

# THE PANTHERS' PRIDE



*We are smart. We do our part. We take pride in Sacred Heart!*

SACRED HEART SCHOOL - NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

The virtue we are working towards during the month of February is TEMPERANCE. Temperance is one of the four cardinal virtues that speaks to the need for balance and moderation in what we do and how we live. Examples of how we want to show temperance are:



- ♥ be honest with who we are
- ♥ put our own needs and wants aside for the good of others.
- ♥ be responsible to use the things of this world wisely, especially sharing and considering the needs of others when making decisions.
- ♥ to be happy with what we have and not always desire goods or 'things'

sessions, teachers may focus on various comprehension strategies, skills to improve students' accuracy when reading, etc. Students may be grouped together based on instructional level (reading level) or a common skill (accuracy, word knowledge, fluency) or goal (summarizing, point of view, identifying main idea, etc.) that needs to be further developed. Although guided reading is not a new strategy and has been used consistently throughout the years, we are always looking at refining our practice to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students.

We are now beginning to model the small group instructional practice we use in guided reading within other subject areas. Small group instruction allows teachers to work with students who require a common instructional focus to either support, refine or further advance their thinking and/or skill development.



## TERM ONE REPORT CARDS

As you can see on our February calendar, the term one report cards go home on February 19<sup>th</sup>. A letter will be included with the

report card indicating whether the teacher(s) request an interview with you. You may also request an interview with your child's teacher when you sign the report card and/or by returning the school letter.

It is important to review the report card with your child and ask them what areas they think are strengths and where they think they can improve. Try to have your child provide specific answers. For example, "I need help understanding what the story is telling me" or "I don't think I know all my sounds" rather than "I need to do better in Reading." The more specific the goal, the easier it is to keep on track and improve. These answers can also be recorded on the last page of the report card.

## OUR FOCUS AT SACRED HEART

In the fall, as part of our school improvement plan, we decided to focus on improving students' reading comprehension and accuracy. We also outlined the goal of increasing students' ability to effectively communicate what they are thinking. One of the strategies we have put in place to meet this goal is to conduct regular 'guided reading' sessions with our students. Guided reading is a strategy that requires teachers to work with small groups of children based on their reading needs. During these group



## SACRED HEART CELEBRATES THE WINTER OLYMPICS

Well...we are definitely in the Olympic spirit over here at Sacred Heart School! We will be conducting our own "Opening Ceremonies" on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and over the next two weeks students will be competing for their own 'country' to see who wins the SHS gold, silver and bronze medals. Our activities will include Olympic trivia, school yard games during recess, inside games during recess, staff versus students hockey game and other fun, spirit-building activities. We will also be paying close attention to how our Canadian athletes are doing (just a little hint... some of our trivia questions may be focused on our athletes). We also get the sense that our grade 5 and 6 students may be learning a lot about Olympic hockey this time around!

## SWIM PROGRAM

The grade 3 and 4 classes have had a change in swim times.



On February 6<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, the grade 3 class will be swimming from 1:40-2:15p.m. and the grade 4 class will swim from 2:15-2:50 p.m. The "make-up" day for lessons will be during the morning of February 20<sup>th</sup>. The grade 4 class will be swimming from 9:05-9:45 a.m. and the grade 3 class will swim at 9:45-10:25 a.m. The bus bringing the grade 4 class to swimming will leave the school at 8:50 a.m. (the time our school bell rings) so it is **very important** that the children are at school on time to catch the bus.



