



St. Stephen Secondary School

The Royals' Review

PRINCIPAL

Mark Joly

VICE-PRINCIPALS

Rob Citro

Laurie Corrigan

CHAPLAIN

Toni Bellefontaine

GUIDANCE

Valorie Tinney-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

Jennie Clarke

PARISH PRIESTS

Fr. Paul Massel

Fr. Peter Seabrooke

Fr. Emmanuel

Okpataku

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS

Susan Drever

Donna Drakes

SUPERINTENDENT

Ron McNamara

TRUSTEES

Granville Anderson

Maureen Day

BELIEVE, LOVE, ACT

"The greatest among you will be your servant"

Matthew 23: 11

Message from the Principal :

We have had an excellent start to the school year. Students have been very active in their participation in extra curriculars. It has been great to see so much activity in and around our facility after school hours. Practices and rehearsals of teams and clubs are helping students to build new friendships while developing communication and leadership skills.

This fall staff have emphasized with students the need for a strong work ethic in both effort and attitude in their courses; midterm report results are a strong indication of that commitment. Midterm is an opportune time for students and parents to develop an improvement plan which can help support academic achievement.

Please take some time to review your child's report card and set an action plan with them. If you have questions for the teacher or if you wish to discuss your child's progress, please feel free to call the school at (905)623-3990. Voice mailboxes are available 24 hours a day and teachers will return your call.

Attached to the midterm report card is a short document titled *Supporting your Child's Learning through Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting*. It describes some changes to the secondary school report card. Specifically, we are working to:

- place more emphasis on learning skills and work habits
- write comments that are personalized, clear and meaningful

Our primary purpose in assessing, evaluating and reporting student progress is to improve

student learning. The changes to the report card complement the work being done by our school and our Board in the domain of Assessment for Learning (AFL). The goal of AFL is to provide opportunities for students by tapping into the latest assessment research and best practices.

We make attempts to communicate with parents through a variety of modalities: our automatic phone message machine, the message board on the school sign, our dynamic website, and paper mailings. One of our goals for the year will be to increase our level of communication with parents through e-mail. An initial step in accomplishing this goal is collecting and verifying parent e-mail addresses. During the week of December 6th your child will bring home an information verification sheet on which you can list your e-mail address. This sheet should then be returned to your child's homeroom teacher. In the interim, if you wish to advise us of your e-mail address, please send an e-mail listing your address and your child's name to Ms. DeVilliers at ddevilliers@pvnccdsb.on.ca.

The next newsletter will come to you at the beginning of the second semester in February. Thank you for your continued support. On behalf of the faculty and support staff, I wish you blessings this upcoming Advent Season and a joyous celebration at Christmas with your family and friends.

God Bless,

Mark Joly



EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC 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

The staff at St. Stephen's proudly present's 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:

OCTOBER

*Junior Royals - Jake London & Melissa Poirier

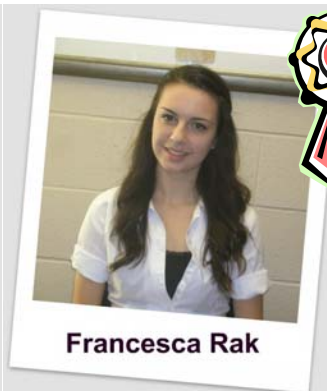
*Senior Royals - Francesca Rak & Connor Vale



Jake London



Melissa Poirier



Francesca Rak



Connor Vale

Physical Education

Our Junior Boys Soccer team won "AA" LOSSA Gold Champions this fall with a 4-1 final victory against Monsigneur Pereyma Secondary School to win the title. Matt Gazdzicki had 2 goals, singles went to Ryan Ranich and Jordan Leigh. Brandon Trevisanutto was in goal. Head Coach Mr. Heitzner was extremely pleased with the effort put forth by all players this season. Our Senior Boys Soccer Head Coach Mr. Paziuk, was also pleased with his team's work ethic, but fell just short in the semi-finals.

St. Stephen's had another solid season for both our Junior and Senior Football teams and we look forward to next season. Coaches Mr. Danylyshen, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Carmichael, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Paige are excited for the 2011-12 season. This year's Football Banquet is on November 30th.

Mr. Leonard and Ms. Wilson have enjoyed working with the Sr. and Jr. Girls Basketball teams and look forward to even better results next year.

Our Cross Country Running team coached by Ms. Lavallee and Ms. Laronde had several outstanding results by various team members and all the runners should be congratulated.

Our season wouldn't be complete without acknowledging our Golf teams coached by Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Laronde and our Fitness Club supervisors Mr. Oliver, Mr. Poechman and Mr. O'Dell.

It is now time to begin our new season of sports and clubs as our Boys basketball, Girls Volleyball, Boys Jr. and Sr. Hockey and Girls Varsity Hockey get underway. Go Royals Go!!!

Mr. Leonard Curriculum Chair





The Arts - John Sheridan

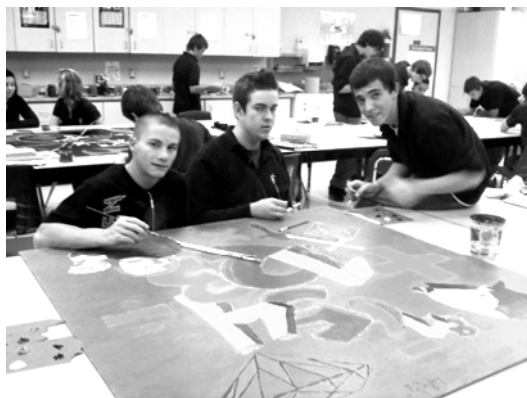
Be sure to keep the evening of Thursday **December 9th** free, as it is our annual **Arts Night**. With visual arts displays, dramatic scenes, musical performances by our junior and senior bands, as well as guest performances by our Show Choir and Youth On Fire choir, Arts Night will prove to be a one of a kind evening of entertainment. The show starts at 7:30 and we are asking a \$5.00 donation at the door. The Food and Nutrition class will be operating a kiosk that night if you wish to purchase refreshments. Hope to see you there!

On another note, I am in the middle of acquiring the rights and scripts to perform Leanna Brodie's Schoolhouse. This will be our main stage production this year. It is a beautifully written play about an Ontario school teacher around 1930, who teaches multiple subjects to multiple grades all out of a one room school house. In her first year, she teaches students who are not much older than herself, delivering lessons on the curriculum as well as on tolerance, acceptance, and second chances. I hope to cast the play in December and have the production ready for early May. If your son or daughter would love to act, tell them to listen to the announcements for when the audition process begins.



The Arts - Ms. Demoe

ART-IFYING THE BARE WALLS OF ST. STEPHEN! Students in the Grade 11 Visual Arts class have designed and created subject-specific mural panels that are destined for installation at our school. Each student's individual work was creatively put together into a collaborative design that reflects elements of all members of the group. These students have painted the panels over the past several weeks and are proud to present their work at Arts Night on December 9th. Future mural projects are planned and extra-curricular assistance is always welcomed! Interested? See Ms. Demoe in Room 148.



Guidance

The Guidance Department has had a very busy fall. We welcome Ms. Val Tinney as the new Curriculum Chair for Guidance, Co-op and Careers. Ms. Tinney is responsible for Grades 9 and 10 and Mr. O'Connor is responsible for Grades 11 and 12. The grade 12's have been busy with College and University Liaison visits. Mr. O'Connor has met with classes to talk about the application process and finances. Application deadlines are; University - January 12, 2011 and College- February 1st, 2011. Students have been asked to try and get their applications in before Christmas. Parents are asked to contact the appropriate counselor if they have any questions about courses or pathways for their son or daughter.

Message from the Breakfast Club

St. Stephen is pleased to offer "Breakfast Club" again this year to students in all grades from 7:50 am until approximately 8:15 am in room 169. "Breakfast Club" provides breakfast items to any students in any grade and is open every morning. Feel free to come by and grab a quick bite of something to eat on your way. You are also welcome to sit and linger over your breakfast, and chat with friends. Hope to see you there!



Library

White Pine Reading Program @ your library

Once again St. Stephen's is participating in the Ontario Library Association Forest of Reading Program. Each year high school students have the opportunity to read ten young adult novels written by Canadian authors. Students who join the White Pine Club meet for discussion and events, including a voting day luncheon and trip to Harbourfront, Toronto for the provincial awards ceremony. This year's nominated titles are now available in the library and twelve students have already signed up for the program. Details about the books are listed on our Library Wiki, linked from our library home page at <http://destiny.pvnccdsb.on.ca> – St. Stephen's.

Literacy and Learning: Did you know?

- When students are encouraged to pursue their own interests and passions and are free to choose from a rich collection of material, they are motivated to read and their reading and depth of understanding improve (*Together for Learning: School Libraries and the Emergence of the Learning Commons, 2010*). The library collection at St. Stephen's has a number of new and appealing young adult fiction and graphic novels. In addition, we subscribe to two class sets of *Maclean's* magazine. An accompanying teacher's guide connects the issues with writing and grammar activities.
- That St. Stephen's library website features new books in the library and invites students to blog and submit reviews at <http://ssslibrary.pbworks.com>
- That our silent reading program (START) is one tool to help foster a reading community.
- That exposure to ideas and reading widely helps students make connections between their reading and their own personal knowledge and experience.
- That reading often and widely improves one's writing skills.
- That the school library plans to purchase e-books to meet all student needs and engage them in reading.



Support the United Way



In support of the United Way Campaign St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School will be raffling an autographed picture of Patrick Roy with the Montreal Canadiens. The draw will be December 9th. Tickets are available through the St. Stephen Leadership Class.

Important Dates

November 29, 2010 - Second data transmission to OCAS
November 30, 2010 - Advent Liturgy - Justice. First week of Advent
December 22, 2010 - Christmas Assembly
December 23, 2010 – January 5, 2011 - Christmas Holidays
January 6, 2011 - Return to school
January 10-19, 2011 - Grad Photos
January 12, 2011 - Deadline to apply to university in Ontario
January 28-Feb 3, 2011 - Exam Days
February 1, 2011 - Deadline to apply to college in Ontario
February 4, 2011 - Recommended deadline date for university applicants to make changes to their university application
February 4, 2011 - Professional Activity Day

From Father Paul Massel

All of us, partners in Prayer!

We've had an amazing month here at St. Joseph's Parish. Our RCIA program began with over 10 people registered to become members of our faith family. I am writing on a Wednesday evening – the choir is practising in the church, the Banner group is working in the sacristy, the SVDP in the basement, volunteers are building a new wheelchair accessible bathroom and installing a new heater in the hall, and 35 people are gathering for a wonderful book study, "The Holy Longing" by Ron Rolheiser.

We had our first Theology on Tap at Maddy's Pub in downtown Bowmanville and close to 60 people attended with Dan Carter as our speaker. Meanwhile the Bingo was going on in the church and our new parish High School Youth program began, very successfully in the Knights Hall. Fr. Emmanuel and I have been in all the schools and I particularly enjoyed a morning with the grade 11s at St. Stephen's High School discussing all the issues of our day.

So many people filled out Prayer Partner forms at weekend liturgies agreeing to enter in a prayer relationship with a child preparing to receive a sacrament this year. In all these ways we are Church, a people of God building a community of faith, of hope and of love. Sunday Mass may be the source and summit of our week, but we are, in so many ways, prayer partners all through the week! Don't forget we are putting together a new parish photo album. If you are a member of our parish, call the office (623-3233) and register for your family photo. It is free and you will receive your own complimentary album when they are completed.

Come join us! Fr. Paul

From Father Peter Seabrooke

CHRISTMAS IN THE ST. FRANCIS PARISH COMMUNITY

Our Christmas celebrations begin with our Advent preparation, a time of hope, and a time of waiting as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth even as we look ahead to his Second Coming at the end of time. . With this in mind there are some exciting events like our weekly Youth Mass (which is open to everyone) but led by young people on Sundays at 7:00PM, followed by an hour social. Knights of Columbus Children's Christmas Party Dec.12. Penitential Service Dec. 13, 7:00PM, Dec.20 Taize Prayer Service 7:00PM. Christmas Mass: Dec. 24,5,8,Dec.25 10:00; Dec.26(Holy Family)9,11,7; Dec.31 5; Jan. 1,10AM, (Mary,the Mother of God), 5:00PM (Epiphany) and Jan.2 ,9,11,7 May everyone have a blessed and joy filled Christmas.

Chaplaincy

Among the very many good works that are happening here and the many good people that deserve thanks are those helping with St. Stephen's grade nine students who have been busy with retreat mornings on the theme of "Caring for God's creation". They have been connecting with St. Elizabeth's students and sharing their ideas, with them. The leadership class students have been deeply involved with this ministry activity led by Courtney Clayton and Jordyn Robertson with the help of Tiffany Wood, Tina McKee and Gabriel Cook. Twenty Four Senior students have been helping them as peer ministers. A big thank-you for your generosity and shared talents.

In addition to joining the Habitat for Humanity builds with Mr. Joly and Mr. O'Dell , senior students have also been active in the community helping our seniors with their yard clean-up. Our seniors were very appreciative of the student help. We look forward to doing more in the spring! A huge amount of food was collected by students and staff and was recently donated to St. Joseph's food bank. Many thanks to Ms. Laronde's leadership class, in particular Aimee Buller and Keleisha Mallette and the student council who helped for all their hard work . A big thank-you to Sean, Madison and Justin for sorting food prior to delivery.

The food bank members were thrilled to see that work done for them. Thank-you, too to Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Beganyi for delivering the food to St. Joseph's. And hats off to students who took on Halloween for Hunger and collected food on their own initiative: Francesca Rak, and Carly Mercier. Fr. Peter has been working with us regarding our November liturgy and Fr. Emmanuel for our December liturgy. The student council and religion classes have been contributing their ideas. Ms. Gribben's Art class has new banners prepared for each respective mass; they are stunning!

I would like to thank the classes who have led us in morning prayer: Mr. Poechman, Mr. Paziuk, Mr. Oliver, Ms. O'Rourke, Ms. Tassielli, Ms. O'Donoghue, and Mr. O'Dell. Finally I'd like to commend the one hundred and forty students and counting who have signed up to take the vow of silence to show solidarity with the oppressed children worldwide who have no voice. Thank-you to Ashley Shimski and the Social justice Club for all their work in setting this day up.



School Council Corner

The winner of our 50/50 draw at the Parents and Teachers Meeting on October 21, 2010 was Mickey Cryderman who won \$66.00.

Please join us for one of our future council meetings. All of our meetings are in the Conference Room at St. Stephen's Secondary School starting at 7:00 p.m. and every parent or guardian is welcome: Please come and join us. Please note that all Council Minutes are posted on the school website together with a hard copy being left in the office for review by anyone. **Dates of our future meetings are: December 1st, 2010; February 2nd, 2011; April 6th, 2011 May 4th, 2011 and June 1st, 2011.** This year at each of our meetings, a different Curriculum Chair will be present to talk about what that particular Department does. In November we had the privilege of Trevor Poechman talk to us on the Math Curriculum. Upcoming guest speakers will be the English/French, Special Education, Computers, Arts, Religion and Science Departments.

The Council's only fundraising events are the 50/50 draw on Parents and Teachers Night and the sale of donated uniforms to the council. For all those graduating this year or who have outgrown their uniforms, please consider donating them to the Council. Donated uniforms can be left at the office marked School Council and one of the council members will collect them and add them to our list. All monies raised from the sale of the uniforms go directly back into the school towards graduation awards and other activities at the school. Please contact Susan Drever at 905-623-0082 with regard to used uniforms as she has the list of sizes and items presently for sale. We also set up a table at the Parents and Teachers Night where these uniforms can be purchased.

Please be on the lookout for our upcoming Health Expo in the Spring; more details will be forthcoming.



Student Council Update:

Student council is still working hard to bring fun and exciting activities to the student body. They planned a great Halloween spirit week which culminated in a great costume day. Thank you to all the students who showed their school spirit by wearing their costumes!

The group has been working diligently to prepare a meaningful liturgy that will take place on November 30th. This is the feast of St. Andrew and is also the first week of Advent. The theme for the mass revolves around the idea of witnessing our faith. It is at this mass that we will kick off our Christmas Hampers. Each homeroom will be given a family and they will be responsible for putting together a basket of items that each family requires. The hampers will be donated to the parishes of St. Joseph and St. Francis and to Bethesda House.

Members of student council will be attending the annual Student Council Symposium which is an event where all the student council members from all the high schools in our board come together for a day of collaboration. This year, the event will be held at the Me to We Leadership centre in Bethany. The students are sure to come back from with more ideas for St. Stephen's!

The members of the Cabinet, Ms. Driscoll and Ms. Beganyi would like to welcome our newest members. Ministers of Grade 9 Affairs: Jenna Martin & Malayna Valenzuela. Junior Cabinet Members: Kate Conway, Emily Elliot, Chiara Palmieri, Clare Morrison, Shelby Potier, Stephanie McNamara-O'Gorman, Reagan Bradley, Samantha Rhodes and Sydney Small. These students will be an asset to the council now and will be ready to take on leadership roles in the future!

Other upcoming events include Christmas events and a Coffee House in February. Stay tuned for more information!

Special Note: Student Council Elections for the 2011-2012 School Year will occur in May of 2011. Students interested in running for positions should read the following. The Cabinet positions are held by Grade 11 and 12 students but there are two positions for Ministers of Grade 10 and then Junior Cabinet positions for Grade 10 students (Grade 9 students will be added in the fall). Students interested in running for Co-Prime Ministers must have been on student council previously or taken the Leadership & Peer Support Class. All students must submit an application package by the deadline and be approved by school administration in order to be able to run for a position. For more information and to read our constitution check out the student council website:

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

Prom Update:
Mark your calendars! Prom is Friday June 10th at Trillium Trails Banquet Hall in North Oshawa. Tickets will go on sale in March. More information to follow in the next newsletter...



From the Resource Department

Importation Names and Numbers:

The Clarington Branch of the LDA: Offers programs and services to students with learning disabilities. You are encouraged to contact them to explore possible supports for your son or daughter. Clarington Branch of the LDA: Dawn Koren, Program Facilitator, (905) 623-1852, ldaclar@bellnet.ca

Ontario Disability Support Program: -Income Support, Employment Support <http://www.mcscs.gov.on.ca/index.aspx>

The Passport Initiative: Ministry of Community and Social Services: the Government of Ontario has introduced two innovative programs to strengthen community supports for young adults with a developmental disability as they leave school. The Government wants to help people with a developmental disability to participate fully as citizens in Ontario communities.

<http://www.mcscs.gov.on.ca/en/mcscs/programs/developmental/index.aspx>

Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities: The Assistance for children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) program, formerly known as the Handicapped Children's Benefit (HCB), provides help to parents to assist with some of the extra costs of caring for a child who has a disability. The purpose of the benefit is to help children who have disabilities live as normal a life as possible at home and in the community.

Ministry of Children and Youth Services (905) 868-8900 or 1-877-669-6658

Community Living Oshawa/Clarington: www.communitylivingoc.ca or phone: (905) 576-3011

Kerry's Place Autism Services – East
-offers an extensive community outreach program for children, adolescents, and families living with ASD. Residential supports are located in Durham region. www.kerrysplace.com (905) 665-9267

Important Reminders:

*all students with Individual Education Plans (excluding gifted) have the option of writing their tests and exams in the resource room, where they will receive up to a maximum of double time.

*all students with Individual Education Plans have the option of working in the resource room, after the lesson has been taught, in their subject classrooms.

*every Thursday, after school, in room 119, the resource department offers extra help sessions to students with

individual Education Plans.

*parents of students enrolled in a resource period are encouraged to contact their son's/daughter's resource teacher regularly, to monitor progress.

*grade 9 and 12 IPRCs will be taking place during the month of December; you will receive notification of the IPRC meeting date by mail.

Other News:

*St. Stephen Secondary School will be the venue for this year's **HAVE A GO! SPECIAL OLYMPICS EVENT**. All six secondary schools in the Board will be participating. This fun-filled event will take place on Thursday, June 2nd, 2011.

*Ms. Beganyi's Learning for Living class has the following excursions planned for the month of November and December: fire hall visit, Christmas musical in Cobourg, restaurant outing to Boston Pizza, and movie theatre trip.

*A Resource Christmas Open House will be held in room 119 on December 22nd during period 3 and 4 lunches. All students and staff are invited to attend. Delicious Christmas treats made by the students in the Learning For Living class will be served.

*The Durham Regional Waste Department will also be visiting the Learning For Living class to discuss recycling procedures .

*Another guest speaker in the Learning For Living class will be a nurse from the Health Unit. She will be discussing healthy lifestyles and nutrition with our students.





Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) Winter Newsletter - October/November, 2010

Dear Families, Parents and Guardians:

The winter season is once again fast approaching and it is very important that we recognize the need to review winter weather procedures with students. In addition to reminding students dress warmly for conditions and carefully obey all traffic rules when walking in the community, we would like to emphasize the following for those who are bussed to school:

Prior to the beginning of the school day, inclement weather or poor road conditions may force the cancellation of school transportation services. In this event, bus delays and cancellations will be posted on the www.stsco.ca website. Also, area radio stations and media outlets will broadcast related information (see list below provided for your convenience).

Remember that if a bus is cancelled in the morning, it will not run in the afternoon.

As a parent or guardian, it is recommended that you:

- know your child=s school bus route number;
- know the name of the bus company operating the route;
- listen to your local radio station or visit the www.stsco.ca website in the morning for delays or cancellations;
- provide for getting your child safely to and from the school bus pick-up and drop-off location;
- ensure that your child is at the school bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time of the school bus; and
- review contingency procedures with your child and cover such areas as what to do if the bus is late or cancelled and generally what to do when inclement weather is encountered on the way to or from the bus stop.

If you need to confirm your child=s route number, you can call the STSCO Telephone Information Line (705-748-9240 or toll free 1-866-433-4441). When calling, you will need your child=s 9-digit OEN student number, located beside their name on their report card, as well as their birth date. For those who may not be aware of their child=s OEN student number, please contact your school to obtain that information.

The STSCO Telephone Information Line (705-748-9240 or toll free 1-866-433-4441) can also be used to check if there are any large scale bus cancellations (i.e. county or regional) on the day of the call.

In keeping the above information in mind, you and your children will be better prepared to deal with issues which may arise in relation to transportation during the winter months ahead.

Joel Sloggett, C.A.O.

Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO)

Peterborough City and County (also including Campbellford and area schools):

THE WOLF - 101.5 FM
THE KRUIZ - 100.5 FM
COUNTRY 105 - 105.1 FM
ENERGY 99SEVEN - 99.7 FM

Clarington (Bowmanville & Courtice) area:

THE OLDIES - 1580AM, 107.7FM
THE ROCK - 94.9 FM

Cobourg, Port Hope & Northumberland:

THE BREEZE - 107.9 FM
STAR 93THREE - 93.3 FM

Quinte West (Brighton):

CJBQ 800 AM
MIX 97 - 97.1 FM
COOL 100 - 100.1 FM
ROCK 107 - 107.1 FM
CLASSIC HITS 95FIVE - 95.5 FM

Please see the SSCSS website for more information from STSCO.
STSCO Communiqué to Schools, Inclement Weather Delay, Cancellation Procedures, and Radio Stations. www.sscss.ca