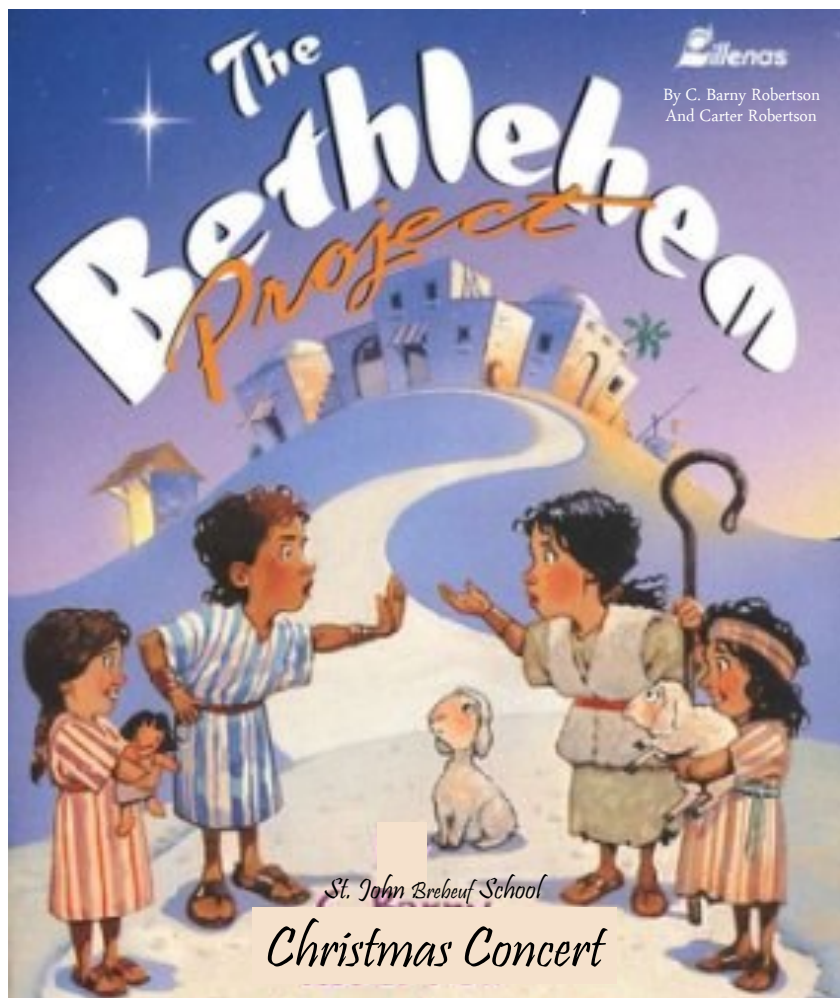




St. John Brebeuf Schoolconnection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ



St. John Brebeuf School
Christmas Concert

Wednesday, December 20th

Matinee 1:30 pm

Concert 7:00 pm

St. John Brebeuf Church

Admission: Free Will Offering

Refreshments courtesy of the SJB Parent Council

DECEMBER CALENDAR



December 1 - Early Dismissal 2pm
December 4 - Hot Lunch
December 7 - Hot Lunch
December 8 - Mass -gr.5 leading
December 11 - Hot Lunch
December 14 - Hot Lunch
December 15 - Popcorn Day
December 18 - Hot Lunch
December 21 - Hot Lunch
December 20 - Christmas Concert Matinee 1:30pm
- Christmas Concert 7:00pm
December 22 - Colour Day
- Pancake Breakfast and SJB Idol
- Early Dismissal 2pm
(last day of school before break)
December 23- January 7 - Christmas Holidays

St. John Brebeuf Parish Christmas Worship Schedule

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24th, 2017

5pm Christmas Eve Mass with the Children

7:30pm Christmas Eve Mass

10pm Christmas Eve Mass with incense

*(Caroling begins 30 min. prior to
Christmas Eve Masses)*

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 25th, 2017

10am Christmas Mass

Merry Christmas!

A Christmas Gift That Makes a Difference...

Give Love & Care: Caring for Orphan Children - Chittagong, Bangladesh \$25

Give Hope: Educational Empowerment - Narkatiagani, India \$50

Give Joy & Life: Mother and Child Care Program - Philippines \$75

Give Dignity: Empowerment of Women - Kounkane, Senegal \$100

All donations of \$20 or more will be issued a charitable tax receipt.
100% of your donation goes directly to the project of your choosing.

St. John Brebeuf students, in partnership with the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, will be giving Christmas gifts that make a difference to assist some of the poorest, most neglected and marginalized people in our world.

During the month of December, each classroom will be collecting funds and contributing to these life changing and empowering projects that make a difference in the lives of those in need.

If you wish to purchase one or more of these gifts, or for further information, please contact Mrs. Gel at the school office at 489.2115 ext. 260

...and heaven and nature sing...

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The Christmas season is so special for children: full of wonder, awe, and excitement. It is my favourite time of year at the school and one of the many reasons I love working in a Catholic environment. Being able to celebrate Christmas with our students within the context of our faith tradition is a special privilege for an educator, and it fills me with gratitude.

Our students and staff have been working hard preparing for our Christmas concert: *The Bethlehem Project*. Please note that both performances - the matinee and evening - are on the same date: Wednesday, December 20th. The parent advisory council will also be hard at work providing a reception after each concert, and once again organizing the beloved pancake breakfast on Friday, December 22nd. I thank them for their service to the school and the invaluable community building that accompanies this service.

In this season of warmth and generosity, thoughts inevitably turn to social justice, a cornerstone of our programming here at St. John Brebeuf School. There are several initiatives during Advent that give our community the opportunity those in need, both locally and globally.

Our grade four students will be continuing the student-led *Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference* campaign for the month of December. This campaign was a huge success last year and we look forward to being able to support the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions once again. If you are interested in reading about how the \$6000 we raised last year directly improved the lives of children and mothers around the world, please visit the social justice page of our website at www.sjbschool.ca

As in the past, each classroom will be responsible for a Christmas hamper in support of the N.E.E.D.S. center. In addition to the classrooms, the school staff also provides a hamper, bringing the total number of families we help to thirteen! Comprised of food items and presents, these Hampers are delivered to newly arrived families in Canada, most of them refugees.

In January, our student social justice committee will be organizing a winter clothing drive in partnership with the parent advisory council. Donations of coats, socks, and mittens will be greatly appreciated. Please watch for more details on this initiative upon our return to school in the new year.

As always, none of these endeavours would be successful without your support. I thank you for your commitment as families to supporting our social justice initiatives and am proud to belong to a community where people come together to support the needs of the less fortunate so consistently.

I would like to share an Irish Christmas blessing with you:

*May you be blessed with the spirit of the season which is peace,
The gladness of the season which is hope,
And the heart of the season which is love.*

Wishing you all the best of the season,

Cara Campbell

FROM FATHER WAYNE

Christmas is a bright joyful time of year. Imagine what December would be like without Christmas: dark and gloomy. It was precisely to save us from dreary winter days that early Church leaders decided to celebrate the birthday of the Lord on December 25. Even in earliest times, all memory of the correct day of the birth of Jesus had been lost. The Bible and early Church documents say nothing about it. So the coldest darkest day of the year, most in need of joy and light, was chosen for the annual celebration of a baby who is the embodiment of all that is bright and joyful. Keep the joy alive at all times! Jesus comes as light into darkness. Merry Christmas!

Father Wayne



PARENT COUNCIL REPORT

The parent council is excited to be a part of some exciting initiatives this festive season. We are partnering with the junior high students to collect warm weather clothing for the less fortunate. More details will become available shortly. We are happy to announce that we will be offering a short reception in the parish hall after the matinee Christmas concert on December 20th as well as a longer reception after the evening concert. We hope to see all of you there!!

Plans are underway for our annual Pancake Breakfast and SJB Idol on Friday, December 22nd. This is a very exciting day for our students, and a great way to start the Christmas break. The talents of our students participating in SJB Idol are amazing!

There has been such a positive response to our Hilary Druxman sterling silver necklaces! They will be available for sale in the parish hall following the matinee Christmas concert and after the evening concert on December 21st. The cost for one necklace is \$40.00 or 3 for \$100.00 which includes the necklace, a velvet pouch, gift bag, and a St. John Brebeuf school donation card insert. All the net proceeds from the sale will be allocated to our school!

We would also like to thank all you who attended our Paint Nite in October. It was a fun evening and raised over \$600 for our school.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a healthy & happy 2018!

Mrs. Renee Bertrand-Teo & Mrs. Jennifer Melo,
Parent Council Co-chairs





SUSTAINABILITY

Our compost program and WFW (Waste Free Wednesdays) are up and running. The whole school has been working diligently to ensure that we are doing our part in "greening" our community. We will soon be starting our friendly competition between the early years (K-3) and the middle years (4-8) to see who can produce the least amount of waste. The winning group will win a special reward.

One thing we have noticed over the past couple of weeks is the growing number of fruits and vegetables that are barely eaten, or untouched, that are placed in the compost bin. Students are reminded that their lunch is for them to eat and leftovers should be taken home to be eaten at a later time.

Sustainability Committee



KINDERGARTEN & OPEN HOUSE

The 2018-19 registration deadline for new students is **Monday, February 12th, 2018**. Families with children already attending St. John Brebeuf School who wish to register another child in Kindergarten for 2018-2019 are asked to submit the application forms available on our website at www.sjbschool.ca. The Open House for families interested in St. John Brebeuf School is on January 31st at 7pm. Please share this registration information with any family or friends with Kindergarten aged children who may be interested in attending our school.

WINTER CLUBS

Returning this year in January, by popular demand, is our **Games Night** fundraiser. Bring the whole family on **Thursday, January 18th, from 6:30-8:30 pm**, to enjoy a variety of board games! There will be a goodwill collection at the door, and a canteen providing snacks.

Drawing Club

All grade 2 and 3 students are welcome to join the Drawing Club in Miss Misa's classroom. Every week, the artwork will be based on a central theme (ex: comic book characters, animals, etc.). This will be a great opportunity to build community with others who share a passion for drawing. Please stay tuned to announcements for more details. Hope to see you there!

Coding Club

Once again, Grade 7 students will have the option to participate in a coding club this winter! The club will take place from 11:30am-12:00pm each week in the computer lab. If the interest level exceeds the maximum number of participants, the club will be divided into two groups that attend on alternating weeks. New addition this year: Sphero, the programmable robot! A sign-up sheet will be available before the Christmas break with more information.

Board Game Club

Are you tired of going outside at lunch when it is cold, cold, cold, cold? Then come and join the fun at the Board Game Club! Challenge yourself to different styles of games that will keep you sharp and engaged. Coming soon to a classroom near you!

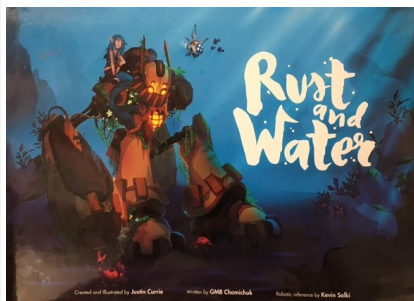
Knitting Club

New! Knit one, purl two; knitting is fun to do! Grade 6 boys and girls are welcome to join Ms. Campbell on Day 4 starting in January for Knitting Club. All supplies will be provided!

Wrestling Club

Students in grades 4-8 are welcome to join the Wrestling Club by coming to practices every Monday and Wednesday mornings from 7:30-8:30am. The style of wrestling taught is free style (what you see in the Olympics); there will be no turnbuckles, elbow drops or stone cold stunners. Information on tournaments will follow.

LIBRARY NEWS



Mysterious Illustrators Illuminate Grade 3-6!

On December 4th, artists and writers Justin Currie and GMB Chomichuk will visit our library to share with our students the path that led them to become creative professionals. These talented individuals will intrigue the students with a discussion of the creation of characters for their art and books, and inspire them with samplings of their creations. The winner of a short story contest for students will be announced during their visit, with the winning story will be illustrated by our guests, to be published in the school as a fundraiser for the library!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

The New Year is fast approaching and along with it is our Catholic Schools Week. It will take place during the week of February 12th-16th, 2018. We are looking forward to a fun filled week of physical, artistic, spiritual, and entertaining activities. As always, everyone will be participating in various events throughout the week, ranging from "Voyageur Day" to dances to "Buddy" activities. Get ready to make some memories! More details to follow in the New Year.

Your Catholic Schools Week Committee



GRADE 5 MAKING BANNOCK AT FORT WHYTE



REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 10th was a respectful service attended by the whole school and parent guests. The students made thank you crosses to mark the 100th anniversaries of the victories of the battles at Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele by the Canadian military. Our boys and girls choir performed the piece, Jubilate Deo, and students participated by reading prayer intentions and laying poppies as a sign of respect.



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Dear SJB Community,

The music calendar is filling up as we get closer to the holiday season! The Mass Choir has performed at three Masses already, and the Boys and Girls choir had their first performance at our Remembrance Day ceremony. The Santa Claus parade was another success this year, with over 40 students from SJB, along with members of the Knights of Columbus, students from St. Mary's Academy, and members of different parishes in the city. The Boys and Girls choir and the Advanced Violin club will be performing at Lindenwood Manor on Dec. 5th at 1:30pm, and will play a part in the Christmas concert on Dec. 20th.

I have had some students approach me about joining a choir. If your grade 2-8 student would like to join the Mass Choir, please contact Mrs. Walker. If they would like to join the Boys and Girls choir, we are accepting new members in January. Please email me at the address below if you have any questions.

Grade 2 & 3 students will be going to see the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra on the morning of January 16th. We also have our Artist in the School, Raine Hamilton, coming in during the last week of January to work with grade 5, 6, 7 & 8 students on song writing, and on fiddling with the Advanced Violin club.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about events or music clubs here at SJB School!

Mr. Derek Frykas
music@sjbcommunity.ca



BOBCAT BEAT

Volleyball

Congratulations go out to our Competitive and Developmental Volleyball teams on very successful seasons. The Developmental team coached by Mr. Toni went undefeated while the Competitive team tied for first in regular season play. They went on to finish as second place in the MCSAA Championship and brought home the finalist banner.

The school would like to wish a very big thank you to the students who kept score and the teachers who helped supervise in the gym during home games. It was a very busy season this year for the Bobcats. I would like to especially thank Mr. Toni who coached the Developmental team. Also, I would like to extend a special thank you to Ms. Amy Moyer who assisted for the third year in coaching the competitive boys' team. Go Bobcats! Our Grade 6 boys will compete in a small tournament on December 12 at St. Maurice school as well.



Intramurals

Intramurals begin in early December and the grades 2 - 8 students will challenge themselves with a circuit of climbing wall, soccer penalty shots, Bolo and basketball free throw shooting over the lunch hour, and continuing into the new year. The next intramural will be Dodge ball. Please bring your physical education class uniform that day if you plan to participate.

Basketball

Tryouts for basketball have taken place; teams will be announced shortly.

May God bless you and your families throughout the Christmas Holiday Season and 2018!

Mr. David Bueti
Physical Education



Olympic Glory Book Fair!

Go for the Gold this
February 5-9th



Junior Highers

EXAM SCHEDULE

ELA: January 19th
Science: January 22nd
History: January 24th
Math: January 25th



THE GRADE 7/8 STUDENTS WERE GIVEN STUFFED RABBITS TO HOLD AT THE MTYP PERFORMANCE OF MICE, MORROW, AND JASPER.



The grade 7 and 8 students have the option of attending the Bison Regional Science Fair (BSRF) on April 12th, which is the competition to send students to the national level. Every year, the BSRF requires sponsorship to support the winners who go on to attend the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa this upcoming May.

If you or your business is interested in sponsoring or lending financial support to the BSRF, please contact Will Toni at toni@sjbcommunity.ca



In the event of a severe weather emergency, all Catholic Schools will close if the Winnipeg school divisions close their schools. Listen for school closures on CBC, CJOB, 99.9 FM, 94.3, 102.3 FM and 103 FM. In case of an emergency that requires us to evacuate, students will go to École J.B. Mitchell. E-Blasts and/or website messages will be available in the case of any school closure or evacuation.



St. John Brebeuf School

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