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Students Spread Joy to Neighbours!



May 4th - 8th was Catholic Education Week, and the theme was “Exploring Paths of Joy”. Students from SJSH ‘Spread the Joy’ to neighbours by writing a special letter of thanks for being patient and kind neighbours. The letters, along with a potted plant, were hand delivered to homes by students as their peers cheered them on. The event was wrapped up by spreading ‘Joy’ on the front lawn and donating collected food items to the North Bay Food Bank.

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Share your story ideas with us!

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Chaplain's Chapter by Monsignor Norm Clement

We have heard these words so many times.
We have prayed this prayer so many times.
We have asked for the Holy Spirit so many times.
Come Holy Spirit!

Today may we remember the day the Holy Spirit came.
Today may we celebrate the day the Holy Spirit comes.
Today may we open our minds and hearts to receive the Holy Spirit.
Come Holy Spirit!

What could be more fitting today than to welcome the Holy Spirit as the apostles did?
What could be more appropriate today than to ask the Holy Spirit to come to us?
What could be more gracious today than to trust the Holy Spirit is in us.
Come Holy Spirit!

We might think this prayer is simple.
We might think this prayer is repetitive.
We might think this prayer is powerful.
Come Holy Spirit!

What thoughts, images, emotions might fill us when we pray, "Come Holy Spirit!"
What truth, what light, what grace might enliven us when we pray, "Come Holy Spirit!"
What peace, what love, what joy might overtake us when we pray, "Come Holy Spirit!"
Come Holy Spirit!

God might have us believe how much we are loved and blessed.
God might have us be filled with feelings of wonder and power.
God might have us be inspired with thoughts of gratitude and praise.
Come Holy Spirit!

May we welcome you.
May we live with you.
May we love you.

Holy Spirit, thank you for coming in our homes, our schools, our offices, our communities, our parishes, our world.

Holy Spirit, thank you for coming, for us and among us and in us.

Amen.

Chair's Message

At our April Board Meeting a group of Faith Ambassadors came to share the faith based work that is happening in our schools. The group consisted of teachers, principals, parents and students. The presentation and personal stories that were shared proved to us as Trustees that our school system is doing its job in teaching the province's exceptional 21st century curriculum through the lens of our Catholic Faith. It is also important that as supporters of Catholic education we stay committed to strengthening our Catholic communities.

We were empowered by the presentation and witnessed how confident our students are on their journey in Catholic education.

On behalf of the board of Trustees, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes to all our students graduating this year. We wish you continued success in all your endeavours. Happy and safe summer to all!

Barbara McCool



Google Summit: Taking It to the Cloud!

A group of 75 students, teachers and Google guru's came together for NPSC's first Google Summit "Taking it to the Cloud". It was a fun filled day for students from schools within our board consisting of an interactive keynote presentation, a demo slam competition, information breakouts, cutting-edge demonstrations and hands-on workshops led by experienced and knowledgeable teachers from around Ontario, including Google Certified Teachers and Trainers.

We hope to continue to build this momentum, and see more technology being used by our teachers, students and staff.



Welcoming Student Voices to the Table



Close to 30 elementary students were welcomed at the 2nd Annual Elementary Student Forum in May. Students were invited to speak about issues and topics they are passionate about in regards to their education. The initiative, led by Secondary students, provided all in attendance with some great discussion around Aboriginal culture, French language, clubs and services and much more. Discussion summaries are provided to the Board and schools as a way to incorporate the student voice into decision making at all levels.

Parents Attend a Session on Helping Kids with Anxiety

Over 300 people attended "That Big Bad World: Helping Kids Thrive in Anxious Times" with Dr. Alex Russell, Child Psychologist. The event, hosted by the Nipissing Parry-Sound Catholic District School Board, Parent Involvement Committee is intended to provide parents with learning opportunities to help them on their journey to raising caring, independent and resilient children.

Dr. Russell provided a very animated and humorous approach in his teachings about "dropping the worry ball."



MSAC Appointment



Mackenzie Bass-Simpson, a grade 11 SJSB student was appointed to the **2015 Minister's Student Advisory Council**. There are over 500 applicants and only 60 are selected to participate in the advisory council. This is the second SJSB student to be appointed. Mackenzie's role as an advisor is to participate in discussions on issues in Ontario schools and bring them to the Minister's attention so she can work towards making change.

Summer Challenge Presents:

THE LITTLE MERMAID

MUSIC BY Alan Menken
 Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater

Based on the classic by Hans Christian Andersen
 Story and the Disney film

July 22nd - 25th at 7:00pm
 Bishop Carter Auditorium

Tickets: \$10.00
 Purchase at Creative Learning or at the door
 Call (705) 494-8600 ext. 3239 for more information

Canadian Author Eric Walters Meets MSB Eagles

Grade 7 & 8 students from Mother St. Bride Catholic School, met popular Canadian author Eric Walters, after having studied his books this year. "What an incredible way for us as learners to meet an author we've studied and get the behind the scenes explanation on the characters and storylines," says Mrs. Pigeau, grade 7/8 teacher at the school. As a class, the students have read several of his books, inspiring many in the class to read more of his books on their own.



"What's great about this author in particular is the companion website provided in "Walking Home", says Shelly Warren, Special Education Teacher. "The website helps make the story come to life, a skill that doesn't come naturally to everyone."

"Some of the books that Eric Walters writes have a strong focus on social issues," says Warren. "As a class, we've had some meaningful conversations about many social issues. Eric Walters has made that possible and easy for us."

It was no surprise when Shelly Warren ran into Eric Walters in a Chapters that she would ask him to come present to the classes at Mother St. Bride who had been studying his work.

"The excitement of the children to meet an actual author which they had studied was beyond what I would have expected," continues Shelly Warren. "He has made readers out of non readers, what more could we ask for?"

Britney, a student at Mother St. Bride, enjoyed his books so much that she read "Safe As Houses" twice. "He has so much energy when he presents," says Britney.

Walters was an elementary teacher and has written 99 books with more in the works. He began writing in 1993 when he was teaching a Grade 5 class. He shares a story about trying to encourage his students to become interested in literature, so he started writing himself and many of his students and life experiences are incorporated into his stories.

His novels have earned over 100 awards including the Ontario Library Association Silver Birch and Red Maple Awards as voted by over 100,000 students throughout the province of Ontario. He has now earned the vote as the #1 favourite author by the MSB Eagles.

Visit www.npsc.ca for information on Summer School Programs and Activities!