

# G.R.C.C.S. News

October 2011

GERARD REDMOND COMMUNITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Grades 5-12

"Ever Growing, Living and Learning in Christ"



## School Information

*Principal-*

Mr. Tim Fafard

*Assistant Principal –*

Mrs. Marlys Phillips

*Family School Liaison*

Mr. Randy Smith

*School Phone Number*

780-865-2820

*Safe Arrival*

780-865-5328

*School Fax number*

780-865-1444

*Website*

[www.grccs.ca](http://www.grccs.ca)

**Memo:**

*The Holy Grill is being run by  
Mrs. K. Goudrian.*

## News from the Admin

We feel truly blessed to have such a caring student body. Your children rose over \$5200.00 for our annual Terry Fox Walk which is dedicated to research cures for cancer. Special recognition goes to Lochlan Hewitt whose individual efforts raised \$870.00. For his efforts he receives a pair of Oiler tickets to watch them play the LA Kings later this winter. We should also mention that Wyatt Bohning came in a close second having raised \$857.00. Excellent effort from both of them.

We are excited to have 5 senior high students attending the Peter Mansbridge evening which will allow them to listen to a very engaging speaker about leadership on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> and with Thanksgiving fast approaching, please take a moment to consider dropping off some non-perishable food item to the school that we can deliver to the food bank on your behalf.

You should be receiving an order form and more details via e-mail (and from your child) for our first annual Fruit Fund Raiser taking place Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser will assist us financially to cover associated transportation costs for the many opportunities students have at GRCCS to expand their learning .

Just a reminder to keep informed with your child's progress via Home Logic, our web-based reporting format. Each family has been set-up with their own password that will allow them to view grades, attendance, completed or missed assignments and upcoming events or projects. If you do not have access, please don't hesitate to call the school for more information.

Lastly, we would encourage all parents to become involved at our school in any capacity, from being a volunteer supervisor to becoming a member of our parent council, or to simply being in attendance at any of our liturgies or sporting events. Your presence here really sends a message to our students that we care about them and the success of our school is built on these partnerships between school and home. We really appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing everyone here and sharing your skills with us.

Sincerely,

Mr. T Fafard

Mrs.M.Phillips

## Counselor's Corner for October 2011

*Okay, I am in high school now and I have to start thinking about what I want to do after I graduate.....where do I begin?* This is a common thought for most high school students. Generally, there are five different steps that every individual needs to take when debating what type of occupation and program is right for them. First of all, students need to determine what they really want in life. Students need to look at their own interests, abilities and values before they can match it up with career path that will suit them. The Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) website is an excellent self-assessment resource. Once students have completed some self-assessments, they need to do some research on the types of occupations that are available so that they can find one that suits their needs. As well, they can conduct interviews with people in those fields and volunteer as a way to get first-hand experience of what that occupation is really like. Once one has done some research and narrowed his/her choices to a few occupations, it is time to examine one's options more closely. It is time to research the different institutions and determine what program best suits you based on your occupation choices. The last two steps require you to decide which specific program you would like to be enrolled in (the publication *Time to Choose* summarizes this information very nicely) and to always have a back-up plan in mind. Our lives are always changing and we need to be flexible in case we need to make changes with our career choices.

There are thousands of scholarships available to high school students. Some scholarships are open to students once they enroll in a post-secondary institution; however, most scholarships are available to those students who are willing to put some time and effort into completing application forms. Most scholarships are based on a student's academic abilities or leadership qualities or volunteer experience. In many cases students do not qualify for scholarships if they do not enroll in a post secondary institution immediately following graduation.

What would you do with \$70 000? The **TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership** is available to graduating students who are planning to go to post-secondary school in the fall of 2012. Students must write a 600 word essay describing their community leadership involvement and submit the application form and recommendation letters by October 31, 2011. Please ask Mrs. Phillips for an application form or go to [www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship](http://www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship).

The **Fireside Catholic Publishing Organization** is a \$1000 scholarship for any students who are registered in a Catholic high school. Students must write a 750 word essay on "*How is your religious education influencing your life?*". The application and essay must be given to Mrs. Phillips by November 30<sup>th</sup> so that the school can forward one application.

The **Bourse Loran Award** is available to students who demonstrate character, promise of leadership and strong commitment to service in the community. There are over 112 cash awards with up to \$75 000 in prizes. Students need to be in grade 12 with an average of 85% or higher throughout high school and who intend to go to a post-secondary institution in the fall of 2012 at one of the various Canadian universities. Please see Mrs. Phillips for an application form or go to [www.loranaward.ca](http://www.loranaward.ca). Our school can submit three candidates by October 19<sup>th</sup>. All applicants can sent one directly by October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Students are also encouraged to go to [www.alis.alberta.ca/scholarships](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/scholarships) to search over 450 scholarships, grants, bursaries and awards listed there.

## **Student Council Executive**

Our school's SRC main function is to promote and foster positive student interactions and provide opportunities for our student body to participate in events and challenges that will promote social interaction, school pride and leadership skills in our students.

I would like to introduce our executive council for the 2011-2012 school year:

**President: Clare Jones**

**Vice-President: Nick Kwasney**

**Secretary: Emily Wilson**

**Social Conveyor: Rhiann Lougheed**

**Asst. Social Conveyor: Andrew Newman**

**Male Athletic Rep: Tyler Murray**

**Female Athletic Rep: Mariah Barnaby-Norris**

**SRC member at large: Laura Thommasson**

## **Cross Country Running**

Having trained for the month of September, the Junior Boys' Cross-Country Running Team wrapped up their season competing in the Holy Redeemer Invitational (Junior Zones) on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. Competing this season were Graeme Jones, in the 12 year old age division, and Carter Gorzitza, Clark Jones, and Mark Unruh in the 14 year old age division. Two runners placed in the top ten, Mark Unruh placing fourth and Carter Gorzitza placing seventh. Thanks to all those who participated this season and we look forward to seeing you again next fall.

Coaches:

Sean Kearney

Angelo Delli-Santi

## **Junior Boys Volleyball**

The junior boy's volleyball season has started out quite well. We started the season playing HCHS and although we ended up losing, however the boys played quite well. Our next two games were against Holy Redeemer in Edson and then we played at home against Jasper. Both of these games the boys played extremely well, winning for the first three sets. Please keep an eye on our athletics website where you can find a schedule of our games and tournaments. And you are always welcome to come out and support our Raiders!

-Coach Koops

## **Pep Rally Excitement!**

Come out and cheer on our Raider teams on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> in the gym. The pep rally and cheer performances will begin at 12:20 and the center court volleyball game starts at 2:00. Show your Raider spirit by wearing our school colours!

### **Cheer Schedule:**

Grade 5 and Junior Cheerleaders:

October 4, 6, 11 and 13 from 6:00 to 7:15.

### **After October 13**

#### **Grade 5 Cheerleaders:**

October 18-December 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays and Fridays @ 11:50 in the gym

#### **Junior Cheerleaders:**

October 18-March Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:15.

#### **Senior Cheerleaders:**

October 4<sup>th</sup>-March 7:00-8:45 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

## **Senior Boys Volleyball**

This past weekend the Senior Boys Volleyball season officially got under way. The boys had a great start taking the first two sets against Swan Hills and worked their way to a split decision against the home team Barrhead. The boys played very well and maintained their enthusiasm to the very last game of the tournament. Only the top two teams advanced to play off for medals, however they managed to seat themselves in a very respectable three way tie for third place. The boys have been practicing hard and should see the fruits of their labour pay off soon. The boys have an exhibition match against Jasper on Wednesday and then it is off to Westlock to for the second tournament of the season. All the best boys!

Mr. P Weidman

Senior Mathematics & Religious Studies Co-ordinator  
Gerard Redmond Community Catholic School Avid Leafs  
Fan

### June PAT Results

The following data is the overall combined results for both the grade 6 and 9 PAT's written last year. We have shown significant improvement over the past 3 years and we are extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students and of our staff that are responsible for their learning.

#### Grade 6 PAT Results

PAT Standards	GRCCS	Province
Acceptable Standard	82.3	75.6
Standard of Excellence	26.2	20.0
Below Acceptable Standard	2.3	14.5

#### Grade 9 PAT Results

PAT Standards	GRCCS	Province
Acceptable Standard	74.4	71.05
Standard of Excellence	10.6	18.3
Below Acceptable Standard	18.0	17.6

### Fundraiser for Europe

The students who are participating in the Europe 2013 trip have started a new fundraiser – Epicure's Extraordinary Cheese Dip. For only \$20 you will receive three versatile dip seasonings (Cheese, Chive & Bacon; 3 Onion; and Lemon Dilly), a colour recipe booklet, and a reusable bag. The seasonings can be used on their own or mixed together to make an amazing baked dip everyone is sure to love.

If you are interested in purchasing an Extraordinary Cheese Dip you can either pick one up at the office, call the school to arrange delivery, or contact Shauna Koopmans at [skoopmans@ecsr.ca](mailto:skoopmans@ecsr.ca).

### Grade 9 Link-Ages Program

The LINK-AGES program is a cross – generational opportunity that encourages the youth of our school to meet and explore friendships with their older generation cohorts from some of the senior homes located locally here in Hinton. Our school believes that this program is a great fit for our social justice and stewardship goals that we promote and it provides our students with additional opportunities to be engaged within our community and make a difference in the lives of the people who live in Hinton.

In the past, the Link-Ages program has allowed our students to become more empathetic and interactive with their elders due to the cross generational environment that it promotes. It has allowed our students to build up their confidence and self-esteem when communicating and interacting with their "clients" as they feel that what they have to offer is valued and seen as an important part of their client's lives. We are very excited this year to have selected 14 grade 9 students to participate in this program and it begins Oct 24<sup>th</sup> and runs all year long.

*Happy Thanksgiving*



## **Checkout our New Website**

All our parents and students are encouraged to check out our new website. Below you will find some helpful hints to get around this website:

- *Teacher sites can be found under the tab -Students*
- *Home Logic – Left side of webpage – call school if you need a login.*
- *Sports Calendar – Click on Raiders Symbol*
- *School year Calendar – under Calendar Tab*
- *Event pictures – in gallery*
- *Downloads – Newsletters, resources , order forms for hot lunches, Study Keys, resources*

*We will work hard to keep our website up to date. If you feel something is missing or you would like to see added please feel free to contact the office of the school.*

**[www.grccs.ca](http://www.grccs.ca)**

## **Dress Code**

As the summer weather continues, it is important to remind students that Gerard Redmond expects modest dress while attending school. A general understanding to guide your decisions is that if you wouldn't wear your outfit to work or to church, you should not wear it to school. We ask that parents support this request and make sure they reinforce the general guidelines for dress described below:

-Length of shorts and skirts – appropriate modest length is required

- No halter tops, spaghetti straps, low cut or one shoulder shirts.

- No crop tops. - No inappropriate logos, slogans; sayings.

- No low-waist hip style pants that expose the midriff or the backside.

- Hats & Hoodies taken off in school.

Students who violate dress code will be asked to change into something appropriate immediately or will be sent home to change.