

October 2008



St. Stephen's Secondary School

The Royals' Review

PRINCIPAL
Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

VICE-PRINCIPALS
Marie-Claude Charette
Stephen Smith

CHAPLAIN
Jan Ethier

GUIDANCE
Nancy Leask - Chair
Dan O'Connor

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Kelly Young - Chair

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Main Office:
Joanne Laton
Linda Derby
Deann DeVilliers
Attendance:
Lisa Urban
Karen McKnight
Guidance:
Maria McDougall

PARISH PRIESTS
Fr. Peter Seabrooke
Fr. Paul Massel
Fr. Placid Obiji

CATHOLIC SCHOOL
COUNCIL CHAIR
Susan Drever

SUPERINTENDENT
Ron McNamara

TRUSTEES
Granville Anderson
Maureen Day

Believe, Love, Act,
"Love Your Neighbour As Yourself"
Luke 10:27

Principal's Message

Our new school year has been launched with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm on the part of our staff and students. They met the challenge of dealing with the delay in occupying our newly relocated portable classrooms in the parking lot and our reduced parking space with patience and flexibility. Fortunately, these proved to be the only minor glitches and the month of September has been a period for students to adjust to new school policies regarding uniform and the placement of backpacks in lockers. Overall, we have had a very successful start to our school year and this has been due to the wonderful support of our staff, students and parents. Now our school community is in a bit of a holding pattern as we eagerly wait for municipal approval of our site plan for our new Tech facility and our school addition.

Our September events at St. Stephen's included our grade level assemblies held to welcome students and review school policies and expectations, our opening school mass celebrated by Father Peter Seabrooke of St. Francis of Assisi parish, our Grade 9 Parent Orientation evening and our Terry Fox School Run day on September 25th. September 26th was our faith development P.A. day and staff enjoyed presentations by Professor Jack Miller of OISE and retired principal, Doug Finbow, who now teaches Religion at Trent University's School of Education.

Now the month of October has arrived and with it, this newsletter, which accompanies student progress reports. Please mark on your calendar **Parents' Night, Thursday, October 16th**. The events begins at **6:30 pm** and we look forward to meeting with you then.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving may we be reminded of all the daily gifts that grace our life and with empathy, donate generously to our local food banks to assist others in need.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours!

Sincerely,

S. Rush-Jeanes



**EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT
ST. STEPHEN'S SECONDARY SCHOOL**
300 Scugog Street • Bowmanville • Ontario • L1C 3K2
TEL (905) 623-3990 • FAX (905) 623-9991
Website: <http://www.sscss.ca/>
Busing: <http://www.stsco.ca/>



From the Offices of the Vice - Principals

Royals of the Month Awards

The staff at St. Stephen's is proud to announce a new monthly award to celebrate the positive engagement of our students.

The Royals of the Month is awarded to a student who is respectful of peers, staff, family, and community. The recipient of this award exemplifies Christian leadership and demonstrates pride and commitment to our community.

**Congratulations to our recipients for the month of September: Junior Royals - Adam Bertrand and Austin Melville
Senior Royals - Natasha Keast and William Jeeves.**



Adam Bertrand



Austin Melville



Natasha Keast



William Jeeves

Athletes of the Month at St. Stephen's !



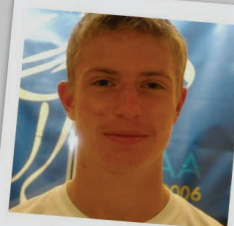
Kristen Smith



Jossimar Saboria-Rodriguez



Kendal Daize



Connor Vale

Kristen - Jr. Girls cross country runner for St. Stephen's. Kristen is dedicated and placed well in both meets so far this fall.

Jossimar - Sr. Boys athlete of the month of September. Jossimar has scored 13 goals in September for the senior boys soccer team. He is very fast and very dedicated to getting better. Kendal - Sr. girls athlete, Kendal has given the Sr. Girls basketball team scoring and height up the middle. In her first year she is improving every game and helps lead this team. Connor - Jr. Boys athlete, Connor scored 4 touchdowns in his first game of Jr. football this year and was also player of the week in the Toronto star.



Sr. Girls Basketball



Football at St. Stephen's

Athletics at St. Stephen's

The fall of 2008-09 has brought 8 sports and athletic clubs to St. Stephen's.

Junior and Senior Girls Basketball

Coaches- Miss Wilson and Mr. Fletcher- Junior
Mr. Leonard and Miss Blahnik- Senior



There is an excitement in the air about this season's basketball teams at both Junior and senior levels. Let's make the AA playoffs and show them how to take a Jump Shot!

Junior and Senior Boys Soccer

Coaches- Mr. Paziuk and Mr. Heitzner

Always a strong part of St. Stephen's Athletics', this year's edition of Soccer players is solid and ready for action!

Junior and Senior Boys Football

Coaches- Mr. Danylyshen, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Leonard

We are in the Tier 2 division this year and with our Junior experience of a year ago, we're stronger and ready for both Sr. and Jr. Football action.

X-Country

Coaches- Mrs. Lavallee, Ms. Dixon, Ms. Farquharson, Mr. Welsh

Great exercise and highly competitive. Go Royals Go!
An awesome experience.



Golf

Coach- Mr. O'Brien

Good success last year, and the team keeps getting better.

Fitness Club

Mr. Oliver, Mr. Poechman, Mr. O'Dell

Lots of fitness club members with a late bus Tues.- Thurs. Open to all students with a signed permission form.

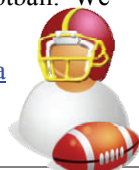
History Making Football News at St. Stephen's!

Our Junior Football Team made history on September 26th at Civic Field in Oshawa by winning 47-6 against Richardson Secondary School. Connor Vale had 4 touchdowns, Nathan Allen had 2, and Riley Johnson scored 1 for St. Stephen's. The entire team was outstanding in this year's opener and coaches Mr. Danylyshen, Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Morrison were thrilled with this very first football victory. We are very grateful for everyone who stayed loyal and patient with our program through the tough times and we feel confident a strong program is emerging.

The Senior Football team made its debut and lost a hard fought battle to O'Neill Collegiate 17-1. Rory Craddock was credited with the first ever point for St. Stephen's Senior Football. We are small in numbers, but big in spirit.

To see football standings & scores www.lossa.on.ca

Mr. Leonard - Athletic Director
St. Stephen's



St. Stephen's Welcomes !

This year we are pleased to welcome Father Paul Massel and Father Placid Obiji from St. Joseph's parish to our school community. We look forward to working with them and Father Peter Seabrooke of St. Francis of Assisi parish in Newcastle.

We also welcome new teachers Ms. Jessica Bellman (Careers and Geography), Ms. Donna Farquharson (Religion), Mr. Blair Sawa our new Curriculum Chair of Religion, Ms. Dana Bidgood (Science and Math), Mrs. Debra Gates (Resource and Religion), Christine Marshall (Math). Mrs. Carol Simpson joins as one of our new Educational Assistants.



School Council Corner

Your Council Executive:

Susan Drever - Chairperson
Diane Renault - Secretary
Anita Fegan - Treasurer

Parent Reps:

Wendy Skan , Valerie McCormick, Shannon Everst and Laura Pomfret

Teacher Rep: Monica Hurley **Student Reps:** Amy Crawford
Kayleen Peters

Parish Rep: Jackie Freeman

OAPCE Rep: Michelle Cryderman

All meetings start at 7 pm in the school conference room.

Upcoming meeting dates: November 4th, 2008
December 2nd, 2008
February 3rd, 2009
April 7th, 2009
May 5th, 2009
June 2nd, 2009

**Come out and find out about life at your child's secondary school.
Hope to see you there !**

For inquires contact: Susie 905-623-0082

This links to the School Advocate newspaper which serves School Councils and does provide some interesting resources and information in general for parents.

<http://www.school-advocate.ca/>

The Arts Department

Visual Arts – by Allyson Demoe



“Fall” in the Arts!

It's already a busy fall season in the Art Department! St. Stephen's Art students have been selected to do a public mural for the new arts centre “A Gift of Art” in Newcastle. Ms. Demoe, along with a number of students have designed and are in the process of executing this image on the door of the centre in “*trompe l'oeil*” (Look it up!)

Anna Wilson working on the mural at “A Gift of Art”

One exciting project already underway in the Grade 9 class is based on the theme of **Terry Fox**. Terry's own family select one image each year to promote the run in elementary and secondary schools. Last year there were over 1000 entries to this prestigious competition. Students will apply elements and principles of design in the creation of their own poster that portrays the spirit of this famed Canadian. The entries will be forwarded in early 2009. Good luck to all participants!

Once again, the arts department will be operating the **Open Studio**. This is a gathering place for students who want to further hone the skills they are developing in class or for students who are not currently enrolled in Visual Arts to get a taste of the program and practice their craft. **Open Studio** runs each Wednesday, after school until late busses in the Art Room. Students with a special talent are encouraged to attend.

Music - Erin C. Harris Music Director

“MUSIC IS CREATIVE ENERGY CAPTURED IN SOUND”

The St. Stephen's Music Department has successfully begun its 2008/2009 **Extra Curricular** music program. Participation is available to any student of St. Stephen's who has previous musical performance experience and the ability to read sheet music. You do not have to be enrolled in a music class to take part!

Concert Band: Tuesday 2:20-3:45pm

Jazz Ensemble: Thursday 2:20-3:45pm

The Concert Band is still accepting Trombone, Clarinet, French Horn, Baritone, and Tuba players.

The Jazz Ensemble is still accepting piano, guitar, drum kit, trombone, and trumpet players.

If you do not play an instrument but would like to be a participant in Music Department activities you can become a member of the **Music Council**. Participation is available to any student of St. Stephen's.

Music Council: Tuesday & Thursday 2:20-3:45pm

The Council is still accepting students in the positions of Equipment Technician and Instrument Technician.

“Music is a unique way of knowing. Participation in music instils positive attitudes, a positive self-image, a desire to achieve excellence, an ability to set goals, cooperation, and group cohesiveness.” G. Kiester



Drama at St. Stephen's - by John M. Sheridan

We have not, as yet, chosen a play to produce this year. Our goal is to announce our next production by the end of October, audition and cast the play in November, and perform the play in early May. Mark this on your calendars now, in anticipation of this theatrical event. Ms. Beesley and Ms. Bellman have offered to assist me in the production this year and I am looking forward to the project.

Fourteen students came forward to be trained as our lighting and sound crew. All were taught how to safely assemble scaffolding in order to work on the hang and focus of our lighting system. They were also taught the basics of setting up microphones for concerts and assemblies. Three of these individuals will be trained on some highly specialized sound equipment that has been acquired for the school choir. Their job will be to set up a microphone/monitoring system that allows the singers to hear their own voices amplified as they sing. This is very exciting for both the technicians and the school choir.



Plagiarism Prevention

Library - Joanne Spoelstra

Part of a high school student's academic work involves writing essays and reports. Learning how to give credit to the sources of information is an important part of the writing process. The school library program supports the classroom teacher in teaching students proper methods of giving credit to sources of information.

This includes instruction in how to avoid copying and pasting from the Internet and learning to put information into one's own words.

This year, PVNC's Learning Support Services has purchased a license for all secondary schools to use an online assessment program called *turnitin*. This web-based program allows teachers “to check students' work for improper citation or potential plagiarism by comparing it against” Internet sites, online newspapers and magazines, and other student papers (*Turnitin Brochure*, 2008).

Students may be required to create a user account and submit their written reports and essays online. An originality report is produced and both the student and teacher can see if elements of the report are plagiarized. There are options that allow students to submit a paper more than once before a final submission. Those options may be used by teachers to help students in the writing process.

This tool helps teachers as they assess student work, but also helps students to avoid some of the pitfalls of copying and writing that lead to plagiarism, whether intentional or through lack of experience.

All grade nine students will participate in the *Avoiding Plagiarism* workshop offered through the school library program during the month of October. This interactive workshop will use a variety of methods to inform, teach, and practice proper documentation. Check out the home page of the school library website at <http://destiny.pvnccdsb.on.ca> for links to documentation tools, turnitin, and other research databases.

From the Offices of the Vice Principals

Emergency Preparedness Drills:

Students, parents and guardians are advised that we will be holding various emergency preparedness drills over the course of the school year. Fire drills are held in conjunction with the fire marshal and lock down drills are coordinated with the Durham Regional Police Department. It is essential that all members of our community be made aware of the procedures in place should an emergency arise.

Of special importance are the following directives from the police services:
 -In the event of a lock down no one should enter the premises. Exterior doors may not be locked but clues as to the security of entering are empty hallways, darkened office, an eerie silence, all interior doors are closed and locked. If you notice these signs upon arriving at school it is recommended that you return to your vehicle immediately and not proceed any further into the school.

-Cell phones must not be used by any staff, student or parent/guardian. The signals from the cell phones could interfere with police communication and delay their response. For everyone's safety please discuss this in your families.

In addition to fire and lock down, we also prepare for medical emergencies within the school and evacuation orders, nuclear and non-nuclear. Student cooperation and seriousness is required for these drills.

Uniforms (our school team!)

In response to student requests, St. Stephen's has worked with McCarthy's to provide a hooded, zippered sweater (hoodie) to complement our uniform. Many students have been waiting for the back orders from McCarthy's and we hope to have these resolved very shortly. We have been advised that **a shipment is expected within the week** and we look forward to seeing all our students fully in uniform at all times while at school. Non-uniform outerwear is to be placed in lockers upon arrival at school.

Cell phones, iPods, MP3s and other valuable electronics

All students are provided a locker and lock upon their enrolment at St. Stephen's. It is vital that any valuables be safe-guarded to prevent theft of personal items. These should never be left in change rooms or brought to class. Students are instructed not to share the combination to their lock with anyone.

Students have been advised that cell phones are strictly prohibited from classrooms. Teachers will confiscate cell phones that are found in classrooms and will turn them in to the student's vice-principal. **St. Stephen's can not guarantee the security of these items and encourages students to leave personal electronic devices at home.**

Attendance

Vice-Principals will be working closely with the attendance office to promote punctuality and regular attendance for all students. Individual success is impacted when students are chronically late or absent. Students must be present in order to gain the greatest benefit from teacher instruction. In addition, the learning environment of others must be respected and the disturbance caused by late arrivals does not demonstrate respect for others.

Students exhibiting patterns of chronic tardiness will be referred to the office. Parents/guardians must communicate with the school to advise of any absence for their children. An adult student may report their own legitimate absence.

Ontario Scholars

Our June 26th graduating class of 200 students produced 43 Ontario Scholars. The criteria for an Ontario Scholar is that students must have an average of 80% in their top 6 Grade 12 courses. Our 2008 Ontario Scholars are to be commended for this academic achievement. Congratulations!

Chase Andrews

Rej Aydalla

Elora Bibby

Kristin Boyd

Elizabeth Bruce

Darija Davidson

Savannah Demeter

Jim Dermarker

Eric Devera

Brittany Dusseldorp

Michael Fattori

Bradley Fegan

Peter Gleason

Kyle Hubley

Ariel Kwaka

Gavin Layman

Christopher Letke

Amy MacAlpine

Andrew Marlowe

Brandon McArthur

Meagan McEwen

Eric Mroz

Kurtis Norton

Melissa O'Grady

Michelle O'Neill

Brenna Park

Matthew Pasowisty

Rosemarie Pelland

Matthew Perron

Brendon Peters

Douglas Preston

Sarah Reis

Meghan Ronson

Shawny Ravary

Jessica Ruszer

Lyndsey Smith

Nathan Smith

Joshua Sullivan

Erin Thibodeau

Stephen Tyson

Tory Vigilante

Tara Watchorn

Sabrina Wishak



Demonstration Classrooms

The Board's Student Success Department has established an innovative form of professional development for teachers. Commencing this September and continuing till mid-January, demonstration classrooms have been established in two secondary schools: St. Mary's Secondary in Cobourg and here at St. Stephen's. The instructors for these two classrooms are our Board Itinerant Assessment Teachers. The demonstration classroom at St. Stephen's is a Grade 9 applied Math Class taught by Christine Marshall, while the demonstration classroom at St. Mary's Secondary is a Grade 9 applied English Class taught by Jonathan Ross.

The purpose of these demonstration classrooms is to share appropriate and effective practices with teachers from Grades 7 to 12 throughout our school board. Teachers are able to book a visit to the demonstration classroom and then dialogue with Christine and Jonathan about the practices they are using and how teachers can implement and incorporate them into their subject area. Our staff and students are fortunate to have this learning opportunity at our school.



Demonstration Classrooms

Chaplaincy

On Wednesday, October 8, we begin our grade 9 retreats with the theme of "Using Our Gifts and Talents For Others". Each grade 9 homeroom will have the opportunity to spend period 1 in the chapel and then, for period 2, we walk to St. Elizabeth's elementary school to use our gifts and talents to minister to a younger grade. Speaking of using our gifts and talents, over 30 senior students have offered their time and talents to help with these grade 9 retreats. What a great team we have for this important ministry!

This month we celebrate the Catholic Virtue of *EMPATHY*.

The link of EMPATHY to our Catholic School Graduate Expectations is strong - EMPATHY makes one a more caring family member, helps to develop responsible citizenship, assists us in listening critically and communicating with sensitivity, and reflects values founded in Catholic social teaching.

We understand EMPATHY to mean the ability to identify with and feel other people's concerns. Jesus showed us great acts of empathy during his time on earth. We believe that as members of a Catholic faith community, we share our identity as human beings made in the image and likeness of God.

During the month of October, the theme of empathy will be addressed through morning prayer and other opportunities in classroom lessons and teachable moments.

Guidance Department

As always, the school year began in a flurry of activity for Guidance as students settled their timetables with us and we processed over 400 requests for timetable changes. In addition to this, many students' requests were turned down because they just were not possible. This underscores the importance of choosing wisely when courses are originally chosen.

Hot on the heels of timetable changes, Guidance has become busy with the process of facilitating this year's graduating class with post secondary planning. All of Ontario's universities and seven of Ontario's community colleges will be visiting St. Stephen's this fall to do hour long presentations to students. The schedules of visits and sign up lists are all in the Guidance lounge and all students, regardless of grade, are eligible to sign up and attend these very informative sessions. There is no need to wait until the final year of high school to research future educational plans. Ask your sons and daughters if they've visited guidance yet this year for post secondary information.

Students interested in applying to university this year were invited by Ms. Leask to attend one of four information sessions about the university application process held during lunch periods in late September. Brown bagging it was advised and there was no need to miss classes. Find out if your son or daughter participated. Ask them also if they've been browsing www.electronicinfo.ca while they're on the computer checking their e-mail!

Mr. O'Connor is continuing his tradition of "fireside chats" with students who will be eligible to apply to college. He discusses their interests, programme eligibility, and academic records. Parents who want to be in the know about the wealth of opportunities at college should consult www.ontariocolleges.ca.

For all students and parents, take some time to look into www.careercruising.com and see the future.

You will need the following:

Username - st and Password - stephen.

Important Dates

October 13, 2008	Thanksgiving
October 16, 2008	Parents' Night 6:30 – 8:30
October 16, 2008	Photo Retake Day
October 27, 2008	Professional Activity Day
November 5, 2008	Grade 9 Take Your Kids to Work Day

Healthy Families Workshop

MEDIA RELEASE

Healthy Families Workshop
“Children’s Mental Health is Everyone’s Business: Learn to be An Advocate”

On Wednesday October 29th from 7-9 pm at the Peterborough Public Library Auditorium, Susan Hess will speak about overcoming the stigma attached to children’s mental health, telling your story and advocating for better resources. Susan is the President of Parents for Children’s Mental Health. She is also the mother of a daughter with serious mental health problems, who after years of searching was able to access appropriate services for her daughter. Sarah Hess will join her mother to speak about the impact of having a sister with severe emotional problems. There will be opportunities to network with other parents of special needs children.

Paediatrician Dr. Iain Jamieson and parent Grace Loucks will also speak. Dr. Jamieson says,

“There is a hidden epidemic of children struggling with mental health issues across our community – children with attention deficit disorder, anxiety, depression, asperger’s syndrome and oppositional behaviour among other challenges. Parents need to support each other and to learn how to advocate for their child.”

Susan Hess is on the Family and Caregiver Advisory Committee of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, and member of the Consumer Advocate Network of the Provincial Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health. She was the driving force behind the Quilt of Honour, a visible testament to all children who struggle with mental health issues. Susan has spoken at Queens Park and to politicians, leaders, and educators across the province.

**We all know children who are struggling with emotional issues.
Children’s mental health is everyone’s business.**

WHAT: Healthy Families Workshop: Children’s Mental Health is Everyone’s Business: Learn to be an Advocate with Susan Hess, President of Parents for Children’s Mental Health; paediatrician, Dr. Iain Jamieson; daughter Sarah Hess and parent Grace Loucks.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 29th from 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: Peterborough Public Library Auditorium, 345 Aylmer St. N.,

WHO: Of interest to parents, teens, and professionals

FURTHER INFORMATION: 705-742-3803 or 1-800-386-6561

FOR MEDIA INTERVIEWS WITH SUSAN HESS: Contact Louise Bennett (705-742-3803 or louise.bennett@kinark.on.ca)

The **Healthy Families Workshop Series** is a joint initiative of Kinark Child and Family Services, the Peterborough Public Library, the Peterborough County City Health Unit, Peterborough Family Resource Centre and the Learning Disabilities Assoc. of Peterborough and District. Since 2001, the HFC Series has been presenting FREE workshops 4-6 times per year. The workshops offer reliable information to parents and professionals on a range of parenting topics to help us raise healthy children. In the last year more than 400 parents and caregivers have attended these workshops.

Special Education Advisory Committee

SEAC

2008 - 2009

Our Board SEAC Committee holds meetings which are open to the public.

All are welcome!

Date	Location from 7 to 9:30 p.m.	Presentation	Special Education Services Staff Members
Oct. 23 rd , 2008	St. Elizabeth CES, Bowmanville	Speech-Language	Jacqueline Angione Rebecca Hutchinson
Nov. 20 th , 2008	Board Room, CEC	Social Work CODE project Summary - three years EQAO Results 2008 for Special Needs	Carly Sinclair, Kathleen Thomson, Laura Koekkoek, Heather Burgo- master Deb Heslinga Shelley Adair
Jan. 15 th , 2009	Board Room, CEC	Christian Horizons Program and Ministry for People with Special Needs Transition Planning (Secondary) IEP Template from the Ministry of Ed	Deborah Peel Recruitment Manager Christian Horizons Central East District Office Elaine Mason Elaine Mason and Lorna McGillis
Feb. 19 th , 2009	Board Room, CEC	Differentiated Instruction	Deb Heslinga

MAGAZINES WANTED!

If you have magazines that you no longer want, please send them into the school and they will be used to support our START program - *Students and teachers all reading together!* Ask your son or daughter what this program is all about!

