



# April 2011 Newsletter

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School**

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## Spiritual Theme:

**Believe, Love, Act: "The greatest among you will be your servant."**

**Matthew 23:11**

## Stewardship

**In Peace, Hope and Joy**

### Catholic Virtues Into Action - The Virtue of Stewardship

As Catholics, we are encouraged to share what we have with others, to respect our neighbours as ourselves and to assist those less fortunate. By sharing of ourselves and helping those around us, we are, in essence, practising Christian STEWARDSHIP.

In fact, "STEWARDSHIP" reaches far beyond financial contributions and encourages Catholics to live their lives as disciples of Jesus. Equipped with this knowledge, we have the power to change how we understand and live out our lives, beginning a life-long process of sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure out of gratitude, not out of obligation. Living our baptismal promises becomes the motivational force behind our actions.

In our school community, we encounter many examples of STEWARDSHIP as students, staff and parents volunteer to help others achieve their dreams. In April, we especially look towards our role as stewards of the environment. Students show their understanding and need to care for our fragile planet and use our resources wisely through lessons, projects and practical activities. We will grow in our capacity to be responsible citizens. We invite you to join us on this journey by reducing, reusing, recycling and composting. At school, we want to make sure refuse and garbage is accounted for. Please send in recyclable containers for lunches and snacks. Earth and Creation will be in good hands at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School.

Our Lenten journey is soon to be met with Holy Week and the Easter season. At this time, we congratulate our grade two's and other students who celebrated First Reconciliation in March and will celebrate First Communion.

As we journey may the gifts of hope, peace, and love be yours during this sacred season of Easter and throughout the month of April and beyond.

Mr. Guy Charette,  
Vice Principal.

Mrs. Linda Bier,  
Principal.



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Check out our school website: <http://schools.pvnccdsb.on.ca/stfra14>

## You are Invited to Family Literacy Night

**"Read Around the World" JK—Gr. 5**

**On April 27, 2011**

**From 6:30—8:00 p.m.**

**The evening will be a fun-filled event of reading and refreshments sponsored by the Catholic School Council. Please watch for the flyer.**

## 2011 Summer School

REGISTRATION BEGINS Thursday, April 18, 2011.

### GRADES 5 AND 6 LITERACY AND NUMERACY CAMPS

Students who are presently in Grades 5 or 6 at a Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board Catholic School can attend Literacy or Numeracy camps. These camps will run from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. daily for two sessions. Students can register for both sessions of the literacy and numeracy camps or choose one session. Registration deadline is Friday, June 10, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. \*Please note that parents are responsible for transportation. There is no bussing provided. Campers will have a daily health and physical education break.

### INTERMEDIATE SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES - Grades 7 and 8. Daily 8:15—2:15

Improve literacy and numeracy skills with reading, writing and math remediation programs. Registration deadline is Friday, June 10, 4 p.m.

### SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES - Grades 9 to 12 Full Credit - Credit Recovery - E-Learning—Upgrading Credit Courses - Transfer Courses

Registration deadline is Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

#### Dates:

Intermediate (Grades 7 and 8)  
Summer School  
Secondary (Grades 9 to 12) Summer School  
Session #1 - Monday, July 4 to Friday, July 15, 2011  
Session #2 - Monday, July 18 to Friday, July 29, 2011  
For full credits, Secondary students must attend Sessions #1 and #2.

#### Summer School Sites

St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School, Cobourg  
St. Stephen's Catholic Secondary School, Bowmanville  
Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School, Peterborough  
St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, Lindsay

**Register at:** <http://www.pvncdsb.on.ca/schools/summer-school.asp>. Brochures are available at all Catholic schools, or on the Board's website. For further information call the Catholic Education Centre at (705) 748-4861, ext. 350, toll free at 1-800-461-8009, ext. 350, or email [summer-school@pvncdsb.on.ca](mailto:summer-school@pvncdsb.on.ca)

## Library News

All members of the Forest Book Clubs continue to read along enthusiastically! Red Maple people have read a total of 88 books! Silver Birch members have read 79 books and Silver Birch Express members have read 105 books! That's an impressive total of 272 books! Congratulations everyone! We're looking forward to Voting Days which are held the week of April 18th. Our public library visits are happening March 29th, 31st & April 4th. More on those to follow.

Mrs. Cormack  
Library Support Specialist



## EQAO CALENDAR: Attention Grade 3 and 6

The EQAO Assessment dates for this year are set as follows:

**Grade 3:** May 30th to June 3rd

**Grade 6:** June 6th to June 9th

If you have children in those grades, **please avoid** booking holidays or medical appointments, etc. on those dates. It is important that all grade 3 and 6 students participate in the full day on those dates. More information will follow from the classroom teachers.

## National Volunteer Appreciation Week April 10-16th, 2010

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School has been blessed with a wealth of volunteers who support our school in a multitude of ways. Whether you are involved in classroom support, committee work, special events or countless other ways of contributing to our school community, please know that your efforts are valued and appreciated. Volunteers truly do make a difference as we work together for the best interest of our students. Our goal is to extend a personal thank you to each one of our volunteers this week. A lofty goal, indeed!

## Criminal Background Checks for Volunteers

Parent volunteers require a Police Check. If you already have one on file with the school, a "Volunteer Annual Declaration" form must be collected. This form must be signed annually. Please contact Mrs. Ryckman, our secretary, for forms. **"Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless"**. Author unknown.



## The Most Important Week by Fr. Peter Seabrooke



On April 17 we set out on an eight day journey, the most important week in our Church year. The journey begins with Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Then we break bread with Him at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday when Jesus gave us both the Eucharist and the ordained priesthood. This is a way that we remember the events of the next day, Good Friday, when Jesus died on the cross to free us from our sins, and also Easter Sunday the great celebration of hope, when He rose from the dead.

I would like to invite everyone to set aside whatever else you have going that week and join with your sisters and brothers in the faith in our various celebrations. Join with us for our Sunday Mass and carry your palm in the procession. Come to celebrate the school Mass on Tuesday at St. Francis School. Join us for our Holy Thursday Mass (7:00 p.m.), our Good Friday outdoor Stations of the Cross in the neighbourhood (1:00 p.m.) and the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion (3:00 p.m.). Then, join with us for the most important celebration in the whole Church year, the Easter Vigil (April 23, 8:00 p.m.) and our Easter Sunday Masses the next day. Come and bring the whole family.

## Catholic School Council News

**Save the Date!** Together with our librarian, Mrs. Cormack, and teachers, Catholic School Council presents its last Parent Involvement initiative for this year: Literacy Night. On Wednesday, April 27, parents and students are invited to "Read Around the World". Watch for a flyer with more information on this free event later in April.

The Catholic School Council needs parent volunteers for two committees: The Fundraising Committee and the Parent Involvement Committee. The Fundraising Committee will look at fundraising needs and opportunities and make recommendations to Council on fundraising for the 2011/2012 school year. The Parent Involvement Committee will look at strengthening the bond between parents and the school community. If you can participate in either committee, send an email to [St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com](mailto:St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com) or leave a message for Susana Gomes at the school.

Current Catholic School Council meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board outside the office and copies from previous meetings are available in the office. If you would like a copy of the minutes emailed to you, send your request to [St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com](mailto:St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com). You should send a request for each meeting as the minutes are not sent out automatically.

The next CSC meeting will be held on Monday, April 11, 2011 from 6PM to 7:30PM in the school library. All are welcome. Child care is available with prior arrangement.

Council wishes all students, teachers and school staff a very Happy Easter!

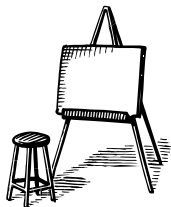
Susana Gomes, Vice-chair, Catholic School Council  
[St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com](mailto:St.FrancisCSC@gmail.com)

## Early Learning Programme for St. Francis of Assisi School

The Ministry of Education has announced the third round of the provincial Early Learning Program for Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board schools.

Beginning in September, 2012, St. Francis of Assisi School students will participate in year 3 of this program. We look forward in having Junior Kindergarten students join us at school all day every day.

## The Starlight Art Project



This year, our Grade 6's are participating in an exciting art project through the Starlight Foundation and Crayola. Students were asked to show the characteristics of courage and hope in their art. Six pieces were chosen and are currently on display for an on-line auction. You can view the art pieces now and make an on-line bid between Apr. 1-15 at: [www.starlightartproject.org](http://www.starlightartproject.org).

Half of the money raised will go to the Starlight Foundation to help support children who are suffering from illness and the other half will be given back to the school where more art supplies will be purchased. Please take the time to view the art, support a worthy cause, and support the Gr. 6 students at St. Francis.

Thank you, Ms. Armstrong

## 8th Annual Spring Conference—Northumberland Children's Services

Present: **Jennifer Kolari**, M.S.W., R.S.W., Parent and Child Therapist  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Lion's Community Centre, Cobourg

6:30—8:00 Connected Parenting: A New Approach to Age-old Challenges. Free (childcare available by advance request)

Check Out [www.connectedparenting.com](http://www.connectedparenting.com)

## Recycle for Education

**Don't forget to drop off your empty ink and toner cartridges to Staples! It will earn money for our school.**



## Sacramental Grace

Please pray for our Confirmation and First Eucharist candidates who are preparing to receive the sacraments. An exciting time for our school community and our families.

## Knights of Columbus Free Throw Winners at the District Level

Congratulations to:  
Courtney Irwin—10 yr. old girls  
Liam Caume—12 yr. old boys  
Spencer MacArthur—13 yr. old boys

## Parent Police Coalition Night—

Monday April 18th,  
2011 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Harold Longworth Public School, 350 Longworth Avenue Bowmanville  
Topic: Keeping kids and parents in the know, Safe proofing our kids - Elementary school level



# April 2011—Stewardship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Looking Ahead</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ May 1—6—Catholic Education Week</li> <li>♦ May 3—Easter Mass at Church</li> <li>♦ May 3 &amp; 5—Talent Show 1-2 pm</li> <li>♦ May 5—Art Night—Gr. 5-8</li> <li>♦ May 12—Early Learning Parent Information Night (JK's 2011)— 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>♦ May 13—Empower Hour</li> <li>♦ May 26 &amp; 27—Grade 8 Trip to Niagara Falls</li> </ul>					1 1:45—3 Anti-racism workshop Gr. 8 	2 
3	4 Bruckmann swimming 9-10  Pm—Silver Birch Book Club visits Public Library	5 8:25 School Meeting  Boys' Basketball home game  1:15—Gr. 6 VIP	6 Think Bowl  All Winners Indoor Soccer Tournament—Trent University Foley swimming 1-2 pm  Catholic School Council Chairs Meeting at St. Peter's Secondary 6-8	7 	8 Grad Photos am 	9
10	11 Sedgwick swimming 9-10 am  4:30 Grad Mtg.  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">             6 pm Catholic School Council Meeting           </div>	12 Gr. 3 Safety Village—9 am  1:15—Gr. 6 VIP  Boys' Basketball home game	13 Basketball  School Bus Evacuation  Cullen swimming 1-2 pm	14 School Bus Evacuation  Basketball Alternate day 	15 Gr. 2—Safety Village 10:30 	16 
17 <b>Holy Week</b>  Palm Sunday	18 Sedgwick swimming 9-10 am  Spring Photos JK/SK, Gr. 4, 6, 7, 8	19 9 am Jr. Mass—church  1:15—Gr. 6 VIP  Spring Photos JK—Gr. 3, Gr. 5, CASA	20  Cullen swimming 1-2 pm	21 Holy Thursday  	22 Good Friday  Earth Day	23 
24  	25 Easter Monday No school	26 8:25 School Meeting  Dental Screening—JK/SK, Gr. 2	27 Cullen swimming 1-2 pm  Read Around the World 6:30—8 pm Basketball—girls-Holy Cross/Boys-St. Peter  Dental Screening—JK/SK, Gr. 2	28 Basketball alt 	29 Toonie for Autism	30 <b>&amp; May 1</b>  First Communion

**Me to We are leading our Toonie for Autism Fundraiser. Stay tuned for details on supporting our students living with ASD**