

ST. MARY SCHOOL

November 2009

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Our Service will be held on Wednesday, November 11th at 9:15 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend. We will be honoured to have members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 179 join us for our service. There will be a silver collection for Poppies which will be given to the Legion



Food/Hats/Mitts/Socks Drive

As in past years, the School will be collecting **non-perishable food items** along with **NEW hats, mitts and socks** for those in need. The food will be given to the Lions Club for distribution here in Capreol. The class bringing in the most food will have a pizza party. We will be collecting from **November 23th until December 11th**. Thanks in advance for your continued generous support.

Operation Christmas Child

Each class has two shoeboxes to fill for Operation Christmas Child. A letter was sent home earlier in October with a list of the items that could be donated. If possible, please send a loonie or toonie so that we can purchase items on your behalf for the shoeboxes. Our Lady of Peace CWL members will be collecting the shoeboxes November 13th. Thanks for your support.

Clothing

Just a reminder - please make sure that your children are **dressed appropriately** for the weather conditions. Colder weather means warmer jackets, hats and mitts. Snow on the ground means that students will need their boots.

Chocolate Campaign Prizes

All students at St. Mary Catholic School were able to choose a prize for the chocolate campaign! All prizes were on display in the gym. Students could choose from the I-Pod shuffle, the 5 pound chocolate bar, various stuffed animals along with games and other toys. Thanks for a successful campaign.

Learning Through the Arts

The grade 5/6 class recently had the unique opportunity to spend time with Nicole Fougère, a dance artist from Toronto. Nicole has facilitated teacher and artist workshops in the UK, USA, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Cambodia and across Canada. She taught the students about vertebrates and invertebrates through dance, allowing the students' creativity and team work to shine through in their performances. She shared personal tidbits of her time in Africa. Many thanks to Pandora Topp who made this exciting event possible.

Donations

Thank you so very much to all those parents and grandparents who donate items to the school - whether it is time, food or expertise - all are especially valued. Thanks to Capreol Foodland for their boo-tiful pumpkin donations.



Principal's Message on Justice

This month we are celebrating the virtue of Justice - one of the building blocks in developing moral intelligence in young people. From a young age, students have a strong sense of what is fair. As they grow, they develop the capacity to decipher right from wrong and to make ethical decisions.

This theme of Justice ties in with the Catholic Graduate Expectation of a Responsible Citizen - one who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life. Traditionally, our Catholic Schools have made outstanding contributions to society through Social Justice Causes. Students in both our Elementary and Secondary Schools have raised funds to support many causes both locally and abroad. These include the Terry Fox Run, Adopt a Village, Holy Childhood, Share Lent, Peace and Development, the United Way, Thanksgiving and Christmas hampers along with clothing and toy drives. Secondary students have also volunteered their time and money working with children in Jamaica and other third world countries. We are very proud of the contributions our students have made and continue to make through their altruistic efforts. Self-control gives our children the willpower to "say no", "do what is right" and stick up for others being treated unfairly. There are three critical steps parents can use to help their children make just decisions through practicing self-control.

1. Make fairness a priority for your child.
2. Help your child see other people's points of view in a conflict
3. Think before acting or speaking.

When School, Home and Church work together we can bring JUSTICE to our small corner of the world, and beyond.