

March 2010



St. Stephen's Secondary School

The Royals' Review

PRINCIPAL
Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

VICE-PRINCIPALS
Marie-Claude Charette
Laurie Corrigan

CHAPLAIN
Jan Ethier

GUIDANCE
Nancy Leask - Chair
Dan O'Connor

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Kelly Young - Chair

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

LIBRARY
Joanne Spoelstra

PARISH PRIESTS
Fr. Peter Seabrooke
Fr. Paul Massel
Fr. Emmanuel Okpataku

CATHOLIC SCHOOL
COUNCIL CHAIR
Susan Drever

SUPERINTENDENT
Ron McNamara

TRUSTEES
Granville Anderson
Maureen Day

Believe, Love, Act:

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices"

Luke 1: 46-47

Principal's Message

"It is by forgiving that one is forgiven"

~Mother Teresa~

During March our schools are recognizing the Catholic virtue of FORGIVENESS. This virtue is an important cornerstone of our faith. It is the power to forgive and be forgiven that dwells in each of us. We remember that God our Father loves us unconditionally and forgives us for our mistakes, and that we grow more like Jesus by the way we love and forgive one another. This month, we examine our hearts to see if we truly are able to forgive others, especially when we have been really hurt by their words or actions. We are reminded that forgiveness is a gift to ourselves as we let go of the burden of resentment when we forgive another person.

The week of March 8th our progress reports will be mailed home with this newsletter. They are an early indication of how students are progressing in their courses of study this new semester. Parents' Night on March 25th will provide an opportunity for dialogue with teachers regarding student learning and achievement. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar.

Spring break begins March 15th and classes resume March 22nd. Staff and students are all looking forward to this well deserved break.

Have a safe, relaxing time with family and friends.

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/>



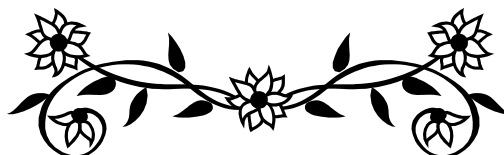


The staff at St. Stephen's proudly presents a monthly award to celebrate the positive engagement of our students.

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.

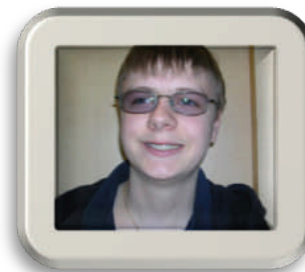
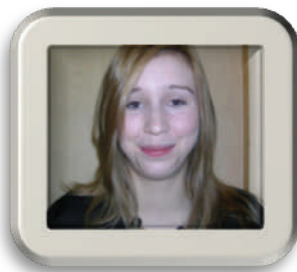
Congratulations to our recipients for the month of FEBRUARY:

Junior Royals - Stephanie Sheridan & Rita Mitton
Senior Royals - Alex Sarmatiuk & Brayden Robineau



Congratulations to our recipients for the month of MARCH:

Junior Royals - Joanna Martin & Jordan (Emelia) Aryee
Senior Royals - Rebecca Adams & Peter Becke



From the Offices of the Vice Principals

Emergency Preparedness: As in the past we will continue to hold fire and lock down drills. In order to assist parents and students who may be arriving at school during a drill we are advising that the selected date for our next lock down drill is:

Tuesday, April 13th, 2010.

Anyone arriving during the lock down drill is advised not to enter the building until we are cleared.

School Council

The next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday April 13th at 7:00pm in the conference room.

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

Time to Celebrate

It's with great delight that we are now in a position to celebrate the opening of our new addition. On February 22nd staff and students moved into our new wing of the school, vacating the parking lot portables after more than 10 years of use. What a joy to access such a beautiful, bright, classroom space. At this time of writing we don't yet have possession of the specialized areas; the tech facility, the new gym, art room or science lab, but they will be finished soon. Our grand celebration is scheduled March 30th at 1:00pm. Please see the enclosed flyer.



Student Council News

Since our last newsletter Student Council has been busy! On February 17th we launched our Adopt a Village program. Homerooms are collecting money to provide alternative income to families in poor nations in Africa through Free the Children. On February 26th we had an exciting Olympics Spirit Day. We were lucky to have snow on the ground so that students were able to participate in various winter events. On March 3rd we had a successful Coffee House, where students wowed us with their talents.

Upcoming events include:

March 10 – Free the Children Speaker

April 15th – Dance

Prom News:

FYI Prom is Friday June 4th at Trillium Trails. Tickets will go on sale in April!

March Break Trip News:

On Friday March 12, 20 students and 3 teacher chaperones will be heading to Italy to spend March break touring Rome, Florence & Venice. The group will be visiting the Vatican, Imperial Rome, the Christian Catacombs, St. Francis' Basilica in Assisi, Florence, Pisa, Venice, Verona and Milan. The itinerary is packed! This tour has been organized through Explorica Educational Travel. Check the next newsletter for pictures of March Break 2010 and details about March Break 2011!

From Chaplaincy

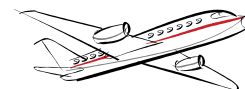
I have just returned from a one week social justice exposure trip to the Dominican Republic. With me were students

Kendal Daize, Meaghan Dee, Connor McLean, Brianna Ryan and Kayley Thibodeau. I want to thank these senior students for their courage and willingness to step out of their comfort zone and be open to experiencing life from the eyes of those who live very differently than we do.

The Dominican people shared their homes and their values of community, family, faith and sharing of whatever they have with us. We come home feeling very blessed indeed.

Again, I want to thank these students for their maturity in handling some very difficult situations. They were excellent ambassadors for St. Stephen's.

Ms. Ethier,



2010 Summer School

REGISTRATION BEGINS Wednesday, April 14, 2010. GRADES 5 AND 6 LITERACY AND NUMERACY CAMPS

Students who are presently in Grades 5 or 6 can attend Literacy or Numeracy camps at each of the Summer School sites listed below. These camps will run from 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. daily for two sessions as noted below. Students can register for both sessions of the literacy and numeracy camps or choose one session.

*Please note that parents are responsible for transportation for their children in Grades 5 and 6. There is no busing provided.

Campers will have a daily health and physical education break. For further information call the Peter L. Roach Catholic Education Centre at (705) 748-4861, ext. 172, toll free at 1-800-461-8009, ext. 172, or email jrcraig@pvnccdsb.on.ca

INTERMEDIATE SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES - Grades 7 and 8

Improve literacy and numeracy skills with reading, writing and math remediation programs. Registration deadline is Friday, June 11, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES - Grades 9 to 12

Full Credit - Credit Recovery - Upgrading Credit Courses - Transfer Courses Registration deadline is Friday, June 25, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Dates:

Intermediate (Grades 7 and 8) Summer School

Secondary (Grades 9 to 12) Summer School

Session #1 - Monday, July 5 to Friday, July 16, 2010

Session #2 - Monday, July 19 to Friday, July 30, 2010

For full credits Secondary students must attend Sessions #1 and #2.

Time: 8:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Host Schools for Intermediate and Secondary Summer School 2010

Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School, Peterborough

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Cobourg

St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School, Bowmanville

**Students from the City of Kawartha Lakes are invited to attend Camp or Summer School at any host location.

Brochures are available at all Catholic Schools, the Board Office or on the Board's website. Registration for Camp and Summer School is on-line at:

http://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/schools/summer-school.asp beginning Wednesday, April 14, 2010. For further information call the Peter L. Roach Catholic Education Centre at (705) 748-4861, ext. 350, toll free at 1-800-461-8009, ext. 350, or email summerschool@pvnccdsb.on.ca

STSCO Seeking Feedback

"Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) seeking feedback on bus service:

STSCO has recently advised the school that an online transportation service survey is available for families, parents and students to complete at their convenience. The intention of the survey is to obtain feedback and input on the bus and transportation service being provided to students this school year. Information collected will be used by STSCO to help meet its goal of continuously monitoring and improving the service provided to students, families and schools. Please follow the steps below and take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Step 1. Go to www.stsco.ca and press the "Enter Parent Survey Here" button.

Step 2. Fill in the STSCO Parent Survey and press the submit button at the end.

Any questions regarding the survey can be directed to Joel Sloggett, C.A.O., or Steve Jackson, Operations Manager, with STSCO. Your participation in the survey will be most appreciated.

From Our Guidance Department

MARCH BREAK – POST SECONDARY VISITS

Ontario's colleges and universities plan special events for secondary school students during our March Break. The best way to finalize your choice of post secondary school is to actually visit the campus. If you've already applied, it is not too late to visit. If application is in your future then some advance planning is wise. There are notices in Guidance and you may also go to www.electronicinfo.ca for information about university visits and www.ontariocolleges.ca for information about college visits. You wouldn't buy a car without test driving it. Why would you plan to spend up to \$60 00.00 on your education without test driving the school first?

FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

Every year St Stephen's hosts a financial aid officer to come and speak to students about O.S.A.P. for helping to finance post secondary education. The presentation usually takes place in the spring. Once the date and time is sent to us we shall announce it to students.



A Message from Fr. Paul Massel- St. Joseph's Parish

Our Beautiful Faith Story Lived!

Well, it seems Christmas has just past and already we are in the season of Lent preparing for Holy Week and the story of *our lives* being told once again. It's always so gratifying to spend time in the classroom. It always reminds me what a difference Catholic education means in the lives of our children. Seeing a greater power in everything and everyone including themselves makes for such a richer life.

This story of birth, of a life lived through joy and sorrow and then culminating in new life and rebirth—it's our story too! "What shall we give up for lent?" I might ask. And many respond: one hour of TV or of computer games... Father, I'm giving up chocolate!" And giving up 30 minutes of TV, what will you do with the extra thirty minutes in your day? "Maybe spend time with my little brother or help mom with the dishes or clean my room." What does all this mean? "It means we can make good choices in our lives, choices greater than just what we love doing, choices to help others! Now how much better does our Christian story get than when our children come up with such learning? Our faith story can make such a difference if we align ourselves with it, talk about it and seek to live it.

Our 8-week Alpha program at St. Joseph's has been a great success and on Wednesday, March 3 at 7PM we begin a marvelous book study on Henri Nouwen's book, "The Return of the Prodigal Son." Come join us. Books are in the office. It's an easy read and a profound experience.

Don't forget, all children receiving Confirmation or First Eucharist this year need to register for the Mass and day they wish to receive it. Please call the office.

Good News from Peter Seabrooke - St. Francis Parish

JOURNEY TO EASTER

Just as during the winter break some of us will be setting out on a journey to places such as Florida, or sports tournaments, I would like to invite everyone to set out with me on a journey to Easter. Our destination is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection, His great victory over death. Just as the people who go on journeys during the winter break need to make preparations, all of us need to prepare for Easter. Our preparations are what Lent (a word which is from middle English "lenten" meaning springtime) is all about. Lent is a very suitable name for our journey because just as spring is all about the promise of new life, so is Easter. Lenten journey prepares us for Easter by offering us opportunities to renew our relationship with God and one another through celebrating forgiveness from our sins through the sacrament of reconciliation, through prayer and through fasting, that is, by going without some pleasure in order to grow stronger as Christians. Consult your parish bulletins and websites for the times of the various services. While each parish will have its own special Lenten events, I would like to invite you to one that all three Clarington parishes are joining together for and that is a 12 hour opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation March 26, 8:30-8:30 in St. Joseph Church, Bowmanville. Priests from all three parishes will be taking turns, so drop in. May all of us have a hope filled and joy filled Lenten journey.



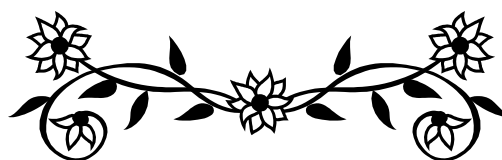
**First Nation, Métis and Inuit News
March – Sugar Moon**

The third moon of Creation is Sugar Moon. As the maple sap begins to run, we learn of one of the main medicines given to the

Anishnaabe which balances our blood and heals us.

Grandfather Teachings: Wisdom

It is to be discovered on your journey through life...in a wild flower, in the face and words of an elder. If you listen you will hear it in every sound, if you look you will see it in all things!



St. Stephen's Welcomes Educators from Scotland

On February 19th, educators from Scotland visited our school. They travelled to Durham College to learn about our Centre for Success program and greatly enjoyed having the opportunity to meet our students and staff. A tour of St. Stephen's provided a great opportunity for dialogue about educational practice in Ontario and Scotland. They were most interested in learning about strategies supporting students in achieving their graduation diploma.



Drama Department

The "Set" for "Annie" is well underway!

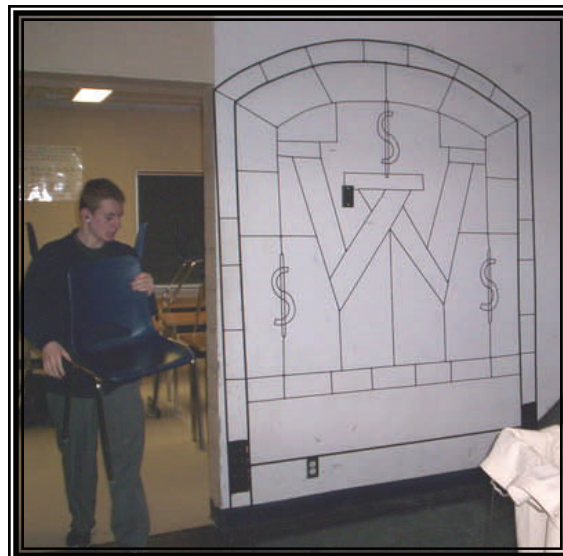
by John Sheridan

As you can see from these pictures, progress has been made on the set for our up coming musical production of "Annie".

The first picture on the right shows the beginning of the stain glass window that will be featured in Daddy Warbuck's wealthy mansion. The glass still needs to be added but the frame was beautifully welded by Mr. Oliver and his students.

The Third picture shows work being done on the columns that will eventually be painted to look like marble. These will also be used to adorn the Warbuck's mansion.

The second picture illustrates the progress on the beds used in the orphanage scene. They still don't have their head or foot boards but they will by May 5th, 6th, and 7th. These are the dates of our production, so you are best to mark these on your calendar. Tickets will go on sale to the public as of April 9th. We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be a fabulous production.



Important Dates

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| March 15 – 19, 2010 | March Break |
| March 25, 2010 | Parents' Night |
| April 1, 2010 | Holy Thursday |
| April 2, 2010 | Good Friday |
| April 5, 2010 | Easter Monday |
| April 8, 2010 | O.S.S.L.T. |
| April 19, 2010 | Last day of CHV/GLC (Term 1) |
| April 20, 2010 | First day of GLC/CHV (Term 2) |
| April 23, 2010 | Third data transmission of Semester 2 mid-term marks to OCAS |
| April 23, 2010 | Deadline for submission of Semester 2 mid-terms marks to OUAC |
| May 1, 2010 | Applicants must confirm their acceptance through OCAS |



Athletics' at St. Stephen's

Girls Volleyball

The Junior Girls Volleyball team had a competitive season this year and earned a spot in the semi-finals. The girls faced off against Garnier in an exciting and well played match but were defeated in the third set by only 3 points.

Robyn Carroll was fierce on the court attacking our opponents with her spikes. **Dreuanah Davidson** was aggressive, digging the ball and earning points with her hits. **Moira Higgins** was calm and reliable during all our matches and earned many consecutive points with her strategic serves. **Nicole Van Den Hoogen** was quick on her toes setting the ball front court, back court and offside.

Hayley Neuman stayed focus on the court remembering to play defense. **Adrianna Speziale** tried to keep St. Stephen's momentum going and played front court well blocking and tipping the ball. **Victoria Iantaomasi** made some excellent passes to our setter and hit the ball deep. **Nicole Barrow** hit and tipped the ball well against our opponents. **Brianna Quade** served hard and earned points with her left handed spike. **Chantelle Renaud** passed the ball well and earned points with her strategic front court tip.

Great work girls!

Ms. Conforti.



Semester Goals

This semester there has been an increasing number of students arriving late for school and for class throughout the day. Students are expected to be in their homeroom, in uniform, and prepared for their class with all required materials by 8:26a.m. These expectations applies to all classes throughout the day. Chronic lateness impacts student learning and achievement and demonstrates a lack of regard for the learning environment. For these reasons then, operation 'ARRIVE ON TIME ' will be a focus for our school. Students arriving late to class will not be admitted and will be immediately directed to the office.



Grade 10 Literacy Test

OSSLT 2010 Calendar

| | |
|----------------|--|
| March 9-12 | Target date for return of the practice test |
| Mar. 23-25 | Help sessions in the library, Tuesdays – Thursdays 2:15 – 4:00 |
| Mar. 30-Apr. 1 | |
| Apr. 6 & 7 | |
| Mar. 22+ | Two in-school sessions for students rewriting the test. TBA |
| Apr. 7 | Information assembly |
| Apr. 8 | Test for Grade 10 and Students Rewriting the OSSLT |

Information and Tips for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test:

Sample Test Questions, Student and Parent Resources at www.eqao.com
 Tips for Success: follow the link from the school website at www.sscss.ca

Students Rewriting the Literacy Test

The St. Stephen's Literacy Committee has the following plans in place for supporting students rewriting the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on Thursday, April 8, 2010:

1. An account with Reading Ahead High School, an online program that uses social networking tools along with booklets based on the OSSLT test. Students have been notified about their accounts. They can access this program any where they can get on the Internet by logging into www.readingahead.com
2. Two preparation and practice sessions during the school day and arranged with a teacher-volunteer.
3. After school help and practice sessions. See the calendar elsewhere in this newsletter.



PARENT INFORMATION MEETING!

Safe Schools Legislation has changed in Ontario in the last year.
As a parent, what do you need to know?

Monday, March 8, 2010

Bowmanville High School
49 Liberty St. N., Bowmanville
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Henry St. High School
600 Henry St., Whitby
6:30 - 8:30 PM

What are schools doing to prevent bullying?

What is progressive discipline?

What happens when a student behaves inappropriately?

**How you can help promote positive behaviour in school
as a parent?**

Parents of school aged children and community agencies
that work with parents are invited to attend this FREE
session and get their questions answered.

Refreshments will be served

This meeting is sponsored by:
Community Development Council Durham

For more information, please contact:
Sarah Squire or Benjamin Earle - (905) 686-2661

