

St. Bartholomew Catholic School – December 2015 News Letter

Greetings from the Principal

"Where there is charity and love, God is there"



Dear Parents/Guardians,
Like the previous months, November flew by and now we are counting down the days to our Christmas Holidays on December 18th at 3:30 p.m. For your reading pleasure, the students and teachers have provided a summary of the events in the classroom, field trips and sports events for November 2015.

Please join us for our **Advent Mass on December 15th at 1:15 p.m.** and also for our **Christmas Concert on December 10th at 6:30 p.m.** If you are unable to attend the evening event, you are welcome to watch the **Dress Rehearsal at 1:00 p.m.** on the same day.

In partnership with St. Bartholomew Church, we will be collecting canned and dried goods for our **Christmas Food Drive**. The final date for the food drive is Friday, December 11th.

Happy Advent Season and Merry Christmas to you and your family.

God Bless,
Mrs. Marum

Reminder – Parking Safety

Many thanks to the drivers who are now parking their cars in designated spots in the church yard when dropping off students in the morning and picking them up in the evening. This will cut down on the potential for a hazardous situation for our children and ensure their personal safety when crossing the church driveway. Thanks again.

Santa's Breakfast – Wednesday, Dec. 16th.

Students encouraged to wear Christmas colours.
(Green, white, red)

Remembrance Day 2015 at St. Bartholomew

On Wednesday, November 11th, the students and staff of our school gathered in the gym to honour the veterans that sacrificed their lives for our freedom. Students from the intermediate classes showed excellent leadership by helping with the liturgy and leading the school community in prayer. At 11:00am, we took a moment of silence and prayed for peace within our country and our world. It was a special assembly that highlighted the importance of peace and unity within our society. - Mrs. Scali



News from Kindergarten

The month of November has been both exciting and engaging for the Kindergarten class and teachers. Here are a few highlights: We went on our first school trip to Willowgrove Farm. We were so blessed to have exceptionally pleasant weather that day. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered their time and efforts which was a tremendous help to us.

Ladybugs were a big topic of discussion in our class this month, as they were everywhere! We decided to embrace our spotted friends by creating math, literacy, religion, science and art activities inspired by ladybugs. We created a ladybug poem, discussed why God created ladybugs, counted/added ladybug spots and created our own lady bugs using paper plates. We are working on our letters sounds, so that

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students begin to understand that letters make words, and words make sentences, which helps with reading readiness. Please continue to read with your child every night!

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Garcia or myself. Thank you for your continued support. – Mrs. Cuda

News from Grade 1/2

December 2015 is just around the corner, and we are all very excited for so many reasons! We have already begun learning about Advent and the symbols of the Christmas season. Next month, we will be starting a new math chapter about linear measurement and in Science, we will continue our unit on air and water. Last, but certainly not least, we are eagerly anticipating our class Christmas Bake Sale on the last day of school before the holidays. What a sweet start to our Christmas break, it will be!

Ms Dippolito Gr. 1/2

“Classy” News- Gr. 3/4

November was a busy month filled with themes related to Remembrance Day, Movember, Anti-Bullying and Peace Keeping. The Virtue of Peace was celebrated at every turn from our classroom discussions, to storybooks about Remembrance Day, and writing Prayers of Remembrance. Our 3-session Swim to Survive program concluded on November 3rd, 2015. Our class trip to the Royal Winter fair on November 9th was a huge success. Students were wowed and amazed at the many wonders our land has to offer from our animals to our agriculture. From the dog show, Magic Show, and live animals to butter sculpture, horse riding and a Scavenger hunt, we spent an amazing day “at the farm”. - Ms. O’Reilly

Grade 5/6 Bake Sale Report

On Friday, November 6th, 2015 our Gr.5/6 class hosted a Bake Sale. It was the first Bake Sale of the school year and it was a huge success! We raised \$344.10 in total. There was a wide variety of cookies, cupcakes, brownies and

more. All of the proceeds are going towards our class trip. Our class had a lot of fun hosting our Bake Sale! A big thank you goes out to everyone who contributed towards the bake sale! - By Sofia Tsolakidis

News from Grade 5/6

For the month of November, Mr. Henn's Grade 5/6 class has discussed the importance of remembering our fallen soldiers who fought for our country. We are currently working on our Dragon's Den Project. Stay tuned to hear about all the great ideas that will be presented to a panel of Dragon investors. Good luck! In the month of December, we are looking forward to our field trip to Kortright Field Center. As well, preparing for Christmas Idol and the Christmas Concert.

By: Jenna Smith



On Monday November 9th, 2015 the **Girls' Intermediate Volleyball Team** set off to play in their volleyball tournament. The girls played exceptionally well and won all their games, on route to win the pennant with ease. The following week the team headed off to the Regional Tournament at Mary Ward High School. The girls won five games and lost three, resulting in the team finishing second in their pool and tied with St. Brendan's. As a result, the girls played St. Brendan's in the semi-final. It was a close match, but they ended up losing 15-13 to get knocked out of the elimination around. As you can see, all of the early morning and lunch time practices really paid off. A big thanks to Mr. Henn and congratulations to the players: Alexia, Kayleigh Jhasmine, Alysha, Karlie, Jessie, Marissa & Nyla.

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USED BOOK SALE – January 27th, 2016

Great News! We will be hosting our first **Used Book Sale** at St. Bartholomew Catholic School on **Wednesday, January 27th, 2016** in conjunction with **Family Literacy Day**. This is an excellent opportunity to declutter and find a home for your gently used children's books and novels. **We will also have a table of select Adult Books as follows: Travel, Hobbies, Cook Books, and Coffee Table Books. (No novels please.)**

We will be challenging each class in the school to see which class can donate the most books. The class that wins will be awarded a Pizza lunch! Please be sure to check the donated children's books for any inappropriate content or torn pages. (No comics books or textbooks please.) **Books may be dropped off in your child's class beginning December 1st 2015 to Friday, January 15th, 2016.** (Books need to be checked and sorted for the sale.) More information to follow.

Gr. 8 Class Trip to Francis Libermann Catholic High school - By Jose



On Wednesday, November 4th, the grade eights of St. Bartholomew took a trip to Francis Libermann Catholic High School to take part in 'take your kid to high school day'. When arriving at Francis Libermann, the grade eights were given a tour of the grounds of the school. They were shown where the main parts of the school were located and how to get there. During this tour, students were given the opportunity to speak with other grade eight students from neighboring schools. From there the students proceeded to make their way to the auditorium where they learned about the numerous number of

programs offered in TCDSB high schools. All of the students seemed to find programs and clubs that they were interested in. To end the day, all of the students gathered in the gym for closing ceremonies and games. When leaving Francis Libermann, many of the grade eight students felt a lot less nervous about attending high school, since they had already experienced what it feels like to be roaming the halls, going to class and meeting young people. Needless to say, the grade eight students returned to St. Bartholomew excited to embark on their journey to high school.

Guidance Corner - G. Vincent Elementary Guidance Counsellor-Area 7 & 8

During the season of Advent, encourage your child to be charitable towards one another. Forgiving past hurts, extending the hand of friendship and including those who are marginalized, is a wonderful way to put our virtue of **Charity** into action.

A few excellent websites to help your child develop self-regulation skills are:

<http://www.qonoodle.com>,

<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/Shanker.pdf>,

<http://www.todaysparent.com/family/education/self-regulation-techniques-for-children/>

Grade 8 students have been working with the **AFTER8** guide to gather information about different aspects of high school such as: The Credit System, Course Types, Timetables and Special Programs. The more information students have before going to high school, the easier the transition becomes. Talk to your Gr. 8 child about their fears and anxieties that they are having about going to high school, and help them gather as much information as possible. Your **Parent Transition Guide** is filled with helpful information to answer many of your questions.

Kindergarten Registration -

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Parents/guardians with children born in 2012 or earlier and who will be enrolling in Kindergarten, have the opportunity to apply on-line using the "Student On-line Admission and Registration" platform known as S.O.A.R. and found at the following link:

Applications may be made on-line at the following link: <http://soar.tcdsb.org>