

# ***School News from the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario***

**School: Sacred Heart, Cornwall**  
**Date: December 10, 2007**  
**From: Bob Perreault, Communications Officer**  
[bob.perreault@cdsbeo.on.ca](mailto:bob.perreault@cdsbeo.on.ca)



Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43, Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0  
613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext. 206

---

## **Roots of Empathy Program Embraced at Sacred Heart Catholic School, Cornwall**

**Cornwall, ON** – The Roots of Empathy Program continues to be a success across the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario.

Students at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Cornwall are taking part in the program which teaches students about their own feelings and the feelings of others through the documentation of a baby's development and by observing how the baby depends on his or her mother.

Students learn to empathize with this dependency, resulting in more respectful and caring relationships and reduced incidents of bullying and aggression. Each student in the program is positively engaged, resulting in a common level of respect for the child, and each other.

Student Support Worker Nancy Kelly and Ms. Line Dalcourt's Grades 3-4 class welcome baby Joseph and his mother Karen Greggain-Geneau to their classroom once a month. "The children really look forward to baby Joseph's visits," said Ms. Kelly. "They are all very interested in seeing how he is developing – what he can do, how he reacts to new sounds and sights, and how he reacts to the class as well."

Students chart milestones in Joseph's life including growth, weight and the ability to roll over and to crawl.

Sacred Heart Principal Frances Spagnolo said the program complements a quality Catholic education. "Roots of Empathy enriches the Catholic values that we teach every day. The program is a reflection of the way Jesus taught us to care about, and for, one another. It also stresses the importance of sharing that message with others to help create a peaceful community."

For more information, please contact CDSBEO Communications Officer Bob Perreault at 613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext. 206 or 613-859-0678 (mobile).

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.

**Attached Photo:**

**Sacred Heart Roots.jpg** – Baby Joseph Greggain-Geneau and Grade 4 Student Kayla Morin take part in the Roots of Empathy Program at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Cornwall

