



ST. NICHOLAS NEWS



149 CHURCH ST. , ST. CATHARINES ONTARIO, L2R 3E2 905-685-7764

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May, 2012

Principal's Message

May brings many exciting events to St. Nicholas. In the second week of May we celebrate the unique and special gift of Catholic Education. The theme for Catholic Education Week this year is ,**"Walking in the Light of Christ"**.

Later in the month our intermediate students will participate in the annual school board soccer tournament and our grade 3 and 6 students will participate in the EQAO assessment.

May is also the month we dedicate to Mary the mother of Jesus, a model of holiness who continues to encourage us to continue Christ's mission here on Earth.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. K. Lamb

Principal

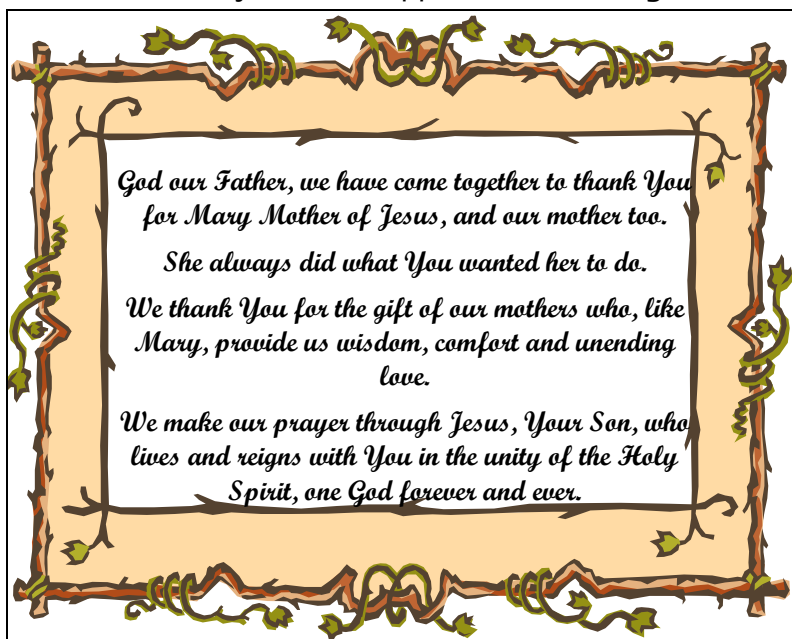
Mayo trae muchos eventos importantes para la escuela St Nicholas. En lo segundo semana de Mayo celebramos el espiritu unico y especial de la Educacion Catolica. El tema para la semana de la Educacion Catolica de este ano es Caminando en la luz de Cristo de la Educacion Catolica Luego mas avansado el mes nuestros estudiantes de nivel intermedio participaran en el torneo anual de futbol organizado por nuestra directive de la escuela catolica y los estudiantes de grado 3 y 6 participaran en elexamen de EQAO. Mayo es tambien el mes que dedicamos a Maria la madre de Jesus, un modelo desantidad quien continua motivandonos a seguir con la mision de Cristo aqui en la tierra.

Suyo en la Educacion Catolica

Sr. K. Lamb
Director

Mother's Day Prayer

On behalf of the school community St. Nicholas, I would like to wish all of our mother's a very happy Mother's Day and a sincere thanks for your care, support and nurturing.



ProKids

"Because Everyone Deserves a Chance to Participate"

ProKids provides opportunities for kids and youth from low income families to participate in sports or other recreational activities.

Delivered through the Niagara Region, the YMCA and sports and cultural organizations.

For more information and to register, Call 905-984-3750 or

Email pro-kids@niagararegion.ca





Heritage Fair

Students in Grades 6-8 participated in our third Heritage Fair this year, and it was a great success. Projects had a Canadian connection and many wonderful topics were presented. Abbygail Kroeker (partnered with Ireland Hunter) to present Justin Bieber and Nicole Cupolo-Charron (partnered with Francesca Perrone) to present VIA were chosen to represent St. Nicholas at the Regional Heritage Fair held at Brock University on April 25, 2012. Thanks to all the students for their hard-work and effort to their projects, to all the guest judges and to Mrs. Rathee and Mr. Boland for organizing the school's Heritage Fair.

Catch The Spirit

Congratulations to **Quinn Landolt** the Saint Nicholas Catholic School recipient for the NCDSB Annual "Catch the Spirit Award" held at St. Paul Catholic Secondary School on Monday, May 7th, 2012. This award is presented to recognize excellence within the Niagara Catholic student population. The students selected have demonstrated qualities in areas such as Catholic Faith and Catholic School Philosophy, Family Commitment, High Degree of Academic Excellence and School Community Relations. We are honoured and proud of **Quinn** for being a such a good representative of the Saint Nicholas Community.

Discipleship

During the month of May we celebrate the virtue of discipleship. Discipleship is about following Jesus and trying to live the way he showed us in the Gospel. When Jesus says, "Come, follow me" he is inviting us to build the kind of relationships with our family, friends, neighbours, and even with strangers.

*Jesus,
Help me to follow you in times of happiness and in times of sorrow. Help me to keep you at the centre of all that I say and all that I do. Help me to be your disciple. Amen.*

Track And Field

The St. Nicholas School Track & Field Meet will be held at The Niagara Olympic Club on Wednesday, May 30th, in conjunction with St. Denis Catholic School. The Board meet will be held on June 14th.

Go Tigers Go!



Ecology Club

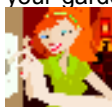


Don't Dump It - Blue Box it!

The simple act of recycling has more impact on the environment than the average Canadian thinks. The amount of wood and paper North Americans throw away each year is enough to heat five million homes for 200 years.

Let It Rot

Put a composter in your backyard or use your green bin to reduce household waste. Composting organics has two key benefits: it reduces the amount of waste going to landfills and, when added to your garden, helps nourish soil and plants.



Shut Down

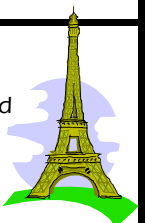
Turn off the lights, the computers and the TV when they are not in use. Using only highly efficient and money saving appliances can reduce the electricity consumption of an average household to one tenth of the Canadian average.

Chess

Congratulations to our chess teams who had an outstanding showing at the recent Chess tournament. The Junior team made it to the quarter finals and the intermediates made it to the semi's, finishing fourth (4th) overall. This has been our best performance as a chess team at St. Nicholas and we would like to thank Mrs. Deluca and the players for all the hard work at practice over the last 2 months.

Le Cafe Parisien

On Tuesday, May 8th, our gymnasium will be transformed into "**Le Cafe Parisien**". All students in JK-grade 8 will be treated to pastries, juice and yogurt parfaits throughout the day. Parents are welcome to join us throughout the day from 9:30-11:30 & 12:30-2. All food and drinks are complimentary! **Bon Appetit!**





EQAO

St. Nicholas' Grade 3 & 6 students will be taking part in the Provincial Assessments from **May 23 to June 6, 2012.**

It is extremely important that students do not miss any school during this assessment time. Please do not make any appointments for your child during the test period. Please re-assure your children that this is but one assessment and that as always, they should try their best. We appreciate your support in having students arrive at school well rested and ready to go.

The assessment is a series of one hour tests over a three day period. It will include activities in Math, Reading, and Writing, and is based on the learning expectations stated in the Ontario Curriculum of the Ministry of Education. During the assessment period, the students will be continuing work in some of their subject areas.

The purpose of the assessment is to provide all the education stakeholders with additional information about Grade Three and Grade Six students' knowledge and skills. It will augment the information teachers gather within the classroom throughout the year, so that they can suitably adapt curriculum and instruction for their students. Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak to your child's teacher.

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



St. Nicholas Awards

Each month teachers select a student in their classroom who has demonstrated qualities such as diligence, perseverance, overall improvement and a commitment to academics. These students are recognized with **The Stellar student award.** We are pleased to announce April's winners:

JK/SK (Mrs. Levesque)— Amelia Sacco

JK/SK (Mrs. Diemer) - Tyler Fowler

Gr. 1/2 – Abigail Hebbard

Gr. 2/3 – Noah Hebbard

Gr. 3/4 – Reyahna Gaba

Gr. 4/5 – Zach Kwiatkowski

Gr. 6 – Dexter Sonier

Gr. 7/8 – Bazil Sonier

FSL– Kayla Powell (Primary), Stacy Alves (Junior),
Francesca Perrone (Intermediate)



We are also pleased to present a **Catholicity Award** to a student in each class who is polite and respectful to people, displays the virtue of respect and brings out good things in the people that they encounter through the day. We are pleased to announce April's winners:

JK/SK (Mrs. Levesque)— Xavier Montivero

JK/SK (Mrs. Diemer) - Maja Marzec

Gr. 1/2 – Kuart Gordon-Seguín

Gr. 2/3 – Lisa Alves

Gr. 3/4 – Shayne Waters

Gr. 4/5 – Sara Irek

Gr. 6 – Amanda Conner

Gr. 7/8 – Quinn Landolt



Jump Rope for Heart

On Thursday April 26th Students at St. Nicholas participated in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's "Jump Rope for Heart" skip-a-thon. In the preceding two weeks, students had gathered donations and our playground was a hive of activity as students practiced their skipping skills. In addition to learning about how the benefits that regular physical exercise helps keep your heart healthy, students raised **\$1782.98** for the foundation.

We would like to thank Mrs. Rogers and Ms. Fleck for organizing the event and Dylan P. in grade 3 for helping count the donations!





Sports Corner



Junior Basketball

The boys and girls teams participated in their tournaments in mid-April. Each team played 3 games of round-robin play and the girls progressed to the semi finals! A special thanks to Mr. Costantini, Ms. Fleck, Mrs. Levesque and Mr. Starrs for all the hard work with both teams. Great work by all the junior players and coaches.



Intermediate Soccer

Tryout are underway for both the girls and boys Intermediate Soccer teams. Teams will be selected quickly and a schedule for practices will be established. The tournaments will be held on May 17 and 22, 2012. Thank you to coaches, Mr. Boland, Mr. Starrs, Mr. Costantini, and Mrs. Rogers. Good luck to all!

Prescription Drugs

Parents - Do you know what your kids may be doing?

One out of five youth have reported misusing prescription drugs in the past year! A lot of them say they are getting them straight from their home medicine cabinet.

We can protect our kids:

1. **Lock up** all prescription medications
 2. **Talk to your children** about the dangers of misusing prescription drugs
 3. **Take back** all old or unused prescription medications to your local pharmacy or
 4. **Drop them off** at various locations around the Niagara region on **Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- Check www.niagararegion.ca/health for more information on Niagara's Prescription Drug Drop-off Day and a list of locations near you.

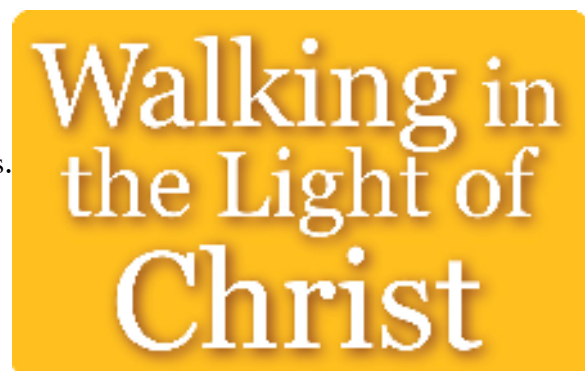
Catholic Education Week: Celebrating the Spirit

Our schools are walking places. The kids walk, the teachers walk, even the principals walk! Walking is such a normal human activity. We celebrate when a baby takes its first tentative but independent steps. In our Catholic schools there must be that deliberate intention that the light in which we walk is the Light of Christ. When you walk through our school, the feeling that you are walking in the Light of Christ is palpable. The interaction of student and teacher, the dialogue of principal and staff, the presence of parents in the school, the welcome extended to the visitor, are imbedded with the conviction that we believe that we are indeed walking in the Light of Christ. Being human, we may not always be conscious of that great reality and may sometimes act in a manner that may belie that conviction, but the light will always continue to shine.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations.

Give us Grace

Creator God,
as we journey through this world
give us the grace to allow your Holy Spirit to work through us.
Help us to speak, think and work
with honesty, and compassion,
to celebrate all that is life-giving,
to restore hope where it has been lost,
and to bring about change where it is needed.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our companion.
Amen.





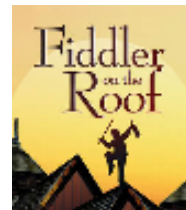
Denis Morris Production: Fiddler on the Roof

After months of fall and winter rehearsals, spring is here and so is the opening date of Denis Morris' musical, **Fiddler on the Roof**. Life during turn of the century Tsarist Russia used to be easy for Tevye, his wife and five daughters. As a milkman he worked hard, but his family, his faith and his life were in order because of the traditions that shaped his life. In a matter of months his whole world turns upside down. His three oldest daughters want to choose their own husbands, the government is ordering "pogroms" and evicting Jews from their homes and his horse has gone lame. What's a poor milkman to do? At the very least he can sing songs like Tradition, If I Were a Rich Man, Sunrise... Sunset and many more.

In 1964, the original production of Fiddler on the Roof was nominated for ten Tony Awards and won nine. There have been four Broadway revivals and one feature film based on the play written by Joseph Stein (from the short stories of Shalom Aleichem) with music by Jerry Bock and lyrics by Sheldon Harnick.

Please join us at the **Alumni Theatre from Thursday, May 10 to Saturday, May 12, 2012** for our production of Fiddler on the Roof, a Broadway classic. Information and tickets are available by calling the school at **905-684-8731, extension 2116**. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

Family rates are available. The doors open at 6:45p.m.



Fun Fair: Old Fashioned Country Fair



Place : St.Nicholas Catholic School

Date : June 13, 2012

Time : 4pm - 7pm



Kids and families : Dress-up in Old Fashioned Country Fair attire and join us for our "Old Fashioned Country Fun Fair".

We are looking for donations for our silent auction - maybe you know of someone willing to donate a prize?

We are asking everyone to put on their baking hats - any donation of cakes, pies or other yummy desserts would be greatly appreciated and put toward our "Cake Walk" and our "Country Kitchen"!! Please drop off the morning of the fun fair to the front office.

Beginning in May the individual classrooms will be collecting Canadian Tire money - dig yours out and help your child's classroom win for most money collected!! Money will be collected by the Gr.7/8 class from May 7th to June 1

Any volunteers for the day of the fun fair would be greatly appreciated! Please - it is for your kids!!! Support the school and do what you can!!

Please contact Joyanne Derreck 905-688-7494 or any other member of the parent council if you have donations or questions.

Thank-you!!! The St. Nicholas Catholic School Council