

Good News Release

St. Joseph's, Calabogie; St. Joseph's, Arnprior, St. John XXIII, Arnprior

November 29th, 2023

November has been eventful for RCCDSB's Arnprior and Calabogie schools!

At St. John XXIII, students celebrated Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (PINK Week) from November 19th-25th and held a school Mass to kick-start the events of the week. Students worked extra hard to show how peaceful, inclusive, noble and kind they are to others, and when these actions were noticed by staff, they received a pink ticket and signed their name on the PINK week sign in the front foyer of the school. A wonderful opportunity for students who are peaceful, noble, inclusive and kind daily!

Creating a culture of inclusion and diversity is imperative across the RCCDSB. Thus, learning more about and implementing a universal design for learning framework is a school goal at St. John XXIII. This allows all students to access the curriculum in the best way that suits their needs. With this in mind, barriers to learning are considered, and removed. The school has developed student profiles to better assist students who may require more support in the classroom.

Every month, the school holds a Super Student Assembly to recognize students who demonstrate one of the Catholic Graduate Expectations and/or one of the 7 Grandfather Teachings. This includes instilling a desire for lifelong learning and a pursuit of excellence.

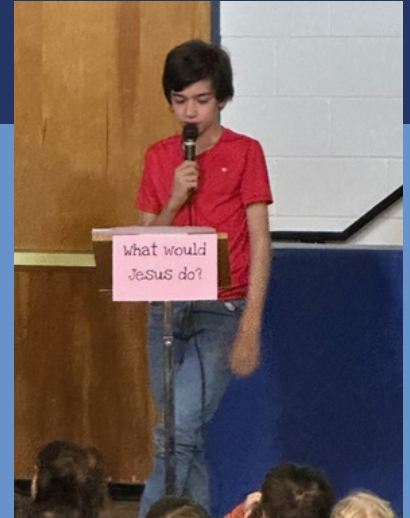
Staff have also engaged in various professional development activities (whole school and individualized). For example, the RCCDSB program team has worked with staff with a focus on French, language arts (early reading instruction), special education and EQAO gap training. This important work continues to be recognized and appreciated throughout the county.

Additionally, extracurriculars continue to be in full swing at St. John XXIII. Early morning volleyball practices have begun in preparation for the upcoming tournament on November 29th. Intramurals also run 4 days a week at lunch hour for grades 3, 4, 5 and 6. A big thank you to the coaches for making this happen!

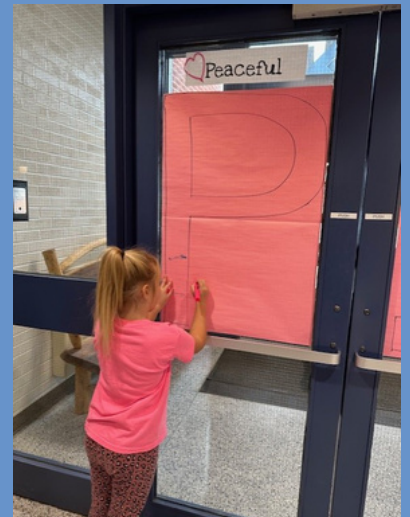
With Christmas just around the corner, students are preparing for their Christmas Concert. The Concert Committee is currently holding auditions for speaking and acting roles in the upcoming show, Hotel Bethlehem, and all classrooms at St. John XXIII have started to learn the songs and choreography too!

St. John XXIII continues to provide regular opportunities for students to encounter Jesus and develop spiritual practices, and regular school liturgies are organized to celebrate special occasions such as Pink Week. Students pray with and experience real connections to parish life through community masses at St. John Chrysostom Parish twice a month. Moreover, the school choir and grade 6 students provided wonderful leadership at mass on Sunday, November 19th. Students have been encouraged to make a difference as faith-filled community builders by collecting items and donations for people in need.

At St. Joseph's Arnprior, students were thrilled to participate in the fall fest that concluded at the end of their fall raffles. The school council worked hard to gather some amazing raffle ticket items, and the fall fest was a huge success! A big thank you to all the community partners who donated items or services to the fall fest!



St. John XXIII students during Pink Week



St. John XXIII students writing their name on the Pink sign in the front foyer



Every month, the school hosts Life-Long Learner presentations, where the whole school participates in the Catholic Education Week prayer and announcement assembly. These presentations help recognize students for going above and beyond and encourage this behaviour year-round!

Along with St. John XXIII, volleyball season has started at St. Joseph's Arnprior and students are thrilled to participate!

Students and staff have also been preparing for the Christmas concert, a bilingual celebration of Song.

Celebrations of Pink Week were underway during the last week of November. To encourage students to be peaceful, inclusive, noble and kind, St. Joseph's Arnprior staff are handing out kindness cards that were entered into a draw at the end of the week. Another great way to recognize students for their kindness.

Grade 6 students were hard at work on their STEM projects! Students created seeding machines and had the opportunity to test them out in the classroom. Finally, St. Joseph's recently finished a very successful scholastic book fair. Students are always looking forward to the book fairs, and this is a great way to encourage reading amongst all grades!

At St. Joseph's Calabogie, students have been blessed to have volunteer readers, in French and English, that work with students 4 days a week. Another great way to encourage young readers!

Additionally, leading up to Remembrance Day, students submitted several items, such as art and poetry, into the Renfrew Legion's Remembrance Day contest. Schools across the county also held Remembrance Day ceremonies to remember all those who have selflessly served our country.

Students at St. Joseph's Calabogie also participated in Pink Week during the last week of November for Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. The school was a sea of Pink to show how peaceful, inclusive, noble and kind all the students are.

As we approach the holidays, schools are bustling with activities. To stay updated on activities and events at RCCDSB schools, follow Renfrew County Catholic District School Board on Facebook and Instagram!

  @RCCDSB



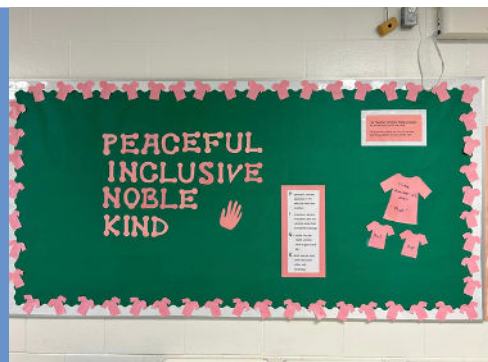
Super Student Assembly at St. John XXIII



Grade 6 Choir students singing at St. John XXIII



Pink Week at St. Joseph's Arnprior



Pink Week at St. Joseph's Calabogie



Pink Day at St. Joseph's Calabogie



Remembrance Day art from St. Joseph's Calabogie



St. Joseph's Arnprior students Catholic Graduate Award winners



Schools to believe in!