



Dear Students and Parents,

With the warmer weather fast approaching, the STA spirit is heating up. Our Spirit Week is scheduled from April 16th to April 20th, featuring themed dress-down days such as: Mad About Plaid, Dynamic Duo Day (Twin Day), Dress Like a Dad Day and Comfy Cozy Day. We will also be having a spring high school dance on April 19th.

I would like to thank our community for their continued generosity toward our Lenten Coin Drive. Again, all funds raised will be used to support one of our STA families with the purchase of some essential equipment for their home. The equipment will help with the daily life challenges faced by one of our students with dystonic cerebral palsy. Our April 26th dress down day will also support this worthy cause.

Best of luck to all of our students writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on Tuesday, April 10th. Our students have been preparing diligently. Students are reminded to get a good night's rest and eat a healthy breakfast. We know you'll do well.

Phase II of our Ravens' Landing project is moving forward. Construction of two additional sports fields is set to begin at the end of June.

We would like to send our best wishes to our ten, grade 11 students headed to Boston on our student exchange at the end of the month. Students will spend 7 days with a student from TechBoston Academy. Mr. Lafleur and Mr. Brookes are our two teacher chaperones.

High School students are completing the first term of Semester Two. Report cards for grade 9-12 students will be sent home on Wednesday, April 25th.

Plans are underway for the 2018-2019 school year. Please ensure that course selection sheets are submitted to the Guidance office asap. As always, feel free to call the school if you have any questions regarding selecting the appropriate courses for your child.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Danny Palumbo



April Dates to Remember:

- April 01, EASTER SUNDAY
- April 02, Easter Monday
- April 09, Catholic School Council Meeting in the Library, 6:45 PM
- April 10, Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
- April 13, Spirit Wear Day
- April 16 to April 20—SPIRIT WEEK
 - Monday: Mad About Plaid (uniform bottoms)
 - Tuesday: Dynamic Duo Day (Twin Day)
 - Wednesday: Pink Day (uniform bottoms)
 - Thursday: Dress Like a Dad Day
 - Friday: Comfy Cozy Day
- April 16, Term 2 of Semester 2 begins
- April 19, Grade 9 to 12 Dance from 7 to 10 PM
- April 25, Grade 9 to 12 Mid Term Report Cards go home
- April 26, Dress Down Day for Raven's Landing project
- April 27, PD Day

The Chaplain's Corner

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
--Psalm 119:105

Reading the Easter Story
From the Gospel of John (20:1-18)
English Standard Version (ESV)



The Resurrection

20 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' ⁸head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁹Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ¹⁰for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹¹Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹²But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹³And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹⁴They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁵Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, ¹⁸"Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁹Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ²⁰Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

As Mary Magdalene recognized the risen Lord on her journey, may we also recognize him on ours.

Yours in Christ,
Chris Vonesch



PROM

Date: May 31, 2018

Location: Infinity Centre,
2901 Gibford Dr, Gloucester

Time: 5:30 - 10:30

Prom Tickets available for purchase through Cash Online at a cost of \$90 from April 9 to 19, 2018

Additional Fundraisers:

- Basketball Game (Seniors Mixed Teams): April 20, Periods 3-4
Tickets on sale in Atrium: April 16 - 19 (\$2.00)

**Dates for SEAC –
2017-2018**

Wednesday, April
18th, 2018

Wednesday, May
23rd, 2018

Monday, June 4th,
2018

March It On Out

Many thanks to everyone for making this year's March It On Out event the best ever! Doors opened at STA Friday evening to receive unwanted but usable toys, clothing, household dishes and appliances, sporting goods, books, crafts and more! On Saturday morning, the lineup started early for people to pay the \$10 admission fee, and then as soon as the doors opened at 8:00 am, people could take away as many free treasures as they wanted.

The result - many happy visitors with lots of things happily going off to new homes. The Diabetes Association collected all the remaining goods -so this was certainly a great way to avoid reusable goods from ending in the landfill. Each year STA partners with the Russell and District Horticultural Society to organize this event; special thanks to all the student volunteers who helped to make this happen!





Trustee News

CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Volume: XII
Number: 7
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Todd Lalonde, Chair (Cornwall-Glengarry)
Ronald Eamer, Vice-Chair (Cornwall-Glengarry)
Nancy Kirby (Lanark)
Brent Laton (Grenville County and Elizabethtown-Kitley Township)

Karen McAllister (Stormont-Dundas)
Robin Reil (City of Brockville, Town of Smiths Falls, and Leeds County)
Sue Wilson (Prescott-Russell)
Andrew D'Alessio (Catholic Student Trustee)

French as a Second Language Programming

CDSBEO is committed to the goals set out by the Framework for French as a Second Language (FSL) in Ontario Schools K-12, 2013. These goals are to increase student confidence, proficiency, and achievement in FSL, to increase the percentage of students studying FSL until graduation, and to increase student, educator, parent, and community engagement in FSL.

The CDSBEO currently offers many FSL programs including Core/Intensive French, Extended French and French Immersion. What separates Core/Intensive French from Extended French and French Immersion is that subjects are taught in the Extended and Immersion programs.

The Approche neurolinguistique (the Neurolinguistic Approach in English), aligns with the first goal of the Ministry's vision for FSL: increase student confidence, proficiency, and achievement in FSL. Last fall, the CDSBEO trained 27 teachers on strategies of the Neurolinguistic Approach in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The Neurolinguistic Approach is based on research in neurolinguistics that has provided a better understanding of how people learn a second language. This approach creates the conditions necessary in the classroom in order for students to learn how to use a language instead of learning about the language.

An important influence at the CDSBEO has been the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This reference tool is recognized as a valuable asset for informing instruction and assessment practices in FSL education. CEFR informed instruction enhances learner autonomy and increases student motivation, while improving learner confidence and authentic use of the language in the classroom. The Diplôme d'études de langue française (DELFL), is an internationally recognized test of French proficiency which is based on the CEFR. The testing defines language proficiency by measuring listening, speaking, reading and writing. Candidates can attain a diploma from the French Ministry of National Education through one of the 175 international exam centres.

In the CDSBEO, all grade 12 students registered in French Immersion, Extended French, or Core French can write the DELFL exam to receive their certification. Since 2013, the number of CDSBEO students that have written the DELFL has risen from 15 to 137 in 2018. CDSBEO educators are also participating in the DELFL Examiner-Scorer accreditation, and to date, 41 teachers have been trained as DELFL Correcteurs.

"Being trained as a DELFL Correcteur changed how I approach oral communication in my classroom. For example, making corrections to what students would say became more about making sure their message was understood, rather than focusing on syntax and word order and verb tenses," noted FSL Consultant Sharon O'Brien.

Along their FSL educational journey, CDSBEO students also have the opportunity to participate in rich, authentic French

experiences beyond the classroom, including excursions to Quebec City, France, and École de neige, a French outdoor education camp in Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, Quebec. In addition, a new French summer cooperative education program has been introduced at the secondary level.

"I would like to comment that listening to the information on the Neurolinguistic Approach is very interesting, and a very ambitious approach," noted Trustee Laton. "Thank you for your presentation this evening."

Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching

Assistive technology allows all students the opportunity, regardless of their level of ability, to access the curriculum set out by the Ontario Ministry of Education, and reach their full potential. The more normative technology use becomes in the classroom, the less stigmatized students with special education needs feel when they access technology to support their learning.

"Technology has always been a very important part of education, and many of our students benefit from technology in the classroom. "As we continue to learn more and more about technologies, the more normative technology becomes in the classroom, the less stigmatized our students with special needs feel. This practice helps build an equitable and inclusive learning environment," noted Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education.

Aidan Conners, a grade 12 student from St. Michael CHS who will be studying performing arts at Algonquin College in the fall, shared his story of how assistive technology helped to support his learning journey.

"I had a lot of challenges going into elementary school, which made learning very difficult for me. One of my challenges is described as dysgraphia, which means that I don't take verbal instructions very well. Writing is also a challenge, and at times I have a hard time reading my own writing. My challenges made school work very, very hard. Assistive Technology has been an important part of my success. I don't believe I would be going to college in the fall if it wasn't for these tools. I think the moment I entered high school, that's when my real education started. I was on the honour roll three times in a row. From a guy who didn't pay attention in class and, who didn't even want to go to school, who could imagine I could succeed?"

Aidan thanked his parents and the teachers and guidance staff who helped him on his learning journey.

Board Chair Todd Lalonde commended Aidan for his eloquence. "As you spoke, it is obvious that your confidence level is tremendous, and your thoughtfulness with regard to the people that have helped you along the way is astonishing for a young man. You are certainly a powerful advocate for all those who are finding success through technology."

Board Meeting Dates: April 3 and April 17, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m., Kemptville Board Office



Board meeting report from Catholic Student Trustee, Andrew D'Alessio

Student Trustee Report - March 6, 2018

Student councils are still quite busy even though the March Break shortens the month. Many schools are starting to look to fun, interesting activities to survive the last months of cold. Two of our schools are in the midst of planning and preparing for one big event, the Bishop's Cup. As the Board knows from my last report, St Joe's and Holy Trinity will go head to head on the ice with their best hockey players vying for the Bishop's Cup trophy. This highly competitive, but very friendly competition is an event that both schools and the community look forward to every year. I am well aware that we have a few trustees around the table, Chair Lalonde and Vice-Chair Eamer, who will cheer on the teams on March 7th. It's quite an evening that attracts people from all over. This kind of event truly demonstrates the partnership between school, parents, parish, and community that we continually build. All proceeds will be going to the Good Samaritan Trust Fund.

In other news, our school mission teams recently returned from their trips to Guatemala. I know our students did many wonderful things for the communities they visited, and I think I can speak for everyone here when I say we are all proud to have such wonderful students! They are committed social change makers, reaching out into communities and making a true difference.

Our senior students have completed their applications for colleges/universities and will be moving on to their future studies in the fall. All of our grade 11 students had a Financial Literacy summit to help them prepare for financial expectations in post-secondary. They learned about scholarships, credit cards and general financial responsibilities. This summit was extremely well received by students and staff. Even some of the staff learned about how to better utilize their credit cards!

Our schools took part in the anti-bullying day February 28 and it was a tremendous success. I know that all of our schools had waves upon waves of pink filling the halls. CDSBEO was invaded by a sea of pink. It truly demonstrates how good our schools are and how much we all care about promoting a safe school environment.

I would like to wish everyone a great March Break. May God keep you safe and healthy, as many of you will travel and head for warmer climate.

Student Trustee Report - March 20, 2018

I know that for many students the priority during the March Break was to pick up extra work hours. As you know, many of our CDSBEO students work part time as they try to complete their secondary schooling. This can often be a challenge and a real juggling act. Personally, I was able to complete 57 hours during the break. Good for the pocket book, not so good for feeling rested and rejuvenated.

Staff and students are just getting back into the school routine. Some schools have hit the post break well with schools hosting events such as: Easter activities, dances, and much more! Schools are having pep rallies to continue to keep the morale high during the last months of our cold Canadian winter.

As mentioned at our last meeting, the Bishop's Cup was on everyone's mind. Much hard work and tremendous school spirit went into preparing for this event. It was most definitely a huge success with an even larger crowd this year. The big winner was St. Joe's but the biggest winner was St. Vincent de Paul with canned goods and money being donated to help the poor. Thank you to Chair Lalonde and Vice-Chair Eamer for attending and supporting this event.

Many of our drama departments are working on the production of their annual school musical. I will share more information as we get closer to the performance dates. A lot of work goes into these productions. We are also getting very close to the OSSLT testing date. I would like to wish all our grade 10 students good luck as they continue to refine their skills during this last month. The testing date is April 10th.

All of our students are preparing their hearts for Easter. During this Lenten season, many schools had weekly prayer services, fundraisers and activities to help others in the community. The coming of Easter is a time to reflect, pray and remember our role as Catholic leaders.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holy week!