

# ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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## Newsletter #14 - February

Principal: G. Krar  
Vice Principal: S. Mifsud  
Superintendent: C. Saytar

Head Secretary: D. Wiegert  
Assistant Secretary: N. Eisan  
Pastor: Fr. P. Dobson

Trustee: F. Di Cosola

### STORYTELLING & PUBLIC SPEAKING

A St. Andrew School tradition continued with the recent, annual Storytelling and Public Speaking Competitions. The Storytelling and Public Speaking competitions provide students with the opportunity to verbally express their creativity to their classmates, and to those students who excel in this skill, a further opportunity to publicly speak to a larger audience in the gym. All students are to be congratulated for the excellent quality and interesting variety of speech topics.

A special congratulation goes out to the following top three finishers from the various age and divisional level competitions:

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Primary Division Storytelling results: 1st – Victoria M. \* 2nd – Hogan M. \* 3rd – Jillian C.

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Junior Division Public Speaking Results: 1st – Emma M. \* 2nd – Brendan L. \* 3rd – Emma P.

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Intermediate Division Public Speaking Results: 1st – Julia M. \* 2nd – Ceridwen K. \* 3rd – Ben H.

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### WORLD RECORD WALK - update

Ontario "unofficially" smashes Australia's World Record with the support of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph in motion (WDGIM)!  
On Wednesday, October 3, 2007 at 12:30 p.m. EDT, over 200,000 Canadians from coast to coast walked one kilometer to beat the existing Guinness World Record of 100,915 km. set in 2006 by Western Australia. The WDGIM walkers were a driving force behind Ontario's success and had 63 confirmed sites with a combined effort from 21,608 walkers. We can now state that we have "unofficially" broken the world record however it will likely be several months before the record is confirmed by Guinness World Record officials in London England.  
The work of WDGIM only began with the World Record Walk. Watch for upcoming events to promote, support and celebrate better health through physical activity at [www.wdgimotion.ca](http://www.wdgimotion.ca).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21<sup>st</sup> - Reconciliation at St. Andrew  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> - Mr. Malec's class excursion to Silvercreek Outdoor School  
- Extended French Public Speaking Competition in the gym - p.m.  
February 25<sup>th</sup> - Intermediate Ski Excursion to Blue Mountain Resort in Collingwood  
- JK/SK Registration from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
February 26<sup>th</sup> - Dental Screening for Gr. 2's  
February 26, 27, 28 & 29<sup>th</sup> - JK/SK Registration from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

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## **THE SEASON OF LENT**

Lent has many traditions that assist us in observing this special time.

The three main ways of keeping Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer – Catholics are encouraged to pray more during Lent, especially with Scripture. Lent is the ideal time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Fasting and abstinence – Catholics 14 years and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and every Friday during Lent. In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from age 18 to 59 fast, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.

Almsgiving – Inspired by the sacrifice of Christ, many Catholics combine almsgiving with fasting, giving to the poor and less fortunate with money they've saved by eating, drinking and buying less during Lent.

There are also many symbols associated with the Lent and here are a few examples:

Sandals – the foot covering of Jesus but also a reminder that Lent is a journey. In earlier times, people would actually make a journey or pilgrimage to a holy place and break the routine of their daily lives by visiting a place of worship and holiness.

Palms – are used on Palm Sunday to recall Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Palms are also a sign of royalty and peace – two words that describe Jesus.

Ashes – are the remains of the Palms leftover from the previous Palm Sunday. The darkened ashes remind

us that we have sinned and that God forgives us.

Water – even though water may seem a little out of place during a time of journey and fasting, water is very important as a symbol of our cleansing at Baptism, and of our wish to return to a state of purity in God's eyes.

Shrove Tuesday – gets its name from a very old word for going to Confession and having our sins forgiven – to be "shriven". Confession will make our hearts more pure and ready for prayer during Lent.

Mardi Gras – means "Fat Tuesday" in French. On the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, Christians used to make sure that all of the eggs, milk, and lard were used up.

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." Mark 1:14-15

## **EXTENDED FRENCH PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**

Parents of students currently in Grade 4 who are interested in applying for admission to the Extended French Program for September 2008 are reminded that the deadline to submit an application is WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008 BEFORE 3:00 p.m. The completed Extended French Application Package must be brought to the Main Office at St. Andrew School.

If you were unable to attend the Parent Information Meeting held on January 31st, and your child is interested in the Extended French Program, please call the school's main office (942-0262) immediately. Mr. Krar can answer any questions that you may have regarding this program and will forward you an application package, if so requested.