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Ryan Sikkes, Principal Jeanette Gallant, Vice-Principal

December 2016

God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.
God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the centre, the focus of our lives
always, and particularly this Advent time. *Amen*

Advent
Hope · Love · Joy · Peace



For the latest news and
information, please visit
our school's website:

WWW.VCSS.CA

Principal's Message

As the days of advent wind to a close, we are joyfully rewarded by Christmas—the birth of our Savior—and the subsequent Christmas season to reflect on the great gift God gave us in Jesus Christ. As the prayer on this page says, Jesus is a sign of God's love, peace, and joy for us all.

The last few weeks have seen much love, peace, and joy as our students have been participating in our annual Share the Spirit Campaign to help raise funds for families in need in our community. We were able to purchase gifts for over 50 children and contribute our excess cash to the campaign as well!

In our homerooms, students competed against each other to see who could create the best decorated classroom door—there was an exciting buzz of teamwork and communication as each homeroom worked to plan and execute the best design. The winning doors were chosen by Mme. Taillefer (our superintendent), Ms. Gallant and myself—it was a tough choice and we appreciated all the hard work from our students.

Another joyful event was the birth of Mr. Jackson' and Ms. Ng's daughter, Ilze, who was born on Tuesday, December 6. We wish this newly expanded family all the best as they celebrate their first Christmas together and during the continued growth and development of baby Ilze!

Finally, we are hoping to provide additional seating in the hallways and outside for our students by purchasing new benches and picnic tables. This will be financed through the sale of our Booster Cards which were distributed to students late last week. We expect all students to sell two cards or return them unsold to the office as soon as possible. This year's card has been expanded to include some "one time offers" that are very generous along with our usual "year-long" offers. We are so grateful for the support of the community businesses who sponsor the cards.

On behalf of the staff and administration of Vanier Catholic Secondary, I wish you all a Christmas season full of love, peace,

Dates to note— November—April

The official 2016-2017 School Calendar can be accessed online at the Yukon Education website.



Monday, January 2—Statutory Holiday—No School
Tuesday, January 3—First day of School
Thursday, January 12—Class Photos
Wednesday, January 18—Christian Unity Celebration
Thursday, January 19— Fine Arts/Applied Skills Night
Friday, January 20—Last day of Term 2
Monday, January 23-27—Exam Week
Monday, January 30—First day of Term 3
Wednesday February 8-15—Ottawa Music Trip
Friday, February 24—Heritage Day—No School
Tuesday, February 28—Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday, March 1—Ash Wednesday Celebration
Wednesday, March 8—Secondaire et Spectacle
Friday, March 10—Interim Reports Mailed Home
Thursday, March 16—Locker Clean Out
March 20—March 31—Spring Break
April 6-13—Review Week
April 7-8—Think Fast
Thursday, April 13—Term 3 concludes
Thursday, April 13—Stations of the Cross
Friday, April 14—Good Friday—No School
Monday, April 17—Easter Monday—No School

School Council Corner

The members of our current council are

Valerie Royle, chair
Edith Elder
Michael Lauer
Stella Martin
Maureen Long

The next Vanier Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 17.

Learning Commons News

A world of beautiful bookmarks!

Every October, the Vanier Learning Commons holds a bookmark contest to celebrate School Library Month. Each year, we are stunned by the creativity demonstrated by our students. This year was no exception. Winner Jenika Lindley drew a lovely, whimsical scene of imagination, fairies and reading. Our second and third place winners are the equally talented Taliya Lindley and Morgan Iskra. Thank you to our judges Mr. Susin, Ms. Hart and Mr. Janzen and to all the students who worked so hard on their entries!

An added touch to this year's contest was a bookmark exchange that we have entered into with four schools in Croatia. These schools are located in the Croatian cities of Budasevo, Smokvica, Klenovnik, and Vrgorac. We haven't yet received their bookmarks yet but ours have been sent off along with a Powerpoint describing our school and the city of Whitehorse. Who knows, maybe we can hand-deliver our bookmarks to Croatia next year!!

New books, new books, new books



VANIER SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB NEWS

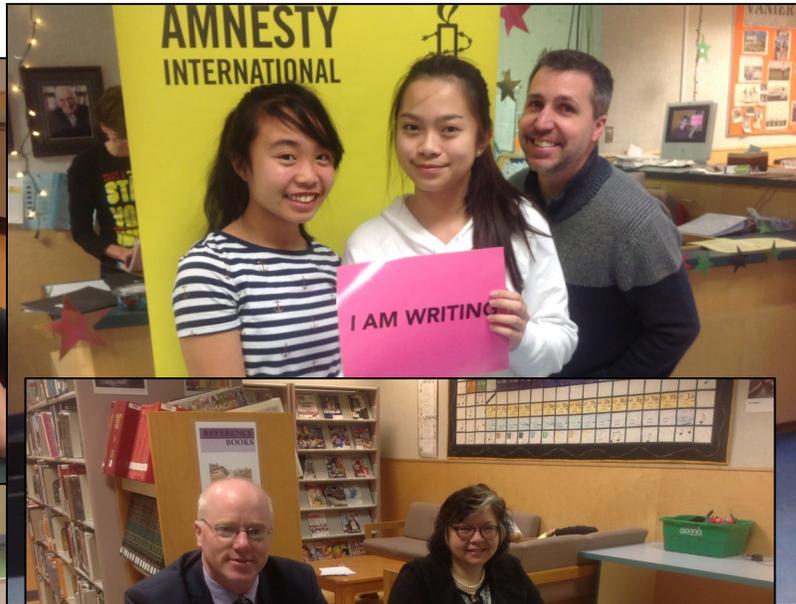
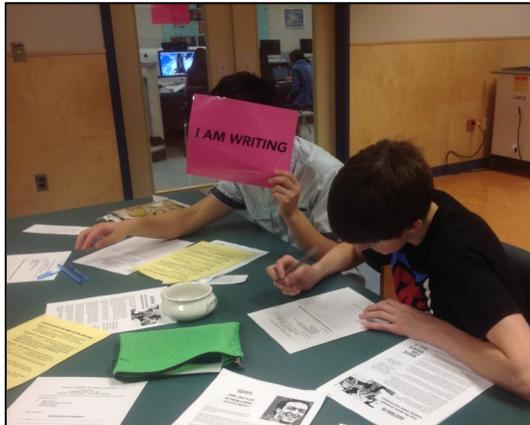
Celebrating Human Rights by WRITING FOR RIGHTS

Write for Rights is Amnesty International's most exciting event of the year. Vanier students joined concerned people across Canada and around the world by writing letters to support people whose human rights are being violated. *Write for Rights* is generally held on December 10th - **International Human Rights Day**, but since this fell on a Saturday, we wrote on Friday and Monday. At the end of our two day event, Vanier's mail box contained 122 handwritten letters!

You may ask, "Why write letters?". Amnesty International began writing letters in 1961 and has found that this action creates public pressure to stop governments from committing human rights abuses. When a load of letters arrive at a government office, governments are put on notice that the world is watching them. Letters also provide support to those affected by this abuse - we are in solidarity with them and we care.

This year we wrote to the government in Malawi to urge them to protect a 10 year old girl named Annie Alfred who is an albino. Her life is at risk by people who think she possesses magical powers.

Letter-writing works – a third of the Amnesty



In addition to the hard work of our students, we were pleased to be joined by our two Riverdale MLAs—Speaker-elect Nils Clarke and Minister of Education Tracy-Anne McPhee.

Crusaders Athletics

Volleyball

Well, what can we say about the Vanier volleyball coming to a close for the 2016 volleyball season. We can say that the season was another successful one for our small high school. After the Dawson Invitational back at the end of October, where the 9/10 Boys won the gold and the Sr. Girls were Silver medalists, our volleyball teams prepared themselves for the YSSA volleyball Championships. Despite injuries, sickness, and bad timing, your Crusaders managed to come away the following in the YSSA

Championships:

- Gr. 8 Girls Gold
- Gr. 8 Boys Silver
- 9/10 Girls Silver
- 9/10 Boys Gold
- Sr. Girls Bronze
- Sr. Boys 4th



Supervolley

AllStars:

- Erin McBryan
- Mia Kremer
- Alicia Kremer
- Skye Hanson
- Isabel Magsucang
- Daniel Moses
- Jesse McCuaig
- Leo Bardubitzki

YSSA Championship AllStars:

- 9/10 Boys- Arcel Siosan MVP
- Sr. Girls - Skye Hanson
- Sr. Boys - Jared Morgan

Again, pretty darn good for a small school!

Congratulations to all the volleyball athletes, coaches, and support staff for all of your time and effort in making Vanier a competitive and respectful school.

Basketball season is well underway and all teams have already competed in their opening tournaments.

Basketball season always seems short as the season ends before Spring Break.



The basketball teams are coached by:

- Gr. 8 Girls - Jason McArthur/Darren Susin/Joe Stewart
- Gr. 8 Boys - Dave Thomson
- Gr. 9/10 Girls - Stefans Jackson
- Gr. 9/10 Boys - Erik Gray/Daniel Earl
- Sr. Girls - Sarah Crane/Diedre Davidson/Sheena Greenlaw
- Sr. Boys - Sean McCarron/Zach Giczi/Dominic Gibson

Here is a list of events for our basketball teams:

January

- 9th Gr. 8 Girls Bball League games PC @ VAN
Gr. 8 Boys Bball League games VAN @ PC
- 11th 9/10 Bball League games VAN @ PC (G-3:45, B-5:00)
- 13th Super Hoops VAN @ PC (G-5, B-6:45)
- 16th Gr. 8 Girls Bball League games VAN @ FH
Gr. 8 Boys Bball League games FH @ VAN

February

- 2nd Super Hoops VAN @ FH (G-5, B-6:45)
- 6th Gr. 8 Girls Bball League games VAN @ PC
Gr. 8 Boys Bball League games PC @ VAN
- 8th 9/10 Bball League games VAN @ FH (G-3:45, B-5:00)
- 9th Super Hoops PC @ VAN (G-5, B-6:45)
- 10th Super Hoops FH @ VAN (G-5, B-6:45)
- 15th 9/10 Bball League games PC @ VAN (G-3:45, B-5:00)
- 17th – 18th Winter Classic Bball Tournament (8's @ FH; Jr.'s @ PC)
- 20th Gr. 8 Girls Bball League games FH @ VAN
Gr. 8 Boys Bball League games VAN @ FH
- 22nd 9/10 Bball League games FH @ VAN (G-3:45, B-5:00)

March

- 2nd Super Hoops Semi Final @ VAN (G-5, B-6:45)
- 3rd Super Hoops Final @ VAN (G-5, B-6:45)
- 9th – 11th 8 & 9/10 Bball Championships TBA
- 12th – 16th 11/12 Bball Championships TBA

Come on out and support your Vanier Teams!

If you have any questions or concerns, you can go to our Vanier Athletics web site <http://www.vesnet.vk.ca/schools/vanier/>



(from top) Vanier's contingent at the Dawson Invitational. Jr. Boys are the DIVT Champs! Jr. Boys continue as Yukon champs!

December 14, 2016

Dear Parents and Yukon school communities,

Re: Changes to exams in 2017

As you may have heard, British Columbia is making changes to its curriculum and the graduation requirements for students. Yukon schools follow B.C.'s curriculum and graduation program.

An important change is that B.C. is phasing out the provincial exams (BCPEs) for Math 10 (or equivalent), Language Arts 10 (or equivalent), Français langue première 10, Science 10, Social Studies 11 (or equivalent), English 12 (or equivalent), Français langue première 12 and Français langue seconde immersion 12.

B.C. will have two new provincial numeracy and literacy assessments to replace the BCPEs that will be the standard measures of student learning in the key skills of reading, writing, math and problem solving. The expected introduction of these assessments is in January 2018.

This year there will be a transition to the new graduation program:

<p>Grade 10 Students in 2016-17</p>	<p>Will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow most of the current graduation program requirements (80 credits). • Meet Math 10, Language Arts 10 (or equivalent), Science 10 and Social Studies 11 (or equivalent) requirements with in-class assessments instead of provincial exams. • Write a provincial numeracy and literacy assessment before graduation.
<p>Grade 11 Students in 2016-17</p>	<p>Will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have completed Math 10, Language Arts 10 (or equivalent) and Science 10 (or equivalent) and have written these provincial exams. • Meet Social Studies 11 (or equivalent) graduation requirements with in-class assessments instead of a provincial exam.

Grade 12 Students in 2016-17	<p>Will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish all the current graduation program requirements. • Have completed Math 10, a Language Arts 10 (or equivalent), Science 10 and Social Studies 11 (or equivalent) and have written these provincial exams. • Take Language Arts 12 (or equivalent) and write the provincial exam (BC exams will not be offered after August of 2017). • Not write the new provincial numeracy and literacy assessments.
<p>Note: There are no changes to school calendars planned at this time. Each school will determine how to use the existing scheduled exam periods.</p>	

Courses and credits to graduate

There are no changes to the number of credits or courses required to graduate. They are the same as in the old graduation program. Yukon schools will assist students during the transition to make sure they understand what they need to complete in order to graduate.

Guidance and support will also be available to teachers to assist them in designing in-class assessments to meet the high standards we expect in the graduation program.

For further detail on the new graduation requirements, please visit:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation-info>.

Post-secondary entrance requirements

The B.C. Ministry of Education is working closely with the Yukon Department of Education and universities, colleges and other post-secondary institutions on these changes to make sure that the graduation program continues to meet entrance requirements.

Yukon Excellence Awards

There are no changes to the excellence awards at this time. Students will continue to qualify for these awards when they achieve an 80 per cent final grade in the qualifying courses. More information is available at: <http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/excellence-awards.html>.

More information on the curriculum changes and provincial assessments

From January to June 2017, Yukon Department of Education staff will be working with schools and partners to adapt the B.C. curriculum to include Yukon northern perspectives and Yukon First Nations culture and context. Implementation will begin for the Kindergarten to Grade 9 curriculum in September 2017. We are also continuing to work with B.C. to develop the new provincial

For more information on B.C.'s new curriculum, please visit: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>.

If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please contact your school.

Sincerely,



Nicole Morgan
ADM, Public Schools - Learning Branch

Exam Schedule - January 2017 (Dec.7)

Exams in Boldface cannot be written at other times. <i>Students who have exam conflicts need to let Ms. Gallant know as soon as possible.</i>					
	Monday January 23	Tuesday January 24	Wednesday January 25	Thursday January 26	Friday, January 27
9:00 – 12:00 Provincial Exam in Labs			Comm. 12 (E+P) (Library Lab)	English 12 (E+P) (Library and Photo Labs)	MAKE
9:00 – 11:00 Classrooms	Humanities 8	Essentials 8/9 French 8 English 10	Scimatics 8 Mechanics 10 (A)	Essentials 8/9 Mechanics 10 (B)	UP
9:00 – 11:00 In Gym	Humanities 9 FOM 11 Beg. Spanish 11	French 9 Biology 11 Pre-Cal 11 Pre-Cal 12	Scimatics 9 FMP 10	Physics 11 Socials 11 Social Justice 12 Mining 12	DAY
1:00 – 3:00 In Classrooms	Religion 11 French 10 Sc. Humaines 10				
1:00 – 3:00	Music Performance Exams in Band Room – students must schedule with Ms. Hart				
1:00 – 3:00 In Gym	Science 10 AWM 11/12 Chemistry 11	Socials 10 French 11 English 11	Religion 10 Comm. 11 Civics 11		