



ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



ALCDSB

Holocaust Survivor Visits St. Mary

The students of Mrs. Malone's Grade 5/6 class were so inspired after reading the non-fiction book, The Underground Reporters by Kathy Kacer, that they decided to invite John Freund to St. Mary Catholic School. The story was about an amazing group of children who created a newspaper called Klepy (meaning gossip in English). This paper joined a whole community of adults and children together during a horrific time in history. John is the soul survivor of the group and lives in Toronto.

The school provided lunch for John and his wife, Nora in the library. The 5/6 students made a "time capsule" presentation based on the book read in class. After spending time with the 5/6 students, John addressed the junior and intermediate classes with a message of tolerance for every person, no matter what their race or religion.

John and Nora shared photographic images of the original newspapers, Klepy, which were miraculously saved during the War and are now kept in a museum. Matt Houle and Eli Shannon wrote the following letter to John after his visit:

On November 24, 2011, an extraordinary man named John Freund came to talk about his life

experiences during World War 2. He grew up in a small town in the Czech Republic named Budejovice. John was just twelve years old when he was taken to the concentration camp, Theresienstadt. The message that John was trying to tell us was to like people for who they are and don't judge them if they are a different religion or culture. He told us this message of acceptance because Adolf Hitler decided to kill all of the Jewish people that he could because of their religion. As we say again, we thank Mr. Freund for coming to speak about his exciting and scary life.

Thank you once again.



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Important Dates:

- Dec. 6-9: Gingerbread Shop
- Dec.14: SAC Meeting
- Dec. 15: Speeches for Grade 4-8 students
- Dec. 16: School Mass (8:40 a.m.)
- Dec. 19: Christmas Concert (6:30 p.m.) Gr. 1-8
- Dec. 20: Christmas Concert (B. Day) Kindergarten
- Dec. 21: Christmas Concert (A. Day) Kindergarten
- Dec. 21: Terrific Kids
- Dec. 23: Last Day of School Before Holidays

It's the Countdown to Christmas:

Weekly Advent Liturgies

Each Monday morning, starting on November 28th, students will come together to prepare for the Christmas Season with four Advent Liturgies.

Students gather in the gym immediately following the National Anthem to light the Advent candles, sing and pray together as a school community.

As an extension of classroom curriculum, the weekly liturgies offer a

confirmation of the real meaning behind the Christmas holiday.

The Lord and Ruler will be coming soon, and his name will be Emmanuel, because he will be God-with-us. (Cf. Is 7:8)



What The Teachers Did on the P.A. Day!



The theme for the day was “bridging the gap”. Teachers met in divisional groupings to discuss strategies to increase student learning. Teachers also gathered to review new technology. Mrs. McDonald and Mr. Devenish introduced new intramural games for students.



ST. MARY SHONE AT THE TRENTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE



Christmas Sharing



Christmas is the time for giving and St. Mary students will make Christmas Baskets to help people in their community. Each class will be responsible for filling a basket for those in need. Teachers will assign an item to each student to contribute to the classroom basket. Baskets will be filled and delivered the last week before the holidays.

November's Terrific Kids

The students gathered to celebrate the students who best exemplified the virtue of the month, conscience. Our conscience helps us to make good decisions and to understand the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Thanks to the Kente Kiwanis Club for offering this wonderful program and for supporting our students.

Congratulations to Keegan Perry, Jake Hamstra, Skylar Wilson, Alex Rozic, Ayden MacLeod, Abby Fobear, Victoria Sukha, Julia Baird, Hannah Gingerich, Sara Mills, Connor O'Donnell, Maitland Galetzka, Abby Schick, Emma Howatson.



Parent Volunteers Needed

Any parents who may be able to assist with head lice checks would be greatly appreciated.

Please speak with the secretaries in the main office if you can volunteer your time. We would be glad to train people.

Please support
Food for
Learning's

FEED THE METER CAMPAIGN



You will notice that in downtown Trenton, where you normally have to pay for parking in a meter, that parking is free during the month of December. However, if you are passing by a parking meter during the Holiday season, please continue to put your coins in to “feed” the meter.

All funds raised will benefit Food for Learning programs. For more information contact Kellie Brace at kbrace@hpedsb.on.ca.

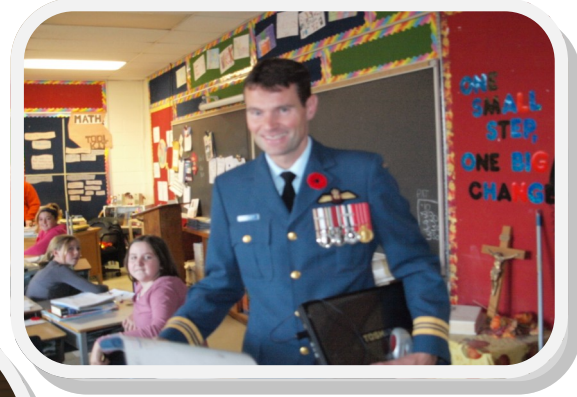


REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011

St. Mary Students Honour the Men and Women of the Canadian Armed Forces



Captain Chris visited the Kindergarten Students.



Major Hoddinott answered questions from students in many different classrooms.



Master Corporal Jason Poulin addressed the students and parents during the Remembrance Day Assembly in the gym.



Madame Duchesne's class made a beautiful display for the gym.



Thank you to Mr. Devenish and the Grade 8 class for the prayers and assembly presentation.



Update from the Parent Council

Santa Claus Parade – A SUCCESS! A special thank you to Rebecca Oakes and the Santa Claus Float Committee! Another thank you to all of those who donated items as well, despite the weather our school and seasonal spirit shone through.

Our next council meeting is at 6pm on **Wednesday December 14th, 2011** with a guest speaker discussing allergy awareness. Feel free to come on out and participate

If parents would like to be involved in any of these committees please contact their co-ordinators.

Upcoming dates:

Gingerbread Shop - Week of December 6th-9th. The library will be used for the week to allow for children to spend time shopping for their family, friends, teachers etc. Those wishing to be an elf and help volunteer during the day are asked to contact Suzanne McMahon.

Fun Day - Is currently in the initial stages of organization. This event usually takes place in June. If anyone has any suggestions, or would like to volunteer their time to help plan the events please contact Michelle Aho.

Fundraiser - Chocolate bars are still available for anyone who would like to sell more to support our school. Please contact Kerri Martin or Kim Norman.

Parents are invited to bring any items to council at any time. If they would like to attend a meeting they are more than welcome to attend. If they wish to bring up an item, they need to contact either Kerri Martin or Kim Norman to have it put onto the agenda.

All council members and SAC information is posted up on the board outside of the office, this includes, minutes of meetings that are held by council. Come by and catch up on what is new with SAC.

News from St. Peter's Parish

"Breakfast with Santa" for kids (kindergarten and grade 1), their parents and grandparents (this is not a Parish Breakfast), K of C Hall, Sunday, December 11. 10 am -1pm.

Baptismal Preparation Class: Monday, December 12, 7 pm in the Parish Centre. Parents wishing to have their children baptized are asked to call the Parish Centre to register.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Sat. Dec. 24, 5, 7:30 & 10 pm
Sun. Dec. 25, 10 am