

Sacred Heart Catholic School Newsletter

Important Information and Upcoming Events

February 2010

Helping Make Schools Safer

New Legislation Outlines Reporting Requirements

Even one incident of bullying or harassment in school is one too many. Schools must be places where everyone feels welcome, safe and respected. The **Keeping Our Kids Safe at School Act** that came into effect February 1st, 2010, is the latest step in the strategy to help make Ontario's schools safer. It affects how all school boards handle incidents at school. This new law requires that all school staff report serious incidents that could lead to suspension or expulsion to their principal and that principals notify parents of victims when a student has been harmed. In addition, all staff who work directly with students must respond not only to serious incidents but also to inappropriate or disrespectful behaviour among students. This could include racist or sexist comments, graffiti or vandalism, behaviours and other activities that are unacceptable in Ontario schools. Students need a safe and positive learning and teaching environment to succeed at school. But it isn't just the school's responsibility to make that happen. All of us have a part to play in making and keeping schools safe. Ontario's Code of Conduct sets out clear standards for behaviour for everyone involved in the school system. This includes students, parents/guardians, teachers, other staff members, volunteers and community partners. The code applies on school property, on school buses, at school-authorized events or activities or in other circumstances that could have an impact on the school climate.

To find out more about Ontario's strategy to help make schools safer check out the Safe School section at:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/safeschools/index.html> on the Ministry of Education's website.

Information on the code of conduct, bullying prevention and other programs designed to help build a positive school climate are also posted.

Lent

Lent is the penitential period of 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Lent lasts for 40 days because according to biblical accounts, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days of fasting, meditation and reflection before beginning his ministry. Traditional Christian observances of Lent include fasting and penitence. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are required to be days of fast and abstinence from meat. That is why we offer meatless pizza on the 17th and we also encourage the students and staff not to eat meat. On Wednesday, February 17th, you are invited to come to the school to attend our Ash Wednesday Service at 10:45 a.m. in the gym where we say goodbye to the "Alleluia" and have the blessing and distribution of ashes.



Spaghetti Supper and 50/50 Draw

On Thursday, February 11th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., the Sacred Heart Catholic School Yard Improvement Committee are sponsoring a spaghetti supper in the school gymnasium with Chef Don Berlinger in charge. Adult tickets are available for \$7, seniors and children 12 and under \$5 and a family of 4 for \$20. Please drop by the school to pick up your tickets in advance or telephone us and we'll reserve them for you. We will also be holding a 50/50 draw at the supper and tickets will be available to purchase at the cost of 3 tickets for \$2.



Sacred Heart Catholic School Newsletter

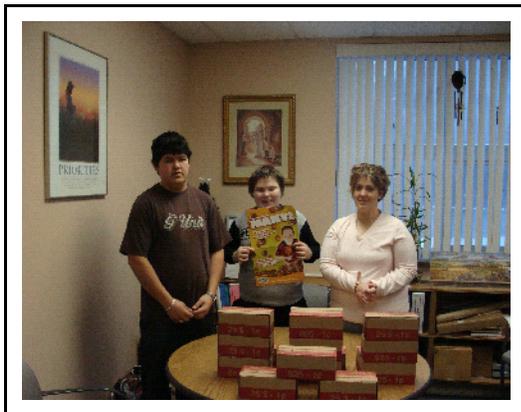
Important Information and Upcoming Events

February 2010

News from the Student Council

From Monday, February 8th to Friday, February 12th, the Student Council will be selling Valentine candy grams at \$1 a piece during the lunch hour in the main foyer.

Pennies for Patients



The students and staff raised \$640.81 for "Pennies for Patients". This is an organization that assists children that have been diagnosed with cancer. Above are the two students, Shane and Patrick, who were responsible for rolling all of the coins and Ms. Shana Bates who organized the event. Thank you for helping us to help others.

Haiti

The staff collected \$190 which will be donated to Development and Peace to aid the residents of Haiti as they recover from their horrific earthquake. We have also placed a water jug in the hallway by the office for donations to Haiti.



Friday, February 12th is Olympic Theme Day. Students are encouraged

Grade 8 Fund Raising

The Grade 8 Students and the Parent Fund Raising Committee would like to send out a BIG "THANK YOU!" to our school community who continue to support their fund raisers. The bottle drive in January raised \$1217.34 and the Shop and Stop raised \$1580.

A Mardi Gras will be held on the afternoon of Friday, February 12th. There will be a number of activity centres for the students to participate in such as an arcade, musical chairs, hot potato, cooperative games, etc. and also a food/rest station. As this is a fund raiser for the Grade 8 Trip, we are charging \$3 to participate in the activities and \$1 for a bag of popcorn and \$1 for a bottle of water.

A Valentine Dinner and Dance is scheduled for Saturday, February 13th at the Polish Hall with Kross Town Traffik providing the music. Dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. and the menu consists of cabbage rolls, perogies, sausage, lasagna, sweet and sour meatballs, potato salad, garden salad, broccoli, breads, pickles, dessert, etc. The cost is \$25 a person and the tickets will be sold in advance at the school and at Temiskaming Furniture. The cost for the dance only which begins at 9:00 p.m. is \$15 and tickets are available at the door. Age of majority is required.

Euphoria Coupons and

Fund Scrip Cards

are still available to purchase at the school.



A **Bake Sale** is scheduled for

Wednesday, February 24th beginning at 12:30 p.m. **Bubble Gum Day** will be held on Friday, February 26th. Licenses cost \$1 and gum may be purchased for \$1.25 a pack or individually for 25 cents or 10 cents. A variety of **healthy snacks** are sold at lunch time in the gymnasium. Students may purchase the snacks which cost \$0.50 to \$2. Donations of baking, bubble gum

