

ALCDSB

St. Mary Catholic School January Newsletter



Collaborative Inquiry Takes Hold in the Classrooms

by: Kimberly Wright and Sarah Malone

Partnering with colleagues is a wonderful and creative way to implement curriculum. The junior division is partnering together to link a mathematical strand to the Language curriculum, particularly Media and Visual arts. We are constructing skateboard ramps with various inclines. Students apply their knowledge of constructing and measuring angles and create their ramp to the incline they prefer for their own ramp. The choice is completely theirs.

Students will then design their ramps and a visual arts mark will be attained.

A final step in this inquiry

is to advertise their ramp, sell it to their audience, by either using posters, flyers etc. as their media source.

Students are so eager and as a teacher, this is all we hope for. They are excited for learning and to learn. This project allows for all of our students to shine in one form or another, be it artistically, mathematically or even in written form.

The following is written by Renee Richardson and Brianna O'Hara

In Mrs. Wright's class our strand in math is Geometry. Our lesson is making ramps and identifying angles and the incline. The students will

be choosing which ramp they want out of three different inclines and decorating them. This project will be giving us three different marks in three different subjects: media, math and art.

We hope our classmates will show their artistic side while decorating. After completing the ramps, students must advertise their ramps. They can do a poster, newspaper article, etc. We are excited to be doing this project. This project is fun yet educational (there's math involved). We think it's good for ourselves and classmates because instead of doing questions on paper. We can do a hands on project that we can be creative with and we LOVE that!



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Journey of Faith Cross Visits St. Mary

From December 2-9, St. Mary was graced with the presence of the Celtic Cross. This cross was blessed by the Bishop and will visit each school within our Board this school year. It was situated in the main hall of our school, near the Advent Wreath and

Nativity Scene, throughout the week. This beautiful wooden cross was easily accessible to all. Classes took time to pray for patience and hope as they anticipated the birth of Christ.



Important Dates this month:

- January 19: Buster the Bus and Taps 4
- January 25: Terrific Kids (12:40)

Christmas at Lang Pioneer Village

On December 1st, Ms. Whitney and Ms. Kelly's classes visited Lang Pioneer Village. The students wrote:

We learned many new things. First, we saw the smokehouse. It was used to preserve meat and add flavor. Next, we saw the icehouse. Pioneers used sawdust to keep ice for up to one year. Then we went to the schoolhouse. Michael got in trouble and had to stand at the

blackboard with his nose inside a circle. Jesse demonstrated the strap and Rebecca and Jeremy got to try on clothes. We also recited "The Night Before Christmas."

Next, we made gingerbread cookies. We ate them with hot chocolate later. After lunch, we went inside three pioneer homes. They were cold, small and did not have electricity.

Finally, we went to

the Transportation Museum. There were wagons, carts and sleighs. It was a fun day. We sure are lucky to have electricity, water and bathrooms!



Allergies are Everyone's Concern!

The proverb, "It takes a whole village to raise a child" applies when you think about the importance of protecting our children with life-threatening allergies.

Nut, dairy and fruit allergies are a reality for many children and their families at St. Mary. Keeping a nut free school is a controversial issue across the Province but anaphylactic shock, as a result of an allergic reaction, may mean death for some of our students.

"Prevention first, when it comes to allergy concerns," was the message from Nicky Harrison, a concerned parent who spoke at the December Parent Council meeting. Staff are trained on allergy awareness and often request your continued support in sending 'nut free' lunches and snacks. The support of all St. Mary families will make this possible and keep all of our kids safe! Thanks!



December's Terrific Kids

The students gathered to celebrate the individuals who best exemplified the virtue of the month, hope. Hope means to stay positive with others and to search for the good. Thanks to the Kente Kiwanis Club for offering this wonderful

program and for supporting our students.


Congratulations to Denver Ross, Conner Murray, Reuben Wenzowski, Hope Montgomery, Kody Decelles, Daelen Cowie, Caden Browne, Dominic Wellman-Slack, Connor Howard, Hunter Kettle,

Janelle Alcid, Jacob Sturgeon, Taylor-Whaley Smith, Brianna O'Hara.



**Nipissing District
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The Nipissing is a series of developmental screens for children from birth to six years of age.



Age appropriate activities accompany the screens and are designed to promote overall development.

Parents can download the screens at www.ndds.ca or for the online electronic version www.endds.ca.

For more information please call the Child Health CARELine at 613-966-5500 ext. 223 or toll-free 1-800-267-2803 ext. 223
TTY 613-966-3036
Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
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Showcasing Student Talent / and Bringing Families Together . . .

December 7th was the Family
Movie Night at St. Mary!



December 19th–21st was
Christmas Concert Time!



Parents and Staff worked hard to make the evening a great success! A special thank you to student council for arranging the movie night and to Mr. Martin for making great popcorn for the crowds!



Parents and their children came in their “comfiest clothes”, with blankets and pillows, and enjoyed pizza and popcorn together in the gym.



Congratulations to Staff and students for three great Christmas Concerts!

Parents, family and friends showed great support by attending in record numbers! What a great way to start the Christmas Season!



*The Parent Council
wishes all of you the best for
2012
and invites you to attend the
next meeting,
scheduled for 6 p.m. on
February 8th !*



Winter Weather and Buses



Do Not Always Mix . . .

Remember:

- ◆ Listen to the radio for bus cancellations
- ◆ Go to the Tri-Board Website to check for bus cancellations
- ◆ If the bus is cancelled in the morning, then it does not run at the end of the day!



Good News Assembly

Presented by the Student Council



Council led students through prayers, the Nativity Story, a celebration of living our Catholic Virtues and caroling!

Plenty of Good News about Social Justice at St. Mary's!



We are very excited to share what we have accomplished so far this year and tell you about upcoming events!

- over 400 boxes of Kraft Dinner for the local food bank!
- 23 sharing boxes for local families
- sponsored 2 children for Christmas in our area
- turkeys and milk for Christmas baskets purchased from money raised through pizza and Subway lunches, family nights, the dance, Candy Grams and Spirit Wear!
- Candy Canes for every student
- new jerseys for our school teams

Students can look forward to more intramurals, hot lunch days, clubs, movie nights and dances in the New Year!

Update From St. Peter's Parish

Children's Choir: Students in grades 2 to 8 ready to make a commitment to practice and to sing at the Sunday 9 am Mass are invited to join the Children's Choir. Practice takes place during the school day.

First Confession/First Communion parent/guardian meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 6:45pm, Parish Centre (Queen Street entrance). For all parents/guardians who did not make it to the first meeting are encouraged to attend this very important meeting.

Confirmation parent/guardian meeting: Thursday, January 19, 6:45pm, Parish Centre (Queen Street entrance). For all parents/guardians who did not make it to the first meeting are encouraged to attend this very important meeting.

First Confession and First Communion Enrolment: Enrolment for children registered for First Confession & First Communion will take place in a brief ceremony during the Masses of **January 28 & 29**. Letters will be sent home to parents with details. Call the Parish Centre if you have questions.

Confirmation Enrolment: Enrolment for young people registered for the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place during the Masses of **February 12 & 13**. Letters will soon be sent home to parents with details. Call the Parish Centre if you have questions