St. Boniface

DECEMBER

Principal Message

Rejoice! Jesus is born!

May this Advent /Christmas season be filled with many blessings for you and your family!

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the Christmas season; it seems that September was just last week!

A tremendous Thank You to our School Council, particularly Julie Kobe and Lesley Swift, for all the time, energy and dedication that went into making our annual Pasta Dinner another success! Thank you to our parents, students and wider community for the continued support!

There are many important dates in December to be mindful of:

Dec. 7 – First Reconciliation for Grade 2 students

Dec. 9 – PA Day

Dec. 11 – Christmas Party sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Dec. 15 - School Advent Mass

Dec. 20- School Christmas Lunch

Dec. 21- Christmas Concert

Dec. 23 – Last school day before the holidays

On behalf of the St. Boniface School Staff we wish everyone a Blessed Christmas!
SPORTS NEWS

Intermediate Boys’ Volleyball

On Tuesday, November 15th, ten Intermediate boys participated in the Intermediate Boys’ Volleyball tournament which was held at Resurrection Secondary School in Waterloo. There, they competed against four other schools, including St. Timothy, Monsignor Haller, St. Agatha, and St. Mark. The team did an amazing job and the boys played extremely well! The boys just got better and better as the day went on, and enjoyed lots of long rallies. Our first set of games was played against St. Timothy, where we won the first 2 games in the set of 3. We then played against Monsignor Haller in a nail-biting round. We won the first game, Haller won the second game, and we came out victorious in the 3rd, which clinched the win for our second round. We were then up against St. Agatha, winning the first two games. That put us up against St. Mark. After another exciting round of volleyball, the boys won both games, putting us in first place. The team came home with the first place prize! All of the games were exciting and very close. It was an excellent afternoon of volleyball. Congratulations to all ten boys – Erik B., Chase S., Jake M., Jacob G., Max M., Alex Z., Mitchell H., Owen B., Matthew U., and Allejandro L. The boys did an excellent job of representing our school, demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship and great team spirit! St. Boniface is proud of you!

Intermediate Girl’s Basketball

On Monday, November 21, 2016 our Intermediate Girls Basketball team traveled to St. David’s high school to participate in a small school tournament. The team members were, Dani, Autumn, Jasmine, Kristen, Allie, Jocelyn, Amber, Claire, Daniella, Maria, Avery, Grace, and Haylea. The girls showed awesome teamwork and had a fun afternoon. We would like to give a big thank you out to Mrs. Egredija for coming into the school to run practices in the weeks before the tournament and for both Mr. and Mrs. Egredija for organizing the girls into shifts and running the team at St. David’s. Way to go girls for your enthusiasm and teamwork!
MARYHILL KNIGHTS COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 6024
ANNOUNCES
THEIR ANNUAL BASKETBALL
FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

*The Free Throw Championship is a great way to generate interest in*
sports and friendship in your local school community. It provides
youth with a rewarding activity, as winners are provided with a chance
to complete at the council, district, regional and international level.
The Championship is open to all boys and girls in the community
from ages 9 to 14 years. Proof of age as of January 1st is required.
The competition is set to start at the council level, with all participants
competing within their own gender and age group. Prizes are awarded in
each age and gender group.  

Parents and Families Welcome

Date: January 22nd 2017
Place: St Boniface School Gym Maryhill
Registration 1:00pm
Convener Gary Embro  Email: gpembro@hotmail.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 21, 2016
Doors open at 5:30 PM
Show starts at 6:00 PM

DON'T FORGET!
Christmas Giving

This Christmas season, our school would like your help to support others in need in our community. We are working with Woolwich Community Services.

The students of St. Boniface would like to sponsor 2 families in our community who could use a little help. We would like to share the Christmas Spirit with others this year, so any donation is greatly appreciated.

The first family has one adult male, one adult female, a 2-year-old female child and a 6-month old male child.

The second family has one adult female, an 11-year-old female child and a 1-year-old female child.

We are looking to give each adult a gift valued at approximately $20.00.

The 2-year-old girl is a size 2 (petite) in clothing. She could use some Pajama’s, socks, sweaters and leggings or tights.

The 6-month-old boy (petite) is a size 9-12 months in clothing. He could use some skinny jeans, ¾ long sleeved 2 tone t-shirt, some sleepers or some age appropriate outfits.

Or age appropriate toys.

The 11-year-old girl is a size 14 in clothing. She could use some leggings, long sleeved t-shirts, and long floor skirts.

The 1-year-old girl is size 12 -18 months and could use some outfits.

The 3 girls have some specific requests for toys. If you are interested in donating one of these items, please call the school at 519-648-2832 and we will let you know what is on the list.

We have to have all donations in by December 8th. With your support we can help these two families have a Merry Christmas.
The following students were recognized for acting in the image of Jesus in November.

- Angelina—Gr. 3
- Sam—Gr. 3
- Ashrena—Gr. 2
- Robyn—Gr. 2
- Jonathan O—Gr. 3
- Tracey—Gr. 1
- Evelyn—JK
- Mya—SK
- Hailee—Gr. 3
- Reese—Gr. 2
- Jonathan S—Gr. 3
- Sam—Gr. 3
- Ava V.—SK
- Charlie—SK
- Sophia Patron—Gr. 2

**Campbell’s Labels for Education**

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the collection of labels for our Campbell’s Labels for Education Program. To date since 2013 we have collected almost 9000 labels providing 192 Healthy Meals for needy children. Campbell’s is ending this program as of December 31, 2016. They are heading in a different direction which we will learn about in January. My final submission of labels will be made on December 23, 2016.

Mrs. Hamilton
THE FOREST OF READING® STARTS FOR 2017!

We are excited to inform you that our school is registered in Forest of Reading program - a highly popular recreational reading program for students in grades JK - 8. Reading is always a high profile activity at our school but this voluntary reading program is something extra special. There are eight programs in the Forest of Reading®, a project of the Ontario Library Association, each planned for a different age group. All are designed to promote reading for enjoyment, to increase awareness of quality Canadian literature, to enhance student powers of discrimination and skill in evaluating books, and to provide opportunities to engage in discussions about books whether at school or at home. Last year over 250,000 readers across the country read and voted for the best book in each category.

This is how the program works. Readers read the ten Canadian titles on a list, and then vote for their favorite (must read a minimum of 5 to be eligible to vote). Voting day is in late April and our school will vote the entire month of April. Our children will participate in selecting the winner of the Blue Spruce, White Pine and Red Maple Awards. Based on voting across the province, the best book is announced and the author is honored with an award at the Festival of Trees™ in Toronto on May, 2017.

Forest of Reading Award Program – Grades JK - 8

Your child is encouraged to participate in Blue Spruce, White Pine and/or Red Maple. To qualify to vote in April at least five of the ten nominated books on the shortlists must be read. In order to complete as many books as possible, students are encouraged to read at school, as well as at home.

Students must have their reading confirmed and registered by Miss Lance, who is running the program. This can be done during recess, library time or before or after school. There will be no formal projects to do, just discussions to enjoy an open ended, free conversation around the books. The Forest of Reading® main premise is to foster the love of reading and create lifelong readers.

You, the parents and home

Studies show that parents who read are powerful role models and are one of the most important predictors of children reading. Give reading and books stature in your home! Talk about books with your child. Demonstrate your love for reading and books. Make reading fun! Make Forest of Reading fun! You may want to read aloud to each other.

We suggest that in addition to borrowing Forest of Reading titles from the library, or visiting our VLC and borrow using our Overdrive, you may also visit public libraries or you may wish to purchase some for your child’s home library and have your child share them with friends.

School Community: Council, Principal and Teachers

Reading projects like these need books for circulation. Thank you to the WCDSB Learning Commons (VLC) for purchasing the Blue Spruce books this year. The support of school administrators is essential and we could not have done it without their help. In the end it is the classroom teachers who work directly with the children and show such love and enthusiasm towards reading and we thank them for supporting this amazing initiative.

Summary

Common sense tells us, and research confirms, that the more a student reads the greater their academic success. In addition, the development of a lifelong habit of reading enriches life. Let us boost our children's reading. We will be asking you for feedback, especially ways and means that these reading projects can be enhanced for your child. If you have questions, suggestions, contributions of time and books, etc. do not hesitate to call Miss Lance at the school or email to carol.lance@wcdsb.ca. You can learn more about Forest of Reading Awards program and all of the other ones at the Ontario Library Association website: http://www.accessola.com.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Lance

Library Technician
Community News

ST. BONIFACE COMMUNITY EVENTS – DECEMBER

PLEASE NOTE – Christmas Masses – Saturday, Dec. 24th 5:00 & 9:30 p.m. Children’s Christmas Play 4:45 p.m. & Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec. 25th at 10 a.m. NEW HORIZONS – Thursday, December 8th Maryhill
Heritage Community Centre, 58 St. Charles St. E, Maryhill. 10-11:30 a.m. Admission $2.00. Guest speaker Carol Barnhardt, 4Gs Guelph Go-Go Grandmothers and the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Topic: Walking in the Shoes of an Ugandan Grandmother. For more information contact Joan Haid (519) 648-2742 or jehaid@xplornet.ca

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE MEETING – Christmas Party -Thursday December 8th .Mass & dinner at Riverside Glen, Guelph. All women welcome! Memberships are now due. Cost $20.00. Please contact Mary Campagnaro (519) 822-9287 or Fran Vegh (519) 648-3952.

The ladies are collecting for the Sanguen Health Centre. They operate a van that spends 2 nights per week in Kitchener and Cambridge and hoping to add a 3rd night going into Waterloo and Elmira. The van, working in partnership with some amazing people, brings necessary services to anyone who requires them. Being collected are toiletries: sanitary pads & tampons (individually packaged), deodorant, lip balm, shampoo, nail clippers, toothbrushes, tooth paste, mouthwash, disposable razors, denture adhesive and cleaner. Hotel / travel size are easiest for them.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GENERAL MEETING – Tuesday, December 6th at 7 p.m.at the Community Centre. All men welcome!

CEMETERY FUND – Every 2nd month (December) a white envelope will be in the church bulletin entitled “CEMETERY FUND”. December will be the next collection. Please give generously. The money from this fund will help preserve our cemeteries especially our “Old Walled Cemetery” which is in need of some major repairs. Please include your name and envelope number to receive credit.