



St. Stephen's Secondary School

The Royals' Review

PRINCIPAL
Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

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Marie-Claude Charette
Stephen Smith

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Jan Ethier

GUIDANCE
Nancy Leask - Chair
Dan O'Connor

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Kelly Young - Chair

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

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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 students have experienced rich learning opportunities in their classes, on the playing field and in their other extracurricular activities this past semester. The energy and level of participation displayed by students, staff advisors and coaches is a definite indication of our vibrant school community. As I reflect on this past semester I want to thank all the individuals whose support has helped to create this environment at St. Stephen's: our teachers, parents, Catholic School Council members, our parish priests and our school trustees.

Now, our second semester has begun and it can only be viewed as a time of promise and continued opportunity for our whole school community. Students have started the process of acquiring new credits and a new season of extracurriculars is before them. On another front, the construction of our new addition and technology facility is finally underway. How exciting the days and months ahead are going to be!

As we embark on the new semester, the words of President Obama's election campaign can serve us well: "YES, WE CAN!" Let's apply them to all the tasks and encounters we have this semester, especially bringing into action our monthly Catholic virtues. This month we are called to celebrate the virtue of compassion. The more we talk, teach and learn about compassion, the closer our graduates come to dedicating themselves to the common good and to doing God's work.

Best wishes for a successful second semester!

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/>





Royals of the Month Awards

From the Offices of the Vice - Principals



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 *November*:

***Junior Royals - Tom Jones and Damon Calderbank *Senior Royals - Joshua Hunt and Andrew Pomfret**

Congratulations to our recipients for the month of *December*:

***Junior Royals - Alex Keller and Katharine McEwen *Senior Royals - Ross Jesseau and Stephanie Chartrand**

Congratulations to our recipients for the month of *January*:

***Junior Royals - Julia Lavoie & Brian Bunnett *Senior Royals - Jennifer Ritchie & Paula Makela**



Tom Jones



Damon Calderbank



Joshua Hunt



Andrew Pomfret



Alex Keller



Katharine McEwen



Ross Jesseau



Stephanie Chartrand



Julie Lavoie



Brian Bunnett



Jennifer Ritchie



Paula Makela

From the Offices of the Vice - Principals

Uniform

Our school has a proud history in our community and we are visible and identifiable by our uniform. Worn properly the uniform is a source of pride. All students are reminded that full uniform compliance is required throughout the school day. Young ladies are reminded that the kilt is to be worn to modestly cover the upper legs; the hem should be closer to the knee than the thigh.

Parking

Students and visitors are reminded that parking is available in the south parking area only. The other lots are assigned to teaching staff and construction staff. Your cooperation is most appreciated.

From Chaplaincy

Catholic Virtue for the month of February = Compassion

During the month of February, our Catholic schools are celebrating the virtue of **Compassion**. Jesus is our role model for compassion. In the gospels, we are continually reminded how he opened his heart to others, especially the vulnerable and poor members of society. This serves as a reminder to all of us to be helpful to others, to notice when someone is lonely, and to reach out and show that we care. Please help us by praying for our staff and students as we are mindful of this important virtue.



Chaplaincy

As we enter semester 2, there are many opportunities to which we look forward.

From January 30 to February 6, eight of us from St. Stephen's travelled to the Dominican Republic to participate in a social justice awareness program. This program opens our eyes to the reality of how others in our world live very differently from us.

On Thursday, February 19, we will be holding our first ever "Gospel Peacemaking Retreat" with people from the Basilian Centre for Peace and Justice, working with members from the Christian Peacemakers Team, Canada.

As well, we begin Lent with our Ash Wednesday prayer service on February 25, followed closely by our "Vow Of Silence Day" on Friday, February 25 and our annual "THINKFAST" beginning Thursday evening, March 5th. These are only a few of the opportunities we have to put our faith into action during semester 2.

Cell Phones/Electronics/Valuables

Students are provided with individual lockers where personal belongings are to be stored during the school day. Cell phones are strictly prohibited from classrooms and will be confiscated by staff.

In the event of a school emergency it is critical that cell phones not be used by staff or students as the signals will interfere with police and emergency responder communication.

Attendance

As a new semester begins it is important to review attendance and punctuality requirements. All students are required to attend all classes and to arrive on time, with the necessary materials. Any absence must be reported to the Attendance Office by the student's parent or guardian. Vice-Principals will be monitoring student late arrivals and absences in cooperation with the Attendance Office. Parents will be notified of absences and late arrivals and students will be subject to progressive discipline.

Student Council Corner

Student Council and members of the GPP30 (Leadership and Peer Support) class would like to thank all students for their participation in all of the Semester 1 events. It was great to see everyone showing their school spirit!

Student Council members have been busy planning events to fill Semester 2 with lots of fun and excitement. Our first event is the February 12th Coffee House from 7-9pm. Tickets will be \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. If you bring food items for the food bank tickets will be \$5 at the door. Come out and enjoy the talents of St. Stephen's students and nibble on some treats while drinking coffee or tea! Other upcoming events include: a spring dance, the dodge ball tournament, spirit events and lots more. Listen to announcements for updates!

Notes about Student Council Elections:

Elections take place in late May or early June but many students have been asking about them already. Please check out the list of positions and the Student Council Constitution, available on our website:

<http://www.sscss.ca/studentcouncil.html>.

March Break Trip to London, Paris and the Alps

The countdown is on for the 34 students and 5 teachers who are heading to London, Paris and the Alps for a 10 day tour over March Break! The trip has been planned through Explorica, a reputable company specializing in educational tours. Sights include:

*City tours in London, Paris, Bern, Lucerne and Munich.

*Visits to Windsor Castle, the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedral (where students will attend Mass), the top of Mount Pilatus, Neuschwanstein Castle, Dachau concentration camp and so much more.

Look for more updates in the next Royal's Review!

Prom 2009 is Friday May 29th at Trillium Trails in North Oshawa. More details to follow!



Drama Department

Lights, Camera, Action by John Sheridan

It is now February and St. Stephen's preparation for the production of Jane Austen's **Pride and Prejudice** is well underway. Our cast is as follows:



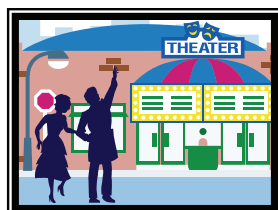
- Mrs. Bennet- Jennifer Ritchie
- Mr. Bennet - Andrew Pomfret
- Jane Bennet - Emilie Shrider
- Elizabeth Bennet -Tiana Prince
- Mary Bennet - Alisha Feruson
- Catherine Bennet - Jaime Noble
- Lydia Bennet - Marsha Cryderman
- Lady Lucas - Abby Gagnon
- Charlotte Lucas - Jaime Elcome
- Hill - Katrina O'Neill
- Mr. Wickham - Matthieu Charette
- Mr. Darcy - Thomas Sawchuk
- Mr. Bingley - Carl Kocur
- Miss Bingley - Kate Allison
- Lady Catherine De Bourgh - Carleigh Clancy

The cast has set the blocking for Act One and they have their lines for those scenes memorized.

Work on the technical aspects of the show is also progressing well. The set for the show has been designed and is in its miniature form. The material and patterns have been chosen for the costumes. A big dress making sewing session will be held in mid February to put together eleven dresses in one night!

To learn more about our production visit our website at <http://www.sscss.ca/drama.html>

Please mark these dates on your calendar now! You won't want to miss this fantastic production;
May 7th, 8th, 14th, & 15th 2009.



Technology/Computer/Business Department

It's hard to believe that we're at the end of Semester 1 already. The Technology/Computer/Business Department will embrace many challenges in the coming months as we prepare for the construction of a new stand alone technology wing that will enhance our Construction/Carpentry and Manufacturing/Machining/Welding programs. The construction will include the reconfiguration of the existing technology area and will showcase computer technology/engineering, hospitality/tourism, child care/gerontology, an improved Grade 9 Integrated Tech facility and future consideration for Hairstyling/Cosmetology. The new facility will provide for an inclusive approach to technology education and will provide pathways to workplace and college.

Computer Science students are exploring the wonders of open source or free software. Check out and download at no cost the programs that we use to teach programming:

Java : <http://java.sun.com/javase/downloads/index.jsp> (JDK 1.6)

JCreator 4.5 LE: <http://www.jcreator.com/download.htm>

Alice: www.alice.org

Visual Basic Express 2008:

<http://www.microsoft.com/Express/VB/>

Turing: <http://compsci.ca/holtsoft/>

Open Office: www.openoffice.org



Students can start coding today and share programming ideas on the **Computer Science Canada** website: www.compsci.ca

We are pleased to announce that a group of Gr. 11 Comm Tech students put a film entry into the **Millwork International 3-Minute Film Festival**. Joel Vigilante, Christina Beeton, Connor McLean and Will Campbell produced "The Friend", a film that explores the ambiguity of relationships and bullying. Watch the movie online: www.sscss.ca/movies.php. Good luck!

Technology students will participate in a number of competitions in the coming months. Qualifying comps for **Skills Canada – Ontario** (<http://www.skillsontario.com/>) will take place April 18 at Georgian College in Barrie. We will compete in 2D character animation, TV/Video and carpentry. The finals take place May 4th and 5th in Waterloo.



Regional Competitions at Fleming College in Peterborough take place May 11. We'll send teams in Graphic Design and Carpentry to this showcase of skill sponsored by the Workplace Development Board Check out the details: <http://www.skillscomp.com/competitions.html>

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Looking forward to Spring and all the big changes.

Mr. K. McDaniel
Curriculum Chair (Computer/Business/Technology)

Growing Great Kids! Growing As Parents!

How to encourage social and emotional well-being in children while growing and nurturing ourselves as parents For parents with children under eight years old.

A workshop geared towards parents with children under eight years old. It encourages social well-being in children, while allowing parents to grow and nurture themselves

Workshop sessions include:

- Development and temperament.
- Body image and sexuality
- Attachment.
- Importance of play.
- Communication and language
- Positive self-esteem.
- Positive values and discipline strategies.
- Emotional regulation.
- Responsibility and problem solving.



2009 evening session dates:

Jan. 29th, Feb. 26th, March 26th.
April 30th, May 28th, June 18th.
Sept. 24th, Oct. 29th and Nov. 26th.
Time: Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m.
Location: The Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters
Rossland Rd. E., WHITBY

2009 daytime session dates:

March 25th to June 17th.
Time: Every Wednesday from 1 - 3 p.m.
Location: YMCA Ontario Early Years Centre
45 West Side Dr., Bowmanville

**Fee: \$135 (\$20 for each workshop) per person
\$175 (\$30 for each workshop) per couple
Based upon participant's ability to pay. Fee will be set during a screening interview.**

Please request subsidy if needed.
Workshops are FREE for Ontario Works clients.
Free on-site childcare available.

For information or registration,
please call Family Services Durham at
905-683-3451

Special Education Advisory Committee SEAC

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

DATE	LOCATION FROM 7 TO 9:30 PM	PRESENTATION	SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES STAFF MEMBERS
Feb. 19 th , 2009	Board Room, CEC	Differentiated Instruction	Deb Heslinga
March 26th 2009	Board Room, CED	Deaf Education Assessment and Evaluation	Eric Hansen, Marion Stewart Lorna McGillis and Elaine Mason.
April 16th, 2009	Board Room, CEC	Safe Schools BEST Program Update	Karen Stoker, Luanne Moriarty, Michael Moriarty, Erin Gorman, Lorna McGillis, Elaine Mason Lorna McGillis
May 12th, 2009	Seventh Annual SEAC Tour Northumberland County		Nicole Cumby Deb Heslinga Elaine Mason
May 21st, 2009	St. Mary CES, City of Kawartha Lakes	Executive Functioning	George Diitroff, Alicja Lech, Beth Sheridan, Kerrie McFadden, Darlene Abraham
June 18th, 2009	Board Room, CEC	Have a Go (Elementary and Secondary)	Lorna McGillies, Elaine Mason, Eric Hansen, with Greg Wilson & Karan Leal

The Canadian Hearing Society - Connect Counseling Services Invites you to attend a workshop on...

The Power of Visuals

Visuals can bridge the gap in communication, clarify a request, explain a social situation, break down a skill, explain a transition, and plan for the future.

*Presented by Tri-County Community Support Services
Come join us for an evening of making connections*

For: Parents of students with hearing loss and Educators

When: Thursday, February 12, 2009

Where: Peterborough Public Library
345 Aylmer St. N, Peterborough

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Also: craft room for children with hearing loss (no siblings please)

For more information or to RSVP, please contact:

Maria Shuwera, The Canadian Hearing Society

Phone: 705-743-1573 Ext 44

Email: mshuwera@chs.ca

This evening brought to you through cooperation between:



"Raising Resilient Children"

Presented by Dick O'Brien, M.A.Sc.

A Presentation for parents, grandparents, guardians to demonstrate principles of living and encouraging a healthy, resilient and meaningful life. This presentation focuses on developing personal resiliency in our children as the survival strategy for the 21st Century.

**PLEASE JOIN US ON TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2009 AT 7:00 PM
ST. STEPHEN'S SECONDARY SCHOOL
Contact : Laura Pomfret (905-987-9927) or Susie Drever (905-623-0082)**

A Message from the Yearbook Class

The new 2008 - 2009 St. Stephen's Yearbook will be on sale again in homerooms this month.. 

The cost once again is **\$40.00** and can be paid by cash or cheque (made out to St. Stephen's Secondary School).

We are very excited about this year's yearbook and would like to encourage students to purchase their book early so that they don't miss out.


The St. Stephen's Yearbook operates as a not-for-profit endeavor and all revenue gained from the book sales and advertising is put directly back into the cost of producing the yearbook for our students.

Important Dates


February 6, 2009	Deadline to request a timetable change
February 12, 2009	Coffee House
February 13, 2009	Second data transmission to OCAS
February 16, 2009	Family Day
February 17, 2009	Grad Photos Retakes
February 17, 2009	Deadline for submission of Semester 1 final marks to OUAC
February 19, 2009	Grade 8 Parents' Night
February 25, 2009	Ash Wednesday
February 27, 2009	Last day for Grade 12 to withdraw from a course
March 16-20, 2009	March Break
March 26, 2009	Parents' Night
April 2, 2009	OSSLT
April 9, 2009	Holy Thursday
April 10, 2009	Good Friday
April 13, 2009	Easter Monday

From Our Library

Grade 10 Literacy Test Key Dates

- Feb. 6 - 19 - Preparation and Information Sessions in the library 
 - Feb. 23 - Practice Test during period 5
 - Mar. 23 - 31-Practice Test results distributed and reviewed to Grade Ten
 - After school remedial sessions
 - In class sessions for students re-writing the test
 - Apr. 1- Information assembly during period 1
 - Apr. 2 - **OSSLT Test 8:30 -11:15**
- Note: Attendance on April 2 is very important. Please do not schedule appointments or vacations for this day.**

**Grade 10 Literacy Test:
Did You Know?**

- The purpose of the test is to determine whether or not students have acquired the literacy (reading and writing) skills that they are expected to have learned by the end of Grade 9.
- Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test is a requirement for the OSSD diploma. Students must achieve a level 3 (about 70%) to pass the test.
- Students who are unsuccessful on the test have an opportunity to rewrite the test and/or successfully complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course.
- Students with IEPs are eligible for accommodations, including extra time to write the test either in the resource room or library. Accommodations may include the use of scribes or computers.
- Check out the EQAO website at <http://www.eqao.com> for sample test questions, a preparation guide, and characteristics of successful performance. Check out the Parent Resources or Student Resources.
- St. Stephen's prepares students for this test through information and practice sessions and writing a "mock" test.
- More importantly, literacy skills are taught across the curriculum. Reading and writing activities and assignments prepare students for the literacy skills tested and for life-long learning. 

Adult French Beginner's Course

Canadian Parents for French is sponsoring an evening French Beginner's Course at St. Stephen's. Taught by Guy Charette, Vice Principal at St. Joseph's French Immersion Centre, classes take place on Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

Durham College Centre for Success

January 14th, 2009 13 students enrolled in our Durham College Centre for Success Program participated in a Centre for Success completion ceremony held in Durham College's Athletic Complex. Representatives from our PVNC Board, Durham Catholic, Durham Public and the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board were on hand to bring greetings and offer their congratulation to students and teacher who are part of this alternative learning program. Thanks to Ms. Tanya Berezuk for all her work on behalf of our St. Stephen's students.

Smart Risk Heroes Assemblies

December 2nd 2008 two assemblies were held for our students on risk management in everyday life. Students learned that the five steps in smart risk taking include: buckling up, looking first, wearing the gear, getting trained and driving sober. The message that making smart choices can reduce our risk in life was powerfully presented and received by our staff and students.

School Council Corner

Your Council Executives:

- Chairperson** - Susan Drever
- Secretary** - Diane Renault
- Treasurer** - Anita Fegan
- Parent Reps** - Wendy Skan, Valerie McCormick, Shannon Everst & Laura Pomfret
- Teacher Rep** - Monica Hurley
- Sudent Rep** - Amy Crawford and Kayleen Peters
- Parish Rep** - Jackie Freeman
- OAPCE Rep** - Mickey Cryderman



Next Meeting is Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Our School Trustees, Maureen Day and Granville Anderson hope to be in attendance. All parents are welcome at each and every meeting which is generally held on the first Tuesday of each month. There will be no meeting in March as the Parents and Teachers meeting for the new semester is scheduled for March 26, 2009. Council will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets and used uniforms at this Parent's Night. Please contact Anita Fegan at 905-623-9809 with regard to uniforms as she has the list of sizes and items presently for sale. For all those graduating this year, please consider donating your uniforms to the Council. All monies raised from these two events go directly back into the school to purchase equipment requested by the staff of St. Stephen to be used for the students, graduation awards, and many other activities at the school. Please note that all Council Minutes are posted on the school council website together with a hard copy being left in the office for review by any parent. St. Joseph's CWL has invited all parents to attend a presentation on Internet Safety and on the dangers of the Internet for your children. Presenters are two detectives with the Durham Regional Police and will take place at St. Joseph Church hall at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2009.

Greetings from Father Paul Massel

We are a Sacred, Holy People.

It has been such a special time to see all our children flooding into the church in preparation for the sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation. It reminds me of the phrase, "It takes a village to raise a child." Even the best parent knows the tremendous influences upon our children everywhere. They are out in the malls with their friends, at sports practices and on the internet. We can't be everywhere.

But at church, school and in the home, we prepare them for what's out there. There can be no doubt, having a faith foundation in a person is crucial to living a happy, fulfilling life. As a priest, I see this day in and day out especially in the trials that come our way. There is an inner strength born to us at Christmas that instills in us the potential for tremendous creativity, joy and strength in trials. And this seed grows in the community of the Catholic school, in the larger parish community where we draw on support and give support to those in need. It is the fabric of a rich life.

We are sacramental people by nature, in the doorway between heaven and earth and sometimes if we don't have the three pillars of home, school and parish, it can be the best kept secret. Potential is just that - until we strengthen it and draw on it. With all our children lined up at the front of our church and the whole community lifting a hand in prayer for them last weekend at the enrolment ritual, I know we strengthened that spirit in everyone who attended. Sacraments aren't just for children. When they receive them we renew our own and God's potential and spirit within us grows stronger. Thank you to everyone who sacrificed so your children could be part of this process. We are all the richer for it! Blessings to you!

Fr. Paul Massel
Of St. Joseph Parish, Bowmanville.



Farewells and Welcomes

This semester we say goodbye to several staff at St. Stephen's. Thank you to teachers Ms. Debra Gates, Ms. Jessica Bellman, and Ms. Christine Marshall for their work in our school community. We also bid farewell to Education Assistants Ms. Beth Gallant and Mrs. Tammy Stiles and Custodian Mr. Walt Brown.

We welcome new staff - teacher Mrs. Jessica Rowland, returning teacher Mrs. Andrea Murray and Education Assistant staff Mr. Joe Monardo, Ms. Janna Black-Araujo, Mrs. Rose Dance and Ms. Bonnie Ogle.

Best wishes to all these individuals as we begin our new semester.

Multicultural Literacy Celebration Telling our Stories



St. Stephen's is once again celebrating our multicultural society and school community with special events during the week of April 27 - May 1, 2009.

This year our focus is to combine multicultural displays and food with literacy activities that tell our own stories of immigration and ethnic backgrounds. Speakers and storytellers will be part of this celebration, but we are also inviting students and parents to share their own stories in a variety of formats.

Parents who wish to contribute or participate in this event are invited to contact the school. Stay tuned for more information as plans and activities develop.

Mrs. Spoelstra

Helping Children Cope with Separation and Divorce

A two-hour evening workshop for parents with children of any age.

- Understanding how children grieve during separation and divorce.
• Children's reaction to separation and divorce at each stage of development.
• Factors affecting a child's successful adjustment to separation and divorce..
• Parenting strategies to support child's adjustment to separation and divorce.

2009 session dates:

Feb. 26th, April 30th, June 18th, Sept. 17th, Nov. 26th

Time: Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: The Regional Municipality of Durham

Fee: \$20 per person
\$30 per couple

Please request subsidy if needed. Workshops are FREE for Ontario Works clients. Free on-site childcare available.

For information or registration, please call Family Services Durham at 905-683-3451



Parenting Teens and Preteens

An eight-week group series to provide parents with the necessary tools to improve communication with their children and build healthy relationships.

Workshop session include:

- Understanding your parenting style and teen development
• How to negotiate choices, build self-esteem and courage.
• How to encourage and positively influence your teen.
• Communication and language.
• Sidestepping the power struggle.
• Encouraging problem solving.
• Effective discipline.
• Active communication.
• Maintaining influence.

Winter 2009 session dates

Jan 20th, Jan 27th.

Feb. 17th, Feb 24th

March 3rd, 24th, 31st

April 7th.

Spring 2009 session dates

April 21st, 28th.

May 5th, 12th, 26th

June 2nd, 9th, 16th.

Time: Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: The Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters 605 Rossland Rd. E., WHITBY

Fee: \$125 per person
\$165 per couple

Please request subsidy if needed. Workshops are FREE for Ontario Works clients. Free on-site childcare available.

For information or registration, please call Family Services Durham at 905-683-3451



Reading & Writing Tools

for children and adults with learning disabilities

WordQ & SpeakQ

Strategic Transitions Inc. - Cherith Sinasac

Loyalist College - Alumni Hall

Thursday, March 26, 2009

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Support and Enhance the Writing Process
Using WordQ/SpeakQ through the use of Inspiration (R)**

Improve the potential for successful writing by harnessing the power of WordQ, a simple yet powerful writing tool specifically designed to make writing easier, SpeakQ, a plug-in software that enhances WordQ version 2 or higher with simple, text-to-speech functionality and Inspiration(r), an award winning essential tool used by students (ages 10 to adult) and professionals to create diagrams, outlines, and mind maps.

During this session, participants will be introduced to the development of these products and how WordQ / SpeakQ and Inspiration work together to support writers throughout the writing process to develop visual thinking skills and to visually plan, analyse, organise and communicate clearly. The inclusion of WordQ in the writing process helps to ensure that writers are not limited by spelling, memory, ideation or language production issues. WordQ provides immediate auditory feedback, in-context word prediction and a read-back feature. SpeakQ will recognize your speech using texts provided. An innovative training interface makes training simple. Just listen to the computer speak and repeat after it. Both of these products work well together to compliment Inspiration. Combined, these programs provide seamless, flexible support to meet the needs of a variety of writers.

Parents, Youths, Educational and Health Professionals

FREE ADMISSION

R.S.V.P. to Ted Morrison, morrison@loyalistic.on.ca
613.969.1913, ext. 2109 by March 24, 2009



**Sponsored by Loyalist College
Student Government and Disability Services Office**



Please note: The opinions expressed at this presentation are not necessarily those of Loyalist College.

News in Sports at St. Stephen's

Our senior boys' hockey team made Honourable mention in the *Globe and Mail* ranking section of high school Hockey teams with a 6th place ranking. The team is preparing for a LOSSA playoff run against Brock, Dennis O'Connor and Pereyma. Good luck to Mr. Carmichael, Mr. deLaPlante and the team. Our junior. boys' team coached by Mr. Heitzner and Mr. Ainsworth, is positioning themselves to also make a solid run at the AA playoffs.

In basketball, the junior team has a 7 win and only 2 loss record heading into the LOSSA playoffs. Mr. Leonard is expecting a solid post season run and hopefully a berth in the finals. In senior boys' basketball, the team gets better and better with 3 wins this year and a solid effort at G.L. Roberts in their last outing. Mr. Paziuk deserves a lot of credit for working so hard with this crew!

Ms. Conforti, Mr. Clement and Ms. Blahnik continue to see improvement and success with girls' junior. and senior. Volleyball and playoffs are just around the corner. Go Royals Go!!!!

Look out for the try-outs coming up for badminton, lacrosse, girls' soccer, track and field and fitness club participants. Remember the good work you have put in this year both coaches and players is never wasted- win or lose!

Phys ed Department Head Reno Leonard



Ontario School Board Governance An Opportunity for Consultation

The Ministry of Education is inviting parent and school council input into the Governance model of the 21st century. This consultation process will address the following areas:

1. Modernizing the Education Act to update and clarify the duties, powers and accountabilities of school boards, chairs, individual board members and directors of education.
2. Identify and recommend effective governance practices, including codes of conduct for board members, enforceable at the provincial or board level.
3. Long term professional development programs for board members.
4. Regulations to strengthen the accountability of school boards with respect to student achievement.

For further details on this Governance Review process and the opportunity to provide feedback, please visit

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/>
(response deadline is February 28, 2009).

Athlete of the Month for February 2009



Jr. Girls - Gabrielle Cook - Girls' Hockey - a strong defenseman who can rush the puck and a strong X-country runner.

Sr. Girls - Amanda Stockbridge - played Girls' Basketball and now currently a strong member of the Senior girls volleyball team.



Gabrielle Cook

Amanda Stockbridge

Cameron Smith

Mitchell Heard

Jr. Boys - Cameron Smith - Top point getter for the Jr. basketball team.

Sr. Boys - Mitchell Heard - top point getter in Sr. Boys' Hockey team and a strong puck handler.

Workshops and Online Counseling

Workshops and online counseling to help auto worker families through an uncertain future.

In an article in the Toronto Star, January 7, 2009, it was reported that the Catholic Family Services of Durham expect to have workshops and online counseling set up by March to help those affected by job loss.

The services, called CENTRE FOR WORKERS' FAMILIES, will be run by trained social workers to help everyone in the family deal with the stresses that come with job loss.

Catholic Family Services are located at 115 Simcoe St. S., Oshawa. 905-725-3513 or online at <http://www.cfsdurham.com>



Guidance Department

COLLEGE APPLICATION NEWS

The applications for Ontario Colleges were due on February 2nd. The month of January saw a lot of activity in Guidance as Mr O'Connor helped many students with both their decisions and their application. Students should be aware that they are able to track the status of their application through their file at <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca>

There is a very quick turn around time with college applications and students may hear a response by the March Break. Of course, Mr O'Connor will be sending electronic updates of this year's marks throughout the year and no acceptance is considered binding until the colleges have proof of successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma and they are satisfied with the student's final marks.

UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NEWS

More than 80 St. Stephen's students met the university application deadline of January 14th, 2009. A few brave souls submitted applications in early December, then the flood happened over the Christmas Break, and then we were left with a few angst ridden individuals who kept the tension level high until the last day. Changes to program choices may be made until February 6th, 2009. Electronic transfers will be submitted three more times to send final first semester marks, second semester mid term marks, and final marks at the end of the year. The universities guarantee a response to all applicants by May 25th but all offers will be conditional as the universities reserve the right to rescind an offer if they are not satisfied with final results in June.

ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM-\$\$\$\$

Every year Guidance hosts a guest presenter from Durham College's financial office to speak to students about O.S.A.P. The presentation usually takes place in late April or early May. Once this year's date is known, it will be announced. Parents are also welcome to attend the presentation.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION - \$\$\$\$\$

The Guidance department has prepared a brochure covering information and tips about post secondary finances. If you'd like your son or daughter to find out how to get free money, send him or her to Guidance to pick up a copy of the brochure.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Here's why it's important to you

Students and parents know that failure to complete the 40 hours of Community Involvement will result in them being turned down by a university or college because they will not have completed an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. It also means that the student will not graduate and receive an O.S.S.D. If your son or daughter hasn't completed the 40 hours, they are potentially jeopardizing future plans.

COURSE CALENDARS for 2009 - 2010

Read to be informed!

The St. Stephen's course calendars will be given to students in homerooms on February 17th. The course selection forms and annual \$25.00 fee will be collected on March 2nd, 2009. This year there is a new feature in the calendar. An appendix consists of a chart for each subject area, explaining the pathways and prerequisites. It is very important that both parents and students take the time to read both the information section at the front of the calendar and the course descriptions in order to make wise, informed decisions.

"MY BLUEPRINT" PROGRAM - Your Future is here

As we enter another phase of choosing courses, students and parents should consider using the software, My Blueprint, as a planning tool. My Blueprint has been purchased to be available to all students of St. Stephen's. It has been personalized for us such that it includes all of the courses available at St. Stephen's. Here are the things that can be done using My Blueprint:

- ◆ maintain an individual, confidential file of educational plans
- ◆ track courses and credits
- ◆ track completion of compulsory credits
- ◆ track completion of Ontario's Literacy Requirement
- ◆ track your 40 hours of Community Involvement
- ◆ record extra curricular involvement so that it's easy to record for scholarship and bursary purposes
- ◆ record co-op and work experience for resume purposes
- ◆ research post secondary opportunities across Canada including apprenticeships, college and university
- ◆ determine the post secondary opportunities available to you as a result of your secondary school course choices

My Blueprint is available on-line at <http://www.myblueprint.ca>. Students will gain access to the program using the activation key, (ststephens1), and then follow directions to create their own account. Multiple plans may be made, saved and modified later so as to explore the future.





January 22, 2009

Re: Out-of-Boundary Transportation Requests

Dear Parents & Guardians:

We are now halfway through the school year and Student Transportation Services is beginning to look ahead to next year. To help us with our planning, this letter is the first of several reminders we will be asking schools to forward to families who live outside of the boundary encompassing the school of their choice and whose children are not eligible for transportation under School Board Policy as a result. This group includes those who have submitted "Out of Boundary" transportation requests in the past. New families in similar situations may also be interested in applying.

If you wish to have an Out of Boundary transportation request reviewed by STSCO in advance of the start of the 2009/10 school year, you must submit a completed "Out of Boundary" request form (available at your school) by May 29, 2009.

To assist you, I would like to provide the following important reminders concerning the process.

- Requests must be made annually and any resulting permission applies for one year only.
- Requests will be date stamped by STSCO and reviewed on a first come, first serve basis.
- Requests will be considered on a space available basis on existing routes and, in many cases, we will be unable to grant requests as area bus routes will be filled with eligible students.
- New bus routes will not be created to accommodate out of boundary requests.
- Requests made after the end of the month of May of the current school year will not be considered for possible placement prior to September 30 of the next school year.
- Bus routes change from year to year and this is why permission applies to one year only.

Please keep in mind that our first priority is to accommodate eligible students who are those who live within the school boundary. Although we will make every effort to meet Out of Boundary student transportation requests, families who are not contacted by June 30 should understand that their request cannot be accommodated as there is no space on area bus routes and, as a result, those families should make alternate arrangements to either transport their children to the school in question or consider attendance at their home school (i.e. the school whose regular boundary covers their residence address).

This information is provided in order that families can make informed decisions regarding their children's attendance at the school of the family's choice. Any questions regarding making a request can be directed to your Area Route Planner (see below) at the STSCO Office (705-748-5500 or toll free 1-800-757-0307).

Sincerely,

Joel Sloggett, C.A.O.
Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO)

cc - Denise Starling, Clarington Route Planner, extension 231
Alvina Seawright, Northumberland Route Planner, ext. 232
Glenn Monaghan, Peterborough Route Planner, ext. 241
Debbie Perdue, Peterborough Route Planner, ext. 242

