

# Regina Catholic School Division

## Director's Communiqué

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*"Go Make a Difference – Love Your Neighbour as Yourself"*



### A Message from Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education

*"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel". –Isaiah 7:14*

In November, our school year continued with our school communities exploring the theme of mercy and Pope Francis' call for us to be a people of mercy. During this Year of Mercy, the Pope said "I am convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time". With the year of mercy now concluded and with Advent now upon us we are reminded of our call to continue to share our mercy and help people in need, especially for some who find Christmas to be a difficult time.

We have many reasons for celebration as we look back at the last few months and realize all that has been achieved within our schools. Some of these successes are highlighted within the pages of this newsletter and they include:

- Our division's students are achieving successfully as is evidenced by our recent student progress reports.
- Our instructional staff facilitated the recently completed successful Learning Conferences.
- Our students and staff leaders presented superb drama productions at Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School, Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School, and Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School. We celebrate their creativity and skill.

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- Our Dr. Martin LeBoldus Golden Suns are the Provincial Football Champions for the fifth consecutive year. The Golden Suns also collected the city championship for Senior Boys Volleyball, and second place for Junior Boys Volleyball. Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School took the Titans' Girls Soccer team to the final game, and finished second in the city. Congratulations!
- Our staff and students hosted a variety of deeply meaningful memorial activities for Remembrance Day and Holodomor Awareness Week.
- Our United Way campaign has received generous donations from many within our community to continue the good work they do.
- Our Board of Trustees is continuing its work to lead the Division effectively and efficiently into the future with Donna Ziegler and Rob Bresciani recently elected as Board Chair and Deputy Chair, respectively.
- The four high schools filled the Conexus Arts Centre with the sounds of the season by collaborating in a magical way. It was a treat to watch, and a beautiful way to begin the month. Thank you, and congratulations to each and every person involved.

The Advent season is an important time for our students to reflect upon being a witness to and modeling the teachings of the Catholic faith. Each of our school communities works faithfully to plan Advent activities that clearly demonstrate the "keeping of Christ" in Christmas.

I also want to extend my sincerest appreciation to all staff and students in our schools for preparing Advent Liturgies, Christmas Concerts, prayer reflections, and community service initiatives.

I pray for all of you to have a wonderful Christmas! May the true peace and joy of this Holy Season fill our hearts and provide a refreshing beginning to the New Year!

*God bless,  
Dom*







## CEC Retreat

December 1, 2016 was Retreat Day for all employees at the Catholic Education Centre. We gathered at Resurrection Parish to begin with a prayer service. It was a day of prayer, reflection, and advent anticipation. Thank you to all involved in the organization of the retreat.

*For a child has been born  
for us, a son given to us.  
Isaiah 9:6*

## Volleyball Provincials

On November 18th & 19th the Miller staff and students did a fabulous job hosting the 2016 SHSAA Sr. Boys Provincial Volleyball Championships. Ten teams from around the province competed for the provincial title. This wonderful event showcased not only the skill and talent of many young athletes and coaches, but it was also a celebration of 'education through sport'. Both the Miller and LeBoldus Sr. Boys Volleyball teams were fantastic ambassadors of RCSD, and we are proud of their efforts. There were many positive displays of sportsmanship and outstanding, competitive play throughout the weekend. Thanks to all the volunteers – staff and students – who stepped up and contributed to a very successful tournament.



## Sing Along

The Itsy Bitsy Spider goes up the water spout! Music is a favourite activity at Jean Vanier School. Principal Rolande Burant-Maher jumps right in to sing along with the students, and their smiles light up the room!

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deed and glorify your Father in heaven.*  
Mt 5:16



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## Junior Achievement

Queen's Jewelry is a Junior Achievement Company from Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School. They've created an ad to share, designed specifically with all RCSD staff in mind. If you're interested, feel free to shop away!

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## Our Canada Project

Youth Leadership Forum hosted by the Learning for Sustainable Future's Foundation

The Our Canada Project is a call to action to engage youth in envisioning a more sustainable Canada. On Nov 24th at the Royal Saskatchewan museum, student leaders from Deshaye Catholic School and St. Catherine Community School attended a number of workshops to build ideas, skills, and confidence to undertake their own action projects to help preserve our environment. Staff members Trevor Redler (Deshaye) Kim Chagnon (St. Catherine) attended staff sessions to explore ways to integrate inquiry to engage their students in curricular based projects. An example can be found by using the resource



([www.rceed.ca/resources.html](http://www.rceed.ca/resources.html)) and utilize planned resources that relate to a number of curricular strands and subjects areas that are ready to use in the classroom. We are encouraging others to help us promote Earth Day during the month of April and create

your own action project with your students. As Pope Francis has indicated, "we all must work together to protect our planet".

From left to right: Etien Christopherson, Joe Stawarz, Kobe Cornico, Kale Bussiere, and Mr. Redler (Deshaye).



## Making Us Proud

Congrats to Archbishop M. c. O'Neill Catholic High School graduate Zack Evans. He went from Titan, to Thunder, to Rider, and is now a RedBlack.... and a two-time Grey Cup champion. Way to go, Zack!



## What's the Beef?

On Saturday, November 19, Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School was the scene of an intense cooking competition that put Iron Chef and reality TV to shame! LeBoldus, Miller, O'Neill and Riffel sent 8 teams (32 students) to compete in the first ever competition of this type, thanks to a great new partnership with the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association. Teams had exactly 2 hours to prepare a three course meal, present it to the judges, and clean up their kitchen area. Shown in the first photo are Riffel students, with O'Neill students in the background, under the watchful eyes of their judge. First place, presented by Board Chair Donna Ziegler and aided by our director, Domenic Scuglia, went to O'Neill. Second place, presented by trustee Frank Flegel, went to Miller. And third place, presented by new Board member Richard Dittrick, also went to Miller. Helping present awards were Garrett Hill and Adrienne Ivey, from the SK Cattlemen's Association. Adrienne's blog *View From the Ranch Porch* was a great documentation of the day! Congratulations to all the participants, and a special thanks to the teachers who put in extra time and effort to make this event happen: Joanne Beach (the main organizer of the event) and Joanne Gelowitz from Riffel, Lynsey Baumgartner from O'Neill, Martin Turcotte from Miller, and Melinda Good Will from LeBoldus. They are already planning to make next year's competition even bigger and better! (photo credits: Denise Anaquod, LeBoldus)







## Try a Trade

On November 2, Grade 8 students from St. Michael, St. Augustine, St. Luke and Sacred Heart Schools journeyed to the old Cochrane High School for an introduction to trades, including machining, flooring, carpentry, and electrical. Shown here are St. Michael students trying out scaffolding. The day was organized by the Regina District Industry Education Council, a valued organization which has introduced hundreds of our students to potential careers. Feedback from the Grade 8s expressed their appreciation for how "hands-on" their many activities were.



## Safe & Hospitable

The Service & Hospitality Safety Association is continuing to visit all Grade 6 classes in our division. Shown here is SHSA's Danielle Bachart talking to the students of Stefan Martin, Kaela Baudu and Amber Lenic at St. Bernadette School. The message of being safe at home and at school, plus the anti-bullying content of Danielle's presentation, is helping to improve the culture of safety in Regina Catholic Schools!



Jean Vanier students spread a bit of early Christmas cheer by helping out the Salvation Army. Students had a blast and used switches to say thank you and played jingle bells for everyone. Thanks to teacher Nicole Gallagher for the photo!



## Touring the Trades

On November 9, high school guidance counselors toured the new Sacred Heart Community School followed by a detailed discussion of the trades, courtesy of the SK Apprenticeship & Trades Certification Commission. Shown from the left are Erwin Klempner from Sask. Construction Association; Dave Beriault from Riffel, Denise Endicott from LeBoldus, Barb Barnes-Wilcox from Miller; Rhonda Barnes-Pitka from Riffel and Dave Magnusson, principal of Sacred Heart Community School. Special thanks to Harley Friesen from Westridge Construction and Rodd Hoffart, Superintendent of Facilities, for a great tour.

## Tony & Tina's Wedding

Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School's production of Tony & Tina's Wedding was a fantastic dinner theatre performance. Tony and Tina said "I Do" on November 5, 2016 with more than 350 guests in attendance. Thanks to the more than 20 staff members, and over 50 students in cast and crews for all their hard work. All money raised from ticket sales and donations was added up, leading to a great total to be announced at the 30th Annual Z99 Radiothon this March. - Thank you to our sponsors Tux and Tails (see them for your grad needs:), Western Pizza, and Sherwood Co-op.

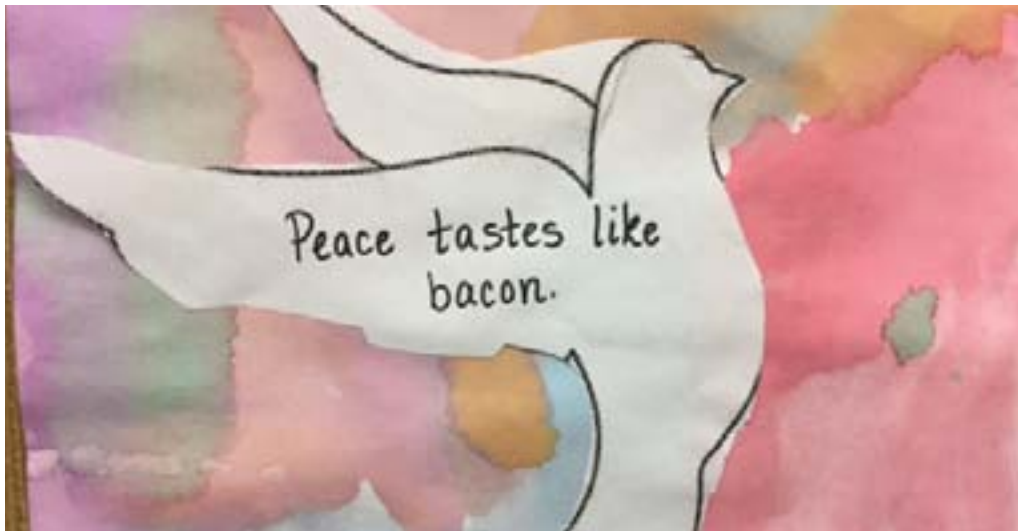






## It's Getting Hot in Here

On November 3, students from Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School's Emergency Services class visited Parkland College in Melville. Their firefighting program is one of only about 3 such programs in all of Western Canada. These Grade 11 and 12 students, all wearing equipment donated to their high school class by Regina area fire departments, participated in a number of exciting hands-on exercises! Shown in the first photo is the class, with teacher Murray Wright standing at the far left. The second photo shows student Gredin Friess putting out a fire.



## Made You Smile

Spotted at St. Augustine Community School by Jennifer Stewart-Mitchell; "Peace tastes like bacon." Says Jennifer, "saw this... made me happy... I love bacon too!"

## Holodomor

Remembering those whose lives were altered by the Great Famine.





## Sacraments Alive

The grade 7 and 8 classrooms from Deshaye Catholic School and St. Dominic Savio School gathered together at Holy Cross Parish to learn about the sacraments. Archbishop Donald Bolen joined the group for a blessing in the afternoon. Special thanks to all the presenters: Deb Bresciani, Father Richard, Martin Kondzielewski, Richard Dittrick, Deacon Joe Lang, Domenic Scuglia and Miles Meyers.

## Lest We Forget

On Remembrance Day, the Regina Public School Division and the Regina Catholic School Division worked together to donate wreaths to decorate the Brandt Centre for the Remembrance Day Service. The wreaths were created by K – 8 students. St. Gabriel K teacher Callista Szachury coordinated with the divisions as well as with HMCS Queen to collect the wreaths and set up the displays. Great job!



## Remembering

All schools marked Remembrance Day with a liturgy, mass or prayer service. Thank you for teaching our students to remember.





## Hair Today...

...Gone tomorrow. Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School students raised so much food during their Food Drive, they had several students keep their promises to shave their heads. Food Bank CEO Steve Compton led the way, followed by several male students. The biggest cheers came for grade 12 student Ashley Sandercock, who shaved and donated her locks which had grown past her waist! Way to go, Riffel Royals!!



## Making a Difference

Regina Catholic Schools proudly accepted the 2016 Premier's Board of Education Award for our Innovation & Empowerment: Continuous Action Planning Outcomes for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) Education.

*For everyone who  
has been born of God  
overcomes the world.  
And this is the victory  
that has overcome the  
world—our faith.*

*~1 John 5:4*



Congrats to Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School grade 12 student Rachel Evans for winning the CTV Citizenship Award – Regina High School Football League. She's the first female ever to win the award. O'Neill Football Head Coach Jason Duczek was just as happy - and surprised - as Rachel!



## Holls to the Wall

It was a sticky spot for both Principal Sharlene Holliday and Vice-Principal Brian Jeannot at St. Gregory School after a challenge from St. Francis Community School. The St. Gregory CSCC raised about \$1,200 by selling pieces of duct tape for \$2 each. You bet it was enough duct tape, both stuck to the wall! Thanks to APEC for their generous donation of duct tape so that all the proceeds can go to the CSCC's Green Fund.

## Launch a Rocket

Grade 6 classes from all over Regina got to countdown to launch at the annual "Launch A Rocket" Contest. The whole activity was a collaborative effort by Regina Catholic Schools, Regina Public Schools, and the University of Regina's Faculty of Engineering. Students worked either alone or in teams of two to build and launch their rockets. Science Consultant Mark Wernikowski "rocketed" the event on behalf of RCSD. Congratulations to all involved!



## Tweets from Pope Francis

"If every one of us, every day, does a work of mercy, there will be a revolution in the world!"

"Advent is a time when we journey towards Jesus and his Kingdom of justice and peace."

@Pontifex

"With the close of the Jubilee, we look ahead at how to continue to experience with joy, fidelity and enthusiasm the richness of God's mercy."





## Construction Zones

Progress continues on all three construction sites of our new joint use schools. St. Nicholas School is pictured at right, and below are St. Kateri Tekakwitha School to the left of the page, and École St. Elizabeth to the right. Meanwhile, registration for St. Nicholas and St. Kateri will begin in January, so the principals will be put right to work when they leave their current schools!



## Month at a Glance

Regina Catholic High Schools  
"Midnight Clear" Christmas Concert  
is December 1, 2016.

Last day of classes is December 21,  
2016.

Christmas Holidays are December  
22, 2016 to January 4, 2017.

Classes resume January 5, 2017.

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is  
given, and the government will be on  
his shoulders. And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
~Isaiah 9:6*