



St. Francis de Sales School

February, 2009



PRINCIPAL: Derek Haime

February 10, 2009

*"Dear God;
Teach me to quiet my racing mind in prayer, Teach me to simplify my life,
Teach me to listen for Your voice in joy and in sorrow,
Teach me that my plans are nothing unless they are Your plans.
Lead me up into the mountains, Let me see things as they really are
Let me see things in perspective, Let me see what is truly important
Let me see through the eyes of love. Amen".*

OFFICE NEWS

Please remember to return the Early French Immersion forms that went home (one to every family) on Friday, February 6. It is important that we receive a survey from each family so future decision making can accurately reflect what you have identified as being best for your child and for the larger community. These are due back on or before Friday, February 13th.

Please note that there is no supervision on the school yard prior to 8:45 a.m. If you arrive a few minutes early, please wait with your child until the bell sounds and the children are admitted into the school. Students who do not arrive at school with their parent must not arrive at school any earlier than 8:45 a.m., regardless of the grade they are in. There is supervision provided inside the school from 8:45 a.m. until our school day begins at 9:00 a.m.

GRADE 8 PARENTS/STUDENTS

There will be a High School Information session on February 18th at 6:00 p.m. at St. John Catholic High School. All parents and students are invited to attend, as this information is critical in your decision making process.

Option sheets will be handed out to Grade 8 students and will be due back later in the month. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Haime or St. John Catholic High School at 267-4724.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:

Was your child born in 2005? If so, registration for Junior Kindergarten is taking place now. Pick up registration forms at the school to register your child for September, 2009. Please return these forms ASAP.

FRENCH IMMERSION:

Registration forms for students wishing to enroll in French Immersion will be sent home soon to all grade 4 students. There will be an information night for students and parents. Please reserve Monday, February 23rd at 6:00 p.m. More information to follow.

KNITTING CLUB TO BEGIN

Sign up took place this week and are for students in grades 3 - 8 during noon hour (opposite eating times)
Looking for: Donations of wool and knitting needles to borrow (sizes 4 - 6) would be greatly appreciated!

UPCOMING DATES:

February 13 - Valentine Dance - Grades 6, 7 and 8 - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
February 16 - Family Day Holiday - no school
February 17 - Senior Girls' Hockey Tournament - Smiths Falls
February 17 - Primary Ottawa Trip
February 18 - St. John High Information Night - 6:00 p.m.
February 20 - Hat and Jersey Day
February 20 - St. John High Dance - Grade 7 & 8 students - 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
February 23 - Senior Boys' Hockey Tournament - Smiths Falls
February 23 - Hot Dog Day - **(switched from February 27)**
February 23 - Wacky Hair Day
February 24 - Grade 7 & 8 Science Fair
February 24 - Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day
February 25 - Ash Wednesday Mass - 1:00 p.m. at the church



Bowl for CHANGE...CHANGE a life.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County is holding "Bowl for CHANGE" on February 18th. Your child will have the opportunity to bowl with their class in the gym. There will be a kick-off assembly this week and the class that raises the most money will receive a pizza party with balloons, music and more!

We're asking each student to bring in their spare change, which will directly support mentoring programs that serve kids in our community. Big Brothers Big Sisters works to provide one-on-one mentoring to children in Lanark County through traditional matches, in school mentoring, big bunch, and go girls. These activities combined, equal 12,000 hours of friendship a year. Students are still encouraged to participate even if a donation is not made.

FROM THE BOARD

Registration for 2009-2010: A Message from Your Catholic Education Coalition

Kindergarten

The Catholic Education Coalition reminds you that the Kindergarten registration process gets underway on February second. Our Kindergarten programs help students get off to the best possible start through playing, watching, listening, and exploring, while discovering the many gifts God has given them.

Secondary

A reminder to families of Grade 8 students who are looking at secondary school options, that our Catholic high schools offer a faith filled environment with outstanding academic and specialized programs in arts and technology -- not to mention championship sports and great extra curricular activities. We proudly offer English and French Immersion programs. We urge all parents to be active participants in this vital decision in your child's future.

Call your local Catholic school for more information about registration or call 1-800-443-4562 for more information.

Reporting Your Child's Shots to the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit

When children are registered to begin school, parents are told to provide a record of their children's shots. Many parents do not realize that they are required to update that original record as their child continues to grow and be vaccinated. The doctor's office does not inform the Health Unit when new shots are given. This is the responsibility of the parent. The Health Unit needs to be told the name of the vaccine and the date that the vaccine was given.

What happens if your child's records are not up to date?

If there is a child in the school who becomes sick with a disease that is protected by vaccine, your child will not be permitted to come to school until there is proof that your child has received that vaccine.

Recently this problem has been occurring in our schools. To avoid having healthy children kept home, parents are asked to notify the Health Unit of any new shots that your child has received.

You can update your child's record in one of three ways:

Fax a copy of the updated record to 613 345-7038

Mail a copy of the updated record to:

Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit

Department of Clinical Services

Vaccine Preventable Disease Program

458 Laurier Blvd.,

Brockville, Ontario

K6V 7A3

Phone 1-800-660-5853 or 613 345-5685

Derek Haime, Principal

Dan Lesser, Vice-Principal