



St. John Brebeuf Schoolconnection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ



Christmas Gifts That Make a Difference

The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions work for the betterment of some of the poorest and most marginalized people in the world through their annual Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference campaign. This year, their campaign is seeking funding to support two projects:

India Northeast Project – supporting the basic needs of approximately forty families including poor single mothers with their children, as well as orphans, who have been unduly traumatized by the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to pandemic restrictions, most have lost their meagre earnings as house servants or street vendors, and have been pushed to the brink of starvation. Without money to purchase supplies and needed medicines, these families are battling for their survival. Funding for this project will enable the RNDM sisters to purchase food grains, vitamins and other nutritious staples, as well as blankets, children's clothing, and distribute masks, to these families. Your gift to them will help to meet their basic needs and will bring new hope and possibility to their lives.

Vietnam Project – to provide opportunity for the education of sixty destitute indigenous children in the Minh Hung community. These children live in remote villages with no local schools available. For four months of the year, families can labor to make a living from subsistence agriculture on dry, hard land they do not own. In the remaining months they forage the forest for food. Two RNDM sisters provide a hostel/shelter for children to live in town where they can attend school. They are welcomed at the hostel for five years to finish their primary school studies. After completing their primary education, children are directed to secondary school or career training, depending on their ability and age. The shelter is in need of financial resources to continue providing the children with food, school fees and clothing. Your support will make a difference now and for the children's future.

The St. John Brebeuf School community has provided tremendous support to this campaign over the past few years. Please consider donating to one or both of their initiatives this year. Our goal as a school is to raise \$4000, approximately \$15.00 per student. When donating on-line at <http://www.rndmcanada.org/donateform.html> please make sure to write St. John Brebeuf School in the special message section of their donation page so we can track our efforts. Monetary donations can be sent to school with your child. All donations go directly to the projects listed, there are no fees or overheads taken off your donation amount.

St. John Brebeuf Parish Christmas Worship Schedule

Friday, December 24

Vigil: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
5pm Christmas Eve Mass (Reservations required)
9pm Christmas Eve Mass (Reservations required)

Saturday, December 25

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
10am Christmas Mass (Reservations required)

For further information, please visit the
St. John Brebeuf Parish website
www.sjbccommunity.ca



Christmas Hampers

This month, our school is once again working with the N.E.E.D.S Centre to provide Christmas hampers to newly arrived refugee families. A reminder to please send the assigned food item, labelled/wrapped gift, and \$2 donation to school by Thursday, December 16.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness which will help make a difference in the lives of many families this Christmas.



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 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.

In this season of warmth and generosity, thoughts inevitably turn to social justice, a cornerstone of our programming here at St. John Brebeuf School. Please consider supporting our two Christmas initiatives (one local and one international): the N.E.E.D.S Center and the *Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference* campaign. The N.E.E.D.S Centre supports newly arrived refugee families in Winnipeg, and each class will once again be responsible for providing a hamper to a family. Run by the Sister of the Missions, Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference provides critical assistance in improving the standard of living for some of the most marginalized and impoverished people in our world. Donations can be made on-line or sent to school with your child.

Our classes have been working hard rehearsing for our Christmas video that will be filmed on December 8th in lieu of our Christmas concert. Stay tuned for the release date to see your child's Christmas performance this year!

Life at the school continues to slowly return to a more normal experience. PAC will be hosting the traditional pancake breakfast on December 22nd, in a modified form. In January, we look forward to the return of junior high sports, the milk program, and the reintroduction of field trips. As always, the school will be diligent in following public health orders in regards to all programming, and plans are subject to change depending upon these orders.

Wishing you all the best of the season,

Cara Campbell

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Welcome to December!!!! We've almost made it to the end of 2021. I think it's time to pat each other on the back for persevering and doing what we can to stay healthy, happy and back into school life!

We have had yet another amazing few months at St John Brebeuf School. Along with the hundreds of lunches we have handed out, our wine raffle was an enormous success! We raised over \$7,000 almost completely done by the generosity of donations, sold books and hours of volunteering.

Kim, our event planner, surprised the kids with our first Sucker Day and bookmarks, reminding the kids that they are unique, special and to reach for their dreams.

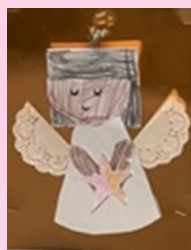
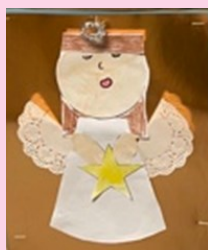
The music room finally heard some sound on the walls. Thank you to our past parent advisory committee and parent support for contributing to the redesign and enhancement of this space. From what I hear (pun intended) it's been loved by teachers and students alike.

We cannot wait to host the Pancake Breakfast with Santa! It's such a fun day for everyone and a cherished tradition at the school. Thank you to all the parents who signed up on the PAC portal to volunteer.

Coming into the Christmas season, I would love to just instill a huge sense of peace, gratitude and joy to everyone. If these past few months have shown me anything, it's that the human spirit is alive and well in our school halls and parent body. We can't wait to keep bringing smiles to the students in the months to come.

On behalf of everyone on PAC, Merry Christmas! Wishing you the very best this holiday season.

Bernita Mottola
SJB PAC Chair



GR.2 THE FIRST NOEL ARTWORK



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE VIRTUES AT ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL - 2002 TO 2022

The Virtues Project is a global grassroots initiative with a mission to provide empowering strategies that inspire the practice of virtues, the gifts of character, in everyday life.

St. John Brebeuf School has celebrated the virtues since 2002. Each year new virtues are selected, and each becomes the focus of our monthly practices.

For more information on the Virtues Project, please visit www.virtuesproject.com.

Hope (September): *Hope is...placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1817).*

Courage (October): *I have courage. I am willing to try new things. I admit mistakes and learn from them. I listen to my heart. I have the courage to do the right thing.*

Respect (November): *I am respectful. I treat others and myself as we deserve to be treated. I show courtesy to everyone. I learn from the wisdom of my elders.*

Unity (December): *I am in unity with others. I appreciate differences. I do not support prejudice. I am a peacemaker. I care for the earth and all living things.*

Love (January): *I am a loving person. I show my love with thoughtful acts, kind words and affection. I treat others the way I wanted to be treated.*

Responsibility (February): *I am responsible. I give my best to all that I do and keep my agreements. I learn from my mistakes. I am willing to make amends.*

Service (March): *I look for opportunities to be of service. I do not wait to be asked. I am thoughtful of others. I make a difference in the world.*

Compassion and Empathy (April): *I have compassion. I notice when someone is hurt or needs my help. I take the time to show that I care.*

Cooperation (May): *I am cooperative. I work and play well with others. I respect the rules. I keep myself and others safe.*

Justice (June): *I act with justice. I stand up for the rights of others and myself. I have no need to pretend or defend. I choose to make amends.*



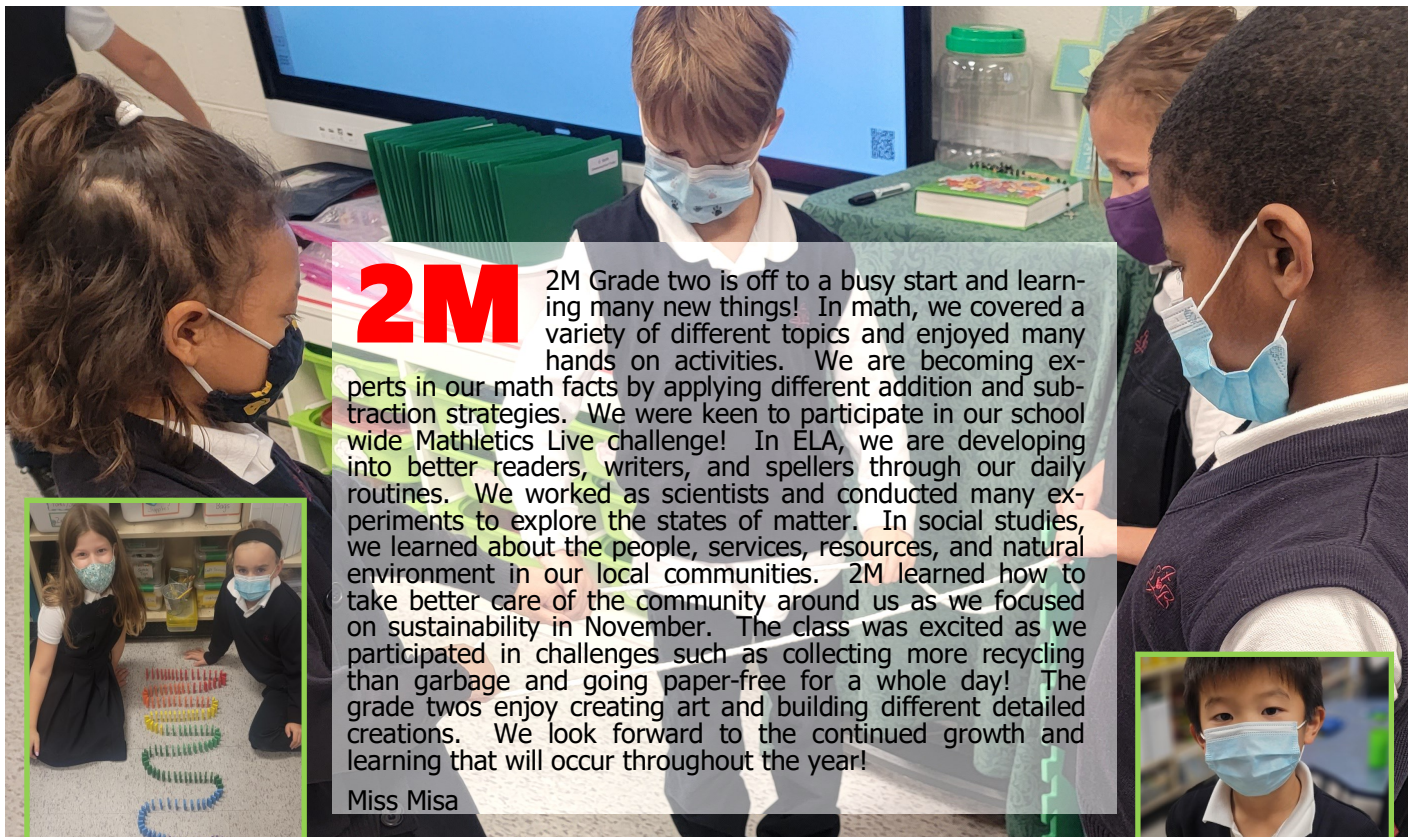
WELCOME TO THE ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Hello newsletter readers! My name is David Beyette and I am delighted to be teaching grades 7 and 8, here at St. John Brebeuf School. I am a graduate from the University of Winnipeg, specializing in English Language Arts, Basic French, and Social Studies. Though I was born and raised in Manitoba, I also taught English, to children of all ages, in Japan and South Korea for a total of 12 years. In my spare time, I like to spend time with my wife and four sons, enjoying the outdoors, watching movies, and playing board games. It is wonderful to be here, as a new member of the vibrant and caring St. John Brebeuf community!



BASC

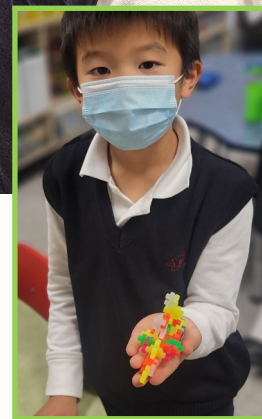
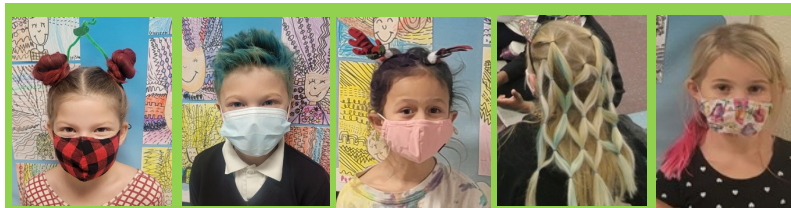
The St. John Brebeuf School supervised Before and After Care program is available to all registered students with a completed BASC registration form. Families wishing to use BASC must submit a BASC registration form in advance of use, as it provides important pick-up, contact and health information to the BASC supervisors. BASC hours are from 7:30-8:30am and 3:20-5:30pm on school days. Application forms for the current school year are available on the school website or from the school office.



2M

2M Grade two is off to a busy start and learning many new things! In math, we covered a variety of different topics and enjoyed many hands on activities. We are becoming experts in our math facts by applying different addition and subtraction strategies. We were keen to participate in our school wide Mathletics Live challenge! In ELA, we are developing into better readers, writers, and spellers through our daily routines. We worked as scientists and conducted many experiments to explore the states of matter. In social studies, we learned about the people, services, resources, and natural environment in our local communities. 2M learned how to take better care of the community around us as we focused on sustainability in November. The class was excited as we participated in challenges such as collecting more recycling than garbage and going paper-free for a whole day! The grade twos enjoy creating art and building different detailed creations. We look forward to the continued growth and learning that will occur throughout the year!

Miss Misa

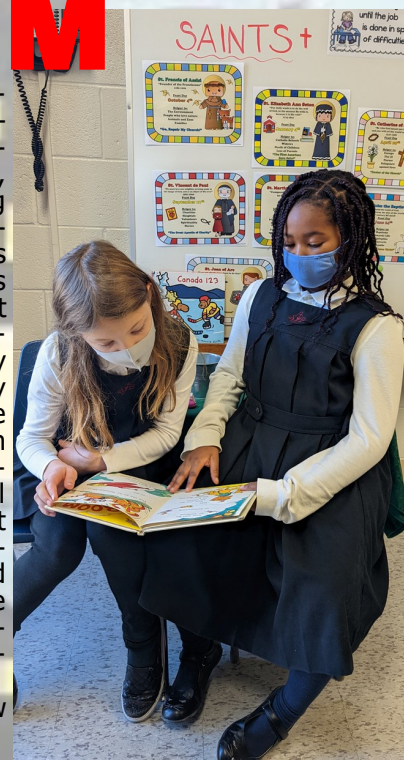
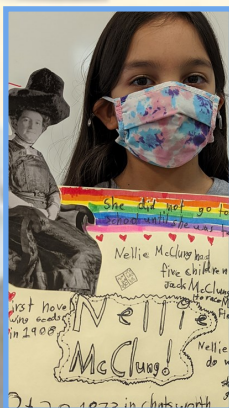
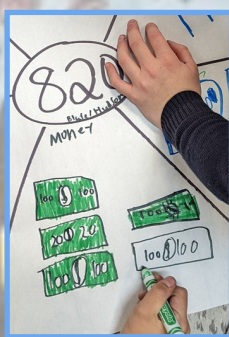


Hello from 3M!

3M

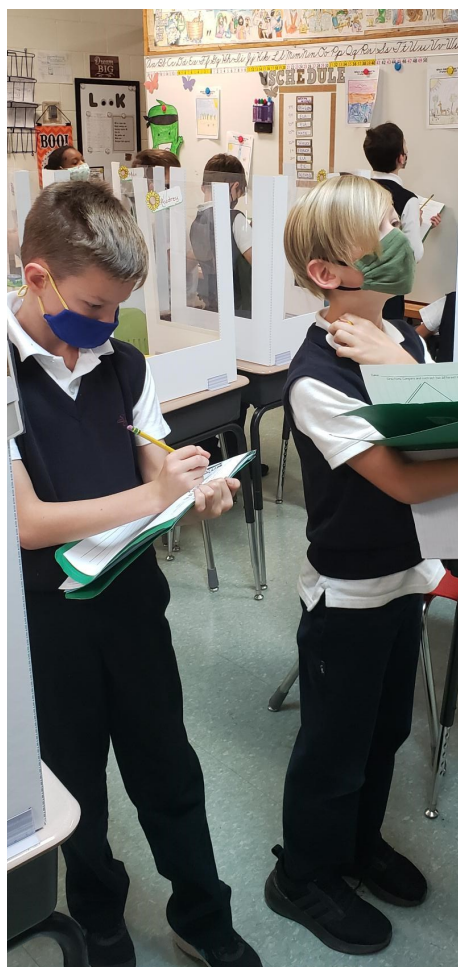
The school year is into full swing with lots of learning, exploring, and growing as learners. Since the beginning of the year, students have been participating in writer's workshop, reader's workshop, and creating fun projects. So far in math we have practiced patterns, addition and subtraction strategies, and working with numbers to 1000! In language arts, students have enjoyed exploring non-fiction texts and studying non-fiction text elements. 3M is filled with amazing writers who wrote expert books that taught us so much about various topics. We also finished our first novel study 'Superfudge' that had us all laughing at the silly characters and their antics. In October, the grade threes completed a wonderful research project in social studies about a famous Canadian. Each and every student did such a wonderful job presenting his or her poster! Over the past few weeks the students have been making model replicas of famous structures around the world using modelling clay. Structures like The Statue of Liberty, Coliseum, and Big Ben look so realistic! Every day is a new day to expand our understanding of the beautiful world we live in. 3M wishes a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all families.

Mrs. Moran



4K The last few months have been busy learning periods for the students. Students have been researching and studying the provinces and territories of Canada. Students are able to locate them on a map of Canada along with the capital cities. The students presented posters about a province or territory to the class and learned some fun facts about them in the process. In math, we have learned about estimation, addition, and subtraction. We are now looking forward to our new unit on measurement. Students are excited to be using rulers and measuring things around the classroom. In science, we finished our unit on habitats and communities and students are now preparing their dioramas about an animal of their choice. This will be their final project before the break. In language arts, students have been studying the novel "Charlotte's Web" and enjoying the connection to our science unit on animals. In writing students are practicing persuasive writing to use convincing language. We had guest police officer from the Winnipeg Police Service to talk to the students about online safety. Students had many questions and enjoyed the discussion. The Christmas season is upon us. We have been learning about Lent and preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Students helped to decorate the classroom and have been working hard on their Christmas concert art which will be showcased during their performance of "Mary's Boy Child". Students are excited to be helping to serve our community this season by providing a hamper for a family in need. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us in 4K!

Mrs. Karlaftis



4C In grade four this year, we are passionate about cultivating a love for life-long learning. Therefore, we were extremely excited to be able to kick off our first S.T.E.A.M, activity during the last week of October. Someone once said, "From small beginnings comes great things". In our class we don't do easy. We make easy happen through hard work and learning. That is why the ability to think critically, learn new concepts, and adapt quickly to new technologies will never get old. The grade four's pursuit into S.T.E.A.M, is a combination of project based learning and gaming concepts strictly focused on science, technology, engineering, art, and math. We, as a class, are constantly changing, learning, and growing. In both math and language arts we have learning how to use concepts effectively in class as well as apply them to our daily lives through units such as estimation, using mental math strategies, and TUSC. We might not be ready to go shopping in a grocery store and try to stay within a budget or speak at a school assembly but we definitely are making great strides to getting there. In science and social studies we have learned about living things, our environment, habitats, our wonderful country of Canada, and the importance of being a good citizen. As a final pursuit to our passion we have discovered our artistic and compassionate sides through our Advent journey and love of drawing. Our grade 4 journey is always changing and continuous, it winds, weaves, curves and at times can be unpredictable but we are excited to continue on our quest of learning with our grade 4 classmates and teacher. Looking forward at what the rest of the year holds in store for us and the great accomplishments ahead.

Ms. Chilelli



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

There is a plethora of exciting news coming out of the music room in the past few months! The most exciting news is that we have access to a new and improved Music Room! It has gotten a wonderful upgrade to looks and functionality, and the final touches of choir risers and a new carpet will be put in at the beginning of the new year!

With access to the music room and basement, many music clubs have started! The Mass Choir had their first video performance for our Remembrance Day ceremony on November 10. We have also started a few new clubs: Music Technology club (grades 6-8) with Ms. Hill and Songwriting club (grades 5-8) with Mrs. Wolfe. The full club schedule will be coming after the Christmas video production wraps up in mid December.

The classes have been working very hard, and I'm very excited about the upcoming Christmas video! We have a professional production crew working with us, and I had a great time listening, analyzing and adapting different recordings of the songs each class will be singing. Along with each class/grade, there will be a song by the Mass Choir, narration by the grade 8 students, art-work by each class and a finale featuring the entire student body and staff! Thank you to Ms. Campbell and Mrs. Miranda, the Special Events Committee, Mrs. Moskalyk, and everyone else who has been involved with this project!

Finally, SJB Idol will be returning for grade 5-8 students on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd. We will be using the Zoom format again this year, so please work on your talents and get your videos in by Monday, Dec. 20th. More information on submitting videos will be coming via Seesaw or Google Classroom.

Mr. Frykas

REGISTRATION

The 2021-22 registration deadline for Kindergarten and for new students in grades 1-8 is Monday, February 28th.

Families with children already attending St. John Brebeuf School who wish to register another child are asked to submit the application form available on the school website at www.sjbschool.ca

Please share this information with any families interested in our school.

Re-registration packages for existing St. John Brebeuf students will be distributed on Monday January 31st, and are due back to the school on Monday, February 7th, 2022.



WACKY HAIR DAY



Scholastic Book Fair!

January 31- February 3

All your favorite authors! All your favorite series! All your favorite characters!

BOBCAT BEAT!

Tansi

We first acknowledge and honor that we reside on treaty one territory, traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.



We are almost in the winter season. It sure does feel like winter instead of fall. Over the fall we have been learning about honesty and humility. We have been learning that it is ok to win but not to brag. We have been learning that it is ok to lose because we learn how to work harder next time. We have been learning that it is ok to make mistakes when we are on a team because no one is perfect. Most of all we are learning to have fun and have an understanding that physical activity is important for our health and well-being.

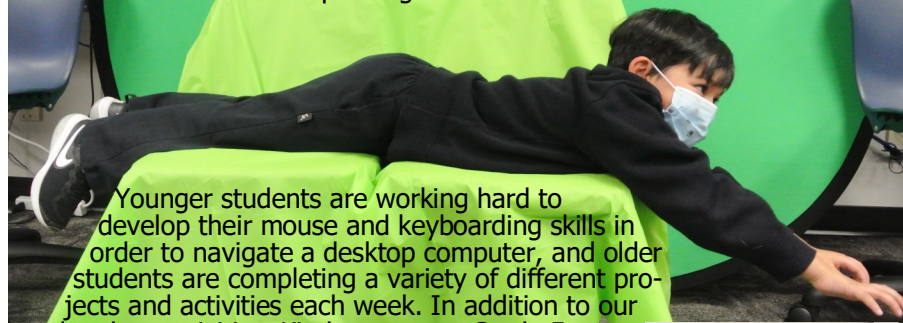
Some of the sports we have covered over the fall were volleyball, floor hockey, tag games, team building activities. We are now beginning to shift into catching and throwing activities, and baseball. I would love to send a huge shout out to our grade eight boys for taking on a leadership role during the floor hockey season. They have demonstrated leadership qualities that I know they will take with them on their new adventures outside of St. John Brebeuf.

As we enter into the winter season I am wishing all families peace love and prosperity. God Bless!
Mrs. Carter



TECHNOLOGY

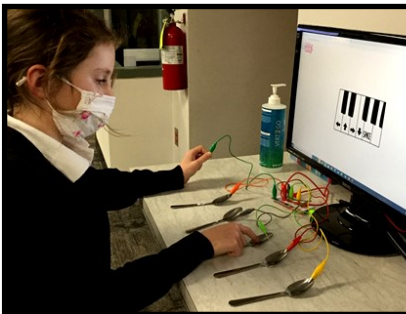
It is wonderful to be back in the computer lab for technology classes! Students are showing great enthusiasm and are having lots of fun in the space again!



Younger students are working hard to develop their mouse and keyboarding skills in order to navigate a desktop computer, and older students are completing a variety of different projects and activities each week. In addition to our regular class activities, Kindergarten to Grade 5 students have access to the 'Keyboarding Without Tears' program at home and at school. Grades 6-8 students are using a different program called 'Typing Club' to advance their typing speed and accuracy.

I am really proud of the perseverance and creativity that students are demonstrating in the lab so far, and look forward to the rest of the school year!

Miss Hill



FRENCH

Bonjour tout le monde!

I am very excited to announce that French classes have resumed in the French room. Hourra!

It is wonderful to have our students once again submersed in the French language. There are several posters, pictures and vocabulary around the room to keep them thinking about "Le Français"!

Now that December has arrived, classes have been focusing on "Le Noel" vocabulary. Many fun Christmas projects will be taking place en Français.

J'espère que vous aurez un Joyeux Noel et une bonne année.

Mme Bector



GRADE 8S EXPLODING PUMPKINS



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 FM, 102.3 FM and 103 FM. In case of an emergency that requires us to evacuate, students will go to Ecole J.B. Mitchell. E-blasts and/or website messages will be available in the case of any school closure or evacuation.



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