

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



This week's Athlete of the Week is 11-year-old Arionna Pezzotti, daughter of Dominic and Nicole Pezzotti. Arionna was the goalkeeper for the St. John de Brebeuf girls' soccer team. She provided strong and steady play helping the team win a tournament title. As well as soccer, Arionna enjoys hockey and swimming.

*Kingsville Reporter
Nov. 2015*

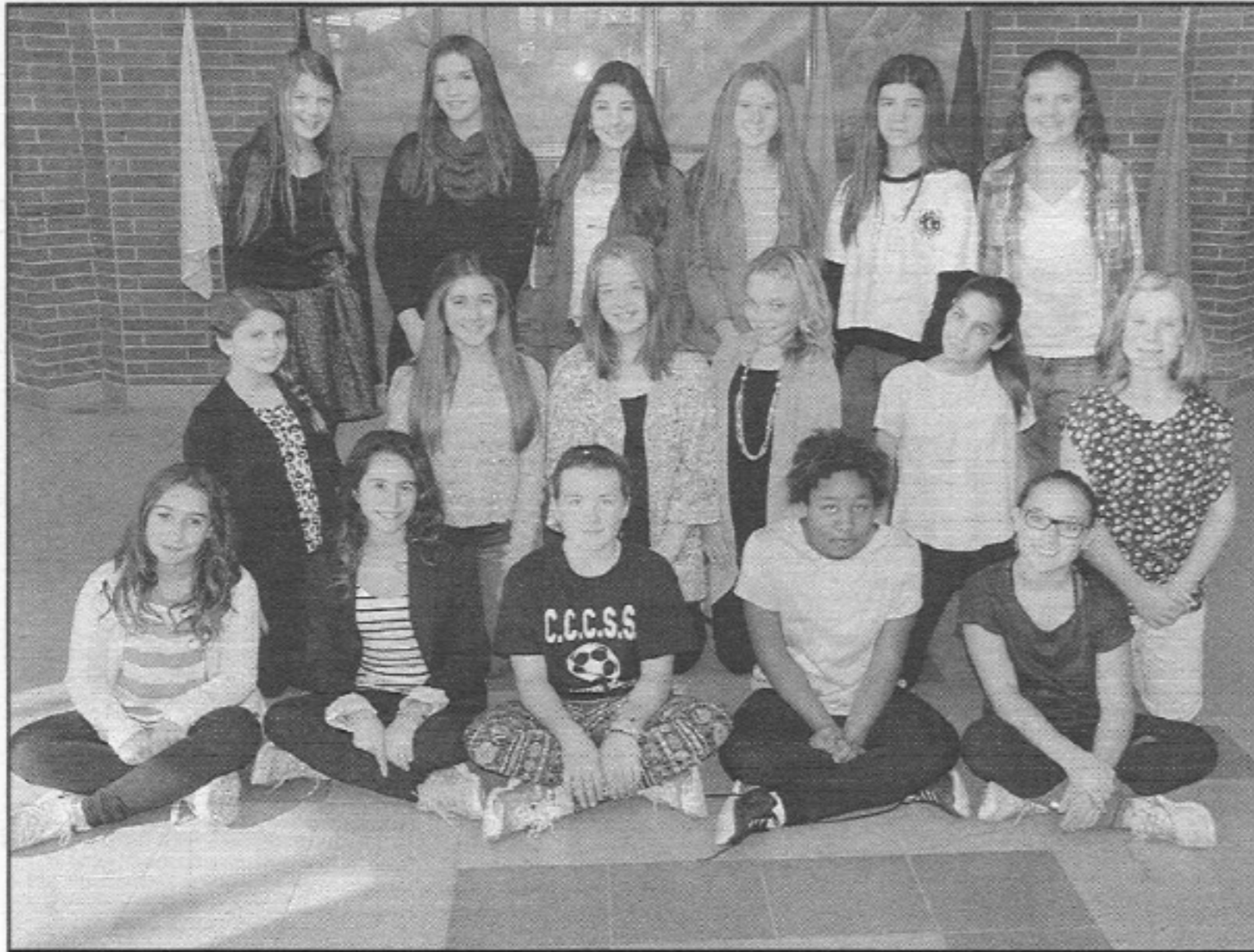
St. John de Brebeuf Students of the Month



Pictured above are the St. John de Brebeuf Students of the Month for October. The theme was Peacemakers. They include Jaden Daraiche, Abbigail Smisek, Kayla Glass, Gabriella Funkenhauser, Brooklyn Binder, Monica Poublon, Victoria Widecki, Landon Leili, Emily Adjin, Sydney Brown, Sophia Timmerman, Rowan Strohm, Joel Caron, Savanna Child, Jayden Amicone, Julia Martin, Nicholas Hernandez, Jagger Steel, Sophia Funkenhauser, Ashten Jeffrey, Troy Brush, Ella McHardy, Michael Komsic, Matthew Dekold, Zander Kungel, Alexis Rodrigues, Darren Gates, Serafina Ciancio, Ryan Curran, Chelsea Brush, Evan Brown, Austen Severino, Joe Bedard, Katie Brown, Connor Hyde, Emily Bacon, Amarice Monzerolle and Marcus Stanley.

Photo by Steve l'Anson

Lady Eagles win tournament



The St. John de Brebeuf Lady Eagles soccer team were this year's winners of the Cardinal Carter Secondary School soccer tournament. Pictured above, team members included (back row, left to right) Sonnie Stomp, Chelsea Brush, Kayla DiMenna, Emma Slater, Lexi Mastronardi, Larissa Cioci, (middle row) Emma Woodham, Abby DiLaudo, Emily Leili, Lauren Lafleur, Emma Avelar, Jessica Johnson, (front row) Viviana Filangeri, Cyrah Caixeiro, Chloe Quenneville, Arionna Pezzotti and Kayla Gualtieri.

Eagles win Feeder School title



The St. John de Brebeuf Eagles boys' soccer team were the winners of the KDHS Feeder School soccer tournament. Pictured above, team members included (back row, left to right) Steven DeBergh, Dante Avelar, Connor Bernardes, Austen Severino, Kaden Brennan, Clayton Stephens, (middle row) Jordan Gualtieri, Colin Lefebvre, Caleb Michaud, Eryn Lewis, (front row) Jason Daraiche, Lucas Fratarcangeli, Colin Farias, Thomas Newby and Nolan Stephens.



ST. WILLIAM *A terrific season!*

Congratulations to the St. William Wildcats girls soccer team on a terrific season. The girls displayed hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship throughout their regular season and playoffs.

The team made it to the 'A' Division championship against Corpus Christi and played an amazing defensive game, but lost after double overtime and penalty shootout.

The Wildcat girls displayed excellent sportsmanship and school spirit throughout their season. We are so proud of their accomplishments. Way to go Wildcats! Thanks to Coach Janisse and Coach Greff for a great season!



ST. WILLIAM

Random Act of Kindness Day at St. William

Last Friday, St William Catholic School was full of random acts of kindness. The school was abuzz with many lending hands and support for classmates, staff and neighbourhood community to make everyone feel special and appreciated. One random act of kindness by Mrs. Greff's Grade One's were colourful "Have a Happy Day" cards given to each Wildcat staff member to thank them for all they do to make the school so safe and welcoming.

ST. WILLIAM Nov 13/15
SHORELINE

Wildcats celebrate Random Act of Kindness Day



Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

St. William Catholic School was full of random acts of kindness last Friday. The school was abuzz with many lending hands and support for classmates, staff, and neighbourhood community to make everyone feel special and appreciated. Mrs. Greff's Grade 1 students (pictured) made colourful "Have a Happy Day" cards that were given to each Wildcat staff member to thank them for all they do to make the school so safe and welcoming.

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

HARROW NEWS

"Use Your Head" Concussion Workshop

The Brain Injury Association of Windsor/Essex County (BIAWE) invited coaches, trainers, teachers, parents and athletes to their annual "Use Your Head" concussion workshop.

This is their fifth annual seminar, and it took place at the Essex Sportsplex from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on November 9. The event welcomed speakers from the Windsor Regional Hospital, the Windsor-Essex County School Board, the University of Windsor, and doctors with specialty in diagnosing and healing concussions.

In the past, concussions have been brushed off as bruises in the brain. They were tested by asking people to touch their noses, or count to ten. But concussions are brain injuries, and the BIAWE believes they should be addressed much more seriously than they usually are.

Kevin Hamlin, a principal at a Windsor school and coach of the Windsor Lancers' men's hockey program, knows that fact first hand.

What started as "just a bump on the head" led to their 11 year old son, Raymond, being found in the school's waiting room unconscious. Raymond was rushed to the hospital and was immediately put in for



Kevin Hamlin, a principal at a WECDSB school, stands in front of a photo of his son, Raymond, which was taken a little over a year ago. On November 5, 2014, Raymond suffered a brain injury while playing in the school yard. There were worries that he might die from his injuries, but he survived, and since then, Hamlin has been an advocate for appropriate concussion training at schools and recreational leagues.

He is now back to playing hockey, like any average 12 year old.

Hamlin said what saved his son was the attentiveness of all the persons involved with the incident. No one treated his concussion as a mere bump on the head, they took it seriously.

Concussions can cause

a concussion sufferer back into the school system by using half-days and lessening the work load. This blends into the practise of 'return to play', which starts children through the steps of being able to return to full contact sports.

BIAWE education committee chairperson, Dr. Anne McLachlan, and Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare neuropsychologist moderated the event. She stated that more resources for parents, coaches, teachers and athletes can be found on their website, www.biawe.com.

said that he has had athletes, and even the athletes' parents, lie about their symptoms to get back on the ice faster. Last year, he had 10 athletes report having concussions.

"That's ten too many," said Morasutti. He partnered with Dr. Mark Dubreuil, of the Tilbury Rehab Centre and

was immediately put in for surgery to rectify the bleeding and swelling of his brain. He was airlifted to London hospital for further treatment, Kevin said that they were told that their son may not make it.

But, due to attentive school staff and dedicated surgeons, Raymond made it.

severe, long-term damage to a person if not addressed as the severe injury they are. But, their greatest hurdle, each speaker said, is convincing the public that concussions need time to heal.

Peter Morasutti, president, and coach, of the Tecumseh-Shoreline Eagles

CARE Concussion Centre.

Now, the Tecumseh Eagles athletes participate in baseline testing for concussions. They assess attention span, memory, processing speed and reaction time. They do this test before the season begins, and if they suffer a fall, they do the test again. If one of these skills performs lower than before, they know there is damage. This also gives a guideline to when a concussion is completely healed.

The University of Windsor is offering free baseline testing to children as part of their own research. Dr. Joe Casey, clinical neuropsychologist and associate professor of psychology at the University of Windsor said that they are looking for subjects to come in and take 'ImPACT', a baseline test that they use for their own athletes.

Schools across Essex County also have a concussion policy in place, as of January 2015. Sharon Seslija, teacher consultant for health and physical education of the GECDSB, said that the schools now take every head injury as a possible concussion.

They practise 'return to learn', a procedure that eases

schools

Nov 20/15

ST. JOSEPH'S H.S.

Poets laureate visit



Poet laureate and philosopher Roger Nash shares a laugh with students during his introduction at St. Joseph's Catholic High School last week. Nash, 73, was born in Great Britain and grew up in England, Egypt, Cyprus, Singapore, and Hong Kong before moving to Canada in 1965. In addition to being the poet laureate for the City of Greater Sudbury, he is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Philosophy at Laurentian University.

Shoreline Week photo: Bill England

St. Joseph's Catholic High School welcomed a panel of poets laureate last week.

The City of Windsor's own Marty Gervais was joined by Debbie Okun Hill (Sarnia), Roger Nash (Sudbury), Terry Burns (Owen Sound), and John B. Lee (Brantford) in a presentation that included each guest reading from their works and discussing the merits of writing poetry.

Later that evening, they - along with Anna Yin (Mississauga) and Windsor poet and author Vanessa Shields - all gathered at Willistead Manor for *Poetry at the Manor - Vol. 3*, organized by Gervais.

"Windsor was the first to do this," Gervais said of the Willistead event.

"Since its inception, other communities across Canada have jumped on the bandwagon and organized similar events."

Nov 20/15

ST. WILLIAM



St. William Catholic School's annual food drive was a great success!

Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

Can we do it? *Yes we can!*

It was that time of year again!

Mrs. Masse's Mission Team led our annual food drive for the Good Shepherd St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter.

Giving to people who aren't as fortunate as we are makes us be-

come better people and brings us closer to God.

A big thank-you goes out to the students and staff of St. William Catholic School.

When all the boxes of canned meat, soups, veggies, fruits, nu-

tritious snacks and cereals were packed up, the approximately 3,000 items filled up one van and two pick-up trucks of food, that were sorted and ready to go to feed those in need.

Written by Lola O.

Multiple messages delivered at St. Louis School

By Bryan Jessop

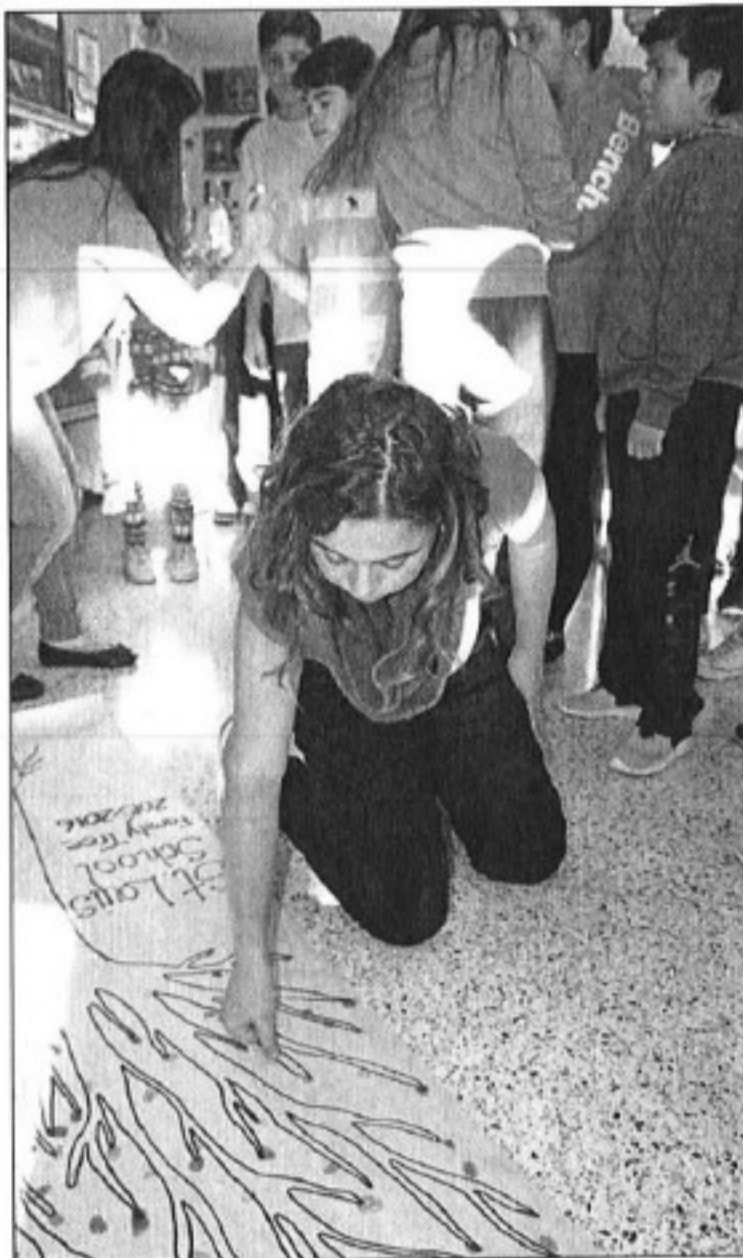
Without saying a word, students at St. Louis Catholic Elementary School simultaneously spoke up on two important issues.

As a Me To We school of the past three years, the school rallied students from all grades to take part in both Bullying Prevention Week and We Are Silent, an annual gesture of support for human populations around the world that are silenced by oppression, poverty, violence and intimidation. The latter relates to Free The Children's Adopt a Village, a holistic development model that raises funds and awareness for millions of children across the world who are without access to public education.

”*“Something like this is just more powerful when it comes from the students.”*
- Kelly Rilley

Bullying Prevention Week, recognized this year from Nov. 15-23, was greeted at St. Louis by a list of student-led activities that included daily intercom announcements, songs, a poster contest, a school 'Family Tree' decorated with thumbprints from the students of all classrooms and wearing pink clothes. The poster contest was voluntary, although the vast majority of students decided to participate and have their efforts displayed on hallway walls throughout the school. The top three winners from each grade category — primary, intermediate and junior — will be treated to a free pizza party.

Each of the school's 336 students also made a paper link with anti-bullying message or a suggestion of a friendly gesture. The links were then looped together to form a lengthy chain that was suspended from the ceiling in the school's main, front-entrance lobby. The same part of the school also featured a bulletin board decorated by Grade 8 students encouraging respect and kindness toward others, promoting the school's efforts with #(hashtag) CHANGEMAKERS in



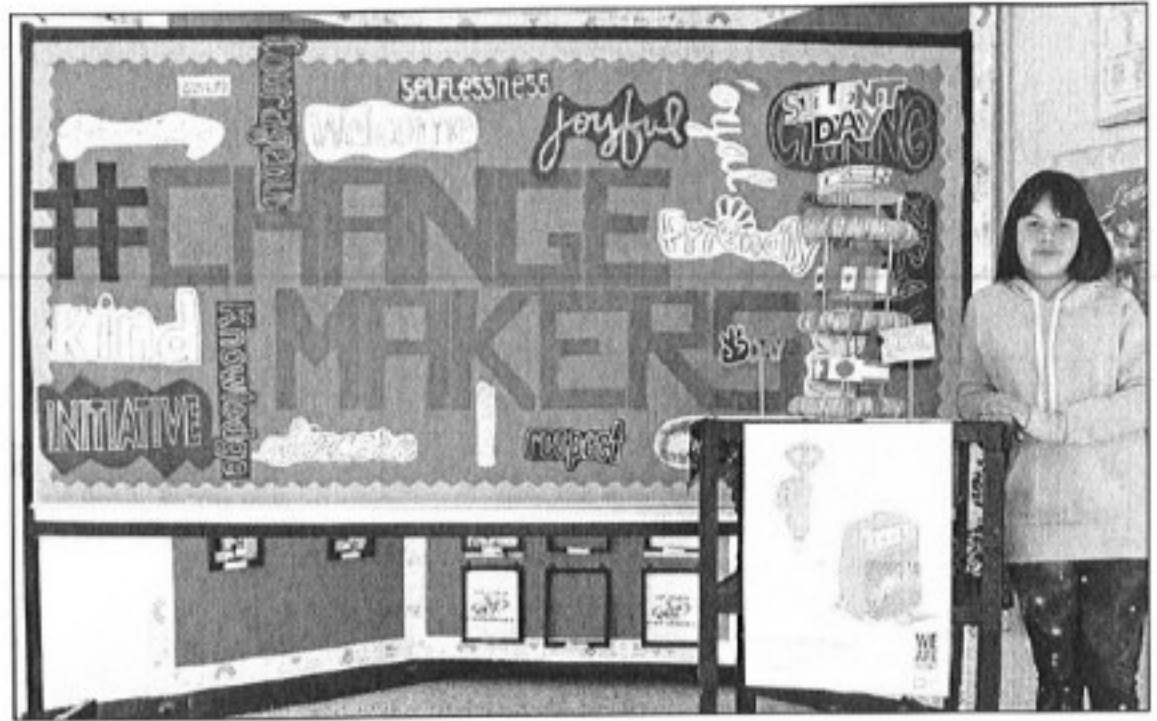
Students from a Grade 7-8 class at St. Louis Catholic Elementary School add their thumbprints to the school's Family Tree as one of several anti-bullying gestures and activities. The school lined up a week full of activities for Bullying Prevention Week, officially designed for the week of Nov. 15-23.

large, black letters.

"It's nice to be able to get the message out to the community like this," said St. Louis principal Kelly Rilley. "Even a lot of the boys wore

pink shirts and socks. Together, we're showing that we can make a difference."

We Are Silent Day was observed through a large icon designed and built by



St. Louis Catholic Elementary School Grade 7 student Stephanie Munoz-Torres reveals her WE Are Silent icon, used as a symbol for classrooms taking part in moments of silence for oppressed people around the world. Munoz-Torres also designed the icon used in last year's WE Are Silent Day at St. Louis. (SUN Photos)

Grade 7 student Stephanie Munoz-Torres, who also built last year's icon. Munoz-Torres sent the symbolic item from classroom to classroom on a cart, indicating to classes when their turn to remain silent had arrived and ended by delivering and then later removing it from their respective rooms. Two of the classrooms — a Grade 5-6 split group and another all-Grade 6 room — remained silent through the entire school

day Thursday, Nov. 19.

"Our words are silent, but were sending a very

loud message today," Rilley said. "Something like this is just more powerful when it comes from the students."

The Hockey Sweater



Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

Lakeshore Canadiens' forward Colin Sartor reads *The Hockey Sweater* by Roch Carrier to Miss Giachini's Grade 3 class at St. William Catholic School last week. Sartor, along with two of his teammates – twin brother Steven Sartor and Parker Boyle – stopped by the school to read to primary students during their Book Fair to promote literacy.



Cameron Rodzik and his mother, Amber Rodzik, are photographed at Queen's Park with Windsor-Tecumseh MPP Percy Hatfield.

By Bill England
Staff reporter

Cameron Rodzik will not soon forget his three weeks at Queen's Park.

"It was an amazing experience!" says Rodzik, 13, after participating in the Legislative Page Program.

"Especially working in the Legislative Assembly – in such an old building . . . when you enter the Chamber, you are entering a whole new world."

Rodzik, a Grade 8 student at St. Pius X Catholic School, also cherishes the friendships he established with his fellow pages from across the province, noting that everyone got along with each other very well.

A typical day for a Legislative Page involves arriving at Queen's Park at 8 a.m., dressing in his/her uniform, and preparing the Chamber for the morning's debates.

Pages are also involved in a number of activities – delivering messages and water to MPPs, taking classes in legislative process and mathematics, and meeting key parliamentary figures such as the party leaders and the Speaker of the House.

Rodzik had to complete an application that included an essay outlining his achievements, involvements, and suitability for the program.

Once accepted, he was required to learn and remember the names,

faces, and locations of the 107 MPPs before arriving to Queen's Park for their first day.

"Getting to know the area and where everything is was a bit intimidating," Rodzik says in describing the most challenging part of the program.

"But I got the hang of it after a week and found my way around."

Rodzik recommends the program to students in Grade 7 and 8 with an 80 per cent or higher average who, like himself, have a passion for politics and/or law.

"Serving there was a great honour," says Rodzik. "You feel together with the MPPs . . . you feel part of the Legislative Assembly family."

'It was an amazing experience!'

St. Pius X student Cameron Rodzik reflects on his three weeks in the Page Program at Queen's Park



Cameron Rodzik and his brothers, Christopher and Hudson, are pictured with Sergeant-at-Arms Dennis Clark.



ST. WILLIAM *Literacy Awareness*

St. William Catholic School Council held a recent Scholastic Book Fair which surpassed previous years' totals and raised close to \$8,500 in sales and will afford the school to receive \$4,765 in literacy products.

Thank you to all the school community for supporting this wonderful fundraiser and we look forward to another one next year.

Pictured, clockwise from left, are vice-chairperson Laura Lane, principal Joe Bachetti, chairperson Jane Schembri, vice-principal Maggie Dorion, and student Michael Schembri.

Photo courtesy of Joe Bachetti

SHORELINE

NOV 27/15

St. John Vianney chosen for RBC skating initiative

About 270 students from four elementary schools in the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board system, including St. John Vianney, are participating in RBC's *Learn to Skate* program at the F.J. Brennan Hockey Canada Skills Academy beginning this week.

To help kids learn to skate (as part of the mandate of RBC's Learn to Play Project), this initiative is designed to ensure children learn the basics of being active in order to develop the confidence to participate in sport, to play with their friends, and be healthy, happy and active for life.

RBC is working with Hockey Canada to grow the Learn to Skate program in communities where

Students in classes from Grades 3-7 will have three one-hour skating sessions. The first was this week with the others scheduled for January and March.

Skates and helmets purchased

Thanks to the program, the F.J. Brennan HCSA was able to purchase 50 pairs of skates and helmets for the students.

SHORELINE, NOV 27/15

St. Pius X teacher Rob Murphy gets 'pied in the face' during the school's recent Spirit Assembly.
Photo courtesy of Sean Breault



Spirit Assembly

Grade 8 students held our first Spirit Assembly of the year recently. They showed great Pacer pride. The teachers got a pie in the face, played leap-frog and did some rapping.

The students had a lot of fun and are looking forward to our December Assembly.

The Pacers also raised over \$16,000 for our Walk-Rock-Read-A-Thon.

Students earned a hat and jersey day, extended recesses and a movie and slipper day.

Our top earners also won special prizes.

Way to go Pacers!

**Goodbye Mr. Pio,
welcome Mrs. Clark**

St. Pius X also said goodbye to our vice-principal, Mr. Pio.

We will miss you and your morning announcements very much.

We would also like to welcome Mrs. Clark to our school as well!

St. Anthony Raises Funds for a Refugee Family



Principal Carl Bull shakes hands with Michael and Jennifer Binder. His students were able to raise almost \$500 to donate to an incoming refugee family. Bull said he thought it was incredible because the administrators at the Saint John De Brebeuf Catholic School came up with the idea almost at the same time. They all hope their combined efforts will help chip away at the \$30,000 goal.

by Shelby Wye

Saint Anthony Catholic Elementary School has dedicated the funds raised from their first Loonie License Day of the school year.

This fundraiser allows students to buy special privileges, like chewing gum in class or wearing a hat to school. Usually this fundraiser is donated back to the school, to support more programs in the classroom. But this time, the school decided to combine efforts with Saint John De Brebeuf Catholic School and the parish of St. John de Brebeuf/St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Churches. They wanted to use the money they raised to help a refugee family.

St. Anthony's principal Carl Bull said they committed to the funding

only two weeks ago, providing the information to parents and students. Within one day, the school was able to raise \$452 to donate to the cause. Principal Bull said that the future Loonie License funds will be donated to the causes as well. Accepting the cheque was Michael and Jennifer Bind, parishioners with St. John de Brebeuf/St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Churches. They are part of a group of around 30 volunteers that have a goal to raise \$30,000 by January 31, 2016.

According to their online fundraising page, they "will be working with the Diocese of London Refugee Center and Citizenship and Immigration Canada through the Blended Visa Office-Referred Program which is designed to resettle refugees identified by the United

Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and submitted to Canadian visa offices abroad. This program is a cost-sharing arrangement whereby Citizenship and Immigration Canada and our sponsoring group will split the financial costs of resettlement 50/50."

Currently, they have raised around \$2,000. The costs will go towards resettling a refugee family in the Harrow/Kingsville area, covering housing and living costs over a period of one year.

Bull said that they are proud to support this cause. "Immigration is what made Canada, after generations and generations," said Bull. While the plan is to support only one family, the group is hopeful that they may be able to raise even more funds to help the cause.



Photo courtesy of Joe Bachiatti

Nov 6/15 **ST. WILLIAM** Shoreline

A terrific season!

Congratulations to the St. William Wildcats girls soccer team on a terrific season.

The girls displayed hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship throughout their regular season and playoffs.

The team made it to the 'A' Division championship against Corpus Christi and played an amazing defensive game, but lost after double overtime and penalty shootout.

The Wildcat girls displayed excellent sportsmanship and school spirit throughout their season.

We are so proud of their accomplishments.

Way to go Wildcats! Thanks to Coach Janisse and Coach Greff for a great season!

ST. PIUS X

Grade 8 trip to Muskoka Woods

Grade 8 students from St. Pius X Catholic School got the chance to participate in the 'Muskoka Woods experience' recently. The students participated in activities such as ziplining, canoeing, skateboarding, the giant swing, and mud-football. Thanks to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Goggins, Mr. Garbula, Mrs. Renaud, Mrs. Dufour, Mrs. D'Aloisio, and Mrs. Hunter. The trip wouldn't be possible without you and your hard work!

By Sean Breault, Grade 8



Photo courtesy of Nancy Sarkis

Walk and Jog fundraiser



St. John de Brebeuf School's annual Walk & Jog fundraiser took place last Friday at Lakeside Park. Staff and students did laps of the park after collecting pledges for their efforts. Funds go back into the school for field trips and various classroom items. Pictured are some of the participants on their jog.

Photo by Steve l'Anson

The Science Olympiad



Science! St. Anne Catholic High School students Olivia Popescu, Michael Kreibich, Matthew Brockman and Nicholas Cantarutti correctly answer a question during the trivia competition at the University of Windsor Science Olympiad Oct. 16.

**Story and photo by
Tom Morrision**

*Special to the Lakeshore
News*

High school students from Lakeshore and Tecumseh were among the

well.”

Other competitions included areas of chemistry, biology, environmental science, computer science and a Reach for the Top-style trivia game.

Each member of the

out there just like them and they get to tour the university,” said Couvion. “A lot of them are going to go to this university, so it’s a good way to kind of get their feet wet in here.”

Fellow science teacher

the higher level achievers, aren’t playing sports ... so this gives them an opportunity to be part of a team where they can excel and do well,” said Herdman, who competed when she was in high school.

Grade 12 St. Anne student Matthew Brockman said he found the challenges to be fun and engaging.

“I get a feel for what the different fields of science are like, so I know whether I like biology and if I want to go into that field or if physics kind of turns my clock,” said Brockman, who is looking at studying engineering.

Sophia Mannina from Tecumseh Vista Academy said the event gave her an opportunity to check out the campus as she decides which school she’ll attend next year.

“It was a really excellent experience,” she said. “We learned a lot about sci-

approximately 190 participants of the University of Windsor Science Olympiad Oct. 16.

The event from the Faculty of Science had teams of Grade 11 and Grade 12 students from 18 high schools in the region compete for scholarship money they can use if they choose to study science at Windsor.

Michelle Bondy, outreach program coordinator for the Faculty of Science, said the challenges are meant to give students a feel for the different types of sciences studied at the university.

"They're doing a laser maze in physics where they have to angle mirrors a certain way so that a laser hits a target," she said. "That's not an easy thing to do, but they're doing really

each member of the first place team received \$1,200, while the second place team members earned \$500. Both spots went to separate teams from Vincent Massey Secondary School.

The two teams from St. Anne Catholic High School placed fourth and fifth, respectively, and ranked in the top three for a number of the individual events.

A team from Tecumseh Vista Academy earned medals for placing first in one of the challenges.

Michael Couvion, a science teacher at St. Anne, said the difficulty of the challenges ranged from the Grade 10 to the Grade 12 curriculum, which they only started last month.

"They (students) get to see that there's other kids

learn science teacher Dawn Herdman said the challenges teach students problem-solving skills and how to work under stress since they have a time limit imposed on them.

"We focus so much on sports and dance and singing and a lot of these kids,

learned a lot about science and it was a great way to interact with students from different schools."

Bondy said the goal of the competition was the challenge students, but also encourage them to continue studying science.

Oct 29/15

ST. WILLIAM

LAKESMORÉ
NEWS

Sacrament of Confirmation



Photo courtesy
of Joe Bachetti

Grade 8 students recently participated in a retreat at Good Shepherd Parish in preparation of their Confirmation

By Payton Morand

Special to Shoreline Week

“Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments through which Catholics pass in the process of their religious upbringing.

According to Catholic doctrine,

The NET group members were very respectful, funny, easy to relate to, and very understandable people.

They treated every student as an equal, and were quite informative about Confirmation.

They explained what Confirmation meant to them, and kept everyone inter-

*in this Sacrament they are sealed
with the gift of the Holy Spirit
and are strengthened
in their Christian life."*

This is just one of the many meanings of Confirmation.

Honestly, when I first moved to St. William Catholic School last year, I was not exposed to Catholic education.

But as I listened and had more classes, the faith became easier and easier to understand.

By the time my Grade 8 year came around, I had a pretty good idea of what it meant to be Catholic, and I had already decided I wanted to make my Confirmation.

Then one morning I was told that my school's Grade 8 students, along with a couple students from other schools, would be going on a church retreat at Good Shepherd Parish, led by a group of older Catholic girls and boys called 'The NET' who would be informing us about Confirmation.

At first, I thought that it would be a very long and drawn out day.

When Monday arrived, and we entered the church, all the NET group members were very upbeat and welcoming.

Suddenly, I was very excited to see what they had in store for us.

ested with numerous activities and presentations.

They played team building games, sang songs, acted in skits, shared stories, and talked in small groups with us.

One of my personal favourite events that day would have to have been talking in small groups with our NET group member, and gathering a greater understanding of Confirmation.

This journey into becoming an adult in the eyes of the Church is really going to mean a lot more to me because of all the helpful planning, information, and meaning this spectacular group of people put into consideration

while planning out our day.

I would most definitely go to another retreat like this one in the future.

This retreat really helped clear up a lot of questions I had about Confirmation, and made me feel more than comfortable in my decision to make my confirmation this year.

My group leader really helped all of us understand just how important it really is to know what confirmation is, and to appreciate this gift as much as you can.

You are only allowed to make your Confirmation once, but this Sacrament will enlighten and empower you for the rest of your life.



Queen of Peace donates to Haitian mission

By Bryan Jessop

Students at a local elementary school have developed a clear 'vision' on how to support the residents of a Caribbean developing nation.

All grades at Queen of Peace Catholic Elementary School participated in a project to help collect eyeglasses for underprivileged youths and adults in Haiti as part of its own social justice program. Through the month of October, the school's 279 students collected about 200 pairs of eyeglasses, ranging from corrective prescription pairs to sunglasses.

The Grade 7 class of Barb Gaspard was treated to a photo presentation of past Haiti missions as attended by local optometrist Dr. Julie Ricci, a local Rotary Club member who practices out of Hager Optometry at 225 Eric St. South in Leamington.

"I think it's wonderful that students can get involved with something like this," said Ricci after discussing with Gaspard's class a recent water well installation mission in Haiti organized through the Rotary Club. "They're now a part of a project that helps others, which shows them they can make a difference in others' lives. It also helps them to appreciate what they have in this great country of ours."

Queen of Peace's effort to support Ricci's mission was done as part of a video contest known as 'How Our School Lives the Gospel'.

Ricci expects to bring about 450 pairs of glasses in total to Haitian citizens during a one-week trip to the neighbouring Dominican Republic in December of this year. Ricci and a team of associates have been to Haiti four times since 2007, but will have to set up in the Dominican Republic next time because of the current political situation in the nation occupying the western side of the island. Ricci's most recent visit to Haiti was in January of 2014.

In December, Ricci will be included in a team of 10 Canadians embarking on the upcoming mission, along with others from Ottawa, Chatham and a nurse practitioner from South Carolina. Bringing the collection of eyeglasses including those from Queen of Peace, Ricci will set up in a Dominican Republic school to perform eye exams on Haitian patients and issue pre-labeled and categorized donations based on each recipient's results.

Anyone interested in donating a pair of used eyeglasses can drop them off at Hager Optometry up to the end of this month. Ricci explained that before her departure for the Caribbean, donated corrective glasses will have to be coded to ensure that they are given to patients with the same prescriptive needs.



The Queen of Peace Catholic Elementary School Grade 7 class of Barbara Gaspard present a portion of the roughly 200 pairs of eyeglasses collected by students and picked up by local optometrist Dr. Julie Ricci Monday, Nov. 2. The glasses will be among the approximately 450 pairs Ricci will bring with her to the Dominican Republic in December of this year to give to Haitian children in need.

Queen of Peace delivers cukes and kindness

” *“It’s teaching me how one small thing can impact you as a person.”*
— Marielle Nehmetallah

By Bryan Jessop
Random Act of Kindness day proved a good opportunity for Queen of Peace Catholic Elementary School to be a good neighbour.

Students from

all grades delivered packages of mini, seedless cucumbers to homes throughout the area surrounding its own Ellison Avenue address on Thursday, Nov. 5. School staff decided to observe the annual event a day early in anticipation of inclement weather on actual Random Acts of Kindness Day — Friday, Nov. 6.

This year marked the third that Queen of Peace actively observed RAKD, starting in 2013 with the local deliveries of potted flowers. Last year’s switch to cucumber packages was well received, encouraging the school to offer the same, no-cost deliveries for 2015.

“If people weren’t home, we’d leave a package on their doorsteps,” explained Queen of Peace Grade 8 teacher Rima Mastronardi. “In the following days, we received a lot of letters, e-mails and phone calls from those homes thanking us.”

The packages of cucumbers were offered to the local school free of charge courtesy of TopLine Farms. Each pre-wrapped package contained four of miniature, seedless vegetables — for a total of 1,200 — which Mastronardi’s Grade 8 class labeled and decorated the day before they were distributed. Each adhesive label read “From our family to yours, thank-you for being a great community,” along with the Queen of Peace Royals logo.

For Queen of Peace and other schools, Random Act of Kindness Day is a chance to observe November as mental health awareness month.

“Doing good for someone makes you feel good, which is important for mental health,” Mastronardi noted. “This is a tool we use to mo-



Queen of Peace student Daeca Minaudo delivers cucumbers to a grateful resident on Ellison Avenue. Some residents were home and others found the surprise on their doorstep, each bearing a tag reading “From our family to yours, thank-you for being a great community! — Queen of Peace Catholic School with French Immersion”.



Grade 8 students at Queen of Peace Catholic Elementary School decorate and label cucumber packages to be delivered to local households for Random Act of Kindness Day. Three-hundred packages donated by TopLine Farms were sent by students to area homes on Thursday, Nov. 5.

tivate kids to be involved in their community and to make efforts to help others — it’s something that also ties into November as anti-bullying month.”

The impact that participation in RAKD has had on students at Queen of Peace has been evident since it began in 2013.

“It’s teaching me how one small thing can impact you as a person,” said Grade 8 student Marielle Nehmetallah. “It clears your mind and lets positive energy in as far as mental health goes.”

Mastronardi’s Grade 8 class will also be responsible for planning and preparing for the school’s 10th annual Christmas Carnival, held each year in the school’s gymnasium on Tuesday, Dec. 8. In the past, the carnival has raised money for Free The Children’s Adopt a Village program. Last year, the fundraiser supported the youth centre to be built as part of the new St. Michael’s parish in Leamington.

Holy Name students add trees to playground

Essex Free Press / November 12, 2015 | Filed under: [Headline](#), [In Our Community](#) | Posted by: admin



by Sylene Argent

The grade eight students at Holy Name Catholic Elementary School, along with their younger school-peers from the grade five and six classes, rolled up their sleeves to help add 49 trees to the school playground area on Friday afternoon through a legacy planting project.

This was able to take part because of a Detroit Watershed grant the school was able to get with help from



the Essex Region Conservation Authority.

Originally, it was the grade eight students who were to help plant these trees, but the grade five and six students were later invited to help as they will be the ones to take over the stewardship of the trees once the senior elementary school students have moved on to high school.

The tree planting, grade eight teacher Mr. Kostanjevec said, is step one of many phases that will help the school create an outdoor learning environment, that will eventually include an outdoor classroom.



"Thirty years from now, the students will come back and know they were a part of something important," he said.

Kostanjevec added that this group of enthusiastic students was excited to get involved in helping to plant the trees.

Principal Tina Tuer said the students do study the environment as part of their curriculum, and some of the students, depending on their grade, get to study watershed specifically. So, it is neat for them to get

this type of hands-on learning, which helps the students become better-rounded in their studies.



Getting the students out there, helping each other dig the holes, water the trees, and move mulch, helps the students to learn to take care of on another, she added.

Local schools ramp up support of food drive

Southpoint Sun

By Bryan Jessop

October 28, 2015



Students at St. Louis Catholic Elementary School display the 1,788 pounds of food it collected throughout the week following the Thanksgiving holiday as part of a Farm Credit Canada initiative, now in its 12th year. The donations will be delivered to the St. Michael's/St. Vincent de Paul food bank in Leamington.

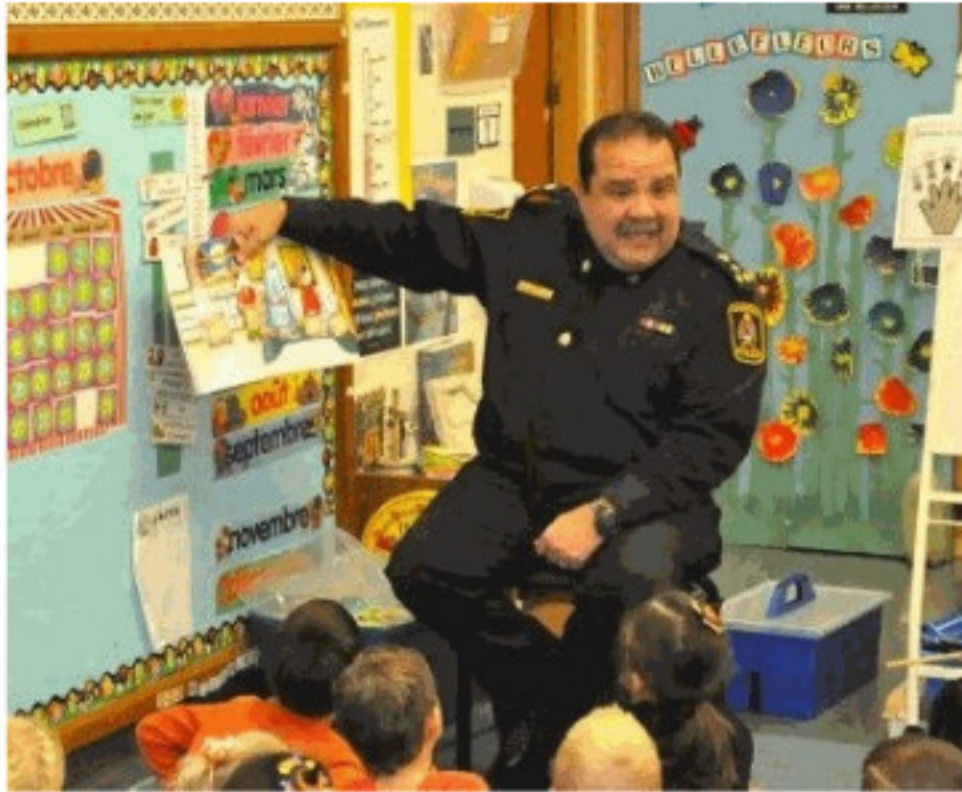
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Thanks to the efforts of students at Queen of Peace and St. Louis Catholic Elementary Schools, a brighter holiday season for many local underprivileged families is in the bag. For the 12th consecutive year, both Leamington schools have participated in the Farm Credit Canada Drive Away Hunger food drive. Both St. Louis and Queen of Peace improved significantly on last year's collection totals, which FCC relationship manager associate Jamie Tellier explained was impacted negatively by the closure of Leamington's H.J. Heinz factory. "We've been very fortunate this year," Tellier said of the FCC's support from local schools. "They're (students) so proud of what they've accomplished. It's great just to be a part of it." Last year, the JK to Grade 8 effort at St. Louis — one of the initiatives the school takes part in as a Me to We School project — collected a sum of 1,488 pounds of nonperishable food items for Drive Away Hunger. This year, output increased to 1,788 pounds. Queen of Peace students experienced similar success, doubling last year's donation of about 400 pounds to more than 800 pounds for the 2015 campaign. At St. Louis, the 2015 FCC food drive began the day after Thanksgiving Monday and wrapped up after four days on the following Friday. About 175 paper Drive Away Hunger bags inked with the program's corporate sponsors were filled, collected and hauled away using two pickup trucks and an SUV Tuesday, Oct. 20. Like Queen of Peace, St. Louis chose to have its donations shipped to St. Michael's/St. Vincent de Paul food bank in Leamington for a combined delivery of about

2,500 pounds of food items, ranging from condiments to crackers and breakfast cereals. Each participating school is permitted to choose where the FCC sends its collection of donations, ensuring that the program benefits local families and sources. Other local schools participating in Drive Away Hunger are based in communities that include Tilbury, Stoney Point, Essex and Windsor. Each pound of sustenance given equals an estimated two meals for those in need, translating to about 5,200 meals between the St. Louis and Queen of Peace efforts this year. St. Louis principal Kelly Riley explained that since her school joined the Me to We program last year, their charitable efforts have been approached with a new sense of enthusiasm. "We've really seen a difference," she stated. "It's been catching on quickly. The kids know that it's about giving back to their community and the response has been overwhelming. The parents have been really, really generous." For more information on the FCC annual food drive, visit the website www.FCCDriveAwayHunger.ca.

Rock and Readathon raises money for St. Joseph School

By Rivertown Times

November 3rd, 2015 @ 5:47 pm



Police chief Tim Berthiaume reads to kindergarten students during the Oct. 30 Rock and Readathon at St. Joseph School. (Photo by Aaron Wharram)

A full day of activities and literacy was celebrated last week at St. Joseph School.

The River Canard-based school held a Rock and Readathon last Friday with activities and celebrity readers participating with the students. Principal Linda DiPasquale said it was a fundraiser with the goal of focusing on fostering a love of reading as well as healthy, active living.

"The kids went out and got pledges," she said. "The day is combining reading and fitness activities."

The fundraising target was \$10,000 and as of the start of the event, they had already raised \$8,000. Funds will be put towards technology in the classroom, educational resources and physical education equipment. Staff and parents helped organize the day and DiPasquale said their efforts paid off.



Writer Arnie McCallum speaks to a group of students last Friday at St. Joseph School.

“It’s been a huge success,” she said Friday morning.

Prizes included spirit assemblies featuring getting to hit teachers in the face with pies, mystery field trips and getting a homemade breakfast prepared by DiPasquale.

University of Windsor and St. Clair College athletes and coaches helped out as did writer Arnie McCallum and “Hammy” James Ouellette from Movati Athletic. Among the guest readers were Mayor Aldo DiCarlo, Angelo Aversa from CTV Windsor, assistant deputy fire chief Lee Tome, and police chief Tim Berthiaume

Special Guest Readers Visit Queen of Peace School

Southpoint Sun, November 4, 2015



The halls of Queen of Peace School with French Immersion were moving on Friday, October 30. The students wore black and orange and participated in activities led by the Leadership students from Cardinal Carter Secondary School in the morning. Special guest readers arrived in the afternoon to read to the students. It was a great way to share a special day. Pictured, Domino's of Canada CEO Mr. Michael Schlater read to Mrs. Mastronardi's grade 8 students, followed by discussion time.
(Submitted photo)

St. Joseph School holds “Living Memorial” for Remembrance Day

By [Rivertown](#)

November 11th, 2015 @ 8:10 pm - By Ron Giofu



Students at St. Joseph School in River Canard participate in a “Living Memorial” Nov. 11.

Staff and students at St. Joseph School took time out of their Wednesday to remember those who fought to protect them.

A “Living Memorial” was set up on the front lawn of the school with Grade 7 and 8 students taking turns standing guard. Those students were at the school with principal Linda DiPasquale starting at 7:30 a.m.

“As a way to commemorate and honour the men and women who fought so we could enjoy the freedom and peace we have, a beautiful liturgy of the word and ceremony was held in our gymnasium at 11 a.m.,” DiPasquale added.

Students stood on guard for 20 minute stretches throughout the day, with other classes coming out to silently pay homage to those who served Canada. DiPasquale said they are trying to encourage students to be peacekeepers in their daily lives.

“I’m extremely proud of the incredible behavior the children have demonstrated,” said DiPasquale. “They certainly understand the importance of the day.”

Younger students may not grasp the history of Remembrance Day, she said, but they were spoken to by teachers and learned that it is important.

Teacher Paul Van Heughten and his father, retired teacher Joe Van Heughten, made the crosses that were on the school's front lawn during the day. DiPasquale said the school is thankful for their donation and she also expressed thanks to the teachers who helped organize Remembrance Day efforts.

“This was a tradition that I brought over to St. Joseph from my former school communities of St. Gregory and St. Pius,” said DiPasquale. “It’s a tradition I **wanted to start at St. Joseph School.** We’ve received a great deal of feedback from the community.”

People driving on North Townline in front of the school stopped, she added, with other also stopping while walking by the building.