

## Parish Education Committee Teacher's Report

### January, 2018

*Some February additions are in Italics!*

#### Religious Events

- ❖ We have had just one Mass in January, due to the holiday schedule, Archbishop's visit and Student-Led Conferences.
- ❖ The Grade 6 class presented a wonderful assembly reflecting on the Gospel for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- ❖ Grade 2 is preparing for First Reconciliation, which takes place on February 24th. They are busy learning the examination of conscience and Act of Contrition. Their most recent Theme Mass was on January 13th (theme was Listening)
- ❖ *This is Catholic Schools Week - students came to Mass in uniform on Sunday. We had a Catholic Trivia contest yesterday, and today had buddy activities and a staff-student dodgeball game.*

#### In the Classroom

- ❖ Kindergarten is exploring a winter theme, including what would melt snow the fastest (Mrs. Sallos was able to bring real snow from Chilliwack!) and what types of things will slide on ice. *We have now moved on to Friendship and Feelings!*
- ❖ Grade 1 is in the middle of a Communities study - if you get the opportunity, look at the models of buildings they have made.
- ❖ Grade 2 is studying the salmon life cycle, which helps integrate Science with First Nations studies. Ms. Sarangelo hopes to be enrolled in the Salmon Enhancement project next year.
- ❖ Grade 3 is studying the Inuit for Social Studies, and working on measurement in Math.
- ❖ Grade 4 has an upcoming field trip to the Vancouver Aquarium, as part of a unit on ethical decisions. They are also doing Coast Salish art.
- ❖ Grade 5 is about to start studying Government and Machines.
- ❖ Grade 6 went to the Fleetwood Library last week. They, along with the Grade 7 class, are going to have a presentation from NET ministries tomorrow.
- ❖ Grade 7 student are becoming experts in various aspects of ancient civilizations. In groups, the students are researching one aspect of a civilization (such as economy, geography, customs and tradition), then presenting that to the class.

### Extra-Curricular

- ❖ Mrs. Fawcett is starting to prepare the Choir for the St. Thomas More Chancellor Music Festival (in the spring).
- ❖ *We are starting a Primary Choir, for children in Grades 2 and 3, to give them a chance to try Choir out before next year.*
- ❖ Basketball is well underway. We have a number of parent coaches this year (with staff sponsorship). *Grade 7 boys and girls have a tournament tomorrow at Cloverdale Catholic.*
- ❖ Mrs. Sisk, with assistance from other staff members, has started Spelling Bee practices.
- ❖ Mrs. Tzetzos is looking after the Yearbook Club this year, and the first meeting was today. *Meetings continue each Tuesday.*

### Staff News

- ❖ Many thanks from everyone for the Christmas Party, and for the SMES water bottles!
- ❖ Our Pro-D Day on January 8th, with Kyle Neilson of Evangelium, was a productive day, and it will be interesting to see how this team process helps our staff community to become even healthier and stronger in the months ahead.
- ❖ This month we have started our new staff meeting format: full staff meetings once a month; a faith formation meeting once a month; sub-team meetings twice a month. We appreciate Mr. Kuester, Ms. Baldissera and Mrs. Testani for their guidance with the sub-teams.
- ❖ We very much enjoyed having the Archbishop visit. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to have lunch with him and to talk about Catholic education, as well as enjoy some general visiting time.