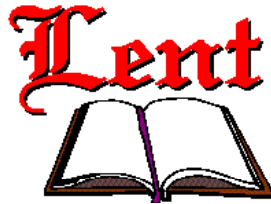


March/mars 2010

St. Bernard School

March Virtue: Forgiveness

"True peace is made possible only through forgiveness" – Pope John Paul II



The season of Lent is here. Lent is an important season of the church year. During Lent we focus on changing in ways that will make us more like Jesus. Traditionally, Lent is often a time when people "give up" something...candy or desserts for example. However, during our preparations for Lent, each class is asked to consider adding something rather than taking away. A kind word to others, an unsolicited helping hand, a random act of kindness...our students are coming up with many ideas.

Also, during Lent we put away the lively song of "Alleluia." We will not sing it again until Easter, when we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus. God's plan for all living things is for them to grow. You may want to talk as a family about how much you have grown since you were born. Have the members of your family stand by the wall and mark how tall they are now. However, people grow spiritually too. How has your family grown spiritually in the past two years? Is someone making their First Communion this spring? Is someone in your family planning to be confirmed? Talk about how your family celebrates these sacraments.

Lent officially began on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. We had our prayer service at which the children received their ashes from Deacon Dennis McDermott from Corpus Christi, Mrs. Cevero, Miss Tremonti and Mrs. Czackowski.

SECOND TERM REPORT CARDS

Second Term report cards will be sent home on Thursday, April 1st for grades 1 to 6 (and B day students). "A" day students will receive their report cards on Wednesday, March 31. Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, April 8 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. **Lost and Found items will be on display on Thursday.** Any unclaimed articles will be donated to charity.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten, Senior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten French Immersion. To register for Junior Kindergarten, children must be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2010. Please note that we will provide transportation within the North Ward for JK students who live outside our neighbourhood zone if they intend to register for Senior Kindergarten French Immersion next year. We also provide transportation from within the North Ward for students registering in the Senior Kindergarten French Immersion program.

Our Orientation Evening for Junior and Senior Kindergarten French Immersion will take place on Tuesday, May 11 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the St. Bernard School Gym. To register your child, please call the school at 344-8321.



Family Skate Night

On Saturday February 20, 2010 our CSC held a Family Skate Night at Port Arthur Arena. Many of our families attended and fun was had by all. The good families of St Bernard donated 6 boxes of food to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank.

DRAW OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to the winner of February Newsletter coupon draw

Kade-Mme Redivo-Grade 4FI

The St. Bernard School Community would like to thank Ken Bruni, owner of Mrs. Vanelli's Pizza for his generous donation to our school.



Pancake Tuesday

Pancake Tuesday was a huge success thanks to all the parents who spent the morning at school mixing and flipping pancakes for our students!

Thank you:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Samantha Filipovic | Faith Mauro |
| Aimee Juan | Kevin Anderson |
| Kerry Berlinquette | Arundel Kine |
| Barbara Young | Kathleen Wowchuk |
| Jon Cuthbertson | Grace Caputo |
| David Vidotto | Cheryl Cameron-Ripku |
| Helen Siren | Diane Berube |
| Wendy Garner | Carolyn Gallo |
| Holly Vecchio | Jaclyn Cop-Rasmussen |
| Rachel Kampela | Katherine Stewart |

A special thank you to **Kerri-Lee Turcotte** who organized this year's event for the students of St. Bernard School. Sincere thanks to the many parents who donated pancake mix and syrup and also to those who donated to our Lenten charities.

Raising Funds for India: Our Valentine's Day

Cake Raffle

Our Valentine's Day Cake Raffle was a huge success. We raised approximately \$800, which is enough money to build a well in India in partnership with the SOPAR organization. A special thank you to our bakers for taking the time to provide their talent for this event and for everyone that bought tickets in support of this initiative. Our next goal will be to raise funds to provide a classroom in India with benches and desks so that the students are able to learn more comfortably. Further details will be sent out shortly.

COUPON NOTICE.....March Newsletter

YES, I have received and read this newsletter.

Signature of Parent who has read the newsletter

Names of children in family and grade:



Winter Carnival Week

Winter Carnival ran over three days and really showed our student's school spirit. It began with Pyjama and Crazy Hair Day and we really saw some interesting hairdos. The next day was Olympic Spirit & Sport's Fan Day. Our students came to school wearing their favourite team's jersey or their own sport's attire. We also had some extra exercise on this day. The whole school participated in an Olympics themed DPA (Daily Physical Activity). The last day of our Carnival was our Red, White and Pink Day for Valentine's Day. On this day, we also listened to a wonderful story called 'Heartprints' over the intercom. The story showed the importance of doing acts of kindness (heartprints) for each other and how even the simplest of actions could really put a smile on someone's face. Each class then brainstormed a list of 'heartprints' and decided on one they would write onto a heart and put onto our Valentine's Day bulletin board by Mrs. Czaczkowski's office. During our three day Winter Carnival, we also played BINGO. You could hear the excitement in the classrooms and the disappointment when a winner would be finally announced. Our students had a great time over Winter Carnival and we can't wait to see their creativity and imagination when dressing up next year!



March/mars 2010

12 New Trees for St. Bernard School

Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds program will give St. Bernard school 12 new trees. These trees will be planted by volunteers on Saturday, May 29th 2010. This is the second year in a row, that St. Bernard has been fortunate to receive this \$2,000 award.

These 12 new trees will give students, present and future, the opportunity to learn about and connect with nature right on their own school grounds.

Once again, Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds and Wayne Toyota has generously helped give our students the opportunity to get their hands dirty and to learn more about nature.

Toyota has a rich history of respect for people, continuous improvement (or kaizen) and giving in the communities where associates and customers live, work and play. Since 2000, Toyota Canada and Evergreen have partnered to bring school communities together to transform barren school grounds into healthy, natural and creative outdoor classrooms.

Benefits of school ground greening projects are many: increased enthusiasm for learning, environmental awareness and stewardship, enhanced motivation for teaching, improved student behaviour, increased physical activity and opportunities for community involvement in school life.

“Respect for the environment is built into Toyota’s core values, and aligning with like-minded partners like Evergreen allows us to share this respect with future generations,” says Mr. Yoichi Tomihara, president and CEO, Toyota Canada Inc.

“A learning experience through nature can instil a lifelong sense of stewardship and environmental activism in students,” says Geoff Cape, executive director, Evergreen. “Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds helps Canadian schools transform lifeless, asphalt yards into green school grounds to give students the opportunity to play and learn in a natural environment.”

Keep checking the newsletter for more details on the upcoming “St. Bernard Tree Planting Day” on Saturday May 29, 2010 starting at 9:00 a.m. Many volunteers will be needed to make the day a success!



Parents, sign up for our FREE
Healthy, Happy Kids
Ebulletin

Each month, easy low-cost tips will come to your inbox with great ideas to get your kids..

- eating healthier
- being more active
- feeling good about themselves

Visit TBDHU.COM for details

News from the Library

Book fair is coming back. The spring book fair is quickly approaching us. The event will take place in the library on Thursday, April 8, 2010. Books will be on display for purchase. Student flyers including a parent letter and class schedule will be sent home after the March Break. This fair has the theme “Destination Book Fair: A Literacy Event”. If you participate, each purchase has the potential of up to sixty percent returning to the library for the purchase of further material for the school collection. I hope to see you there.

Reading Hints

Need a few good reasons to take time to read to your child? Read these quotes below from Jim Trelease’s Website on Reading. Visit the site yourself. It is full of resources and interesting articles. It may become a favourite on your bookmark list.

“Reading aloud enlarges vocabulary. The text you meet in good children’s literature (like *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter) is three times more sophisticated than normal conversation with a child. Listening comprehension (the words we hear) feeds reading and writing comprehension. It’s pretty difficult to say a word, or read and write it, if you’ve never heard it. list of favorites, as will your local children’s librarian”. Reading..” makes a pleasure connection between child and print. No one is born wanting to either play basketball or to read. That desire must be planted by someone outside the child. The parent (or teacher or grandparent) who reads to a child is planting seeds, making a connection to print that doesn’t hurt, that entices and gratifies instead. Homework, workbooks, and tests seldom accomplish that. Simply put, reading to the child amounts to a commercial for reading.”

Taken from <http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/brochures.html>

Keep on Reading! Turn the Page!!

Mr. J.Facca

Teacher-Librarian St. Bernard