



Communicator

St. Paul's Junior High School

Volume 3, Issue 4

December 2003

New evaluation descriptor for Core French

We have received from District Office a new evaluation descriptor for Core French in Grades 7 & 8. The breakdown of Grades is as follows:

- Projects and Presentations - 35%
- Tests and Quizzes - 25%
- Participation, Homework, Effort - 10%
- Exam - 30%

There will be two formal examinations per year.

This evaluation descriptor will be implemented for the rest of this school year. Students in Grade 7 & 8 Core French will now have an examination in January and June.



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Operation Christmas Child

Many thanks to all of the students who brought in Christmas boxes. Our project was a great success again this year. The boxes will certainly be appreciated by the children who receive them.



Teacher In-service:

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 9, 2003, there will be an in-service session for teachers at the school. Therefore school will end for students at lunch time. Bus service will be available at that time as well. The in-service will be lead by learning disabilities specialists with the Avalon East School Board, Ms. Glenda Jackson and Ms. Mary Kelsey .

Allergy Alert Allergy Alert Allergy Alert Allergy Alert Allergy Alert

Please be aware that there are a number of children at St. Paul's with severe allergies to various food items and we ask you to not include items with these ingredients in your child's Lunch. The ingredients include peanuts, tuna, and shellfish.

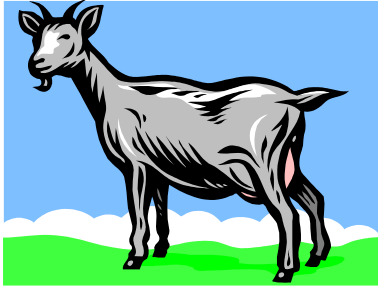


*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*





Christmas Project



As a Christmas project Mme. Dean's and Mme. Webb's homerooms have decided to help purchase a dairy goat which will be given to a family in a developing country. This goat will produce milk which the family can drink and sell. Goats can also produce two kids a year which can be shared with other families. We are still trying to decide upon a name for our goat.

Eyeglasses

Please remember that you can send along eye glasses that you no longer use. These glasses can be distributed to people in developing countries. They can be dropped off to Mme. dean or at the school office.

Ice cream

A bulletin board has be set up by the staff room to provide information regarding our foster child, Addisu.

Many thanks to the following students who have recently helped with our Friday ice cream sales:
Natalie Ryan, Nicole Manolis, Ilse Fewer, Claire Lenehan, Nikki Sacuta and Alanna Flynn.

Calendars

As you take down your wall calendars at the end of the year we would like to have them if you do not wish to keep them.

We will use them for a project in grade 7 sciences humaines. Wall calendars from past years are also okay. They can be dropped off to Mme. Dean or at the office.

Stamps

As Christmas approaches please remember that we are continuing to collect cancelled postage stamps. These will be donated to OXFAM.

Leave a one inch border around the stamps. Please drop them off to Mme Dean.

Drink Can Tabs

We are have initiated a new project of collecting the tabs from aluminum drink cans (pop, juice). The tabs can be recycled separately from the cans and the money raised is used to provide wheelchairs for children.

This program is organized by the Royal Canadian Legion in Ontario. Tabs can be dropped off to Mme. Dean. The cans are accepted for recycling without the tabs.

Term One Exams will take place from January 26th to January 31st, 2004. An exam schedule will be posted on the school website in early January 2004. The exam schedule will also be published in January's newsletter.



Report from our School Library

Should you be concerned with the cutbacks to the Teacher-allocation? Yes!

If you would like your child (ren) to be pleasure readers, information literate, and perform better academically.

Research studies conducted since the 1990's show that school libraries can have a positive impact on student achievement:

- A strong school library that is adequately staffed, resourced, and funded leads to higher student achievement rather of socio-economic or educational level of the adults in the community. (Haycock, 2003)
- The quality of the collection has an impact on student learning. (McQuillen, 1996)
- Test scores are higher when there is high usage of the school library. (Lonsdale, 2003)
- Collaborative relationships between classroom teachers and teacher-librarians have a significant impact on learning, particularly in relation to the planning of instructional units;
- Integrating information literacy into the curriculum can improve students' mastery of both content and information seeking skills; (Haycock, 2003) and that School libraries can make a positive difference in students' self-esteem, confidence, independence, and sense of responsibility in regards to their own learning. (Pennell, 2001).



In the past several years at St. Paul's, we have been striving to create the best learning environment for our students. Unfortunately this year, the allocation cuts have impact the quality of program our Teacher-Librarian can collaborative plan with our teachers. Free student access to the School Library has also been affected, as the library is now open only one hour per day as opposed to over four hours last year. The teacher-librarian is available to collaborate work with very limited number of teachers to plan learning experiences due to other teaching.

What can you do? Contact your Member of Parliament, Write letters to the Editor of "The Telegram", Call open line – Government listens to this program.

Thank-you
Ms A. Hatcher
Teacher-Librarian

Annual Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday, December 10, 2003 at 7:30pm in our school gym. The concert will highlight performances by our Symphonic Band, Jazz Band and Concert Band as well as the Grade 7 Choir , Grade 8 and 9 choir, Show Choir and the Chromatics. The cost of the concert is 5.00 to be paid at the door.

December 2003

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---------|---|---|---------|---|-----|
| 7 | 8 Day 4 | 9Day 5 Teacher In-service in the afternoon. Classes dismiss at lunch time. | 10Day 6 Christmas Concert @ 7:30pm in the gym | 11Day 7 | 12Day 1 Recycling Day | 13 |
| 14 | 15Day 2 | 16Day 3 | 17Day 4 | 18Day 5 | 19Day 6 Last day of school. Dismissal at 1:25pm | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5Day 7 | 6Day 1 | 7Day 2 | 8Day 3 | 9Day 4 Recycling Day | 10 |
| 11 | 12Day 5 | 13Day 6 | 14Day 7 | 15Day 1 | 16Day 2 Recycling Day | 17 |