreciate parental assistance on their skating days. If you wish to volunteer, please provide the office with your Vulnerable Sector Check. Thank you.**

### **High School Transition**

As a part of the orientation to high school process, our local high schools will host Grade 8-9 Transition Meetings for students and their families during the month of February. Information regarding course selection and high school registration will go home with Grade 8 students shortly, and we look forward to welcoming the Guidance Team from Bishop Smith to assist students with planning for course selection. This is an exciting time for our students, and we look forward to helping to make the transition as smooth as possible.

### **Ski Program-Opeongo Nordic Ski Club**

Kids ages 5 to 16 will learn to play on cross-country skis, review basic nordic skills for classic skiing and get an introduction to skate-skiing. Older and/or more experienced kids will participate in informal time trials. This program is facilitated by CANSI (Canadian Association of Nordic Ski Instructors) certified instructors, Ontario-certified teachers and other experienced skiers/instructors. The program takes place on Saturdays • January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15 • 2020  
10 am to 12 noon • Ages 5 to 16  
The fee is \$105 for all six sessions (includes a snack). Limited equipment rental is available. Check the details or register at <http://opeongonordic.com/kids-program>

### **Other events at the club:**

Take part in Opeongo Nordic's annual classic

cross-country ski event, the Opeongo Classic Loppet. Choose from one of four distances. For kids or youth from 10 to 18 years choose the 5 km course for \$10, and stay afterwards for prizes and refreshments. See the club website for registration and all the details: <http://opeongonordic.com>. Sign in, drop \$10 each (or your daypasses) in the box, and follow a route from the clearly marked maps at all trail intersections. You may decide to buy a season's membership (youth \$38, adult \$73), or you can purchase a book of 5 daypasses for \$35 in Killaloe or Barry's Bay. Family memberships are also available. See the club website for registration and all the details: <http://opeongonordic.com>

### **Parent Lending Library**

The books purchased by our School Council through a PRO Grant some years ago have been placed on a bookshelf in the office. Feel free to come in and pick out a book to borrow – there are parenting books, inspirational books and much more!

### **Subway Lunch**

January Subway lunches will take place on Friday, January 17th and Thursday, January 31st. All orders are due on School Cash Online by the Sunday prior to the Sub Day.

### **Broomball**

Hopefully, the weather will cooperate for the annual Killaloe OPP Broomball Tournament which will be held on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Please come out and cheer!

### **Free Throw Competition**

We will be having a basketball free throw school competition for all interested students that are 9 and older. The top 5 from each age and gender category will compete at KPS on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Each participant will be recognized by a Participation Certificate. The winner in each gender/age division will receive a genuine Knights of Columbus Free Throw Basketball, as well as a Council Champion Certificate and will be invited to compete in the District Free Throw Championship.

This is a fun competition and students ages 9 to 14 are invited to compete in their respective gender and age divisions.

### **Sno-Fun Weekend**

The annual Killaloe Sno-Fun will be held beginning Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Check our local newspapers for more information. **Don't forget to enjoy pancakes, sausages and homemade baked beans at St. Andrew's Church Annual Pancake Supper on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. \$7.00/adults, \$3.00 for children 5-12; under 4 free.**

### **Kindergarten Registration**

*Parents are encouraged to complete the pre-registration form online from the comfort of your own home. The pre-registration link can be found on the school board webpage [rccdsb.edu.on.ca](http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca)*

Registration for new kindergarten children will be held from Monday, January 20th until Friday January 31st, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. inclusively.

*If you cannot attend on these days, please call Mrs. Murray to arrange for an appointment. To attend Junior Kindergarten in September 2020, a child must be 4 years of age by December 31, 2020; for Senior Kindergarten, 5 years of age. **Please note:** This registration is for new students only. Children currently enrolled in Junior Kindergarten need not register again.*

*In order to register your child, we will require proof of age (Birth Certificate and a Baptismal Certificate, if available), Certificate of Immunization, complete 911 address with proof of residency and Health Card.*

### **Some Suggested Goals for 2020**

- Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty
- Play, pray and spend time together
- Be kinder than necessary
- Listen
- Smile lots, laugh often
- Give a little extra to the poor and needy
- Express gratitude
- Volunteer