



## Semester 2 NEWSLETTER

2010

Please read this with your  
son/daughter



**Director: Mr. John Mackle**  
**Superintendent of Schools - Deirdre Thomas**

**Trustees: Ms. Christine Dunn**  
**Mr. Lorne Corkery**  
**Mr. Joseph Whibbs**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

### PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS;

Parent/Teacher interviews for Semester 2 will be Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 - 5:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm in the cafeteria and gym. The staff and administration continue to be proactive and have the interviews coincide with the Progress Reports. The earlier interventions can be put into place for students who are struggling the higher the chance they will be successful in their courses.

The Grade 10 Literacy Test will be written during the morning of April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

It is important that all **Grade 10 credit earning students and those Grade 11 and 12 students who are rewriting the test**, are well rested, fed and prepared to do their best as this is a diploma requirement. Grade 10 teachers conducted 8 directed lessons in all Grade 10 classes during the month of March. Additional preparation materials are available to all students in their library folder in the school's computer system. For all previously eligible students who were either unsuccessful or absent last year, the school will be sending home a package of materials with your child. S/he may use the materials to practice for the test. If you and your child would like someone to look over the worksheets that your child completes, then s/he may bring them to the Student Services Office in Room 103 or 105. One of the teachers will go over his/her work with them. If you are interested in seeing some information on the Literacy Test, there is information for parents on the EQAO website.

In terms of **Social Justice** our students, staff and community do outstanding work, from our **Service to Seniors, Food Drives and running the annual Youth for Youth Benefit Concert for the Youth Emergency Shelter (YES)** as well as **raising \$87,455 for Terry Fox**. This amazing work results in the distinction of St. Peter's retaining its title as the #1 school in Canada, if not the world, for supporting this goal. *Thank you to all of our students, parent(s)/guardians and community members for making our annual campaign another wonderful success.*

### Message from our Chaplain

Our **Lenten Journey** began on Ash Wednesday. A whole school mass with Fr. Bill Moloney as our celebrant, occurred on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. Our Lenten practices of almsgiving, prayer and fasting will be the focus of our community efforts throughout the 40 days of Lent. All of our Grade 10 students will be participating in the **Development and Peace's Solidarity Way of the Cross** which focuses on food sovereignty for all. Our Gr. 10's will journey throughout our stairwells to reflect and pray on Jesus' way of the cross and how Development and Peace helps the poorest of the

poor in Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Last year we raised over \$10,000 for Development and Peace and this year we raised over \$5,000 for Haitian Relief through D&P. It is our goal to be the top highschool in Ontario again through our participation in the 25 hour **THINKFAST**. It will be held again on Holy Thursday and completed at 4pm Good Friday. Students will be bringing pledge sheets home **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** and all money must be collected by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. *The minimum total of pledges is only \$50 or \$2.00 an hour and students who raise \$100 or more will receive a free dress down day with the 12 top earners winning a free t-shirt from D & P.* Donations are tax deductible! And finally through-out the 40 days of Lent and the 50 days of Easter Fr. Bill will be celebrating teaching Masses for all of our Gr. 9's in our school Chapel. May you have a blessed Easter and a happy and successful Semester 2.

+ Peace Patsy Young

### Catholic School Council News

We have welcomed many new members this year to our Catholic School Council. During our monthly meetings we have heard many exciting presentations regarding the varied programs and curriculum from staff members, and this will continue for the remainder of the year.

Please consider attending one of our meetings. It is a great way to keep up with all that is going on at St. Peter's Secondary. **Our CSC meetings are held at 7:00 pm in the library. All are welcome.**

Recently our Catholic School Council organized and hosted a staff appreciation breakfast on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, which was very much enjoyed and appreciated.

**The Council would like to remind parents/guardians of graduating students, to please donate their child's used uniforms to the school so that they can be sold during the Council's Used Clothing Sale in late August.** We recognize that many graduating students or students who have outgrown their uniforms, may take them to consignment stores. Any young person can purchase our uniform at consignment stores, which can become a safety factor for legitimate St. Peter's students. Please reconsider and donate used uniforms to the Catholic School Council for our sale in August.

### Out of Boundary Transportation Requests 10-11

If your child received transportation to St. Peter's this year but your address is out of our school boundary you must re-apply to STSCO to be considered for transportation for the 10-11 school year. Applications must be received by STSCO prior to May 31<sup>st</sup>/10. Forms are available from Shelley Adair, Vice Principal.

### **Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) is seeking feedback on bus service:**

An online transportation service survey is available for families, parents and students to complete at their convenience. The intention of

the survey is to obtain feedback and input on the bus and transportation service being provided to students this school year. Information collected will be used by STSCO to help meet its goal of continuously monitoring and improving the service provided to students, families and schools. Please follow the steps below and take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Go to [www.stsco.ca](http://www.stsco.ca) and press the “**Enter Parent Survey Here**” button. Complete the survey and press the submit button at the end.

Any questions regarding the survey can be directed to Joel Sloggett, C.A.O., or Steve Jackson, Operations Manager, with STSCO. Your participation in the survey will be most appreciated.

### **DRESS CODE**

As members of St. Peter’s Secondary we are very proud of who we are as a school community. Our school dress code is part of the pride that we share. A commitment to the dress code requires self discipline and is an outward sign of support for the goals of St. Peter’s Catholic Secondary School. The dress code itself provides a security for our students and staff as we can quickly identify students who are not part of our school community. As of late the dress code has become problematic. To this end we are making a concerted effort to ensure students wear full uniform. Please re-read pages 8-9 of the 2009-10 School Agenda for specific expectations regarding school dress code. Please be aware that a third uniform infraction will result in a suspension for “Habitual Neglect of Duty” as identified under the school’s Code of Conduct.

### **BUILDING RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS**

As the warm weather approaches, more and more of our students are spending time outside. It is very important to the reputation of St. Peter’s, that our students are conscious of the perception of the community at large, in regards to their actions while off school property. The PVNC Administrative group worked very hard, albeit unsuccessfully, to have an easterly access point opened to our fence line. **It is very important that our students respect the decision that was made, and refrain from accessing the school property from the easterly edges of our property. Students must not climb over the fence or cut any openings within the fence. Any student who is behaving contrary to this direction will be suspended.**

### **Research Projects with Trent University**

Dr. James Parker from Trent University is currently conducting research within Ontario secondary schools to assess a number of behaviours, which in extreme forms has been found to have a negative impact on academic success. Our school has been invited to participate in this project which will examine such behaviours as bullying/victimization, internet use, video gaming, and adolescent gambling in students with and without special needs. To participate in this study, our students will be asked to complete a self-report questionnaire which will take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete. For each family who provides parental consent for their child’s participation, \$5 will be donated by Dr. Parker to our school. These funds will then be donated on our behalf to **The Youth Emergency Shelter**. As well, our school will receive a detailed report from Dr. Parker identifying areas of strengths and weaknesses regarding these types of behaviours within our school. **We feel participation in this study will be very beneficial for our school and hope you will encourage your child/children to participate. Please watch**

### **your mail, as parental consent forms and additional information regarding this study will be sent out soon.**

Our school is also participating in a more in-depth study being carried out by Patricia Kloosterman from Trent University, a Ph.D student of Dr. Parker’s, regarding bullying behaviour in students in special education. Research has shown that students in special education are at much higher risk of experiencing bullying behaviour than their typically developing peers. Patricia’s research will concentrate on determining why these students are at-risk. Patricia will be working closely with Ray Walt, our Curriculum Chair of Special Education to invite families with a child diagnosed with Asperger’s Syndrome or High Functioning Autism, ADHD, or a Learning Disability to participate in her study. **Parental consent forms and additional information regarding this study will be mailed out to a number of parents of students receiving special education during the month of March.** Participation in this study will contribute greatly to intervention and prevention programs for bullying behaviour experienced by students receiving special education.

### **Music News**

The date for our **Spring Festival Concert** will be forthcoming. On **April 6-7<sup>th</sup>** our Sr. Concert Band, Intermediate Band, Jr. & Sr. Jazz Bands and Jazz Chorus will compete at the Kiwanis Music Festival hosted by TASS. Good Luck to all!

### **Modern Languages News**

Once again this year our students had the opportunity to participate in an **exchange with Lycee St. Louis**, a French Catholic high school in **Bar-le-Duc, France**. 25 Students from France visited St. Peter’s in **October** and SPSS students are currently visiting in France. Many thanks to the staff for organizing this wonderful opportunity.

### **Science News**

Recently 20 of our students competed in an Engineering competition at the Evinrude Center to celebrate Engineering Week. Over a 130 highschool students took part from across the city. The students built terrific dams and one of our teams from St. Peter’s was awarded the honour of Best Overall Results! The students were perfect ambassadors for the school and had a terrific time displaying their skills. Congratulations!

### **St. Peter’s Readathon**

The students and staff of St. Peter’s will host the school’s 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Readathon in the Library on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Last year over 160 students spent the day curled up with a good book or magazine, and just read. Chairs and tables were replaced with pillows, cushions and beanbag chairs, giving the participants a place to spread out and get comfortable. The generosity of the St. Peter’s community was outstanding. A total of \$4110 was raised for the Youth Emergency Shelter. We look forward to another successful readathon.

### **White Pine Reading Program**

The White Pine Reading Program is taking place once again this year at St. Peter’s. Students have been invited to read from a list of ten titles selected by the Ontario Library Association. With over 60 students signed up and reading, reaction has been positive to the books. For every book read, students may fill out a ballot for a chance to win a prize of movie tickets or food vouchers. Voting day for students who have read at least 5 books will take place on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arts Gala

Again this year, the Student Council along with various staff members will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arts Gala on April 8<sup>th</sup>. This evening will showcase the incredible artistic talents within our school community. Photography, poetry, mixed media art, dance, music, hairstyling/makeup and drama will be the focus.

## Swinging on a Star Spring Fashion Show

It's time for spring, formals and graduations and we have gone to the "Stars" to line up the best formal and casual styles of the season. Gowns, tuxedos, dresses, accessories and hairstyles to suit every budget. In support of "Wish Upon A Star" we will be accepting gently used dresses, suits, tuxedos and accessories at the event which is March 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:30 - 9:00 PM.

## Sports News

The SAINTS continue to participate, represent and excel in a variety of sports: field hockey, football, girls rugby, boys soccer, boys & girls basketball and volleyball, boys and girls hockey and curling, alpine and nordic skiing. Alpine and Nordic Skiing went to OFSAA, Boys and Girls Hockey and Senior Girls Volleyball competed at COSSA. Jr. Girls Rugby won COSSA and will be competing in the Barbarian Cup in June. Girls Senior Basketball won COSSA.

## 2010 Summer School Information

Full-Credit - Credit Recovery - Upgrading Credit Courses and Transfer Courses will be offered through PVNCCDSB this summer. The location will be at Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School.

Session #1- Monday July 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Session #2- Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Registration deadline is Monday June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Registration for summer school is on-line at

<http://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/schools/summer-school.asp>

beginning Wednesday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

On behalf of all staff here at St. Peter's please do not hesitate to call the school at any time should you have any concerns or questions. All teachers have voice mail and will be happy to return your call.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Ross  
Principal

Jamie Brake  
Vice-Principal

Shelley Adair  
Vice-Principal

## Important Dates for Your Information

**March 15 - 19** - March Break

**March 24** - Dress down day for Crossroads

**March 25** - Parent/Teacher Interviews

**3:30 - 5:00 PM 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**March 31** - Swinging on a Star Spring Fashion Show

## APRIL

**April 2** - Easter Weekend

**April 8** - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

**April 10** - 24 Hour Drama Project

**April 15 -18** - Lacrosse Trip to Deerfield, Mass.

**April 19** - Catholic School Council Meeting

**April 27** - Midterm Reports given to students

- Dress Down Day for Youth Emergency Shelter

**April 30** - Graduation Fees Due

**April 30** - Youth for Youth Concert

## MAY

**May 2-7** - Catholic Education Week

**May 5** - Poetry Festival/YPI Finale: Awarding \$5000  
to winning group's charity

**May 7** - Formal - Parkway Place

- May Day

**May 12-16th** - Canoe Trip to Algonquin Park

- Senior Science Trip to New York

**May 17** - Catholic School Council Meeting

**May 19** - Coffee House for Yearbook

**May 20** - Service To Seniors - Gr. 12's

**May 25** - Dress Down Day for the Yearbook

**May 31** - Out of School Boundary Transportation Requests

## JUNE

**June 01** - Awards Assembly

**June 07** - Deadline for 40 hrs community service  
for graduating students

**June 10** - Graduation/Closing Mass

- Graduation Practice/Retreat

**June 15** - Dress down Day

**June 16,18** - Grade 9 EQAO Math Test

**June 21** - Last Day of Instruction

## **June 22 - 25 - Semester 2 Exams**

**June 29** - Graduation Ceremony - Gym - 7:00 PM

**June 30** - P.A.Day

**REPORT CARDS WILL BE MAILED HOME  
THE WEEK OF JULY 5 - 9, 2010**

*Have a great summer!!!*

---