



St. John XXIII Catholic School

The Monthly – May and June 2018

Trustee
C. Cotton

Superintendent
L. Sawicky

Principal
C. Mills

Secretary
E. Marincola

Parish
St. Justin Martyr

Parish Priest
Monsignor V. Vlasic

St. John XXIII Catholic School
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Unionville, Ontario
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Dear Parents:

May and June continue to be chockful of learning and student engagement. The month of May is a very special time in our faith as we celebrate Catholic Education Week, recognize the tremendous efforts of our parent volunteers and participate in our annual Share Fair afternoon. Our Grade 3 and 6 students will write the EQAO assessment and we welcome our new Kindergarten families with Welcome to Kindergarten presentation. June includes FDK Celebration of Learning, year-end trips, Track and Field and Grade Eight Graduation.

We celebrate the virtues for responsibility and honesty and give thanks for the abundance of blessings we share.

Warmest regards,

C. Mills

Principal

Celebrating the Virtue of Responsibility in May Honesty in June

I will honour my commitments even when it becomes difficult.

I will be reliable so people can depend on me.

I will be accountable for the things I say and I will be sincere, trustworthy, and truthful, even when it is difficult.

I will stand by what I believe to be good and right.

A Prayer for Our Graduates
May you have

WISDOM in heart and mind

SUCCESS in every challenge you find

COURAGE to seek life's purpose for you

BELIEF in yourself to make it come true

STRENGTH to do your best and endure

And the guiding light of FAITH

to ensure that wherever you go, whatever you do,

God's LOVE will always see you through.

Amen

Mission

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Core Values.

Catholicity, Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect

Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith, Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement, Effective Use of Our Resources, Engaging Our Communities

"We believe in the power of prayer."



Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement



Parking Lot Safety

Upon dismissal, we ask that students proceed directly to the bus or meet their parents/caregivers and walk home. As students are not supervised outside after school, it is unsafe for them to remain alone. Please encourage your child(ren) to come home immediately after school. Please do not walk through the parking lot at the end of the day. If you are picking up your children at the end of the day, please plan to be at school by 3:25 p.m. and please use the loop and pick up your child at your designated area. *Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe.*



Morning Arrival and Dismissal

Please be mindful that school begins at **8:55 a.m.** and ends at **3:25 p.m.** Supervision is provided before school at 8:40 a.m. If you are picking up your child at the end of the day, we ask that you arrive by 3:25.



Oral Communications

The junior and intermediate students and teachers have worked diligently on researching and writing speeches. The topics generated allowed students to inform, persuade or entertain their audience. The competition at SJXXIII took place on April 25th. We are grateful to Fr. John Pak, Education Community Officer Jen, and Ms. Abergel, YCDSB Speech and Language Consultant, for serving as judges; they had the difficult task of selecting a winner and runner up from each division. Congratulations to Luke M., Kai K., Kristin O' and Benjamin C. (winners and runners-up from Intermediate and Junior divisions, respectively). Griffin and Julia will compete in the Area 2 Finals at St. Justin, Martyr CES on May 2nd, 2018. Thank you to Ms. FitzGerald for all her efforts in coordinating the Oral Communications event.

EQAO



Grade Three and Grade Six students will be writing their EQAO tests at the end of May and the beginning of June. Our teachers have been working hard throughout the year to ensure that our students have the knowledge, skills and confidence to reflect their true competency during EQAO. We encourage you to continue to do your part as parents in reinforcing and supporting your child's education. We wish students all the best on their EQAO test writing.

We ask that parents try not to schedule any trips or appointments during these weeks in order to accommodate the prescriptive timelines of the EQAO testing procedures.



Swim to Survive

Students in Grade 3 will begin the Swim to Survive Program in April and May at Angus Glen Community Pool. Students are asked to come prepared for swimming on those dates.

Welcome to Kindergarten

All parents of registered students entering Year 1 of Kindergarten next fall are invited to bring their child to our Welcome to Kindergarten presentation taking place on Monday, May 14th 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This special evening will provide parents and students with a very hands-on opportunity to learn more about the Kindergarten program and how to best prepare their child for starting school. A special thank you to Ms. Christidis, Ms. Sculli and Ms. Marsala for their hard work in organizing this evening.



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Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Arts and Athletics Camp

Our Grade 8 students will be going to Camp White Pine, an Arts and Athletics Camp in Haliburton, during the week of May 14th -18th as part of their graduating year end trip.

They are looking forward to this rewarding and memorable experience. The camp offers a variety of activities from adventurous sports to creative arts such as drama and pottery. Each activity is geared toward the student's skill level and all are able to participate regardless of ability.

The camp provides a beautiful setting taking full advantage of Ontario's natural beauty, landscape and resources. Have a wonderful time Grade 8's!

Warm Weather Clothing Expectations

As the warmer weather begins to take hold and the temperatures rises, our thoughts turn to lighter clothing. The following guidelines are in place at St. John XXIII, and we look forward to parental support in reviewing these with your children. The guidelines are as follows:

- ✓ Shorts and t-shirts must be a respectful length no tops with slogans containing inappropriate language or pictures
- ✓ head protection (hats, sun visors, sunglasses) are advisable for outdoor play but are not for use indoors
- ✓ no halter tops or spaghetti strap tops (narrower in width than 3 fingers)
- ✓ sunscreen is advisable during the warmer days, especially during the noon recess period.

We thank students and parents for their affirmation of the above dress code parameters.

New Water Bottle Filling and Fountain

With the hot weather approaching, we are pleased to inform you that a new Water Bottling Filling and Fountain Station will be installed in the Primary hallway. It is for the entire school and in addition to drinking from the fountain, the station allows convenient and easy filling of water bottles.

Healthy Food and Beverage Policy

In keeping with our Healthy Food and Beverage Policy and in order to protect our students who suffer from life-threatening food allergies, we continue to ask for our parents' cooperation in not sending food or beverages to school to share with others. Many thanks for your understanding of this important safety issue.

Sport Stacking Club

Congratulations to our Speed Stacking team who will compete in the annual Speed Stacking tournament at Bur Oak High School on Saturday, May 12th. Many thanks to Ms. Christidis and Ms. Seymour for their leadership with the Club.

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Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Basketball



The Junior Boys Basketball team competed in a local tournament on April 30th at St. John XXIII CES. The team played very well demonstrating strong teamwork and ball handling skills. Best wishes to the Junior Girls Basketball team who will be competing in the local tournament at St. Monica CES on May 7th. Thank you to Mr. Silveri, Mr. Sciulli, and Ms. Seymour for your efforts in coaching the teams!

Running Club



Running Club will run from May 7th through to June 11th and will meet in the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:00 a.m. Thank you to Mrs. Crowe, Mrs. Lin and Ms. Seymour who are coordinating this much-anticipated extra-curricular activity for students in Grades 3 to 8.

Track and Field



Students in Grades 4 to 8 will begin practising and training for the Track and Field Meet being held at St. Maximilian Kolbe High School on Tuesday, June 12th. Through Running Club, gym classes and lunchtime and recess practices, we know that our students will be well-prepared. Thank you to all of the teachers and parent volunteers, who are acting as coaches.

FDK Celebration of Learning



Kindergarten parents are invited to join our special Celebration of Learning on Friday, June 15th at 2:30 p.m.

Grade 8 Graduation



Our Grade 8 graduates will be having a mass in honour of their graduation at St. Justin Martyr Church at 10:30a.m. on Thursday, June 21st. Grade 8 students from all of the St. Justin Martyr Parish schools will be in attendance for this mass.

On Monday, June 25th, the Grade 8 students will have their graduation ceremony at St. Justin Martyr Church starting at 7:00 p.m., followed by a small reception and social in the church hall. All parents and families are welcome to join us.

Chef à L'école



On Thursday April 26th and Friday April 27th, St. John XXIII welcomed Chef Suzanne back to our school with her wonderful program, Le Chef à L'école. The students spent two fun days baking, singing, and listening to stories...tout en français! This year, they made des petits gateaux au chocolat fondant (chocolate lava cakes), a favourite of past years, and they were delicious! Merci beaucoup Chef Suzanne!

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Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Our Grade 2 students and Grade 7 students who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on April 29th and Confirmation on May 6 respectively. Congratulations and best wishes to all the students on these momentous celebrations!



Monthly Virtue Recognition and Celebration Assemblies-Virtue of *Reverence*

Living our faith is the spirit of this school-wide initiative. Each month we hold an assembly and recognize those students who have demonstrated the month's virtue. While we know that all students show each month's virtue in one way or another, some students demonstrate the virtue of the month in a particularly special way. We celebrate the following *Virtue of Reverence* Award recipients: Madelyn C., Feenyx A., Evelyn A., Ethan C., Sydney W., Samuel B., Julia G., Christian S., Ethan N., Galie C., Kevin S., Jaya R., Amy Z., Christina V., Jerry M., Chloe C., Theresa E., Emmanuel W., William W., George L., Matthew C., Luke M., Garrett B.S., and Moses L.



Year End Mass

Please join us for our year end Mass which will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 5th at 11:00 a.m. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate all of the wonderful blessings we've experienced this year, and to honour, in a special way, our students Grade 8 students and Year 2 Kindergarten students. All parents are welcome!



Luke 4:18

This month, four of our Intermediate students will be attending the Luke 4:18 Symposium at the Catholic Education Centre. This is a whole day event filled with activities and opportunities for reflection for our students. We are pleased to participate in this event alongside many other schools in our Board.

Luke
4:18

Catholic Education Week-May 6-11

While our faith is reflected in all we do, through student learning and engagement, during Catholic Education Week we particularly celebrate and share this wonderful aspect of who we are as a Catholic learning community. During this week, we will also take the time to recognize and show our appreciation our parents who through their ongoing collaborative work support our student's education. In addition to the many engaging classroom activities that will be taking place during the course of this week, please refer to the pamphlet attached to the newsletter.



Share Fair 2018

St John XXIII's annual Share Fair will take place during the afternoon of Friday, May 11th. Share Fair is an important fundraiser with all proceeds going to Markham-Stouffville Hospital and Share Life. Students will engage in fun activities throughout the school, such as; the always popular Fish Pond! Parents are welcome to attend. A letter was sent home to outline the details of Share Fair, including how to purchase tickets and items needed for class raffle baskets. Donations of gently used books and toys are always welcome and will be used as prizes. Thank you to Ms. Burdi, Ms. Faria, Ms. Ofilan, Mlle Sassone and Ms. Sculli and for organizing this meaningful and fun-filled event. Also, thank you to all our families for their continued support of this school tradition!



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Engaging Our Communities

Volunteer Appreciation Tea—Wednesday, May 9th, 2018

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' Margaret Mead

Our Volunteer Appreciation Tea will be held on Wednesday, May 9th at 2:20 p.m. and honours the kindness and support of the many volunteers in our school community who so generously give of their time and share their talents. We are most appreciative!

Volunteers Needed for the Front Garden- Only 2 mornings in May or June

We are looking for parent volunteers to help with the flower beds in the front garden of the school— no experience necessary. If you can spare a couple of hours, please call the main office. Thank you to Mrs. O'Reilly and Mrs. Tworzyanski who have done a wonderful job with the flower pots and beds this year!

Catholic School Council

Our last Catholic School Council Meeting will be held on May 17th, 2018, the library, starting at 7:00 p.m. Please join us if you are able.

Healthy Schools Committee Update

The Healthy Schools Committee met several times over the past few months to choose a Healthy topic focus, develop an action plan and complete the Healthy Schools Certification process. We chose 'Eating' as our Health topic and focused on activities such as, Healthy Snack, and Fresh From the Farm program. Thank you Mrs. Palma, Mme Cardinale, Ms. Faria, Erica C. and Elle V. for their leadership, passion and commitment. Thank you to the school community for generously supporting the program with the Loonie-Toonie Drive which raised \$142.

St. John XXIII Yearbook 2017-2018

Yearbook order forms went home on Tuesday, April 18th. The cost for a soft cover yearbook is \$37, but please check the order form for upgrade options. Orders are due on May 18th, 2018. You may also order online.

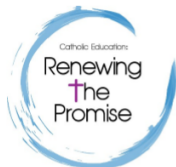
Are you Moving?

Parents and/or guardians who are moving out of the area and/or know that their children will not be returning to St. John XXIII, are asked to inform the school in writing as soon as possible.

2017—2018 School Year Ending

The last day of school for students is on Thursday, June 28th. Friday, June 29th is a teacher Professional Development Day.

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St. John XXIII CES

Renewing the Promise

Celebrating Catholic Education Week: May 6-May 11, 2018



There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

**Day 1—Remembering the Promise/
Faire mémoire de la promesse**

“God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.” -St. Augustine

**Day 2—The Promise is Within You/
La promesse est en toi**

“Beauty is the harvest of presence.” -David Whyte

**Day 3—Praying the Promise/
Prier la promesse**

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” -Luke 10:27

**Day 4—Living the Promise/
Vivre la promesse**

“A joyful Catholic is God’s greatest Instrument.” -Scott Hahn

**Day 5—Proclaiming the Promise/
Annoncer la promesse**

“The smallest thing done for the love of God is priceless.” -St. Teresa of Avila

Classroom Activities

Each day, SJXXIII will begin the day with a prayer celebrating the week’s theme.

‘We believe in the Power of Prayer’



*“Keep every promise you make
and only make promises
that you can keep.”*

Anthony Hitt



May 6 - 11, 2018
goodnewsforall.ca

Sunday, May 6

Sacrament of Confirmation

Grade Seven students will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Justin Martyr Parish.

Monday, May 7

Junior Girls Basketball Tournament

The Junior Girls Basketball Team will compete in a local a tournament

Tuesday, May 8

Cross-Divisional Prayer/Reflection

Classes will partner with one another to pray and reflect on today’s CEW theme of “The Promise is within you.”

Wednesday, May 9

Volunteer Appreciation Tea

We invite our wonderful parent volunteers to join us for afternoon tea and refreshments at 2:20 p.m. in the school library.

Author Visit

Children’s author, Michael Wade, will present to students in grades 3-8.

Thursday, May 10

Author Visit

Children’s author, Helene Boudreau, will present to students in grades 1-3.

Dr. Bear Visit

Markham-Stouffville Hospital mascot, Dr. Bear, will visit St. John classes as a prelude to Share Fair on Friday.

Friday, May 11

Share Fair

Share Fair is a yearly and much-anticipated event involving the entire school in fun activities to raise awareness and funds for Share Life and Markham-Stouffville Hospital. Share Fair take place in the afternoon—parents are welcome to attend.

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Municipal Election 2018
Monday, October 22, 2018
Voting Information for Catholic Ratepayers

Protect and promote Catholic education...Ensure you are registered to vote as a Catholic separate school supporter

- Ensuring you are registered as a separate school supporter is important for the protection and preservation of Catholic education in Ontario.
- As a registered Catholic school supporter, you have the opportunity to elect trustees who will represent and address your interests and concerns at the school board level and at various levels of the government.
- Registering your Catholic school support ensures your school board's assessment roll is accurate. This is important because:
 - Your school board's assessment base is a public record of the breadth of support for Catholic schools
 - It helps track demographic trends for educational planning purposes
 - It guarantees your right to enroll your children in Catholic schools

How to check if you are registered:

- Visit voterlookup.ca, an online service created by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) to check the accuracy of your voter information.
- Or call your Municipal Clerk's Office to inquire how to check the local list of electors.

If your name is not on the list of electors or if the information is incorrect (e.g., name, address or school support data missing or incorrect) you should:

- Update or change your information, add a name to an address, or change your school support directly on the voterlookup.ca website.
- Go to the municipal offices for your community and fill out an application to be added to the list or to correct information. Proof of identification may be required. Please call your municipal office to determine what documentation you may need.

At the Polling Station:

- Verify that you are registered as a separate school supporter. If your support status is incorrect ask for an **'Application to Amend Voters' List'**. This form may be completed and submitted at the polling station.
- Ensure the ballot you are given is a separate school ballot.

Voting for Catholic School Board Representation:

- Catholic ratepayers must declare themselves to be Catholic and separate school electors in order to cast a vote in the election of separate school trustees in municipal elections.



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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