



Falcon News



English Catholic Central School

March 2015

March - Focus On Forgiveness!

E.C.C.S. Celebrates Lent and Forgiveness!

As we continue the season of Lent, we are reminded that this special season provides all of us with a time to prepare for the essence of our faith - **the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ**. As in previous years, our school community began the Liturgical Season of Lent with the distribution of ashes on **Ash Wednesday** and our Lenten promises. These promises will be our focus for the forty days of Lent and will be a reminder that Lent is a time to change the things in our lives which separate us from Jesus. Some of us have chosen to give-up something like candy or TV, remembering each time we deny ourselves the huge sacrifice that Jesus made for our sins. Others have chosen to add something to our daily lives that will bring us closer to Jesus, like extra time given over to prayer or volunteering extra time in the community. Whatever the case, we know that keeping our promises is difficult and that sometimes we may slip, but it is a good lesson for us and for our students to keep on trying and **not to give up!**



How timely is it then that this month's virtue is **forgiveness**? Not only because we have entered the season of Lent, but also because it is an important cornerstone of our Faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in his life and death. This month, we are reminded that **forgiveness is a gift** and it is a gift to our children when we teach and model forgiveness to them!



Our **Lenten Noon Hour Masses** this year will take place on Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.. Student's have the opportunity to board buses and attend mass with other parishioners at Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish. Staff and students enjoy spending this time together in prayer as we journey through Lent and prepare for our Easter celebrations!

Listed below are a number of informational items. Please see the calendar for additional details!

- **First Term Report Cards** were sent home on February 18th. Please note that while there are no formal interviews scheduled, you may arrange a meeting with your child's teacher at any time!



- Parent Council would like to say a special **thank you** to all students and parents who took part in the **Thornloe Cheese Fundraiser!** It was a great success and council was able to put about 1500.00 towards its council initiatives such as school yard improvements!

- Our next **Parent Council meeting** will take place on Monday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

We Need Your Help! ECCS continues to provide a **daily snack program** for all students thanks to generous funding from the **Red Cross** and **Breakfast for Learning!** We are looking for volunteers who can donate an hour of their time to prepare snacks which our older students will then deliver to the



classrooms. If you are able to assist with this, please contact the school!



We are on the web @ <http://www.ncdsb.on.ca>
Click on "Our Catholic Schools"



The criteria for this month's **Student of the Month** is as follows:
A student who is an effective communicator as demonstrated through writing and oral presentations and who speaks, writes and listens honestly and sensitively and responds critically in light of gospel values.

On Saturday, March 28th, students are once again encouraged to participate in **Earth Hour** at 8:30 p.m. Students are reminded to **power down for the planet**, and to stand up and to get involved and help lead the global journey to a sustainable future. For more information, see www.earthhour.org

Wednesday, March 11th is **Winter Carnival Day** at E.C.C.S for all primary students in grades JK-2 and **Electives Day** for students in grades 3-8! Students are reminded to dress appropriately for the outdoor activities! While our younger students will remain at the school to participate in fun activities, some of the activities for the

older grades will include: cross country skiing, outdoor hockey, curling, bowling, computer programming and art/cooking appreciation.

Friday, March 13th is **Bubble Gum License Day** at E.C.C.S.. Students will be able to purchase a license for \$1.00 and then they can chew gum for the entire day! The proceeds will go towards **Development and Peace** - an organization which helps the world's poor by promoting alternatives for unfair social, political and economic structures. For more information, check out www.devpo.org



A Spring Prayer

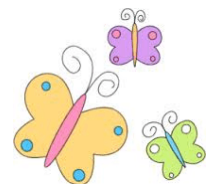
Dear God,

Spring is a metaphor for change. Some changes we eagerly await, and some we abhor. Some changes we plan and others arrive uninvited. To all these changes we ask the gift of Your perspective beckoning us to expectation, hope, and rebirth.

May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that You are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, You are ever at work in our lives, too.

Open our eyes and lives to the needed changes in our lives this Spring. Awaken us to new life and perspective, for we pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.



Student Absences and Lates:

Just a reminder that a great deal of learning occurs first thing in the morning. In most classrooms, this is the Literacy or Mathematics Block. In order to maximize opportunities for learning, it is crucial that students arrive to school **on time** and that absences are kept to a minimum!

- Congratulations to **Michael Poirier** winner of the Grade 8 Hockey Ticket Draw! The Grade 8's final fundraiser will be their **pepperette sales** from March 2nd to March 23rd! If you would like to place an order, feel free to contact the school!



L. Hurtubise,
Principal

