

St. Martin of Tours Catholic School

Newsletter

February 25, 2020



Superintendent of School Effectiveness: Mr. David Giroux
Principal: Mrs. Patricia Flagler-Edwards
Vice Principal: Ms. Tara McEnery
Custodian: Mr. Adam Wannamaker
Administrative Assistant: Ms. Marta Walczak

Trustee: Dr. Peter McEnery
School Council Chair: Kelli Nicholas
Pastor: Father Malachy
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SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE LUNCH

THANK YOU SO MUCH to our volunteers, LYNDA, ROSIE, DELLA and PHIL, for coming to make pancakes for all of the students and staff of St. Martin of Tours C.S. and Whitney Public Schools! THANK YOU SO MUCH to the ALGONQUIN LUNCH BAR for the special help in preparing the sausages! To GLORIA, JEROME and the McRAE's for the donation of syrup. St. Martin of Tours students and staff made fruit kabobs to accompany the pancakes and sausages!



Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board
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OUTDOOR CARNIVAL de WHITNEY!

Tuesday afternoon following the pancake lunch, students and staff of St. Martin of Tours hosted an afternoon outdoor fun day called Carnival de Whitney. Activities were organized for students of both St. Martin of Tours and Whitney Public Schools to participate in. These included toboggan races, snow art and sculpturing, fruit kabob and hot chocolate refreshments, cooking bannock over a fire, snow shoeing. Mr. McDonald also facilitated a traditional Indigenous game called “Snow Snake” in which students propel a special stick that then appears to slither through a prepared track.







INDIGENOUS EDUCATION WORKSHOP

The school welcomed Mr. Shawn McDonald, the Indigenous Education Lead for Algonquin & Lakeshore C.D.S.B. and Mr. Bernard Nelson, an Oji-Cree Elder who lives near Kingston and shares cultural teachings with students throughout the Board. Mr. McDonald & Mr. Nelson conducted a Drumming Workshop for our students. They brought a class set of handmade small drums that our school ordered and purchased from Danka Brewer. During the workshop they taught us some drumming technique, drum care, and a couple of traditional songs. Mr. McDonald & Mr. Nelson also opened the afternoon fun day with a gathering around the big drum for both St. Martin of Tours and Whitney Public Schools.



STUDENT VISITOR

On Thursday, February 20th students of St. Martin of Tours had a visitor! It was 'Take Your Family to Work Week' and Queens University Reading Week so Ms. McEnery brought her son Peter to volunteer in the school.

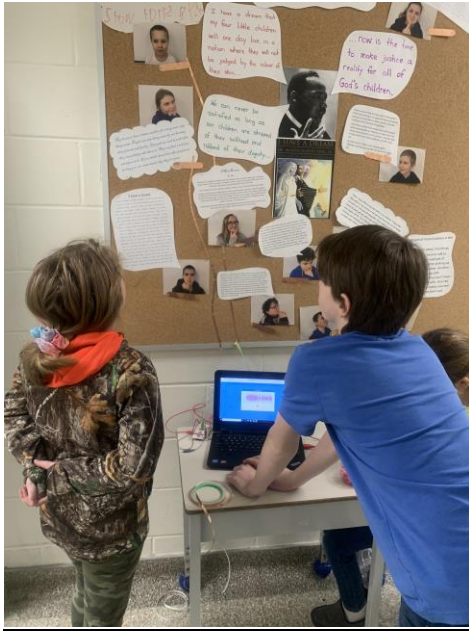
Students were treated to a presentation on the geology and wildlife of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands with photos of landforms and wildlife that he encountered there. Peter also showed students the basics of creating a video game using Scratch coding software and students were invited to try video games he had created using that software. Scratch is a free coding software created by MIT. We have used it to make our interactive bulletin boards using the MakeyMakey (including our 'I Have a Dream' board for Black History Month). Students are welcome to create Scratch accounts and work with it at home with their parents' permission. Younger students may prefer the Scratch Jr. app that is available for tablets.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

During Black History Month, Canadians celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today. Students have been working on Black History Month projects on an inspirational person of their choice. After watching Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" address, they each wrote about their own dreams to create a better world and helped to build an interactive talking bulletin board to showcase their dreams.





SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY

On February 14th, students and staff celebrated Saint Valentine's Day by wearing red, white and pink. We would like to thank all of the families who sent in delicious treats to help us celebrate the day as well. During the cold indoor recesses students enjoyed creating Valentine crafts with play dough and cinnamon clay among other materials.



WE HAVE NEW CHAIRS FOR OUR LUNCH ROOM!

February 13th our Trustee, Dr. Peter McEnery and his helper Steve, picked up a set of surplus chairs from Palmer Rapids Public School and delivered them to us. The chairs are in the

process of being cleaned and prepared to replace the existing chairs in our shared lunchroom.



UPCOMING FeWL SPIRIT DAY

Please consider sending in a loonie or toonie as a donation to FeWL's fundraising for the SPCA.



THIS FRIDAY is Pajama Day

**REGISTER ONLINE!
FOR 2020-2021 KINDERGARTEN
PROGRAM**



We encourage parents to use our online registration for Kindergarten students for the fall of the 2020-2021 school year. To be eligible the child must be 4 years of age on or before **December 31st, 2020.** To access online registration, please go to our school website. Under "Information for Parents" there is a link to the registration form.