

Regina Catholic School Division

Director's Communiqué

events@rcsd.ca | www.rcsd.ca | Issue 75 | November 2017

"Let Your Light Shine"

A Message from Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia



"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." — Matthew 11:28

We have been thankful together as a community, and now we look toward commemoration. It is an opportunity now as we look toward Remembrance Day to honour those who have sacrificed for us in the past and continue to do so today. This month we will seize the opportunity to learn about sacrifices that were made yesterday and today around the world, and at home.

October was an eventful month, filled with seasonally warm sunshine, prairie wind, and beautiful examples of Catholic education and learning. It began with our Orange Shirt Day activities, and concluded with children dressing up for Halloween, a "holiday" that tends to bring out the adolescent spirit in us all. The days in between, we watched soccer, football and volleyball games, cheered for cross-country runners, pitched in for CSCC fundraisers, and supported our students in their learning. Progress reports will be sent home later in November, and we pray that each student and family can use the information within those reports to reward the successes and support the areas of growth.

On November 16th and 17th, teachers and parents have been invited to attend a session with Melissa Mikel to delve into the complicated topic of cultural responsiveness. Our goal is provide knowledge and tools in the hands of our families and staff that will help to ensure every student attending our schools has an equitable opportunity to learn and have access to programs. Melissa will help us all to understand how we can work together to foster a healthy learning and inclusive environment for all. I encourage all of you available to attend her session on Thursday, November 16 at 7:00 in the Gratton Room, and pray that Melissa's message will be of support to each of us.

Blessings and peace to all of you,
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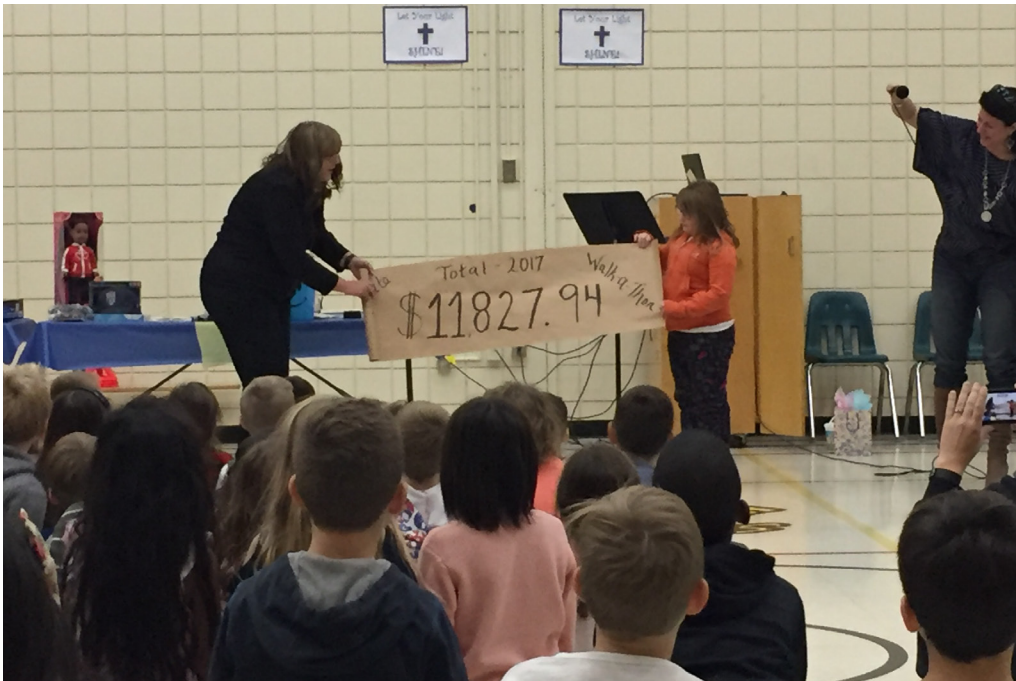
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Orange Shirt Day

#EveryChildMatters





Walkathon

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School did a fantastic job of fundraising with the CSCC. Students collected pledges and then had a great time with a Walkathon. There was much more than just walking to do, with face painting, a bouncy house, outdoor games, and lots of prizes. Thanks to generous prize donations and some enthusiastic students, the St. Marguerite community raised \$11,827.94.

Big Crunch

St. Francis Community School was very loud this month! To mark World Food Day, St. Francis students all got to be part of The Big Crunch. Each child was given a locally grown carrot (they were from Biggar, Sask.), and on the count of three, everyone bit into their snack at the same time. It was a funny noise, and a fun way to pause and think about nutrition and where food comes from.



Thank you so much to the SaskTel Aboriginal Employees Network for the generous donation of school supplies. St. Gregory School, St. Joan of Arc School, Deshaye Catholic School and École St. Mary will all share!



Sacred Heart Buffalo

Orange Shirt Day activities at Sacred Heart Community School included a pipe ceremony, mini feast, and a traditional blessing for their new buffalo mascot. The large stuffed buffalo head stands proudly before the presentation staircase in the rebuilt school. As they journeyed together toward truth and reconciliation, the community of Sacred Heart also got



to take a look at the Winter Count buffalo hide, hear a bit about the story on the back of the hide, and add blessings and prayers. The Winter Count will eventually be presented to Pope Francis.



Harvest Lunch

'Tis the season to enjoy filling meals with delicious harvest vegetables. At St. Catherine Community School, student gardeners enjoy the fruits of their labour by holding a Harvest Lunch. While the ham was purchased, they also dined on veggies grown right at the school. This is the second year for the project, and thanks to some wonderful partners and sponsors, we hope to see another beautiful garden at St. Catherine again next year!



Congratulations to the LeBoldus Senior Boys' Volleyball Team on successfully hosting a premiere tournament, the LeBoldus Invitational Volleyball Tournament. While sharing some hosting duties with O'Neill, the Suns took second place overall!!



Pirate Day

On September 29th, kindergarten students in both AM and PM classes at St. Theresa School had a Pirate Day. The students even went on a treasure hunt and found an actual treasure chest with treasures in it for all of them!

Fall into Speech

Pumpkins, leaves, spiders and trees! The Pre-K students at St. Gregory School had fun learning fall vocabulary with SLP Mrs. Nadine Frey. Students were able to describe objects they found as they raked leaves to reveal pinecones, spiders, pumpkins, and more. Each week, Mrs. Frey comes into the Pre-K classroom and interacts with students using fun and interactive activities to develop speech, language, and early literacy skills.



Thank You BBQ!

Mr. Pearce and Mme Brischuk serve up a hot dog lunch to students of St. Pius X for their efforts in Terry Fox fundraising.



Feast Day

As part of their liturgy on September 29th, St. Theresa School had Addison Lindsay (little girl Therese), Scarlett Lindsay (middle years Therese) and Bailey Lindsay (older Therese) playing the roles of St. Therese of Liseux. They were also interviewed by Sr. Anna Aulie about their lives!



Miller Marauders Crush Terry Fox Goal

On September 29, Miller students took part in the National Terry Fox School Run Day. The whole school participated in the 10 kilometer run/walk. Many staff and students gained an appreciation of what it actually feels like to move for 10 kilometers! We now understand, much better, how Terry Fox must have felt as he ran 42 kilometers each day for 143 days.

This year Miller students reached and SURPASSED their \$4,000 fundraising goal. They raised \$4,008.23 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thanks to the Miller staff and students who participated so well, sharing both their talents and treasures. Well done, Marauders!!!



Found on the playground at Ecole St. Elizabeth: "Love your neighbours as yourself." Those themes sure stick with our students!



Drive Away Hunger Program

This year Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School students and staff exceeded expectation in their annual food drive. They were hoping to break last year's record of 35,800 pounds of food. Not only did they break the record, they shattered it with 50,073 pounds of food. Seven students brought in over a 1,000 pounds each; one student brought in over 3,000! The push up a thon fundraiser was very successful, with superintendent Sean Chase taking off his suit jacket and tie and joining in with a very respectful 50 pushups. Since the students met the school goal (and far exceeded it), there will be a hypnotist show with Corie J on November 22, as well as a "So You Want to be Young Again" makeover of 4 teachers.

This is the seventh consecutive year Riffel has donated more food to the Farm Credit "Drive Away Hunger Program" than any other high school across Canada.



Teen Safe Driver Week

As part of the National Teen Safe Driver Week, the Regina Police Service and SGI Canada shared positive messages about safe driving. They staged positive stop checks at several high schools. Each student pulled over and found to be driving safely was given a plastic travel mug. Nearly all students got their mug!



Maker Day

St. Theresa School held an amazing Maker Day on Friday, October 27. Students got to try DJing, wood working, coding, art with their teeth, and so many more hands on activities!

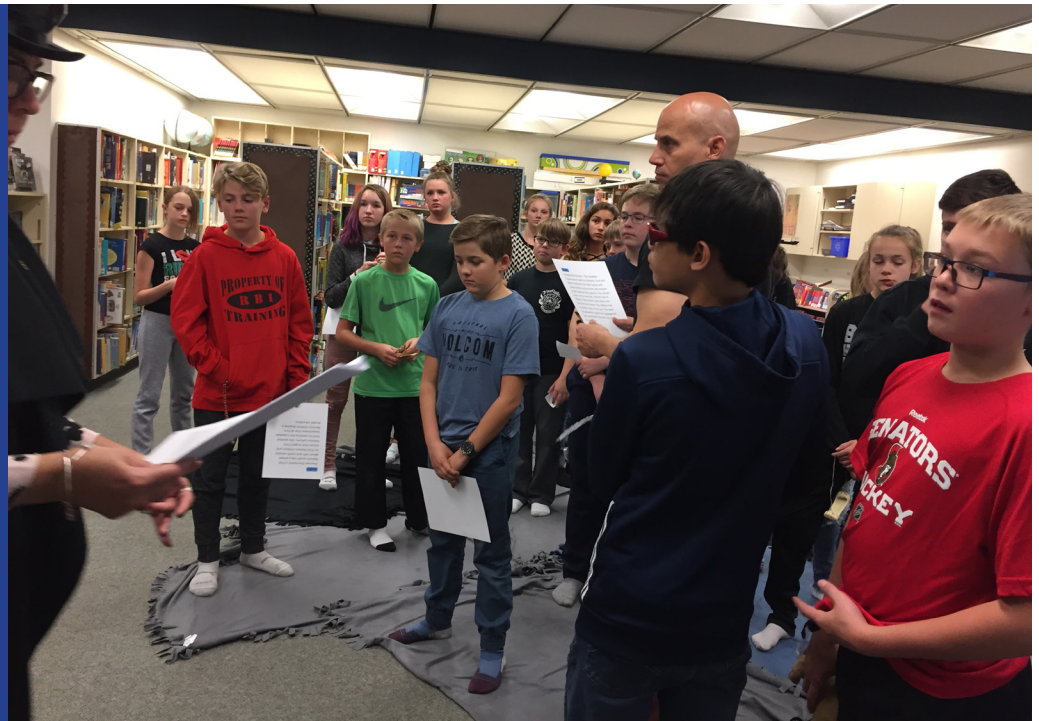


Oktoberfest

Jean Vanier School held its annual Oktoberfest, celebrating the fall season with some yummy food and fun entertainment. Smokies and sauerkraut made for a yummy great lunch. After a beautiful meal that raised funds for Jean Vanier's Chalice Child, Denys, it was time to dance. Polka music filled the halls and everyone had a great time being together.

Blanket Exercise

St. Dominic Savio students were very moved to participate in a Blanket Exercise with FNMI Coordinator Joanna Landry and Mrs. Susan Beaudin. The exercise takes students on a journey through history, covering hundreds of years of Canada's past in just a short time. The blankets are placed together to create Turtle Island, then are slowly folded up and pushed away to show the way Indigenous people were treated. The Sharing Circle that followed showed how much students learned.





Sacred Heart Visits RCMP Academy

The RCMP Academy, "Depot" Division hosted Grade 6 to 8 students from Sacred Heart Community School for an afternoon of learning and a modified Regimental Dinner.

"Depot" Division and Sacred Heart are partners in the Sacred Heart Reading Program. This visit was another opportunity to build the relationship.

Students toured around base, learned about the Cadet Training Program and experienced it themselves through adapted training exercises. They stood at attention, marched and ran. Students also tried on cadet uniforms and participated in team-building activities.

During the Sergeant Major's Parade, Grade 8 student Jalen Funmaker inspected the troops. Luckily, he found no mistakes.

In keeping with two-century-old traditions that began in Great Britain, the RCMP Regimental Dinner is a custom that fosters high morale and good fellowship between senior and junior members.

Grade 8 student Caralee Stevenson hosted the dinner as Mess President.

As is tradition during Regimental Dinners, the most senior member of the Division present, Commanding Officer Brenda Lucki, served the most junior member in attendance. Grade 6 student Jordan Ermine received the meal with great pleasure.

The menu was altered to recognize the students of Sacred Heart Community School. It included foods that could be collected from Treaty 4 Territory, and an empty place was set at the head table in remembrance of the missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada.

The RCMP Academy was privileged to share the traditions of the Force with such a respectful and enthusiastic group of students.





The Encouragers

The Encouragers are a group of students from St. Luke School who are interested in serving others. They, along with their teacher, Samantha Stom-Anthony, embark on numerous service-focused activities, both inside and outside of their own school community. In these photos, members of The Encouragers are swimming with students from Jean Vanier School. This group was born out of the spirit of volunteerism and that spirit continues today; all members have opted to join the group. Membership is optional. St. Luke is very proud of their Encouragers, their ambassadors to the world!



Open for Business

On October 27th, Mr. Kauf and Mrs. LeCouffe's grade 7/8 classes at St. Josaphat transformed their gym into a Rebel market with 28 different businesses. Students selected businesses based on their personal assets and interests to meet their K-6 target audience. Students explored needs for advertising, store displays, food safety, employee responsibilities, bank deposits/budgeting, and production. Business Expo allowed for cross-curriculum outcomes for Math, Arts Education, PAA, Career Education and ELA, while fundraising for their Grade 7/8 Leadership opportunity. You could hear the excitement of the community filling the gym while students played nerf challenges, selected food treats, hit the photo booth and many more creative business options.



Tweets from Pope Francis @Pontifex

"The mission of schools and teachers is to develop an understanding of all that is true, good and beautiful."

"Be courageous witnesses to Christ in the places where you live and work."

"May artists spread the beauty of the faith and proclaim the grandeur of God's creation and His boundless love for all."

"Let us ensure that the Internet is a safe and richly human place for children: a network that does not entrap them but helps them to grow."

"The culture of encounter means recognizing that we are all children of God, despite our differences."

"Jesus gave us the light which shines in the darkness. Defend and protect this light: it is the greatest treasure entrusted to you."



Medicine Wheel

St. Gregory School held a beautiful liturgy to present bibles to all grade 4 students. Each class dressed in assigned colours of the Medicine Wheel (red, black, white and yellow), and the grade 4 students led a music filled liturgy with dance and drums. Director of Education Domenic Scuglia helped present the bibles, along with Principal Sharlene Holliday, and grade 4 teachers Dawn Ross and Jada Fiissel.



Congrats, Marauders!

On October 18th the Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School Boys Soccer Team defeated the LeBoldus Golden Suns 1-0 in a very competitive and hard-fought city final game. LeBoldus went on to finish 6th at Provincials; Miller took the silver medal! Miller's current grade 12 players now have a provincial medal of each colour: bronze in grade 9, gold in 10, and silver in 12.

Month at a Glance - November 2017

Wednesday, November 1 - Solemnity of All Saints Day

Thursday, November 2 - All Souls Day

Sunday, November 5 - Feast Day of St. Elizabeth

November 6-10 - Media Literacy Week

Monday, November 6 - Board Meeting 5:00

Friday, November 10 - Holiday (no school)

Saturday, November 11 - Remembrance Day

Monday, November 13 - Statutory Holiday

Thursday, November 23 - Holodomor Memorial Day

Friday, November 24 - TPD/PLC/Staff Meeting

Saturday, November 25 - Feast Day of St. Catherine

Sunday, November 26 - Christ the King

November 27-28 - Elementary Progress Reports

Thursday, November 30 - Feast Day of St. Andrew



Halloween

