



March 2008

St. Stephen's Secondary School The Royals' Review

Believe, Love, Act:

"Love One Another As I Have Loved You"

John 13:34

PRINCIPAL
Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

VICE-PRINCIPALS
Marie-Claude Charette
Stephen Smith

PARISH PRIESTS
Fr. Garry Leahy
Fr. Peter Seabrooke
Fr. Joe Devereaux

CATHOLIC SCHOOL
COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS
Laura Pomfret
Susan Drever

SUPERINTENDENT
Ron McNamara

TRUSTEES
Granville Anderson
Maureen Day

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Principal's Message

*O God, who created us,
Fill our minds with knowledge
and appreciation of the hope
With which and for which
You created us.*

*O God, who created us,
Fill our hearts with courage
to take the risks
And pay the price that
will make this hope come true.*

*O God, who created us,
breathed life and energy*

*into our hands,
May we always
find joy in your hope for us.*

*O God, who forgives us, lives in us,
and calls us to do the same,
May we find peace in your forgiveness,
and the forgiveness is shared with
others.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



This little prayer speaks to me of a multi-faceted journey with many destinations that we have all embarked on since the start of our second semester.

The arrival of the progress report is an early indication of the academic journey students are making this semester. Undoubtedly, their hope is credit achievement and this goal can be realized if they make it a priority to attend class on time, with work completed and a willingness to seek help if it is needed. These are the 'risks' and the 'payment' that can make their hope come true. The more and more they are practised, the easier it becomes.

On our spiritual journey, forgiveness is the virtue we celebrate this month and it is the best preparation we could make for Lent and our journey to Easter.

At the same time we are all finding ourselves longing for the end of the winter and the journey to spring. Oddly enough, this year March is an unusual month in the school year in the that our spring break and Easter are back to back. As we move into Holy week and the celebration of Easter our staff and students are all thankful for this gift of time for rest, renewal and reflection.

As our journey continues may we be reminded to celebrate the new life that spring and Easter bring us!

**Sincerely,
S. Rush-Jeanes**



**EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT
ST. STEPHEN'S SECONDARY SCHOOL**
300 Scugog Street • Bowmanville • Ontario • L1C 3K2
TEL (905) 623-3990 • FAX (905) 623-9991
Website: <http://schools.pvnccdsb.on.ca/ssss/>
Busing: <http://www.stsco.ca/>



A Few Words from Resource

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

On March 27th, students currently in grade 10 will be writing the *Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test*. Students with *individual education plans*, who are writing the grade 10 Literacy Test this year, will be writing in the resource room.

For students with *individual education plans* the benefits of writing in the resource room are many. Some of the available accommodations for students, depending on their iep accommodations may include:

A small group setting;

Additional time, to a maximum of double time allotted;

Periodic supervised breaks;

Prompts to draw attention back to the test

Assistive technology

Use of a computer

We wish all students writing the Literacy Test – Good Luck!!!

The Resource Room

Just a reminder that the resource room is available to all students with an *individual education plan*, regardless of whether or not they have a resource period. Most students are aware that they can write their tests in resource, where they will receive up to a maximum of double the allotted time but...did you know that students with ieps can access the resource room during any of their classes after teachers have delivered their lesson? That's right...after a teacher has finished teaching the lesson for the period and you are looking for a quiet space to work; or require extra assistance; or would like to take advantage of the many special education software resources that we have available, you can opt to leave class and work in resource. Simply ask your classroom teacher for permission to work down in resource and in turn, your teacher will notify the resource teacher that you are on your way to resource. Take advantage of the accommodations you have available to you to support your learning!

Learning Disabilities Association Ontario Scholarships/Awards

The 2008-2009 competition is now open.

Deadline for application and supplementary documents submission must be postmarked no later than **Tuesday May 15, 2008**.

Applications and scanned documents are also accepted at

information@ldac-taac.ca but must be received no later than midnight May 15th, 2008 (Pacific Time).

CRITERIA: The primary disability must be a learning disability(ies) such as auditory processing, visual processing, reading, dyscalculia (math), dysgraphia (writing), executive functions, dyspraxia (motor skill development), etc. Autism, Asperger's syndrome, hearing loss, intellectual disabilities, mental health disorders, or ADHD by itself do not qualify as learning disabilities.

You can download the scholarship applications and criteria for the 2008-2009 school year below.

Applications and criteria

- [The Donald Cummings Apprenticeship and Industry Training Scholarship for Students with Learning Disabilities](#) (Includes Criteria, Application Form, and Employer Recommendation)

- [The Doreen Kronick Scholarship](#) (Includes Criteria and Application Form)

- [The Carol Thomson Memorial Fund Scholarship for Students with Learning Disabilities](#) (Includes Criteria and Application Form)

- [The Joanna Townsend Applied Arts Scholarship](#) (Includes Criteria and Application Form)

Other Sites of Interest on Financial Assistance Programs and scholarships information for Post-Secondary Students with Disabilities:

<http://www.ldao.on.ca/landis.html>

(Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario - Gloria Landis Memorial Bursary)

<http://www.neads.ca/en/norc/funding/contents.php>

(National Directory of Financial Assistance Programs for Post-Secondary Students with Disabilities posted by the National Educational Association of Disabled Students)

<http://www.studentawards.com/english/can/>

(Canadian database of thousands of scholarships, bursaries, fellowships, grants and other financial awards)

Course Selection Forms For Learning For Living Students

All students in the Learning For Living Program are reminded to submit their \$25 registration fee along with the completed course selection form that was sent home for parents to review.

THEY ARE NOW DUE!!!

Durham College

Be in the know!

Plan to visit Durham College's R.E.A.C.H office and meet with an Academic Advisor, if you will be attending Durham College in the fall. This would be a great opportunity to ensure that all of the necessary paper work is in place for the accommodations you may need at the post-secondary level.

They can be reached at **(905)721-3123** to schedule an appointment.

Join—Job Opportunity Information Network

The Job Opportunity Information Network (JOIN), for Persons with Disabilities – Central East Region, is a network of service providers who deliver ODSP employment supports services in the region of Durham. JOIN helps people with disabilities find work and assists employers with recruiting qualified candidates to meet their hiring needs.

How to get started:

For more information about JOIN or ODSP employment supports in Durham, please visit their website at:

www.joininfo.ca/central east or
in Durham call **1-800-722-1196 ext. 120**

Who is Nobody Project

Ms Gribben's grade 9 Religion class successfully completed the 'Who is Nobody' project created by Kelly Clark and donated to St Stephen's Secondary School by the Rotary club of Bowmanville. Ms Gribben's class participated in this project as part of their culminating activity for their grade 9 Religion course. The 'Who is Nobody' project is a character building exercise. Furthermore, it provided students with an opportunity to start acquiring valuable community service hours, required as a prerequisite for every high school Student's graduation.

The 'Who is Nobody' project is a tangible program accompanied by a 'Who is Nobody' doll and products that give your class a goal and make character-building concrete. Students complete valuable community service hours, working on a voluntary basis to benefit people, animals or the environment, either locally, nationally or internationally by donating time, materials or funds. Students collected a three dimensional object that represented their voluntary work experience, service or contribution. This three dimensional object was then attached to the "Nobody doll", turning "Nobody" into "Somebody". Everyone's contribution to this project promoted a higher level of awareness.

Each student reflected, shared and celebrated, individually and collectively their learning experience by documenting and illustrating their involvement in the "Nobody to Somebody", character in action project. This project afforded opportunities for peer role-modeling, celebrating diversity and inspiring more character-building. In addition students gained valuable insight and experience into possible career opportunities. Overall this was an excellent experience for all involved.

Margaret Ann Gribben



Dates to Remember

- Ontario Secondary School Literacy March 27th
- Parents' Night April 3rd - 6:30 PM
- School Council April 8th , May 6th, June 3rd, at - 7:00 PM
- P.A. Day - April 25th

Accident Awareness

On Friday, February 8th 2008 St. Stephen's welcomed presenters from the Durham Regional Police force. Retired Officer, Bob Annan and current officer John Hinds have been traveling to secondary schools throughout the province with their presentations on accident awareness. The measures to follow in order to 'arrive alive' were well received by the audience of staff and students.

Bully Newsletter Expert - Cyber Bullying

What is Cyber Bullying?

The use of Communication Tools:

E-mail, cell phones, text messages, MSN or Facebook messaging, websites, blogs etc.

.....to purposely harm a person with repeated and aggressive behavior by a person or a group

Quick Facts:

- Cyber bullying is hidden from adults even more often than other types of bullying.
- Children being bullied may fear telling an adult because they fear losing their cell phone or internet privileges.
- The child may or may not know who the Cyber Bully is.
- The Bullying can reach the student in all of their safe environments: home, school, the car, the mall, etc.

If your Child is being Cyber-Bullied:

- Do not reply to the message.
- Do not erase or delete messages; this is your evidence, print all of the evidence if possible.
- Inform your internet, instant messaging cell phone provider.
- Contact the child's school administrator to inform them of the issue.
- Contact the police; there are Canadian laws that protect your child from harassment and discrimination.

What Can Parents Do to Prevent Cyber-Bullying?

Parents should discuss the following with their children.

- Do not believe everything that is said online.
- Do not send messages to others when you are angry.
- Do not open messages from someone you do not know.
- Trust your instincts or "inner voice". If someone makes you feel uncomfortable, go immediately and tell an adult.
- Use the computer in a supervised area
- Do not share personal information or post your picture on the Internet, even on MSN Messenger, Utube or Facebook.
- Tell an adult about the information you are looking at and the people you are talking to.

Information Adapted from Region of Waterloo Public Health.

Durham Centre for Success

Our Durham Centre for Success is in full swing at Durham College. There are 15 students working with Mrs. Berezuk and Durham College staff to attain their credits for graduation this June.

Welcome

If you have noticed a new format in our newsletter, it is due to the newest member of our secretarial staff, Deann DeVilliers. We welcome her to St. Stephen's in this role and as a lunch time supervisor.

Royals' Roar Victoriously!

The St. Stephen's Junior Boys Hockey team captured their second AA LOSSA Championship in the past three years by defeating Dennis O'Connor in a best 2 of 3 game series. After suffering 6-1 loss in game 1, the Royals rebounded with a 6-2 victory in game 2. Shawn Neilson was brilliant in goal, stopping 33 of 35 shots fired his way. Kyle Sullivan and Zach Glaspell provided much of the offensive punch, scoring 4 points a piece. Zach Shields, Brandon Denney, and Connor McLean also scored for the Royals. In game 3, the Royals recovered from a one-goal deficit to take a 2-1 lead late in the third period. Zach Shields added his second goal in as many games, while Shawn Neilson again provided solid goaltending. However, Dennis O'Connor was able to tie the game with 4 minutes remaining and threatened to take the game into overtime, but Zach Glaspell, the team's leading scorer, had different plans. With 30 seconds left he hopped over the boards, helped force a turnover in his own end, collected a pass at mid ice, and proceeded to score a beautiful goal over the goalie's left arm with 3.9 seconds remaining.

Coach Carmichael would like to commend all the players for their efforts this season.

Home & School Working Together

A reminder to students and parents: Our warning bell rings at 8:15 AM. This indicates that classes are about to begin. It is vital that students arrive to school in time for the warning bell. We are concerned about the growing number of students who regularly arrive late to school. Punctuality demonstrates respect for the teacher and classmates. Repeated interruptions due to late arrivals affect us all. We need to work together to address this situation; please help your child to meet this responsibility. Students who regularly sign in late will not be admitted to class.

Chaplaincy

On Thursday and Friday, February 28 and 29, thirty students participated in our annual THINKFAST to raise awareness and funds for Development and Peace. We not only learned but we had fun as well. Our next liturgical event together will be our Holy Thursday prayer service on March 20. We are looking forward to continuing our "Brick By Brick" campaign in which we will help to build a school in a developing country.

St. Stephen's Teams Spring into Action

St. Stephen's Teams Spring into Action - lossa.on.ca



Badminton try-outs have begun and Mr. Paziuk and Mr. O'Connor had some tough decisions to make for our team. LOSSA Badminton dates for competitions can be found by clicking onto lossa.on.ca as well as all sports at the secondary level. Check it out!

The Lacrosse teams are getting themselves prepared for the nice weather and a number of student athletes are taking part. Thanks to our coaches Mr. DeLaPlante, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Murray and Ms. Driscoll for their time and effort in getting this together for both Varsity Boys and Girls Field Lacrosse.

The Girls Junior and Senior soccer teams headed by Mr. Paziuk and Ms. Wilson will take to the field as well in early April, and a LOSSA medal is within reach with these two teams.

Please don't forget our Football teams who continue to train and prepare for the 2008 LOSSA Football season. A Football sponsorship program is being put together for our business community so please inquire with Mr. Leonard for details in the Phys. Ed. department.

Hockey, Basketball, Volleyball, Curling and Basketball had great seasons and special congratulations to the late-game heroics of Mr. Carmichael, Matt Perron and the Jr. Boys Hockey team on their 2007-08 LOSSA Championship in late February.

Look for Golf sign-ups, fitness club opportunities and a number of Healthy Active Living events such as:

- April 4th- Anti- Smoking Assembly- morning assembly- Parents welcome.
- Speaker- Brian Keelan -9:25 a.m.
- April 16th- Feeder School Basketball
- April 30th- 2nd Annual Dodge Ball Tournament
- May 12th- Blood Donor Clinic

Thanks,

Mr. Leonard
Healthy Active Living Education Department (HALE)



Students Compete for Historical Art Prize

The winners of the Newcastle Village & District Historical Society art contest pose with their prize submissions. Front row, Ken Stephenson (R) presents his award to Christina Beeton (L), the overall winner. Back row, left to right Connor Mclean, Luke CoDyre, Mrs Anne Gribbon, Teacher, Jolene Mellow and Kirby Upshaw.
From the Orono Weekly Times.

