



FEBRUARY 2019

VIRTUE AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Students who exemplify the virtue of:

LOVE - COOPERATING WITH GOD'S GRACE TO BLESS OTHERS

CGE: A SELF-DIRECTED, RESPONSIBLE, LIFELONG LEARNER

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Mrs. Draaisma/Mrs. Dean - FDK1: Ashwin A., Alexander C., Alana T.

Mrs. McKee/Mrs. Huber - FDK2: Sophie B., Sara R., Alex H.

Miss Wilcox - Gr. 1A: Henry T.

Mrs. Vanderhoek - Gr. 1B: Casey H., Ali G.

Mrs. Martens - Gr. 2: Kate D., Brianna T., Kingston D.

Mrs. Pezzutto - Gr. 3: Ava K., Scott D.

Mrs. Glanville/Mrs. Mazariegos - Gr. 4/5A: Myles L., Sophie C.

Mr. Raytrowsky - Gr. 4/5B: Lily T., Jackson D., Sophie M.

Mr. Taylor - Gr. 6/7: Colleen B., Steven O.

Mr. Ionata - Gr. 7/8: Megan B., Edan J., Axel K.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



March 2019

Dear Members of the St. Patrick Catholic School Community:

In March, we will begin the Lenten Season. It is a time of change, a time we are asked to open our hearts, to be quiet and listen so that we can hear the message of God. "To love and be loved is the greatest joy in the world". "Regardless of how much we know, it is never enough. But that's okay because every day with every new experience we are offered new opportunities for discovery and growth. School is always in session and life challenges us to excel at being both enthusiastic student and inspired teacher." (Quotes for "Live and Learn and Pass it On" by H. Jackson Brown Jr.)

Our 40-day Lenten Journey will begin with Shrove Tuesday on March 5th. We will be hosting our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on this evening from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. We are so blessed to have our community partners, the Knights of Columbus, here who will support us during these special times in the lives of our students. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please see details below. All are welcome!

Please be advised of our Lenten Project. At St. Patrick Catholic School, we are inviting everyone to donate non-perishable canned goods for the Ailsa Craig Food Bank. Please see details below. Thanking everyone in advance for their generosity!

Parent-Teacher Interviews were very well attended. Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

If you had dropped by our school on February 20th, 2019 you would have spotted students and staff celebrating Carnival. Staff and students were sporting Blue/Red/White in support of our Gr. 7/8 trip to Ottawa. Bonhomme was here and we had lots of fun! Special thanks go out to our Grade 8 student leaders, led by Mme Ansems, for making Carnival such a success!

Another memorable event in February includes the Annual Cake Walk. We had over 150 donations brought in and \$525.50 was raised in support of future technological purchases for our school. What an amazing and generous community! Thank you so much!

The gymnastics team have been working on their gymnastic routines all month. A public viewing took place at the Gymnastics Meet on Thursday, Feb. 28th, 2019 at Carling Heights. The team will be presenting to our school community on Monday, March 4th, 2019 at 9:15 a.m.

On behalf of the entire staff at St. Patrick Catholic School, we would also like to thank you for your continued support and wish you and your family a safe, restful March Break.

Yours in Faith,

Helen Bobyk, Principal



CATHOLIC GRADUATE EXPECTATION

The Catholic Graduation Expectation we explore this month is **An Effective Communicator**. The Catholic graduate is expected to be an effective communicator who speaks, writes, and listens honestly and sensitively, responding critically in light of gospel values. In a culture where communication is increasingly commercialized, we are invited to prayer and to worship. This message can be reinforced at home by encouraging child/ren to:

- Read daily
- Make inferences and build connections
- Keep a journal
- Speak about their day
- Converse with others
- Listen to stories of the Bible
- Pray daily
- Think carefully before reacting or speaking



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH—FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is a behaviour that enables an individual to let go of anger or of being upset over a situation. As outlined in our agenda, the **ABC's** of forgiveness include:

- **A**dmitting you made a mistake.
- **B**eing sorry about your mistake.
- **C**onfessing to the person you hurt and doing what you can to fix things.
- **D**on't do it again.

As Catholics, Jesus taught us to turn the other cheek. That means to forgive everyone in our lives.



March 23rd (Sat.)	Sacrament of the Eucharist at St. Patrick's Parish at 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Group learning sessions for children
March 25th	Play: Bring it On! – St. André Bessette – Gr. 3 – 8 students
March 25th	Travelling Crucifix – Mrs. Pezzutto-Levac's class
March 25th	Irish Dance Instruction – 9 a.m. – 1:35 p.m. – Primary classes
March 26th	Jr. Hockey Team Practice at 7:15 a.m.
March 26th	Mad Science at 11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. in the library
March 28th	Hot Lunch
March 28th	Junior Hockey Tournament at Stronach Arena Pad B
March 29th	Chess
March 30th (Sat.)	Sacrament of the Eucharist at St. Patrick's Parish at 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Group learning sessions for children



Family Activities

Participating in activities together as a family can be fun. [ParticipACTION](#) says "a healthy childhood requires a balance of physical activity, sedentary behaviour and sleep". The health benefits that come from heart pumping physical activity are reduced if children have poor sleep habits or spend too much time being sedentary e.g. sitting or reclining while watching screens. Parents and caregivers can set a great example as role models to inspire children to be active. The more children see you being active, the more likely they will be active as well.

Spend less time being sedentary by limiting 'screen time' to **no more than 2 hours** per day

Here is a list some active activities that you can do together:

- Go for a walk together; explore your neighbourhood
- Play basketball, catch or soccer in your driveway or at the park (community centre)
- Dance to some up-beat music together
- Make a game out of picking up sticks or raking in your yard; it will help with seasonal yard work
- Walk, bike, rollerblade or skateboard to or from school together
- Play Get Up and Move Bingo

If you are looking for more activities to do with your children visit [Active For Life](#) (<https://activeforlife.com/activities/>) and [ParticipACTION](#)

For more information on the guidelines, visit the [Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology](#) (<https://csepquidelines.ca/>)



From your Public Health Staff

www.healthunit.com



Junior Hockey

Our Junior Hockey Teams are looking forward to the tournament on **Thursday, March 28th, 2019** at Stronach Arena Pad B. We had so much interest, that we were able to have two teams. Thanks to Mr. Kenny, Mr. Slaght, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Irwin & Mr. Blommaert, our parent coaches, for helping the teams and for Mrs. Stokman for coordinating it. Mrs. Bobyk will be the Staff Rep. This is always a great day for everyone involved!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

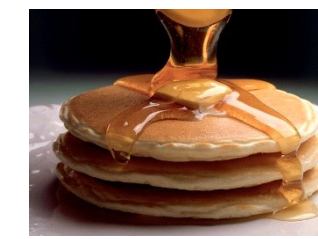
March:

March 1st	Chess
March 2nd (Sat.)	Sacrament of the Eucharist at St. Patrick's Parish at 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Group learning sessions for children
March 4th	Gymnastics Demonstration at 9:15 a.m.
March 4th	Travelling Crucifix – Miss Wilcox's class
March 4th	Healthy & Safe Schools Meeting at 4:30 p.m.- re-scheduled
March 4th – 5th	Mini-stick Tournament at lunch hour – Gr. 6 – 8
March 5th	Jr. Hockey Team Practice at 7:15 a.m.
March 5th	Shrove Tuesday – Mardi Gras – Community Event – Shrove Tuesday Dinner from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at St. Patrick Catholic School – Knights of Columbus to support us
March 6th	Ash Wednesday Liturgy at St. Patrick Parish at 9:15 a.m. – Mrs. Bobyk to lead mass
March 6th	March Virtue/CGE Kick-off Assembly at 11 a.m. – Mrs. Wilcox's class to facilitate
March 6th	Cinnabon Fundraiser begins
March 7th	Gr. 2 River Safety Program at 10:30 a.m.
March 7th	Hot Lunch
March 8th	Jr. Hockey Team Practice at 7:15 a.m.
March 8th	Chess
March 11th - March 15th	March Break
March 18th	Travelling Crucifix – Mrs. Marten's class
March 18th	Irish Dance Instruction – 9 a.m. – 1:35 p.m. – Primary classes
March 19th	Mad Science at 11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. in the library
March 19th	St. Patrick's Day Assembly at 1 p.m. – Staff and Students are encouraged to wear green
March 21st	World Down Syndrome Day – Crazy Sock Day – Optional: Staff and students are invited to bring in a \$2 donation and wear crazy socks
March 21st	Hot Lunch
March 22nd	Jr. Hockey Team Practice at 7:15 a.m.
March 22nd	Chess



OUR LENTEN PROJECT 2019

This year our Lenten Project will be to support our local food bank in Ailsa Craig. At St. Patrick Catholic School, we will invite staff and students to bring in non-perishable items for the food bank. Regularly we will have our School Parliament members circulate to count all items donated in each classroom. Our school goal last year was met with approximately 500 items for the food bank. This year, our school goal will be 600 items. This is a wonderful challenge to support our local community needs. The project will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th, 2019, and will continue until Wednesday, April 17th, 2019. Thanking you in advance for your charitable donations for our Local Food Bank.



COME ONE – COME ALL!

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC SCHOOL WILL BE HOSTING A DELICIOUS

ALL YOU CAN EAT

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

ON TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2019

FROM 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

TICKETS WILL BE PURCHASED AT THE DOOR

\$8.00 PER ADULT / \$5.00 PER CHILD (12 & UNDER)

(TODDLERS EAT FREE)

MENU

**PANCAKES (SYRUP, BUTTER, WHIP CREAM), SAUSAGES, BAKED BEANS,
COOKIES, WATER, JUICE**

**MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDARS &
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! (IN THE SCHOOL GYM)**

A special thank you to our Knights of Columbus for their support with this event!



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

At St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School, it is our goal to establish strong work habits and a positive learning environment for all students. Good attendance and punctuality are foundations to success in school.

As outlined in the Education Act, parents or guardians are to ensure that their child attends school daily. The Principal, with the help of the teacher, monitors all students' attendance and identifies possible attendance concerns.

The LDCSB requires that schools advise parents before an attendance problem becomes acute (at approximately 5 days absence without cause). At this stage, the Principal will attempt to discover the reason(s) for the problematic attendance on an informal basis, with the goal to resolve it. If the absences continue (at approximately 10 days without cause), the elementary school Social Worker will be given a school-based attendance referral. Once the referral has been completed, the Social Worker will be available to assist in working with the student and family to resolve the problematic attendance.

Please be advised that attendance letters will go home to inform those parents of students whose attendance indicates the total number of unexplained absences or lates that are 5 or more. The **main purpose** for this letter is to inform parents and to give parents the opportunity to advise the Principal of any extenuating circumstances that might help to explain the absences/ lates.

Please be reminded that if your child is ill or absent from school for any reason, report the absence in SchoolMessenger or telephone the school at 519-660-2789. The school answering machine is always on for you to leave a message, even outside of school hours. In addition, we encourage you to notify your child's classroom teacher through the use of the agenda.

Also, if your child will be leaving early, please send a signed note with your child explaining at what time and who will be picking your child up from school. When picking up your child, please sign your child out at the office. These procedures are part of the Safe Arrival Policy and help to ensure the safety of your child.



SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

At St. Patrick Catholic School, we just wanted to remind you that we are offering a secure and convenient way to pay for some school items online! School Cash Online is becoming our preferred method of payment, replacing cash and cheque orders. To register, please visit ldcsb.ca and click on the School Cash Online banner.

Opt-in for alerts to receive notifications when new items (school agendas, field trips, etc.) become available!



Between **May 21st, 2019 and June 3rd, 2019** our grade 3 & 6 students will write the EQAO assessment. Specific days for each grade will be shared with our families after the March Break. Please avoid scheduled absences such as vacations, medical/dental appointments etc. during that period of time. Your co-operation is appreciated.

SPORTS, RECREATION and ACTIVITIES



Gymnastics

The 2018- 2019 Gymnastics Season began in January, with tryouts for all grades. During the month of February, the students were perfecting their gymnastics skills in order to be ready for the Gymnastics Meet. As stated in our last newsletter, the date of our Educational Gymnastics meet was **Thursday, February 28th, 2019**. The meet took place at Carling Heights Optimist Community Centre in London, Ontario (656 Elizabeth St.). Please note we will be having a Gymnastics Demonstration at the school on **Monday, March 4th, 2019 at 9:15 a.m. following our morning announcements.**



Basketball

The Sr. Boys' and Sr. Girls' basketball teams have been chosen and we have begun the season. We have had a great start to the season. We want to thank our parents for all the time and effort it takes on their part to have the team members to each practice and each game. We really appreciate the support and we look forward to a great basketball season!



St. Patrick's Day Assembly

On **Tuesday, March 19th, 2019**, we are inviting all staff and students to wear green in support of St. Patrick's Day. At 1 p.m., we will have a St. Patrick's Day Assembly in recognition of our patron saint.



Mad Science

We are pleased to inform everyone that we will once again be offering to have the Mad Science Program (Kid's Science Club) at our school during the months of March and April. All students from Grades 1 – 6 are invited to **register online** to participate in this six-week program. Please note that we will be using the library to facilitate this event, so it will be **first come, first served**. The six-week program will take place on Tuesdays at lunch from **Tuesday, March 19th, 2019 – April 23rd, 2019.**