

The Wildcat Gazette

St. Anne - Newsletter



Happy Valentine's Day!



Feb. 1, 2013

The New Year is off to a great start at St. Anne's. We have our new "Cup 'o soup" program feeding the children a warm, homemade soup once per week. We also are continuing our healthy snack program twice per week with smoothies served once per week. Children who eat nutritious food are better equipped to learn! We have seen an improvement in the nutritional value of food the children bring to school – thanks to all parents for their support in this regard!

The calendar for February can be found with this newsletter. It outlines the activities we have planned for this month. Please note that skating continues for our students this month. Look carefully at the dates for each grade so you ensure that your child has his/her skates on the appropriate dates.



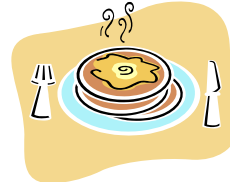
Mrs. Pichette



February is Healthy Heart Month!

Do something healthy for your heart – eat nutritious meals and snacks, exercise or quit smoking. Get out there with your children and make a life change to ensure you live a long, happy and healthy life with your children.

ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST



We will be hosting our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast on Feb. 11th. School council members will be cooking up a storm and Father Leo will be in attendance.



FOCUS ON FAITH

During the month of February, we ask that you remember Jesus' sacrifices as we prepare for lent. This is in keeping with our monthly virtue of Temperance (self-control) as we choose to prepare for Easter in our own ways – through fasting, prayer, repentance or consciously choosing to do good. Our monthly mass will be celebrated as a service in the gym for Ash Wednesday on Feb. 13th at 10:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend with Father Leo blessing the ashes and presiding over the service.

WINTER REMINDERS

When buses are cancelled, the children all come to the "Big School." If you are dropping off your child(ren), please do so at the Main building and they are to be picked up there as well.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, Feb. 4, 2013 at 3:45 pm

Everyone welcome

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TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEY

We are waiting to hear who won the one thousand dollars for the highest parent participation. We had only one more parent complete it after the last big push at the Concert, putting us at 28 %. We CAN do better!

A quick review of the student survey revealed that 84 % of our students value "school outcomes" or, they want to do well in school. 82 % of our students feel safe at school, while 20 % were the victims of bullying. It was interesting that parent surveys indicated a higher perception of bullying at 36 % than students actually reported. In any case, we have some work to do in this area and must work together to ensure that ALL of our children feel safe and are free of bullying at school. With that being said, I would like to take this opportunity to clarify what "bullying" is, as defined by the Ministry of Education. It means "aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a pupil" with the intention to cause harm or to intimidate. This includes physical, verbal, social, electronic, written or other means. It is not a single incident where children are involved in a conflict that is resolved.

Another interesting result from the survey was that 24 % of our students identified themselves as Aboriginal while we only have 12 % who have self-identified as Aboriginal through our registration process. We welcome everyone to come in to ensure our self-identification numbers are accurate in our registration rosters!



NO ELECTRONICS

Please be reminded that cell phones and all electronics (Ipods, MP3 players, etc.) are not allowed at school.

If there are impending emergencies, all children are accessible through the school telephones. It is disruptive to the learning environment when children are using cell phones to text, hiding them in their clothing and/or insisting they have permission to use them. It is in our school code of conduct that these devices are prohibited. They will be confiscated if children insist on bringing them to school.

EXTRACURRICULARS/ACTIVITIES

Mr. Ference is hosting a pick-up game of basketball every Monday and Wednesday for students in Gr. 6-8 from 3:30 – 4:00 pm. Come out ready to work out!

Ms. Goulet has organized a volleyball tournament for the Gr. 7/8 students on Feb. 5th.

A new anti-bullying program begins on Feb. 6th, for our JK-2 students. It is being run in conjunction with the Early Learning Centre as yet another of our community partnerships.

DARE graduation will take place on February 7th at 2:15 pm in the school gym. Parents are welcome!