



November 2015

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School News

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School

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Secretary:
A Krol

Superintendent:
J. Saraco
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Barbara Poplawski
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CSAC Co-Chairs:
Elisete Bettencourt/Jenny Muciolli
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Parish:

Father Daniel Utrecht
St. Vincent de Paul
263 Roncesvalles Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M6R 2L9
416-393-7646

Hours of Operation:
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Lunch Hour:
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Virtue of the Month Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me so love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light and
Where there is sadness, joy.
O, Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Remembrance Day

On November 11 at 11:00 a.m. take a moment to observe
2 minutes of silence in honour of our War Veterans.

Dates to Remember

November 12 & 13 are Parent Teach Conferences **Friday,
November 13 is a PA Day and there is no school for
children.**

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 is the Christmas concert from
ELP – Gr 4.

Last Day of School is December 18, 2015.

Christmas Holidays – December 21-January 4, 2016.

Back to School – January 5, 2015

Becoming an Allergen Aware School

Please be reminded that there are children in our school
with severe life threatening food allergies to peanut/nut
containing products, as well as eggs and fish. This is a
medical condition (anaphylaxis) that causes a severe
reaction to specific foods and can result in death within

minutes. As this affects the entire school community, we are requesting that you do not send food with your child to school that contain these or other allergens.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Updated Medical Information

Please inform the school office of any allergies/medical conditions that pertain to your child as soon as possible.

Changes to Addresses & Telephone Numbers

Please ensure that the school has your most recent address and phone number so that we are able to reach you in the event of an emergency.

Flu Season

According to Public Health vaccination is the most effective way to help prevent the flu. There are also other steps you and your children can take to help prevent the flu:

- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently and thoroughly
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue, not your hand
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth or nose
- Stay home if you are ill. Let the school know the reason for the absence.

First Aid

To comply with government regulations we have a trained person by First Aid Safety Training in first aid on staff. Please note that first aid offered at school is a first response at which point the nature of the injury is gauged. If the nature of the injury

is not serious, the scrape/wound is cleaned with water and a band aid is applied. The school is not permitted to apply polysporin, since it constitutes as medication, and without permission we are not in a position to administer medication. This is similar to the school giving a child aspirin or Benadryl which we cannot. If the injury is of a more serious nature, parents are notified and asked to consider seeking medical attention. If the injury requires immediate medical attention, 911 is called and parent is notified.

Also please be aware that if a child should have a foreign object lodged under the skin as a sliver or pebble, the guideline is not to remove the object. This is to ensure that greater injury is not caused through the act of trying to remove the object.

Angel Foundation for Learning

St. Vincent de Paul is pleased to announce that **The Angel Foundation for Learning**, the charitable organization devoted to assisting students within TCDSB schools, has approved our school's funding request in support of our in-school workshop for our intermediate students entitled Walk a Mile in my Shoes.

Serving TCDSB students and making a positive difference, we congratulate The Angel Foundation for Learning for helping students since its inception in 1987.

Donations to the Foundation are welcome and can be sent to: The Angel Foundation for Learning, 80 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, ON M2N 6E8. Tax receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more will be issued. For more information about the Foundation visit www.angelfoundationforlearning.org.



Parent Council

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on November 5 at 7:00 pm. Looking forward to seeing you then.

High School Applications

Parents of grade 8 students are reminded to be sure to get high school applications back to the school and accurately completed so that the school may submit them to the Board

by November 16th. Your child's application form is due back at the school well by November 9, 2015.

You will also be receiving the After 8 student guide and parent guide to help you through the process of completing the application form. Ask your child about it if you do not see one by early November.

Cross Country

What a fabulous Cross Country season we had this year! A big congratulations to the top 13 runners who made it onto the October 27th Earl Bales Park City finals. Our Grade 5 girls did especially well this year, placing second overall as a team!

Budget

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Full Year Plan | \$25,253.00 |
| Year to Date | 6,895.96 |
| Year to Date | |
| Commitments | 14,534.84 |
| Year to Date Actual | |
| & Commitments | 21,430.80 |
| Available Balances | \$ 3,922.20 |

October Civvies Day

| | <u>Credit</u> | <u>Debit</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Balance as at September | | \$ 86.91 |
| Used Clothing Sale | 97.00 | |
| Student of the Month Certificates | 40.70 | |
| Balance as at October 30 | \$143.21 | |

Please note that the October civvies day funds will be used to purchase the honour roll plaque. The estimated cost is \$350.00, for a solid walnut plaque measuring

24"x18". The amount raised during October will be reported in the December newsletter.

Addressing Issues Pertaining to Students

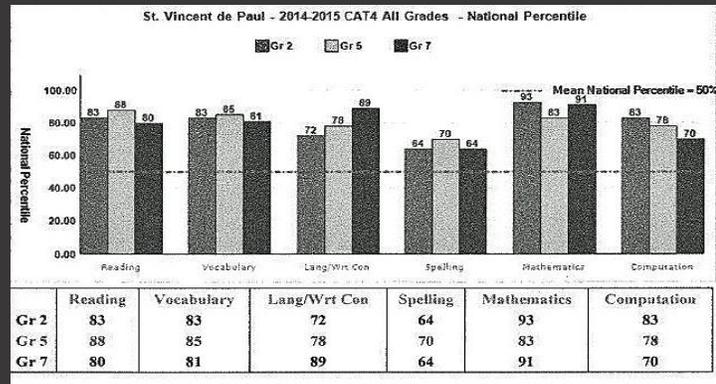
Please be reminded that should you have a concern pertaining to a child, contact your child's teacher or the principal. Do not address the situation with a direct contact with the child.

CAT 4

CAT 4 is the newest version of the Canadian Achievement Tests. It is modelled to fit Canadian curricula, that assess the essential learning outcomes of the following basic skill areas; Reading, Language, Spelling and Mathematics. CAT 4 as well as being an individual tracker of student performance, also evaluates how well students perform in comparison to other students across the district region or in Canada as a whole. The test is administered yearly to gr. 2, gr. 5 and gr. 7 students. Please refer to the graphs attached for St. Vincent de Paul results, in relation to the overall results of the TCDSB and the National Percentile.

National Percentile

The National Percentile ranking places the performance of students at a school on a scale from 1 up to 100. For example a score in Math for the Gr 2 students is 93, this means that they performed better than 93 percent of students nationally.



District Review

This year our school will be taking part in a District Review. District Review is a working tool to help schools and systems capture evidence of efforts to improve student learning and achievement and school effectiveness. Throughout this process our focus is on improving student engagement in learning and ownership of learning. If students understand and are able to articulate the learning goal, are able to apply the related success criteria to their work, and dialogue with the teacher through descriptive feedback, they will develop ownership of their learning and become more engaged in the learning process.

Additionally we will be working on our goal of enhancing the value of learning in the classroom by students. This will be facilitated by the Celebration of Learning Assemblies that will take place monthly. Students will assemble with their division and present to their peers a curriculum based culminating activity (as in projects) or something they learned (as a song). During the assembly students in each class that have displayed an outstanding capacity in the following three areas; Academic Achievement, Academic Commitment and Virtue of the Month will be acknowledged with a certificate.

Students in Grade 7 and Grade 8 will also be recognized for achieving an 80% or better in each term. An honour roll certificate will be presented to these students each term. Students in Gr. 8 that maintain an average of 80% or better for both terms, upon graduation will receive a medal and have their names inscribed on the Honour Roll Plaque.

By celebrating classroom learning, and acknowledging student work, we are announcing as a school community that we above all value learning. It is also our intent to, by this means support the intrinsic motivation of students.

The date for the District Review Team's visit has not been set. We look forward to the team visiting our school and providing feedback based on our goals.

LTTA Update

During this school year 2015-2016 Learning Through the Arts will be undergoing a strategic planning change.

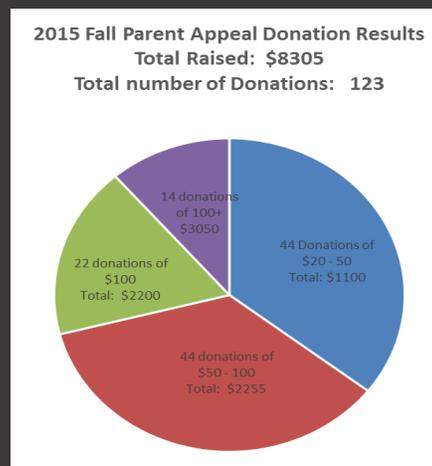
“We are looking at ways to maintain the high quality of programming that we offer while reducing the pricing

to make it more affordable for all schools. While we work on this new strategic plan we have had to put all Core LTTA in-class programming on hold for this year. Which means unfortunately I do not having anything to offer you at this time. However, it is possible to work with a trained LTTA Artist-Educator. Artists generally charge \$400.00 per unit. This includes 1 planning meeting, 4 in-class 1 hour sessions.”

In light of this development, it is timely for the school to also use the 2015-2016 year to consider the school's priorities. St. Vincent de Paul Parent Council has initiated this process with a questionnaire for the staff. The results of which will be shared tentatively during the upcoming council meeting. Additionally, a short survey will be created for the community, to gain parental input.

Fall Parent Appeal was a success!

This year's campaign raised **more than \$8600!** 124 Families at our school generously donated. THANK YOU for your contributions which will support programs and activities that will benefit all our students this academic year including: Scientist in the Classroom, arts programming, subsidies for field trips, school beautification and funding for teacher resources in every class room.



Ballroom Dancing

“While I dance I cannot judge, I cannot hate, I cannot separate myself from life. I can only by joyful and whole. This is why I dance.”

Hans Bos

This year we are hoping to introduce an internationally acclaimed ballroom dancing/character development program to the Gr. 5 and Gr. 6 students at St. Vincent de Paul.

Join the Dance is the Ontario representative for Pierre Dulaine's Dancing Classrooms. Join the Dance is one of thirty sites across North America, Europe, and the Middle East now serving 50 thousand students annually.

The program is ten weeks in duration. There are two 50 minute weekly sessions per classroom. Lesson 20 serves as a culminating event/school showcase. Participating schools are invited to a regional team match, which is also a qualifier to compete in the annual Colours of the Rainbow Grand Trophy Finals. The finals to be held at Palais Royale.

For more information about the program please visit www.jointhedance.com.

Additionally, there are two documentaries featuring Dancing Classrooms, Mad Hot Ballroom and Dancing in Java. Mr. Dulaine's life was also the basis of a feature film Take the Lead starring Antonio Banderas.

Further information will follow pending Parent Council approval.



Showcasing St. Vincent de Paul **(tentative events)**

1. Divisional Celebration of Learning Assemblies and student of the month awards. (monthly)
2. Christmas Concert ELP to Gr. 4 (December 8th 2015)
3. Ballroom Dancing Showcase Gr. 5 and Gr. 6 (Spring)

4. Festival of Music Gr. 7 and Gr. 8, followed by the Honour Roll Ceremony. (Spring)
5. French Night (to be determined)
6. Gallery of Visual Art (to be determined)

Award Recipients

Academic Commitment

- Charlie Hindman
- Bob McIndoe
- Melissa Fernandez
- Stefan Lukowski
- Isabelle Pierre
- Niki Raposo
- Krista Magnatta
- Luka Skugor
- Sloane Cutrara
- Peter Holowko
- Rebecca Riley
- Cynthia Longley Hernandez
- Zoe Humphreys



Academic Achievement

- Tati Berlier
- Elizabeth Maguire
- Michael Hincapie
- Cassie Parsons
- Adele Evans
- Ania Widelka
- Joshua De Souza
- Ilyana Krol
- Hayden Parsons
- Julia Poirier
- Lucas Colonna
- Lucy Mallany
- Michela Caravaggio

Virtue of the Month

- Artur Bembenek
- Anya Williams
- Matteo Caravaggio
- Noah Wilson
- Anais Wroblewski
- Claire MacDonald
- Mannix Badov
- Verity Badov
- Jenelle Adams
- Noah Wilson
- Finnia O'Neil Di Mascio
- Emily Zalewski
- Anya Williams
- Julia Critchley
- Gabriel Ly