

**January Good News Release
January 30th, 2023**

Students ring in the new year with skating at the outdoor rinks and participating in spirit day assemblies!

St. Michael's, Douglas, and St. James, Eganville have been busy during the month of January. After a well-deserved holiday break, students returned to class on January 9th, 2023, ready to take on the new year!

Students at St. Michael's have been enjoying the opportunity to skate on the outdoor rink during gym class and recess time. St. Michael's has been blessed with an outdoor rink on school property which allows students to get geared up and head out on the ice. Volunteers from the community have worked around the clock to get the rink up and running for use, and the students are always excited to get out on the rink! Students are encouraged to bring in skates and helmets from home, however, St. Michael's has additional skates and helmets available for students to use.

Additionally, students have been working on becoming responsible citizens as a part of the Board's goal to implement the Catholic Graduate Expectations into the everyday classroom. Read more about the Catholic Graduate Expectations on our [website](#). Each week, a few students are chosen by their teacher and principal for showing actions of a responsible citizen. At the end of the week, each student is presented with an award to thank and recognize them for their actions. This has been beneficial for all students, as many are engaged and encouraging other students to be responsible citizens.

Just before Christmas, St. Michael's held their Christmas concert. The donations they received allowed the school to support both the Eganville and Cobden food bank with money and food donations. A wonderful initiative before the Christmas holidays!

In January, St. Michael's participated in a Free Throw competition with the Knights of Columbus at St. Joseph's High School in Renfrew. The competition was great fun for students and staff! To engage in some outdoor education, St. Michael's students in grade 3-4 and 5-6 will also be visiting Shaw Woods on the 9th of February for some outdoor educational activities.

At St. James in Eganville, students have been excited about their 3D printer designs. The grade 2's and 3's have been practicing creating designs and watching them come to life! Students have also participated in some experiential learning activities in 3D printing with some students teaching others how to use the 3D printer to make their designs.

Students have also been working with Sphero Robots. These robots are programmable and codable, and students have been learning different block coding techniques to make the robots perform specific tasks. They even held a tractor pulls competition!

Additionally, St. James is working on creating space for collaboration activities. The students love coming together to learn, and a space where they can collaborate and learn together will be appreciated among staff and students!

Students at St. James are also fortunate to have the Algonquin Language and Learning program taught by Mrs. Michelle Whiteduck. Depending on the grade level, students learn foundational language skills, Indigenous history, bead work, and artwork inspired by Indigenous cultures.

Finally, to finish off Wellness Week (January 23-27th), St. James held the “St. James Goofy Games” on Friday, January 27th! Students enjoy working together and gathering in their spirit teams to engage in a light-hearted competition. The gymnasium was filled with excitement, cheering, and encouragement as the different teams went head-to-head and competed in some goofy games!



Students at St. Michael's, Douglas getting excited about Kindergarten Registration!



St. Michael's students receiving their responsible citizen awards!



St. Michael's, Douglas students using the outdoor rink during recess time.



St. Michael's students and Principal Pam Dickerson showing some of the food bank donations from their school community



St. James' Algonquin Language and Learning classroom

St. James Goofy Games on Friday, January 27th!



SMALL THINGS
with
GREAT love



St. James' students showing off their 3D printer designs before bringing them to life!