

# St. Patrick Catholic School

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## March Newsletter

### *Lenten Prayer*

*Almighty and ever living God,  
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.  
May this time be one of outward focus;  
seeking you in those we often ignore.  
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.  
Give us hearts hungry to serve you  
and those who need what we have to give.  
Amen*

### **Shrove Tuesday**

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> was Shrove Tuesday, also referred as Pancake Tuesday, which marks the final day before Lent. As is tradition on Shrove Tuesday, we provided each student with pancakes and maple syrup in our gym. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, our School Council, and our EcoTeam for helping with cooking, plates, cutlery, syrup, cutting up pancakes, and the clean up. Special thanks for the donation of real maple syrup this year! Yummy!

### **Ash Wednesday**

Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday (February 14<sup>th</sup>) and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter (March 31<sup>st</sup>). Fr. Amato was able to lead our school in an Ash Wednesday Mass at the church as well as the distribution of ashes following our Mass. Thank you to our school choir for the lovely music that always brightens our Masses and prayer.

### **National Sweater Day**

National Sweater Day was celebrated on February 1<sup>st</sup>. It is celebrated to bring awareness around the importance of saving energy by switching off the heat and wearing sweaters during the cooler times of the year. The day celebrates the usefulness of sweaters and the consumption of energy. This year's Sweater Day was part of the awareness efforts of our EcoTeam.

### **Ball Hockey Tournament**

A team of our Gr. 5-6 students travelled to Our Lady of Lourdes to represent St. Pats at our board Ball Hockey Tournament on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. It's an annual invitational tournament that provides a bonus sport for our hockey players to enjoy. Our team played well, showing great teamwork and encouragement, but most of all having fun. Well done!

### **Pink Shirt Day**

On Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, St. Pats marked Pink Shirt Day as a reminder to all of us to be our best person everyday. Our focus was on being kind to one another and to treat others the way you would like to be treated.

### **First Reconciliation**

Our Gr. 2 students have been busy preparing for First Reconciliation. The Sacrament was celebrated on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at the church. Congratulations to all those who received the Sacrament.

### **Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition**

A big thank you to the Knights of Columbus who were able to reboot their annual Free Throw Competition this year. The competition is open to all interested students aged 9 and up and consists of taking 15 basketball foul shots. The number of success shot attempts are tallied up with the winner for each age group moving on to the next level of competition involving other area schools. Congratulations to this year's winners:

9 year old boys	Ben C
9 year old girls	Andi B
10 year old boys	Mason M
10 year old girls	Leah W
11 year old boys	Karter G
11 year old girls	Kensi T
12 year old boys	Ty B
12 year old girls	Sophia D
13 year old boys	Hunter B
13 year old girls	Lea R

### **Eco-News**

Did you know that the clothing industry creates 2.1 billion tonnes of carbon emissions each year and 7% of plastic waste in our landfill comes from our synthetic clothes. Fashion production consumes more energy than both aviation & shipping combined, and it can take 2,700 liters of water to make a single cotton t-shirt. In Canada, each household throws away an average of 81lb of textiles per year, making up for 5-10% of municipal landfills.

From March 1 to March 8 the Eco Team will be hosting a Diverting Textile Waste Campaign. Please drop off any clothing that you would like to be recycled and the Eco Team will bring it to one of the *Renewal Squared Inc's* Textile Recycling drop off locations in Kingston.

### **Basketball Tournaments**

Our basketball Teams have been busy over the past month or so practicing for the board tournaments which all took place towards the end of February. Thanks to all our coaches and to all our players for representing St. Pats so well at the tournaments.

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### **MacMillan Fundraiser**

Our School Council has organized a MacMillan Fundraiser again this year. Those who wish to participate may purchase a number of food items. Proceeds will be put towards the outdoor learning area that is being developed in the U-shaped grassy section on the west side of the school along with other School Council initiatives. The due date to order items is Monday, March 11 and the pick-up date is Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:00.

### **Winter Fun Day**

Our Gr. 8 students are busy planning a Winter Fun Day for the school on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a variety of team activities for our students to participate in. Fingers crossed the weather cooperates with us again this year.

### **Stations of the Cross**

Ms. Rand/Ms. Funnell's Gr. 5/6 class will be leading the school in the Stations of the Cross this year. We typically host the Stations during Holy Week, which is the week before Easter. More details to come.

### **Lenten Food Drive**

Following the March Break, our school will be collecting non-perishable food items again to donate to our local food bank. There will also be an option for families to donate online instead, if that is a more convenient option. Our Parish has also given us brown paper grocery bags for our students to decorate which they can use to package the food donations that they receive at the Parish as well. All donations can be brought to the school and placed in the front foyer for donation around Easter.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

Friday, March 1	Winter Fun Day
Monday, March 4	Gr. 7-8 Ski/Tubing Trip
Tuesday, March 5	Gr. 8 Graduation Photos
Monday, March 11	MacMillan Fundraiser Orders Due
March 11-15	March Break
Wednesday, March 20	School Mass @ 10:00 at the Church
Wednesday, March 20	School Council Meeting @ 6:00
Monday, March 25	MacMillan Fundraiser Pick-Up from 3:30-5:00
Wednesday, March 27	Kindergarten Class Trips to Maple Madness
Friday, March 29	Good Friday
Sunday, March 31	Easter
Monday, April 1	Easter Monday

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