

schools

St. Gregory hosts JK Open House



Dozens of families came through the halls of St. Gregory Catholic School for the annual Junior Kindergarten Registration Night last week.

Numerous staff members, SAC Parent council members, current students, and Good Shepherd Parish Priest Father Gary welcomed the school's future little Sabres.

On this evening, the future JK students participated in a "Curious George Scavenger Hunt" to explore their new school and learn everything that St. Gregory has to offer.

Students explored their new JK classroom, played cooperative games in the gymnasium, explored the many instruments in St. Gregory's amazing music room, and were engaged in the various technology the school offers such as iPads, Smartboards, and the computer lab.

The entire St. Gregory School Community welcomes all of our new JK students in the fall.

WELCOME! Pictured, from left, are future St. Gregory Catholic School JK student Hannah Hage, current students Ava Kennedy and Isabella Hage, and hard working principal Mrs. Linda DiPasquale.

Photo courtesy of Dino Villella



PEACE SCHOOL DESIGNATION: Pictured, from left, are St. William Catholic School student Jacquelyn Sage, principal Joe Bachetti, student Jackson Moy, and Sam and Julie Dragich from the Rotary Club of Windsor Roseland.

St. William receives 2013 Rotary Peace School Award

A Rotary Peace School is one that encourages, fosters and promotes a safe, caring and welcoming environment.

It demonstrates its unwavering commitment to the process of peace.

This is shown by the school's pledge to stop violence in all forms, promote peace, a respect for life and dignity of others.

A Peace School will have consistently demonstrated its ability to work harmoniously with all.

It applies to Rotary's Four Way Test of the things we think, do, or say:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?

- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

- Is it beneficial to all concerned?

St. William Catholic School is proud to receive this distinct recognition as it strives to educate students on doing the right thing at the right time.

The school would like to thank Windsor Roseland Rotary Club for all their efforts in promoting this wonderful award.

Mr. Holland's and Mrs. MacPherson's classes were treated to a free skate and subway lunch to receive their award.

A formal peace pole dedication is being planned during Catholic Education Week in May.

Six St. William students win medals at Chess Challenge

St. William Catholic School sent 32 of its Chess Club players to the Windsor Chess Challenge at the Ciociaro Club for an exciting full day event recently.

At the Challenge, each student played eight matches against students from other schools located all over Windsor-Essex County.

Our Wildcats were very successful in their endeavors, and some of them even brought back some hardware as a result:

Gold – Sean Omoseni (Grade 5)

Silver – Luke Mullins (Grade 5), Frank Pavelich (Grade 7), and Cameron Malenfant (Grade 8).

Bronze – Nick Wrobel (Grade 4) and Antonio Roye (Grade 8)

Congratulations team on chess well played!

In addition to their silver and gold medals, Sean, Luke, Frank, and Cameron received a special “golden

ticket” invitation to play in the Windsor Chess Challenge’s city-wide playoffs, where they can qualify to attend the provincial championships in Toronto this spring!

Good luck boys! And keep practicing hard!

Our team on a whole did very well, with every point earned by each player contributing to our team total.

School standings will be posted later this week, but please know that all of us here at St. William are so proud of all of you, for your courage and hard work!

Congratulations to the entire Chess Club for matches well played and for displaying such wonderful attitudes, you’re all gold medalists in our book!

The Windsor Chess Challenge was an exciting way to conclude our season! Way to go Wildcats! We hope to see you back again next year!



YOUR MOVE: St. William Catholic School sent 32 of its students to the annual Windsor Chess Challenge at the Ciociaro Club recently. Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

St. Gregory Catholic School hosts drum clinic



BIG BEAT: Tecumseh Music Centre instructor Adam Thomson conducted a drum clinic at St. Gregory Catholic School last week. Grade 5 and 6 music students were able to refine their skills on percussion instruments and learn new drum rudiments. Thomson also accompanied the school's rock band on two songs.

Photo courtesy of Dino Vilella

St. Gregory Catholic School held its first ever drum clinic featuring Adam Thomson.

Mr. Thomson is an accomplished percussionist and instructor in the Tecumseh area and he shared his talents and music pedagogy to the Grade 5 and 6 classes in the school.

Mr. Thomson has a large studio of percussion students at Tecumseh Music Centre.

The St. Gregory music students refined their skills on the percussion instruments, learned new drum rudiments, explored the physical endurance component of drumming, engaged in a whole class percussion piece, watched various demonstrations from Mr. Thomson, and had a Q & A session.

'Drum cam'

Also, a "drum cam" was set up and placed overhead Mr. Thomson as he demonstrated his tech-

nique and mastery of percussion and was projected onto the massive screen in the gymnasium.

As a special treat, Mr. Thomson accompanied the school's rock band during two songs at the end of the session.

This was a memorable event for our students.

"I learned a lot from Mr. Thomson and I wish I could play as well as him," said Grade 5 student Colin Donaldson.

Mr. Thomson had such a great time that he told the students that he would like to make this an annual event at St. Gregory Catholic School.

St. Anne and Assumption FIRST Robotics teams thank Enwin Utilities for support

Enwin Utilities has generously sponsored \$4,000 to support the growth of area high school teams competing in FIRST Robotics.

St. Anne and Assumption will be competing for the first time in the Toronto regional tournament.

Thank you also to WEtech Alliance for their efforts, supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, to expand FIRST Robotics into more area schools.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology is a world-class international high school robotics competition.

Each year about 3,000 high school teams comprised of 30 high school students dedicate several hours every day after school to build man-sized robots that compete in worldwide regional competitions

that lead up to the world championships, where 20,000 participants and spectators pack the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis.

Students who participate in FIRST are twice as likely to go on to university and college, twice as likely to major in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and 10 times as likely to take part in a co-op/ internship during post-secondary.

Students who participate in FIRST are also eligible for \$16 million worth of scholarships at universities and colleges in North America.

2014 at UWindsor

Plans are underway to host a regional FIRST Robotics tournament at the University of Windsor in 2014, which will attract thousands of high school students from Ontario, Michigan,

Ohio, Indiana, and as far away as California, Germany, and Brazil.

Source: Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Over a five-week period, Grade 8 students at St. William Catholic School donated 20 pairs of shoes, children's clothing, backpacks, 25 handmade and animated children's books, soccer jerseys and equipment, several packs of pens, pencils and notebooks. University of Windsor Faculty of Education student Stacey Robert (pictured far right) will deliver the donated items to children in Tanzania next month.

St. William's Grade 8s contribute to 'Teachers for Tanzania' volunteer mission

Grade 8 students at St. William Catholic School, worked on a donation bin for the children in Tanzania, Africa recently.

Stacey Robert, a student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor, recently completed her placement at St. William.

She will be travelling to Africa in April on a volunteer mission, along

with about 19 other teachers – all recent graduates of the Faculty of Education.

They are travelling on their own accord, headed by Dr. Andrew Allen, through the "Teachers for Tanzania" organization.

The children at the centre where they will be travelling to are orphaned and are in dire need of food and water.

Teachers for Tanzania has raised over \$20,000, thanks to the caring community of Essex County and they remain committed to their efforts in hopes that we can make a difference.

Impact

"As a teacher, I feel that it is extremely important for our Canadian youth to share in and experience the impact they

can have in the lives of other children across the world," Robert explained.

"The students have demonstrated compassion and generosity by contributing school supplies in the form of books, pens, pencils, paper, backpacks, and clothing.

"They have also made children's books which I will be taking along with me to Tanzania."



sports

St. Joseph's wins skating championship

FAB FIVE: Skate Canada Western Ontario Section hosted the 2013 Skate Canada –Western Ontario High School Skating Invitational Competition. Over 20 high schools competed in the event. The St. Joseph's Lasers – pictured from left, Madeline McQueen, Nicole Ferenczi, Alex Jacobs, Alessia Barraco, and Alyssa D'Asti – were crowned champions. The team was coached by Jen Jackson.

Photo courtesy of Matthew D'Asti



Photo courtesy of Dino Villella

CHANGE: Pictured, from left, are St. Gregory Catholic School Grade 5 students Kyle Chinnery, Hayleigh West, Hayley Hauck, Grace Butler, and Sammy Bolton.

Penny drive at St. Gregory

Over \$300 raised to provide clean water for communities in Africa and India

Students from Ms. McNorton's Grade 5 class at St. Gregory Catholic School organized a school-wide penny drive to help a impoverished communities around the world in places such as Kenya and India.

Through the organization Free the Children, the students learned about the struggling communities and poor quality of life children face each and every day.

Students took the challenge to adver-

tise and promote the penny drive within the school and make a difference to children in Africa and India.

The students collected well over \$300 worth of pennies to help provide fresh clean water to a community.

Every \$25 provides fresh clean water to one person for life.

This was a very memorable opportunity for the students and they live the words that Ghandi once spoke: "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Congratulations Kendall!



Mrs. Hage's Grade 6 class at St. Gregory Catholic School recently completed essays about how they love spending time with their families for the Family Day writing contest sponsored by Windsor Family Services.

Out of over 200 entries received, congratulations goes to Kendall Rychel, whose essay was one of the top six winners!

Kendall read her award winning essay at the Devonshire Mall on Family Day and also received a certificate, medal, and a prize package.

TOP SIX! Kendall Rychel is pictured with her mother, Denise.

French Week at St. William Catholic School



CUISINE: St. William Catholic School staff and students enjoyed tourtières and rosettes during their recent French Week celebration.

Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

St. William Catholic School celebrated French Week recently.

The students played various games such as Family Feud, Bingo, and Scrabble. They also watched "Le chandail" ("The Sweater"), a French animated short film based on Roch Carrier's famous book.

Grades 4-8 students experienced a taste of French cuisine. Tourtières and rosettes (dessert consisting of brown sugar rolled in dough) were enjoyed by students and staff.

French Week was a great success. Merci beaucoup à Madame Bond, Monsieur Fata, et Monsieur Janisse!

Bake sale raises over \$900

Thank you to the parents of our Grade 8 students who organized and held a bake sale last week to help defray the cost of the Muskoka field trip this spring.

They raised over \$900! Great job Wildcats!