



St. Thomas Aquinas Report

March 2019

Important Dates...

Tuesday, March 5	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast 8:00am
Wednesday, March 6	Ash Wednesday Mass 9:00am
	Elementary Report Cards go home
Thurs/Fri. March 7/8	No School, Teacher's Convention
Thursday, March 14	Elementary Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday, March 22	Day in Lieu, No School
March 24-30	Music Festival

Shrove Tuesday...

Pancake Breakfast will be in the Church basement on Tuesday, March 5 beginning at 8:00 am. Everyone is welcome. A silver collection will be taken. All students are asked to attend as **the doors to the school will be locked until 8:45 am.**

Ash Wednesday Mass...

will be held on Wednesday, March 6 at 9:00 am.

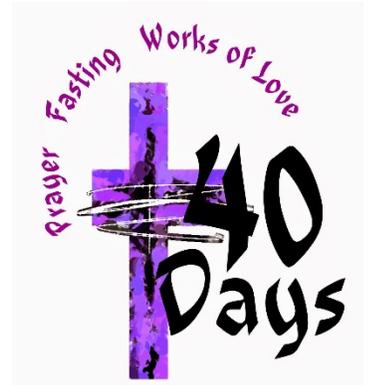
Elementary Parent-Teacher Interviews...

Will be held on Thursday, March 14 from 3:40-8:30pm. Please call or email the office to book an appointment.

Share Lent...

We are now collecting coins for Share Lent/Development and Peace. The students try to fill a jar with coins every Monday at Assembly.

*Development and Peace - Caritas Canada is launching today on Ash Wednesday, its annual Lenten fundraising campaign known as Share Lent. The **Together for Peace** campaign aims to raise awareness among Canadians on the essential role of dialogue in peacebuilding efforts. For more than 50 years, as part of its community development and humanitarian aid projects, Development and Peace has supported local initiatives that promote dialogue, openness, and an understanding of others as a means for building lasting peace.*



Thank-you...

Our Annual Bazaar was once again a HUGE success. There are many people to thank:
To the Parent Council for organizing booths and volunteering time and money.
To everyone who donated baskets/silent auction items.
To the parents that brought food...especially the cake decorators...we truly appreciate your time and effort.
To everyone who showed up to support this event!



Classroom News...

The Jr. Kindergarten class was able to have their first Valentine's at school this year! The kids made cute heart owl valentine holders and passed a valentine out to all their friends. The Jr. K created a heart number 1-5 book by adding color to their page and foam numbers to match the number of hearts. The students continue to learn a letter each week. They met an enormous elephant and her elf friend, and a feisty fox. The Jr. K and K students were lucky to have Amy Penman join our class for a week as part of her schooling. It is always fun to meet new friends! The students continue to work on their fine motor skills and are becoming quite the crafters! The kids hope the weather stays warm so that they can enjoy the cool snow hills that have emerged!

Love was in the air and on all our crafts at the beginning of the month! The Kindergartens made beautiful crafts and valentines to give to someone special in their life! The students had fun sharing valentines with all their classmates and enjoying delicious treats on party day! Our class has now entered the prehistoric era to learn all about dinosaurs. We will chomp down on dino facts: what they eat, where they lived, how big they were and how they move. The kids are learning a ton of sight words so that they can read some books about dinosaurs. The Kindergartens are flying through their numbers in Math and they are working on numbers up to 15. This month has been T-riffic!

Grade 1: We recently had an amazing Valentine's Day with valentine themed activities throughout the day. The grade 1s valentine sun catchers turned out great! In addition, we celebrated our 100th day of school and again, enjoyed the day by doing a variety of 100 themed activities. In math, we are finishing our adding/subtracting unit. The grade ones are becoming better writers and our printing continues to improve! Our class has been lucky to go skating at CPP with Mrs. Drader and the grade twos over the last few weeks, and we want to say a huge THANK YOU to all the Moms and Dads who came to help tie skates! We are preparing for an exciting month in March.....especially looking forward to St. Patrick's Day and beginning preparations for Easter!

Valentine parties, 100th Day celebrations, and weekly skating trips to the rink were definitely February highlights for the Grade Twos! Making 100th Day crowns, writing 100th Day poems, and creating valentine card monster boxes were all part of the fun! Lots of learning



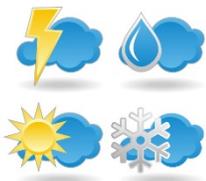
has happened in between all of these activities, too! The students have been busy practicing their measuring skills in math and are now learning how to estimate and measure a variety of objects in non-standard units. This month in social studies, they also have travelled to Iqaluit, Nunavut to explore the unique climate and land of this northern community! The students enjoyed creating some colorful pastel inuksuk art as they learn all about the Inuit people. They are working hard to develop their author-writing skills, focusing on using effective story beginning techniques and elaborative detail to describe their story characters. It's been a busy time in our classroom. Hopefully, the month of March will bring some milder spring-like weather and more opportunities for some playground time outside with classmates!

They Grade 3 students have been extremely busy finishing up our novel study and our third unit in science. We are learning more every week about our four different countries in social. We have started working on some cultural art projects that we can wait for everyone to see.

The Grade 4 class has had an amazing February! It ended off with a bang at the Bazaar. In math, we are working on decimals and fractions. The students are becoming great fraction to decimal converters! Science has been full of lights and shadows. This unit is very fun for the students because there is a lot of hands on labs to do. In social we have been learning about how the railway was important to the building of Alberta especially bringing immigrants and settlers out west. In ELA we are continuing to read Mice at Center Ice. The students are really enjoying Benny's adventures. In writing, we are focusing on adding details to sentences and using word referents. The students are enjoying their time at the rink skating and at the bowling alley. We had a wonderful Valentine's lunch and party. The students are looking forward to participating in the anti-bullying walk. The students are looking forward to the break at Teacher's Convention and making pizza and cookies!

March brings all sorts of fun to the grade five classroom! We will be learning all about Weather; clouds, wind, pressure, humidity...if it has to do with weather, we are learning it!! In a fitting manner with the weather we've experienced lately, we will be learning about the Arctic Region of Canada. We will be diving into some Reading Comprehension, Measurement, Healthy Interpersonal Relationships, and finally some

Drama! More specifically, we will be starting to plan our Puppet Plays! Spiritually, we will be entering into Lent season by partaking in the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast and celebrating Ash Wednesday. Let's pray that our March comes in like a lamb and leaves the same way!



For the Month of March the grade 6 class is looking forward to dealing with evidence and investigation in science. In math we are looking into finishing decimals, percent's, and fractions. Next we can expect to see geometry and angles. In ELA we are becoming masters of reading comprehension. We are also about 1/2 done our novel study "Holes". In the grade 6 we learn all areas of the democratic government that we live in everyday as Canadians. We are currently on representative democracy and what that entails. The School year is flying by and we can't wait for the month ahead!

Extra-Curricular News...

The Senior Boys' Curling team has had a great season. They played in the Tuesday night league curling. They played in several bonspiels and attended Areas in Irma where they placed 2nd. They then went to Zones in Ponoka, where they had very close round robin games leading them to the semifinal which they won in an extra end! The final game was tied in the last end and the boys fought hard but were not able to steal that last point. Congratulations on the silver medal! The boys team members are: Lead: Jon Ibach, Second: Shane Holman, Third: Nick Hewko, Skip: Rogan Coffey.



The Jr. girls' basketball team has wrapped up their season. This year we had 9 very eager girls who really worked hard to improve their skills and work as a team. We ended the season on a high note with consecutive wins. The girls were such a great group to coach. They not only got along so well, but improved so much from the beginning of the season until the end of the season. The veterans and the rookies contributed to the team. The year wrapped up with a fun windup. A huge thank you to the parents for driving us to games and to our score keepers and refs for making home games happen.

SAINTS FUN FACTS by John Sheppard

A cartoon illustration of St. Patrick, a man with a grey beard and hair, wearing a blue and yellow robe with a large yellow cross on the chest. He is holding a wooden staff in his right hand and pointing with his left hand towards a green map of Ireland. The map has a black star on it labeled "Dublin". There are small green shamrocks scattered around the map. The background is light green.

One of the world's most popular saints. Enslaved as a young teen by pagans and Druids, he turned to God while in captivity. Escaping at age 20, he returned to his family and began studying for the priesthood. He preached throughout Ireland converting many for 40 years. He died at Saul, site of the first church he built.

SHEPPARD

(C) 2009 John Sheppard - Distributed by Catholic Online - www.catholic.org

St. Patrick