

Regina Catholic School Division

Director's Communiqué

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"Let Your Light Shine"

A Message from Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia



Welcome to June. The final month of the school year always seems to surprise us, yet every year, we are well aware that it is coming. In the frenetic pace of this home stretch, I encourage each of you to remember to take time to pray, reflect, and care for yourselves.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. John 14:27

May tends to signal the beginning of this final momentum toward the end of the school year, and May 2018 has been no different. Final concerts, dramatic productions, end of year benchmarking, track and field, and even Moving in Faith all highlight the commitment our staff make to our school communities to make them special places for children. We are beginning to welcome new families through kindergarten orientations, say farewell to grade eight students moving onto high school, and share final guiding words with grade twelve graduates who will write their final exams and move onto the workforce, post-secondary education, and other life adventures. It is a wonderful time.

There is no freedom greater than letting yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to lead you wherever he wishes. ~ Pope Francis

With so much going on in our school division, I hope you enjoy this edition of the Director's Communiqué. This is only a snapshot of the outstanding efforts led by each of you. We make every effort to celebrate all your good work and I appreciate all the stories and photos you share with us so we can continue to rejoice all you do on behalf of our students and their families. Best wishes in all your culminating activities this last month of the school year.

God Bless,
Dom



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Employee Recognition 2018

Congratulations to all those honoured at the 2018 Employee Recognition Evening. It was a wonderful evening to celebrate Mass together, then celebrate the many successes in the Regina Catholic School Division.

Kyrie Berry

Morgan Chomyn

Sharon Crook

Tracy Fuchs

Tracey Grywul

Sandra Moreside

Loretta Perras

Jeff Rambow

Vicky Ripplinger

Mark Wernikowski

Leslie Young

Director's Awards:

Elder May Desnomie

Father Ken Koep





Silver Medal

Congratulations to St. Theresa grade 8 student Wendell Sta Maria, who was awarded silver at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Ottawa on May 17th. His hard work paid off in representing not only St. Theresa School but also the City of Regina and Province of Saskatchewan! We are so proud of Wendell and his accomplishment.

Coaches of the Year!

St. Luke School teacher Samantha Stom-Anthony is the head coach of the Regina Raiders soccer team. Sam and her team attended the Summer Games in Moose Jaw in 2017, where they brought home gold. That led them to the 2018 National Summer Games in Antigonish, N.S., representing Team Saskatchewan! Her hard work and dedication resulted in an exceptional level of accomplishment for Sam and her athletes. Special Olympics Saskatchewan gave Sam the Female Coach of the Year Award. Her husband, Kurt Anthony, who also coaches for the Raiders Soccer Team, was given the Male Coach of the Year Award. Congratulations, Sam and Kurt!



Something New

St. Luke School elementary students started the day with a new physical activity recently: Taekwondo. Artisan Taekwondo visited to lead the students through kicks and jumps. Teachers said they hoped for a great day after such a strong start.



Buffy St. Marie

On May 17th, a group of FNMI students took a trip to the 4th Annual FHQ Arts & Language Festival at Payepot School. The students experienced local Indigenous language, music & art. The highlight of the event was a mini concert by Indigenous music celebrity Buffy St. Marie. These students were fortunate enough to get backstage access and take a photo with Buffy.

Case Competition

A team of three students from Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School attended the 7th Annual Saskatchewan Business Teachers' Association Case Competition held in Saskatoon on May 3rd and 4th. The event hosts a teachers' conference and student case competition involving an entrepreneurship case and a personal finance case. The Riffel team made up of John Paulo, Drew Voss and Aidan McMahon were part of the personal finance competition and represented Riffel well. The event was attended by over 80 students, 24 teachers, numerous judges, business people, and dignitaries. Special congratulations to Aidan McMahon who won the individual spirit award presented by Strategy Lab. Next year's event will take place in May at the University of Regina.



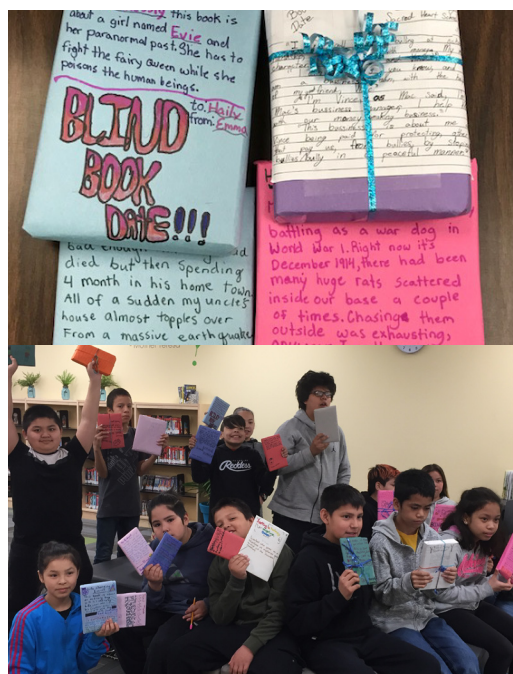
Mayor's Visit

Mayor Michael Fougere stopped by St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School to speak to some grade 3 and 4 students about community. He shared with them details about his job, what he's responsible for, and who he works with. Then he opened the floor for some questions. The students, who were in the middle of learning about the many components that make up a community, had many well thought out questions, from "What is your dream job?" to "How many bylaws do you sign in a year?"



It's a Dinglehopper

École St. Mary students performed The Little Mermaid Jr. musical at the Performing Arts Centre on May 9 & 10. The staff and students worked diligently and the results were amazing! Thank you to all the students and teachers involved in this masterful production.



Blind Book Date

Sandi White, Dorinda Schultz, Angie Sazinski and Amy Perrey worked to bring together two grade six classrooms by taking the blind book date initiative and giving it a twist. Classes at St. Gregory School and Sacred Heart Community School got to select, read, review and share a blind book with students at another school. The project will end in a picnic where the students can meet in person and share their book reviews.

Moving in Faith Golden Shoe Awards

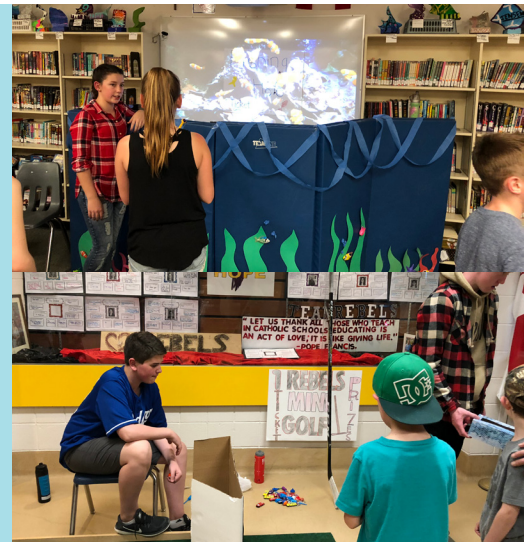
After another successful Moving in Faith event, the numbers are in! We raised nearly \$3,000 for Catholic Education Matters. The schools with the highest participation numbers are Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School, St. Nicholas School, St. Augustine Community School, École St. Elizabeth, and St. Luke School. See more pics from Moving in Faith on page 13, and mark your calendars for the 10th Annual Moving in Faith on Sunday, May 26, 2019.





Fundraising Carnival

On May 4th, the St. Josaphat CSCC and grade 8 students held a community BBQ and carnival. The grade 8 students created games, such as a fish pond, target games, mini golf, and basket flip challenge. There were 20 games in all. K-8 students played games all evening to win candy and small toys. The packed house helped raise \$1,100.00 for Catholic Education Matters. Thank you to the CSCC for organizing the evening and to Mrs. LeCouffe, Mr. Kauf and Grade 8 Rebels for planning and implementing the fundraising games. St. Josaphat School also held a "License For A Day" spirit day to end Catholic Education Week celebrations on May 11th, which collected \$1062.00 in donations. The grand total from the two events was \$2162.00, which all goes toward the campaign.



Heritage Fair

Eight St. Dominic Savio School students competed in the Regina Regional Heritage Fair. Of the 20 prizes available, five went to St. Dominic students! With 130 students at the fair, our students really did incredibly well! The winning students were Paige Patrick, Grade 7 - Ten Trees - Art and Leisure Award; Eli Gettle, Grade 6 - Pulse Crops - Innovation Award; Kennedy Matsala, Grade 4 - Halifax - Provincial Finalist; Kiera Muckelt-Landry, Grade 5 level winner - Canadian Cancer Society - Provincial Finalist; and Ryan Switzer, Grade 6 - Pulp and Paper - Provincial Finalist. Congratulations to Clayton Murray, VP at St. Dominic, for his outstanding work with our students!

Extreme Podcast

Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School recently won second place overall in Canada's Classroom of the Future Extreme Makeover Challenge. Teacher Dean Vendramin was featured on a **MindShare Learning podcast** to discuss how this accomplishment will help both his class and education in his school improve.





Shattered Fables

Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School's "That's Possible Theatre" wrapped up in May. The program matches FIAEP students with a mentor and the mentors led their 'buddies' from beginning to end through the production of a show called "Shattered Fables." The show mixed several familiar characters, and was written by the student buddies and mentors working together.



Vehicle Extraction

Murray Wright's Emergency Services students at Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School are all Certified First Responders. On Wednesday, May 16, they, along with about 170 other students, heard from Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, before listening to a 9-1-1 call and watching emergency crews respond to a mock traffic crash on the school's front lawn. SGI supplied a previously smashed vehicle for the demonstration, and crews extracted "victim" Mr. Wright from the car. After, students could chat with the emergency responders about careers.

First Responders

Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, spoke specifically about the role first responders play in our society, as well as what he is doing to protect them. Concerns about personal safety and the mental health and well being of all emergency crews and their families was covered in the presentation.





Hip Hop Hoop

The St. Josaphat School gymnasium was transformed into a stage for Terrance Littleton and Chancz Perry. They mixed together Indigenous and African culture for a show that had students laughing, singing, and dancing along. Hoop Dance lessons combined with discussion about the importance of knowing where you come from.



Youth Aboriginal Awards

At this year's Sasktel Youth Aboriginal Awards, which was held in Saskatoon on May 25th, Miller's very own Asia Huynh Whitebear won the Award of Excellence in the category of Technology and Science. This is a truly wonderful accomplishment. Congratulations, Asia! Asia is pictured here with Roxanne Ward (far left), Jeannine Whitehouse (middle right), and Superintendent Joanna Landry (far right).



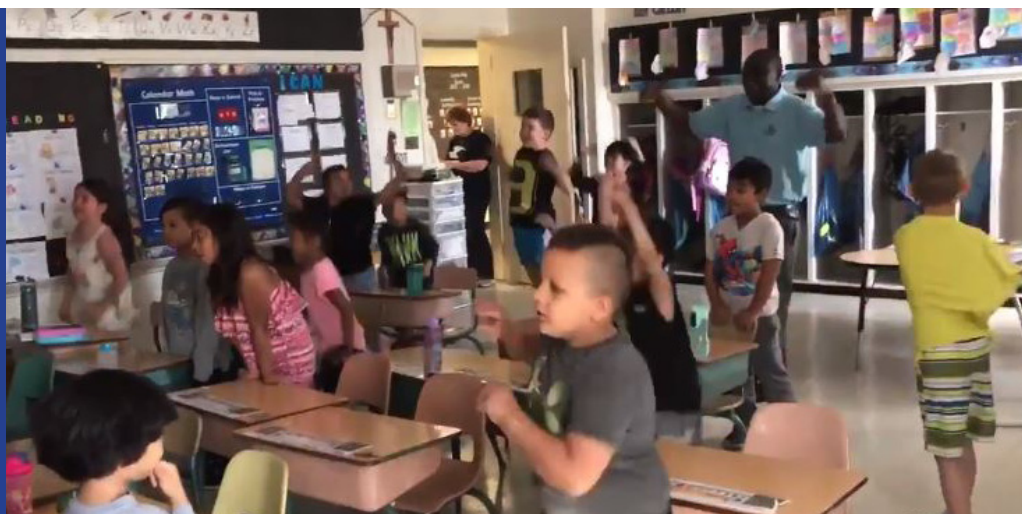
Bear Witness Day

Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School students took part in Bear Witness Day on May 10 as part of their journey toward Truth & Reconciliation. They showed support for Jordan's Principle, which ensures First Nations children receive the public services they need when they need them.



Dancing with Father

Whoomp, there is Father James bustin' a move with St. Michael Community School grade 1/2 during body break. **Click to watch the video.** Our Lady of Peace Parish and Father James work closely with all of their associate schools (St. Michael, St. Gregory School, Mother Teresa Middle School, and Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School).



Patch Adams

The real Patch Adams visited with students at St. Michael Community School on Tuesday, May 8. Several other schools also attended. While the laughs were prevalent (and principals Dean Schwebius and Terri Cote both fit into the world's largest pair of underpants along with six students), the message Patch came to share was the most important part. He shared his story and dreams with the students, with words of wisdom about peace, settling disagreements without violence, being happy with who you are, and celebrating your God given gifts.

Giveaway Time

We've got half a dozen RCSD embossed notebooks to give away. They even come with a slick pen. Email events@rcsd.ca with the subject line "Book Me" by June 8, 2018 to get your name in the draw. Books will be delivered to winners in the mailbag the second week of June!





The Difference Between Schools in Canada and Other Countries

Andrea Lugnasin, Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School EAL Student

Being able to study in Canada is a great opportunity and a great experience. It is a great advantage to students whose native language is not English, especially to students who lived in a third-world country. Even though this is a great opportunity and a great way to learn, there are still some disadvantages, as well as a number of differences between school in other countries and in Canada. On the 7th day of March 2018, I interviewed two of the immigrant students here at Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School, about what their education system was back in their home country and how it differs from Canada's education system.

The Philippines is a third world country, yet based on what Filipino immigrants say, their lessons in the Philippines are more advanced compared to Canada, especially in mathematics. Cyrelle Castres, a student here at Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School, explained briefly the similarities and the differences of school in Canada and her home country based on her own experience "Similarities eh yung mga studyante mababait. Ibang lessons same din. Tapos differences is school rules, mga subjects, mga pinagaaralan sa school." (The similarities are that students are nice. Other lessons are the same

too. Differences are the school rules, the subjects, and the things you learn from school.)

If you ask the immigrant students how it is living in Canada, most of them would say it isn't easy. Quynh Dang, also a student from the same school, described his experience adjusting to Canada. "For me it was not easy to adjust to my new school because when I came to Canada, I don't even know how to speak English or even understand a single word. I had been through many situations to learn English and it was difficult for me to start all over."

Even though learning in your home country, using your native language is one of the most effective ways to learn, most immigrant students in Canada would prefer to study here because of the opportunities that can be given to them if they study here. "Prefer ko ang school dito kase ano responsible sila, lalo na ang mga teacher. May sub pag wala yung subject teacher. Basta all about the school gusto ko." Cyrelle stated. (I prefer the school here. They're very responsible, especially the teachers. There's always a substitute teacher when the teacher of that subject is absent. I like everything about the school here.)



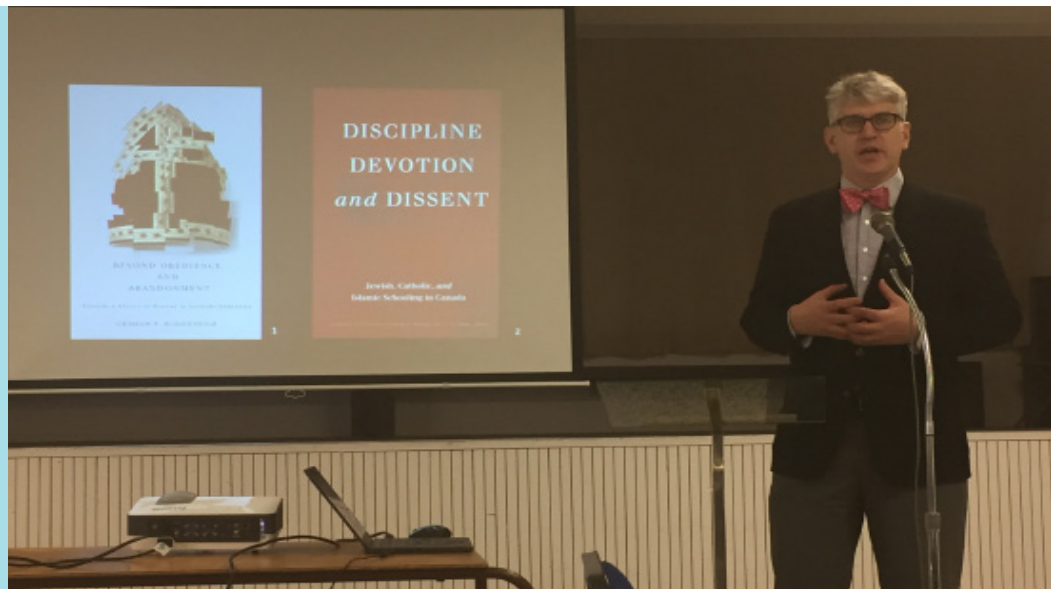


Geek Squad

École St. Elizabeth hosted Best Buy's Geek Squad Academy. It was the first time a school in Saskatchewan was chosen to participate. The Geek Squad ran workshops with students from Grades 5-8. Workshops included Digital Citizenship, Digital Music, 3D Design, Web Know How, LEGO Robotics, Star Wars Hour of Code, and BB-8 Robotics. What a fun way to learn to "geek" with the best!

Interfaith Dialogue

Dr. Graham McDonough, Associate Professor, Philosophical Foundations, and Associate Fellow, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria, presented to a group of school based administrators, trustees and senior administration recently. He spoke about interfaith dialogue and inculturation. He explained how Pope Francis teaches much the way we do in our schools, a retort to suggestions Catholic teachers aren't "Catholic enough."



Tweets from Pope Francis @Pontifex

"Praying means being with God, experiencing God, loving God."

"Joyfully performing works of charity for those who are suffering in mind and body, is the most authentic way to live the Gospel."

"Every insult, injury or act of violence inflicted upon our neighbour, offends God our Father and Creator."

"We begin building peace in our homes, streets, and workplaces: wherever we craft communion and community."

"There is no freedom greater than letting yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to lead you wherever he wishes."

"Never forget this golden rule: "Do to others what you would have them do to you" (Mt 7,12)"

"A Christian's life should be invested in Jesus, and spent for others."

"The mystery of the Blessed Trinity invites us to live in communion with one another, in love and in sharing: certain that wherever there is love, there is God."

"The Eucharist gives us the strength to produce the fruits of good works, and to live true Christian lives."



Charity Classic

Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School held its 22nd annual Charity Classic on May, 10, 2018. This year, they raised funds for All Nations Hope, a charity chosen to continue the Royals' journey toward Truth & Reconciliation. This is held along with the Riffel WellnessDay. After learning more about All Nations Hope, students watched an incredible performance by Hoop Dancer Terrance Littleton. Then, the student body gathered for a walk around the neighbourhood.



Landfill Orchestra

Students from Grades 6-8 have been involved in various Arts Activist projects inspired by the Landfill Harmonic Orchestra from Paraguay. Eight young musicians travelled to Canada to perform on their instruments which were made from the garbage dump in their community. This simple project transformed an entire community in a positive and productive way. Over 250 RCS and RPS students are learning how the Arts can be beneficial to society through activism!

Month at a Glance - June 2018

Monday, June 4 - Public Board Meeting, 5:00

Friday, June 8 - Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday, June 9 - St. Catherine Community School 50th Anniversary Celebration 1:00-4:00

Jun 12-13 - Elementary Track & Field City Meet

Friday, June 15 - Teacher Professional Day, no school for elementary students

Sunday, June 17 - Father's Day

Wednesday, June 27 - Semester Turn Around Day, no school for secondary students

Thursday, June 28 - Last day of school for all students

Friday, June 29 - Teachers' Institute
- Feast Day of St. Peter and St. Paul



Moving in Faith

