

St. Pat's Pulse

Volume 4, Issue 8
January 13, 2010

6 Cedar Street
335-3241

*Upcoming St. Patrick
School Events:*

Jan. 18

JK Registration 9:00-4:00

Jan. 19

Library re-opens for class visits. Welcome to Mrs. Tina Cataford

Jan. 20

Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6pm

Jan. 21

Avgen gift card orders due. Help us raise money for our school!

Jan. 22

Kitchen closed. Subway day today

Jan. 27

Megan on Dragons' Den @ 8pm on CBC

Jan. 28

I.P.R.C. (special education) meetings this morning

Jan. 29

Professional Activity Day (no school for students)

Jan. 31

Family Mass @ 9:30—everyone welcome

From the Principal's Desk

The beginning of a new year is an excellent time to reflect gratefully on the many gifts that we have been given as individuals, families, communities and as a country. One of these is the gift of faith that we try to pass on to our children by instruction and example. By choosing to send your children to a Catholic school, you reinforce that gift in many tangible and intangible ways.

Catholic schools are communities of faith and learning. The presence of God is expressed in our prayers, liturgies, masses, classrooms, in symbols and sacraments that are part of the life of St. Patrick School. Our staff shares the belief that our students are children of God. Our curricu-

lum goes beyond the Ontario curriculum, for it is embedded with our faith. In our daily role as parents and educators, we are all called to be evangelists and spiritual witnesses to the children in our care.

As parents, you can foster their spiritual growth in some of the following ways:

- Encourage your children to be thankful for all they have and to be aware of those less fortunate than themselves
- Teach your children traditional Catholic prayers and psalms
- Help your child to learn

how to pray spontaneously to God by adding a new dimension to grace before meals.

- Take them to Mass each Saturday @ 5 or Sunday @ 9:30
- Talk to your children about faith and how it supports you in your daily life.

WRITER OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Jacob Reckzine, Jennifer Parent, Cody Fraser** who were recognized as excellent writers during the month of December. Congratulations to **Rowan Marchand** who is this week's



writer of the week.

Junior Kindergarten Registration

If your child was born in the year 2006, it is now time to register him/her for the 2010-2011 school year. JK registration is on Monday January 18th, 2010 from 9:00-4:00 pm in the library. If you know someone that would make a great St. Patrick School student, please share this information with family and friends. We offer two program choices for students: French

Immersion & English. If you are unable to attend this registration, please call the school to make alternate arrangements.

Admission Requirements:

- JK—age 4 on or before December 31, 2010
- K—age 5 on or before December 31, 2010

- Copy of Baptismal certificate
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Copy of Immunization card

See you on Monday January 18th from 9:00-4:00.

Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence



Students, parents, educators and members of the community can nominate an outstanding educator for the Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence.

"Everyday, the individuals who work in our schools equip our students with the tools and knowledge they need to be successful in life," said Education Minister Kathleen Wynne.

These awards are a great way to say thank you to the educators and support staff who keep our schools safe and healthy and who help Ontario's students reach their full potential.

Anyone can nominate school or school board staff in Ontario's publically-funded education system. There are 6 different categories:

- Excellence in leadership
- Excellent support staff
- Lifetime Achievement
- New Teacher of the Year
- Teacher of the Year
- Team of the Year

Last year, more than 1,000 nominations were received. 23 individuals from across Ontario were recipients of the Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence. To find out more or to download a nomination pack-

age, visit www.ontario.ca/teachingawards

Nominations will be accepted until Monday February 1, 2010 and award recipients will be announced before the end of the school year.

"There are so many of us who owe thanks to the professionals who work in our schools," said Wynne. "They encourage and inspire our children, and provide strong leadership and support to our school communities. They deserve our thanks and recognition."

Got Mitts?

The staff and students are eagerly awaiting the start of the 2010 Winter Olympics. On Monday January 11th, we took a photograph of staff and students who had their red Olympic mittens and other Olympic gear. We have submitted this photograph to Canada AM who have been broadcasting red mitten pictures from across Canada and

around the world. There are only 29 days until the 2010 Olympics begin in Vancouver.

Reading our way to Vancouver totals will be published in the next edition. Keep reading!



Public Speaking & Family Day

Public Speaking Festival

Our students in Grade 1-8 will once again be involved in creating and delivering original speeches in January and February. There will be two winners selected to represent each class in our school wide Festival which will take place on Wednesday February 24, 2010 at 6pm. Students from each division will

then be chosen to represent our school at the Kapuskasing Legion on Tuesday March 2. You may wish to explore www.ourspeeches.com to do some research for your speech this year!

Family Day

On October 11, 2007, the Government of Ontario announced

the creation of a province-wide statutory holiday known as Family Day. This day will occur each year on the third Monday in February for the purpose of emphasizing and celebrating the importance of families taking time together. As a result, please mark Family Day as **Monday February 15, 2010** on your calendar as school will be closed.