

The Wildcat Gazette

ST. ANNE SCHOOL - NEWSLETTER

November 1st, 2011



Lest we forget...

A Message from the Principal...

I trust everyone had a safe and fun Hallowe'en. Please also be reminded that we do NOT allow chocolate or candy at school! We are working hard to ensure that all of our students learn about proper nutrition and that they bring healthy lunches and snacks to school on the days they are not provided to students.

Mrs. Pichette,

Principal ☺



FOCUS ON FAITH

The month of November is "All Souls month" - a month for remembering our loved ones who have been welcomed into Heaven. While recognizing

our sadness, we must embrace and accept and perhaps even rejoice in the knowledge that the Lord is with us in this life and beyond. This is a good time for us to reflect on God's choice to call people home when their work on earth has ended and to ensure that we practice His will so that when we are called, our work is also complete.

In keeping with this theme, November also brings with it Remembrance Day. Please join us for our Remembrance day mass at St. Martyr's church on November 10th at 10:30 am. We will also have a moment of silence at 9 am following announcements to help us pay tribute to our brave and fallen soldiers - present, past and future on Remembrance day.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next school council meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov. 3rd, 2011 at 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be having our elections on this evening. If you are interested but can't make the meeting, please let me know as new members are always an asset.



USED BOOK DRIVE

One aspect of our School Improvement Plan is to improve and increase our classroom libraries. One of the ways we hope to do this is to hold a used book drive from Nov. 1st to Nov. 30th. We will trade them in at the "Book Bin" in Timmins for more current books. This also involves purchasing some books, however, we will be able to get many more books with the credits we earn from the trade-in of used books. So send in all of those used books that are just taking up space in your home! Clean out those bookshelves and let's improve our classroom libraries together!



FOOD DRIVE

Our Thanksgiving Food drive was an enormous success. Thanks to everyone who participated through work or donations.



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

(a message from our Superintendent, Mrs. Weltz)

We believe it is necessary to address a growing concern across our district school board relating to the “I love boobies” campaign. We have engaged in considerable research in this regard and have taken a firm position as a senior team. We have learned that this campaign is not affiliated with the Canadian Breast Cancer Society, nor committed in any way to research for a cure. Each of us have felt the effects of cancer as we share in the fight with family members, friends, and neighbours. Some of us have even lost a loved one to this disease. We strongly believe in supporting cancer research and awareness in our school communities, but think that the “I love boobies” campaign is degrading and inappropriate in a Catholic school setting. There are alternate ways for staff and students to acknowledge breast cancer awareness. We must foster Catholic communities that are respectful to women and who nurture a sense of genuine understanding of how we can all be well informed about methods of prevention, early detection, coping and support. Many schools have already taken a firm stance with this campaign, fully banning any related paraphernalia as part of the school dress code.

We appreciate your understanding and support in this regard and expect that the “I love boobies” campaign will not be endorsed in your local Catholic schools. Should you have any concerns or questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.



SUPPORT THE TROOPS

The staff at St. Anne’s have begun wearing red T-shirts with a yellow ribbon on Casual Day Fridays. This is to show support for our Canadian troops in their humanitarian and peace-keeping efforts. We are hoping to include the children in this endeavour every Friday by having them wear red t-shirts also. We are starting this practice on Friday, November 11th. The children will also be writing postcards and letters to the troops on the HMSS Vancouver which is Captained, by Mrs. Peats son Bradley. It is stationed off of the coast of Libya in a peacekeeping effort. For Remembrance Day, we are looking to add to our “Memory Board.” Please read and complete the attached sheet to ensure your loved ones who have fought in any war, are honoured.



WASTE FREE LUNCH

The JK/K French Immersion, 1 / 2 French Immersion and the 5/6 English classes just finished participating in the Waste Free Lunch Challenge sponsored by Metro and The Ontario Recycling Council. Students initially weighed their lunch waste (organic, recyclables, garbage) and then took to the challenge of reducing the overall weight, day by day, for a full week. Using Tupperware, Ziplocs and reusable drink containers and cutting up fruit at home, were just a few ways the children helped reduce their waste. Many schools across Ontario participated with a grand prize being awarded to the classroom that made the biggest gains in reduction.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

Our virtue of the month is wisdom.

“Wisdom is knowing what to do next; Skill is knowing how to do it, and Virtue is doing it.”

David Starr Jordan

FOCUS ON STUDENT WORK: Gr. 5/6

Early in October, the Grade 5/6 class participated in Student Vote as part of their Social Studies class. They were a part of some 369,850 students across Ontario, to cast a ballot. The class elected an NDP majority government. Students learned about each candidate and each party's platform in the weeks leading up to the election on October 6. The students cast their ballots in a 'real' polling station setting, following all the voting guidelines. The hope of Student Vote is that by giving our young population the opportunity and experience to vote with other students across Canada, that when they turn 18 they will make a difference and continue to vote.