



Semester 1 NEWSLETTER

2011-12

Please read this with your
son/daughter

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and
Clarington Catholic District School Board
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Visit our Board Web Site at www.pvncdsb.on.ca

Director: Mr. Greg Reeves
Superintendent of Schools - Dale Godin

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

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS:
Parent/Teacher interviews for Semester 1 will be Wednesday, October 26 - 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.

Message from Our Chaplain:

This year our school theme is "*Celebrating the Spirit*"
(Romans 8:14-17)
At St. Peter's we celebrate the Spirit of Hospitality, Understanding, Wisdom, Justice and Gratitude. We are blessed to have Fr. Bill Moloney as our celebrant for our whole school masses and his welcoming of our Grade 9's for retreat at St. Anne's. Our Grade 10's are going on retreat to Toronto to hear the Famous People Players and learn about the gifts of all able and disabled people. Our Saints Action group is planning a Fashion show for St. Vincent de Paul showcasing the clothes from VINNEY'S on Nov. 10th. Our compost program is going strong and our students in Ecos are participating in the PVNC ECOSSUMMIT on October 18th. Stay tuned for the GIRLS NIGHT IN that will be happening in December. The Spirit is definitely a-moving at St. Pete's!
+ God Bless - Patsy Young, Chaplaincy Leader

New Roadway and Parking Lot:

The new Hospital Access Road will be opening in both directions sometime in November. The new road has created traffic flow issues for students, parents and staff. The board will be re-configuring the school's parking lot at some point this year, but for the time being, please follow the arrows that have been marked. There is only **one way in** to the parking lot **and one way out**. If you are dropping or picking up your son/daughter at the school please note that the movement of our buses is the first priority (after safety), as many buses have to complete a second run after they drop off our students before and after school. Thank you for your continued patience.

Attendance Procedures At St. Peter's:

Please take a moment to read through the section on attendance in your child's School Agenda. In it you will find all of the policies at the school relating to attendance. Achievement is strongly linked to attendance and it is of the utmost importance that our young learners are in the classroom as much as possible. If your son/daughter (or you, as parent/guardian) is found to be not following proper procedure in regards to attendance, a letter will be sent home detailing the policies. As well an attendance summary for your child will be included which will contain a detailed record of attendance to date.

" I was a stranger and you made me welcome...I was sick and you took care of me." (Matt. 25: 35-36)

On October 17th and 19th a number of our teachers and administrators will be attending workshops at Ontario Shores Hospital in Whitby. The focus will be to become familiar with new curriculum. The 8 lessons will help our students learn about various mental health issues which affect teenagers in increasingly large numbers today. We are very excited to be a part of this new initiative.

Upcoming Events in Social Sciences

On October 13th Right Honourable Justin Trudeau addressed 50 students from SPSS at the Market Hall as the Key note speaker for our annual Speakers Forum. This year's focus is: **On the subject of Canada: What Role are Canadians Playing in this World?** He spoke about the role Canadian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) play on the world stage and challenged our students to consider what role they may be able to play in the future in their chosen careers/jobs. After speaking to the group, Mr. Trudeau answered student questions. As a follow up, on November 16th, St. Peter's will be welcoming 15 speakers from different NGO's, often with connections in the local community, to talk about the work they have done in their profession in other parts of the world. Students will be able to participate in two workshops on the 16th.

Grade 10 Semester 1 History students will be going to Ottawa on Nov. 2nd to the National War Museum and to Parliament as an extension of the curriculum. The trip to Ottawa is a bi-annual event.

Grade 11 and 12 Law students will be going to Toronto on Nov. 30th. They will meet with a Judge and lawyer from the Superior Court of Justice on University Avenue. After this presentation, students will be visiting various courtrooms, watching cases in session and seeing the law in action. The afternoon will see the students meeting with Mr. Elly Gotz, a Lithuanian holocaust survivor. He will discuss the evolution of the holocaust from a legal perspective and the rights violations. He will connect the holocaust to current human rights atrocities.

Grade 11 Ancient Medieval History students will be going to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto on November 23rd.

Drama Updates:

Grades 10 and 11 are working diligently preparing Remembrance Day Anthology performances. They are a vibrant and talented group of students! A trip to Toronto on **Wed. December 21st** will take us to Soulpepper Theatre to see the production "Parfumerie".

On **Dec. 12-16** a partial Ontario Arts Council grant allows us to hire a young Toronto artist who will introduce Drama students to Working with Shakespeare.

French Department: International Exchanges

This fall there are 3 students from France here on a 3- month Exchange through the Canadian Education Exchange Foundation. Their SPSS partners will be spending 3 months in France from February to May 2012

On October 24th St. Peter's will be welcoming 26 students and 4 teachers as part of our 6th exchange with Ecole St. Louis, Bar-le-Duc, France. The SPSS students will travel to France for 2 weeks in March, 2012. Further information on these educational and cultural exchanges are available through the French Department.

Guidance Updates:

For students who are planning on applying to university, there will be an information session in late October. Guidance will explain the process, timelines, fees, etc. required for OUAC (Ontario Universities Application Centre) to process applications. Students cannot begin applying until their PIN (Personal Identification Numbers) arrive to the school between mid and late November.

For students who are planning on applying to college, there will be a similar presentation in November to outline the requirements for applying through OCAS (Ontario Colleges Application Service). Please stay tuned for more information.

Guidance is always looking for tutors!! If your son or daughter has a talent in Mathematics or Science and is willing to give up an hour a week to assist another student, it would be greatly appreciated. This is a great opportunity for tutors to earn community involvement hours or school points. Have your son or daughter come in to Guidance to be placed on the tutor list.

Catholic School Council News

Our CSC meetings are held at 7:00 pm in the Library.
Our next meeting is Monday Nov 14th. **All are welcome.**

This spring our Council has booked **"FACEBOOK 101"** **Guest Speaker, Chris Vollum.** Chris will be speaking to the student body during the day and then will present an evening session for parents and interested community members. His presentation will help our parent and student community increase their understanding, on a deeper and more specific level, the incredibly influential role that **Facebook** is playing in their lives (and their children's lives) beyond what they perceive.

Please mark Tuesday, April 24th, 2012 in your calendar. We hope you are all able to attend. More information will be forthcoming closer to the date.

Homework Help:

This fall, the Ministry of Education and the Independent Learning Centre have launched a program called Homework Help. Homework Help is an online mathematics support for students in grades 7 through 10. Homework help offers:

- Interactive mathematics tutorials
- Listen and learn videos
- A mathematics glossary
- An online scientific calculator
- Access to one-on-one tutoring offered by Ontario certified mathematics teachers

Homework help is free, anonymous, and is available to students 24/7. Tutors are online to assist students from Sunday to Thursday, 5:30pm to 9:30pm. Tutoring takes place in chat rooms which are monitored by the Independent Learning Centre and all chats are reviewed daily.

Students can self-register now at <https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> To register, students will need their Ontario Educational Number (OEN), which can be found on any student report card.

Parents and guardians are also welcome to create guest accounts.

As a guest you will be able to access the site's resources, but you will not be able to ask questions to tutors.

For more information on Homework Help contact:

Jonathan Berlinger, our Student Achievement Consultant, at jberlinger@pvnccdsb.on.ca or call 705-748-4861 x168.

School Year Calendar:

This is just a reminder that parent(s)/guardian(s) should review the Ministry of Education/Board's approved school year calendar **prior to booking trips/vacations.** With a semestered system, it is imperative that students are present on regularly scheduled school days as the pace of the work is very quick. Last year there were a large number of students who missed school days while on vacation, which creates stress and anxiety for them upon their return to school. It is essential that students and parents recognize that it is their responsibility to get the work they will be missing prior to their absences. The teacher continues to provide lessons to those students who are present. **Students must inform the office when they will be away and if they chose to take vacation time during school time they must complete a Vacation Form and have parents sign and return the form to the school office.** It is expected that all assignments and tests will be completed upon their first day back.

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.

Please visit our web site at www.spcss.ca for a copy of this newsletter and any other information about St. Peter's you may wish to know.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Ross
Principal

James Brake
Vice-Principal

Shelley Adair
Vice-Principal

Important Dates for Your Information

- October 19th - Service to Seniors
- Gr.11/12 Hairstyling Trip
- October 24th - French Exchange students arrive
- October 25th - Dress Down Day - **"United Way"** \$2
- October 26th - Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:30-5:00; 6:00-8:00 PM

- November 02nd - Grade 9 Take Your Kids to Work Day
Gr.10 History Trip to Ottawa; Gr.10 Hairstyling Trip
- November 03rd - Grade 11 English Trip to MacBeth
Exchange students depart for France
- November 04th - Grade 10 Religion Retreat
- November 10th - Saints Action Fashion Show
- November 16th - Speaker's Forum at SPSS
- November 23rd - Grade 11 Medieval History Trip to the ROM
- November 25th - PD Day (no classes for students)
- November 29th - Dress Down Day - **"Movember"** \$2
- November 30th - Gr.11/12 Law Trip to Toronto

- December 01st - Grade 9 English trip to Romeo & Juliet
- December 06th - Grade 11 Hairstyling Trip to Oshawa
- December 08th - Christmas Dance 7-10 pm.
- December 15th - Advent Mass
Girls' Hockey Team leave for Lake Placid, NY
- December 20th - Dress Down Day **"Saints for Saints"** \$2
- December 20th - Christmas Band Concert
- December 21st - Gr.10 Drama Trip to Soul Pepper Theatre
- December 23rd - Last Day of Classes prior to Christmas Break

- January 09th - Classes Resume
- January 17th & 18th - Grade 9 EQAO Math Test
- January 18th - Parent Information Night**
For New Registrants for 2012-13
- January 24th - Dress Down Day - **"Crohn's and Colitis"** \$2
- January 27th - February 2nd - SEMESTER 1 EXAMS**

- February 3rd - PD Day**
- February 6th - Beginning of Semester 2

