

Regina Catholic School Division

Director's Communiqué

events@rcsd.ca | www.rcsd.ca | Issue 95 | October 2019

"Let Your Light Shine"

A Message from Our Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia



*"You will say in that day:
I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
and you comforted me." Isaiah 12:1*

With school start up activities now behind us, October has arrived before we knew it! How is it that September can pass so quickly? As we move into October, we tend to feel more settled with our routines. Classroom procedures are in place, staffing adjustments have been made, and, usually, we've once again matched all the student names to faces. October feels cozier as the cool weather arrives and we buckle down in our classrooms, well steeped in the business of learning.

During the quiet moments, we saw many great things in our schools. From athletic triumphs to academic breakthroughs, our students had much to celebrate. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in Orange Shirt Day on September 30. This day of acknowledgement has grown from a day to wear an orange shirt, to a day of prayer, reflection, reading, learning, and, perhaps most importantly, healing.

Education Week is coming up in October. The theme is, "Working & Learning Together." It's a wonderful theme for us at Regina Catholic Schools, where collaboration is as common as prayer. While in many ways this is another week of school, it's important to take those moments and remind yourself how important your work really is. Education is what will build the future. Much ink has covered the topic over the years, but as we continue to plan for a new multi year strategic plan, it's clear that education is what will shape our tomorrow. I pray for continued successes for each of you and your students.

God Bless,
Dom

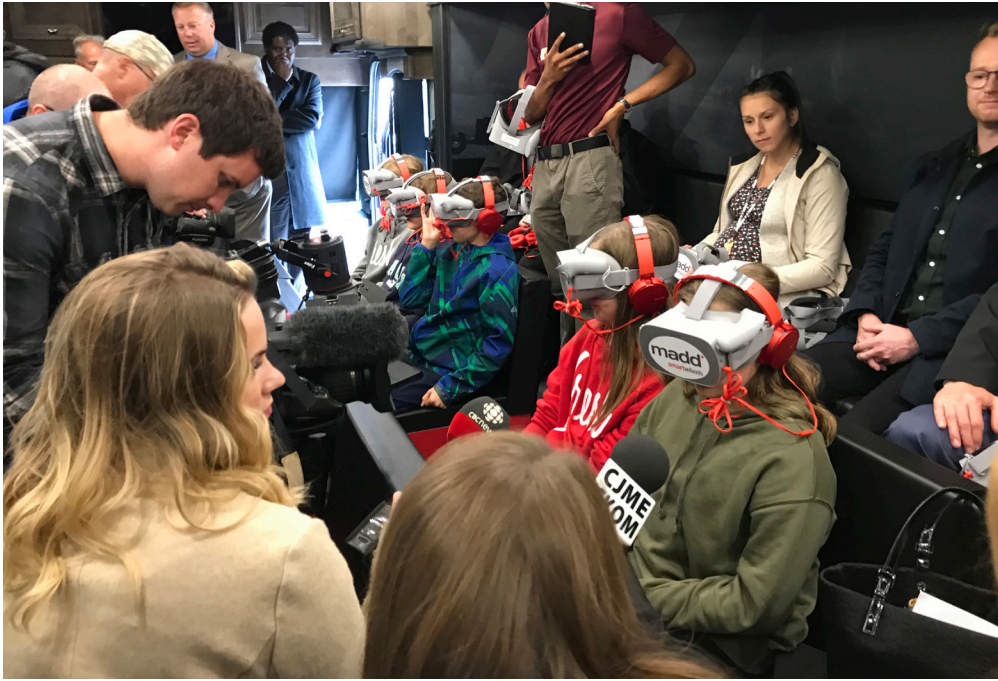


Contents

The Great Pumpkin Project	2
Mobile MADD	2
Youth Safety Education Day	3
Terry's Run	4
Childhood Cancer	4

Hall of Fame	5
Sing Us A Song	5
"Singing in the Rain"	5
High School Sports	6
Clergy Luncheon	7

Tweets from Pope Francis	7
Journée Je lis la science	7
Orange Shirt Day	8
Month at a Glance	8



Mobile MADD

St. Gabriel School students experienced the horror of driving impaired in a safe way: by visiting SmartWheels, a mobile classroom designed by MADD Canada. The feeling of driving impaired felt via virtual reality was impactful and likely a lesson to stick with the students. SmartWheels is targeting students in grade 4-6, reaching the audience before the opportunity to drive under the influence is an option.

The Great St. Josaphat Pumpkin/Potato Project!

Students at St. Josaphat continue to learn valuable skills as the seasons change and we begin fall. This past May, Mrs. Fellner's grade 1 students and their buddies in Ms. Mahajan's grade 4/5 class planted potatoes, onions and a pumpkin patch that will be used to support several charities in the Regina area. The potatoes and onions will be donated to The Carmichael Outreach Centre, The Marian Centre, the Regina Food Bank and to nutrition programs throughout RCSD. The pumpkins will be sold and auctioned in support of the Lakeside Lions Club's service dog initiatives. The garden has come a long way since May and the students and staff eagerly anticipate the fruitful harvest to come!





Youth Safety Education Day

On September 10, Youth Safety Education Day was proclaimed by the Government of Saskatchewan. A wonderful assembly was held at Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School to mark the start of province-wide activities, which should reach 40,000 high school students this month. Guests included MLA for Regina Pasqua Mohammed Fiaz (shown bottom right in a group picture) and guest speaker Jim Demeray (shown bottom left), who both did great jobs in making students more aware of the importance of mental health and job safety, and a DJ opened and closed the assembly.

Service Hospitality is the organization that provides safety presentations to all our Grade 6 students, and mental health talks for all our Grade 8 students. They also work at all our high school career fairs to teach students about workers' rights and responsibilities.

Middle right photo: In the front row (from the left) is Jim Bence, Sask Hotel and Hospitality Association; Deb Bresciani and Donna Ziegler, Trustees from the RCSD School Board; Mark Wernikowski, VP of LeBoldus; Dara Miazzyk from Service Hospitality, the organizers of the assembly; and Sajia Liu from Global TV, Emcee for the assembly. In the back row is Richard Donnelly, PAA consultant for RCSD; Kelley Ehman and Dave Magnusson, Superintendents; and Lawrence Biegler, Principal of LeBoldus.



Terry's Run

Students at Sacred Heart Community School began a year long reading trip across Canada with a special guest. Fred Fox, brother of Canadian hero Terry Fox, helped kick off the journey by dipping a Terry Fox tweekie into water from the Atlantic ocean, the same ocean Terry dipped his prosthetic leg into before starting his historic run. Students will virtually visit locations across the country, before wrapping up their adventure by dipping their own tweekies into water from the Pacific Ocean.



Childhood Cancer

One of our staff members, Sherri Melnychuk, is leading the way as the City of Regina marked Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September. With the memory of her beautiful daughter Ava (shown in the photo Sherri holds on the left), Sherri helped to raise the golden ribbon flag at City Hall. Students at St. Josaphat School, classmates of Ava's little sister, joined her for the occasion. Congratulations, Sherri, on making a big difference in our community. We pray for your family's continued success in Ava's memory.



Cross Country

Cross Country events took place in the month of September. Congrats to everyone who took part and all the staff and volunteers working behind the scenes at both the elementary and high school levels.



Hall of Fame

Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School Vice Principal Tyler Wright was inducted into the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame on Saturday, September 21. Congrats Tyler on this amazing accomplishment. We're all very proud of your efforts at school.... and on the golf course!



Sing Us A Song

There's a beautiful new addition to the commons area at Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School, thanks in part to grade 12 piano artist Nadia Leviste! She did a great job of reflecting who the Royals are as a school community through her design work. If you're around during a lunch break, it's a great place to listen to students play... and maybe tinkle the ivories yourself!



"Singing in the Rain"

There's no better song to listen to while the rain falls than, "Singing In The Rain!" St. Dominic School's Robert Csada thought he should dance along like Gene Kelly. Great attitude, great moves!



High School Sports

Here is a look at some of the activity going on on the fields and in the gymnasiums around our school division. Good luck to all the teams working hard out there!





Clergy Luncheon

Catholic Education Services Coordinator Miles Meyers hosted a luncheon on Tuesday, September 24 to bring together Clergy, Trustees, Senior Administration and many of our principals and vice-principals. Breaking bread and praying together is one of the privileges we share as a community in Catholic education.



Journée Je lis la science

Megan Cruickshank had some fun with the #jelislascience contest on Twitter. The students on the beanbags are last year's grade 7's from École St Elizabeth. It's always nice to see students relaxing and reading together, particularly *en français* as we celebrate 50 years of French Immersion education in Regina Catholic Schools!

Tweets from Pope Francis @Pontifex

"We need others in order to live and to share the love and trust that the Lord gives us."

"The true face of love is mercy. Practicing it, we become a disciple of Jesus and the heart of the Father shows itself."

"The Holy Spirit, when we invite Him into our wounds, anoints our painful memories with the balm of hope, because the Spirit restores hope."

"Today we celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary. I invite everyone to turn to Our Lady. Let her inspire you with a Christian outlook, so as to live like and imitate her Son Jesus ever more."

"We are called to be witnesses and messengers of God's mercy, to offer the world light where there is darkness, hope where despair reigns, salvation where sin abounds."

"If they want to grow in His friendship, Jesus' disciples, must not complain and look inward. They must act and commit themselves, certain that the Lord will support and accompany them."

"Let us learn to call people by their name, as the Lord does with us, and to give up using adjectives."



Orange Shirt Day - September 30, 2019



Month at a Glance

Tuesday, October 1 - Feast Day of St. Theresa

Wednesday, October 2 - Feast Day of the Guardian Angels

Friday, October 4 - Teachers' Institute - No School for Students
- Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, October 5 - World Teachers' Day

Monday, October 7 - Public Board Meeting 5:00
- Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary

Monday, October 14 - Thanksgiving Day Stat

Friday, October 18 - Teachers' Convention - No School for Students
- Feast Day of St. Luke

Thursday, October 31 - All Hallows' Eve/Halloween