

Vanier Catholic Secondary

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Ryan Sikkes, principal Kyle Janzen, vice-principal

January 2014

Principal's Message

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you had a restful and relaxing Christmas Season and holiday break. This message is being written on Epiphany, or the day we celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the three magi, who offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The giving of these gifts is one of the reasons that we give presents at Christmas, but it is also a time to be thankful for the gifts that we receive as well.

The engagement of our students and their families in our school community continues to be a blessing for me. It's great to feel that the school and home are working in partnership for the well-being of our students. The encouragement and support that I've received from parents and students has been most appreciated by me personally.

Our school distinguished itself, again, over the advent season with the very successful fundraising for Typhoon Haiyan relief and for Share the Spirit – many thousands of dollars (much of which came from students' own pockets) was collected for these worthy causes.

Our success in these fundraisers also highlight a unifying force in our school: our collective commitment to the poor and marginalized in our community and throughout the world. This commitment is echoed in our Holy Father, Pope Francis' recent publication *Evangelii Gaudium*, which calls us all to think carefully about wealth is distributed.

Evangelii Gaudium focuses on sharing the joy of the Gospel so that all can know and attempt to understand the infinite love of God. It references the parable of the sower – one who plants seeds and has faith that many will take root and flourish. We often think of what we do at Vanier Catholic Secondary as "planting seeds" in the minds and hearts of all who spend time here – students and teachers alike. With your continued support, encouragement and prayers, I am confident that these seeds will bear fruit.

I wish you all the best in 2014!

Sincerely,

Ryan Sikkes

We pray for peace in 2014:

*Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is error, truth;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen*



Dates to note for Term III (January-April)

The official 2013-2014 School Calendar can be accessed online at



Monday, January 6—Return to School from Christmas Break

Tuesday, January 21—Last Day of Semester I / Term II

Wednesday, January 22—Friday, January 24—Exams Begin

Monday, January 27—PD Day (No School)

Tuesday, January 28—First Day of Semester II / Term III

Monday, February 3—Report Cards and Newsletter Mailed

Monday, February 3 0 Friday February 7—Grad Portraits

Friday, February 21—Rendezvous Stat Holiday (No School)

Tuesday, March 4—Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday Celebration

Thursday, March 6 - Interims and Newsletter Mailed

Thursday, March 13—Parent teacher interviews

Friday, March 14—Last Day of School Before Spring Break

Monday, March 31—Return to School from Spring Break

Friday, April 11—Last Day of Semester II / Term III

Monday, April 14—First Day of Semester II / Term III

Thursday, April 17—Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 18—Good Friday (No School)

Monday, April 21—Easter Monday (No School)

Thursday, April 24, Report Cards and Newsletter Mailed

Vanier Library News

Three Pointer in the Library

Calling all b-ball players...score big in the library after school before you hit the hardwood!

Do you need a place to hang out while you wait for your late basketball practice to being?? Look no further than the Vanier Library. On Mondays and Wednesdays, the library will stay open until 5 pm. There are computers available, a fantastic book collection, and Ms. Clarke's expertise to help with any homework assignments.

It's a slam-dunk!!

Suggestions for 2014 New Year Resolutions...

Floss daily

Eat a nutritious breakfast

Return all of your overdue books



Start 2014 off with a clean slate. Bring back the old and pick up something new!

How books can change your life

Researchers at Emory University in Atlanta Georgia recently published findings from experiments using MRI scanners to look at brain networks of study subjects who have just completed a novel. They found that the section of the brain associated with understanding language

showed heightened connectivity for several days. Vanier library just received several boxes of new books so you can get started transforming your life right now!



FRANCOPHONE GAMES-JEUX DE LA FRANCOPHONE CANADI- ENNE

Ne manquez pas ta chance de participer aux Jeux de la francophonie canadienne à Gatineau du 23-27 juillet 2014. Pour plus d'information, consultez le site web des JFC : <http://www.jeuxfc.ca/>

Renseignements : Geneviève Gagnon, gaggnon@afy.yk.ca, 668-2663 poste 850 or at Vanier with Sylvie Hamel 667-5901

Francophone Games in Gatineau, Quebec. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. The games will be held from July 23-27 in Gatineau, Quebec. Students born in 2000 or earlier may participate. Volleyball, ultimate frisbee, badminton, track and field as well as arts, culture and leadership opportunities available. Just check out the website and contact Mme Hamel or Geneviève Gagnon for more details.

<http://www.jeuxfc.ca/>

Exam Prep

What is the best way to prepare for government exams?

Do practice exams - go to <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/search/> and follow the prompts to find the exam you will be taking.

Now read and do all the questions without looking at the answer key.

Write down your answers on paper or print them, as well as the time you start and stop.

Determine how long the practice exam took.

Use the answer key and go over the errors so that you don't do them again.

Use the answer key and find out what type of questions you are having difficulty with or what topics in the test are you experiencing difficulty with?

Now you know what topics you need to concentrate on and what type of questions you should review material for!



First Nation Graduation 2014

Dear Graduates, parents & guardians,

The First Nation Graduation Committee is pleased to announce that the 2014 First Nation Graduation ceremony will be held on May 23rd, 2014 at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre. Graduates need to be in attendance by 12:30pm and the ceremony will start at 2:00pm sharp. This year's ceremony will be held outside in a tent, with food to follow inside the Cultural Centre. The committee will be holding fundraisers in the new year, and we will contact graduates and their families to assist with these efforts.

Each graduate will receive 3 free tickets, and will be able to purchase extra tickets for \$30.00 each in May 2014. Please contact Kim Rumley to get your name on a waitlist for extra tickets should you require more.

Please be reminded that in order to participate in the First Nation Graduation ceremony you must be completing an academic grade 12 (Dogwood Diploma), Adult Graduation ceremony or a Leaving School Certificate.

Graduates please see your local ESW/CELC to register for the ceremony or your school counselor who will have the forms and an information sheet for you.

For more information please contact, Kim Rumley, First Nation Graduation coordinator at 867-334-9824 or rumley11@hotmail.com.



Athletic News

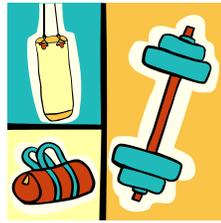
OPENING SOON....

Vanier's own weight room in the Mezzanine will be opening hopefully upon your arrival back to school in the New Year!

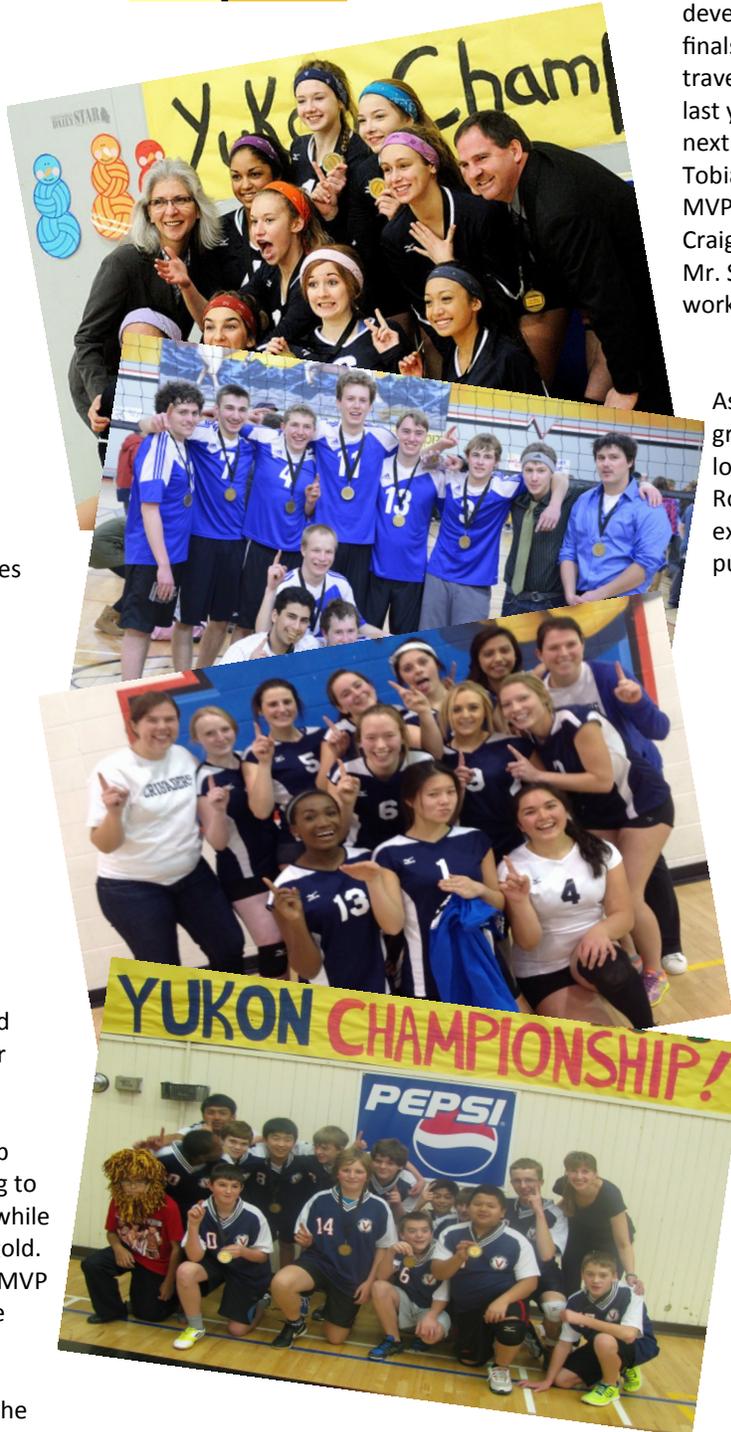
Stay tuned!

Well, another volleyball season has come and gone and our Crusaders did us all proud on and off the court. All of your Crusaders had respectable showings first in Dawson and then in the 2013 Yukon Championships. With two gold and one silver medal in Dawson and with winning 4 of the 6 divisions in this years' volleyball championships, it turned out to be a "banner" year! Besides our Sr. Girls winning the Supervalley title, the most talked about series was how our Sr. Boys beat the "unbeatable" FH Collins Warriors to become Yukon Champions!

In our Gr. 8 Division, coaches Mrs. Holway and Mrs. Stoker lead their troops into the championships with a great group of students determined to represent Vanier well. Our boys and girls had excellent showings and growth throughout the championship weekend with the girls having to settle for a fourth and sixth, while our boys brought home the gold. Curtis Goodman was named MVP of the tournament. Everyone enjoyed themselves and improved each game they played. It is safe to say that the future of Vanier volleyball is in good shape!



Our 9/10 Division had two boys teams and two girls teams competing in the Championships this year. All four teams had their moments of glory, as well as their moments of panic. From the pressure to serve to the pressure to stay focused is always and will be forever present in volleyball. Despite some comebacks' and close plays, our two developmental teams lost in the semi-finals, while our boys and girls traveling teams won gold! For the girls last year, the talk about "just wait 'till next year" has been fulfilled. Jiela Tobias and Kyle Rubio were named MVP's. Thanks to Mr. Shewfelt, Mr. Craigen, Ms. Trainor Mrs. Park and Mr. Stoker for all your time and hard work.



As mentioned, our Sr. Girls had a great season with some highs and lows throughout. New coaches Roslyn and Janna Tait had great expectations for the girls and pushed them to a silver in Dawson and a silver in the Yukon Championships. The highlight for the season though would have to be winning the Supervalley title here in their own gym. Chanel Newell and Chloe Turner-Davis were named to the All Star list. Great effort ladies!

And finally we come to the Sr. Boys. Many people thought our boys would not even make it to the championship final, let alone winning it! As mentioned, their undying efforts despite a poor showing in Dawson, Supervalley and conflicts within the team, your Crusaders "clicked" at the right time through sheer determination to beat the "unbeatable" FH Collins Warriors. Trent Pumphrey and Louis Kedziora were named to the All Star list, while Zach Giczi

was named the MVP. Congratulations again to all of the teams and their coaches and support staff!

ATHLETIC NEWS, Continued

Basketball

Basketball season is well underway before we go into the Christmas break. Right after Christmas, the league games start and the tournaments begin before the Yukon Championships held before spring break.

For a trial this year the YSAA executive (Yukon Schools Athletic Association) representing all schools, decided to try a new category system for basketball. This was done as an attempt to help with the number of athletes and coaches participating in the extracurricular sport. The outcome of this season will be reviewed and evaluated to see if it indeed helped or hindered the basketball for our afterschool programs.

The basketball teams are coached by:

- Gr. 8/9 Girls - Diedre Davidson / Sarah Crane (our new outside coaches!)
Jane Londero & Caroline Holway as teacher sponsors
- Gr. 8/9 Boys - Mike Gallant / Jason McArthur
- Gr. 10,11,12 Girls - Sean McCarron / Stefans Jackson / Dominic Gibson
- Gr. 10,11,12 Boys - Cody Hougen / Travis McKenzie (our new outside coaches!)
Roslyn Tait as a teacher sponsor

Here is a list of events for our basketball teams:

December 2nd	Basketball Season Begins
January 10th – 11th	Skagway Sr. Basketball Tournament
	8/9 Boys Basketball Earlybird @ Vanier
15 th	2nd Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ Vanier ; Boys @ PC
17 th	Super Hoops Vanier @ FHC (G-6:00, B-7:45)
18 th	8/9 Girls Basketball Earlybird @ FHC
29 th	3rd Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ PC ; Boys @ FHC
30 th	Super Hoops FHC @ Vanier (G-6:00, B-7:45)
31 st	Super Hoops PC @ Vanier (G-6:00, B-7:45)
February	
5 th	4th Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ FHC ; Boys @ Vanier
6 th	Super Hoops Vanier @ PC (G-6:00, B-7:45)
12 th	5th Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ Vanier ; Boys @ PC
19 th	6th Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ PC ; Boys @ FHC
26 th	7th Gr. 8/9 Bball League Games (3:30-6:00)
	Girls @ FHC ; Boys @ Vanier
27 th	Super Hoops Semi-Finals @ FHC (G-6:00, B-7:45)
28 th	Super Hoops Finals @ FHC (G-6:00, B-7:45)
March	
3 rd – 5 th	Sr. Basketball Championships
6 th – 8 th	8/9 Basketball Championships

Bring on the Basketball....

Come on out and support your Vanier Teams!



If you have any questions, concerns, or if you want to help out, you can go to our Vanier Athletic web site <http://www.yesnet.yk.ca/schools/vanier/athletics/>, or contact Mr Stoker.

VANIER SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB NEWS

January 2014

The Social Justice Club is open to all grades - all you need is enthusiasm and the desire to work for change. We meet on Tuesdays at 12:15 pm in room 14. Bring your lunch, bring a friend and any ideas you have to make the world a better place!

The Social Justice Club has worked hard this past month raising awareness at school for a number of causes and raising money for a variety of charities.

Halloween Orange a Go-Go

In October, a group of Social Justice members donned big UNICEF boxes and took to the streets of Whitehorse to gather donations. Their efforts paid off in over \$300.00 that will now be sent on to UNICEF to allow them to purchase bed nets, educational supplies for schools, and therapeutic milk.

Wear a hat...warm a heart – Vanier celebrates Hat Day.

On Thursday, November 8th, Vanier students paid \$2.00 to have hat immunity and were able to wear hats around school all day – a fashion item normally not allowed in school. We saw ball caps, cowboy hats, and fuzzy fur hats. We raised \$107.00 which will go to buying warm socks and hats for the Outreach Van to distribute to people in need.

Sea of Pink

On Friday, November 22 Vanier staff and students joined the two other high schools in town to wear PINK and show our determination to push bullying from our schools. We saw pink of every shade and description. Thank you to all who participated...we love your style!



Preparing the art cards for the sale!

Global Village Craft Fair

On November 16, the Social Justice Club table was a popular stop at the Fair with cookie mixes and our ever-popular art cards. As well, we sold bead necklaces to raise money for a women's cooperative in Uganda. Many familiar faces stopped by to say hello on their way to do the wonderful wares that support fair trade practices worldwide. We raised \$650.00 which was sent to the Red Cross Canada for the Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund.

Amnesty International WRITE FOR RIGHTS

On Tuesday, December 10th, Social Justice Club members joined Vanier staff and students along with thousands of letter writers around the world to demand an end to human rights abuses.

This year, 174 letters were written to the governments of Mexico, Russia, Israel and Nigeria to advocate for citizens in their countries who have been treated unjustly.

Sandwich Making...still going strong!

The Whitehorse Outreach Van makes its rounds through the city each night and hands out sandwiches and soup to Whitehorse citizens in need. The Social Justice Club makes sandwiches once a month to help the Van with this great work that they are doing. We need lots of help so join us on our next sandwich making day on Tuesday, January 21, 2014!



RAVEN RECYCLING

Vanier Social Justice Club at Raven Recycling!

Next time you visit Raven Recycling with your recyclables, why not donate your refund to the Vanier Social Justice Club?

School Council Corner

The next meeting of Vanier Catholic Secondary School Council is Tuesday, January 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the library.

The members of our council are:

Paul Flaherty; Chair
pflaherty@northwestel.net, 668-7877

John Berg; Vice Chair
jbandtme@northwestel.net, 667-4767

Dianne Tait
taits@northwestel.net, 633-4067

James Mooney
james@ecofo.ca, 668-6666

Terry Prenoslo
atpren@telus.net, 668-3323

From the Office

Morning Late Policy

In order to help reduce the number of students who have unexcused lates for the first block, the office will automatically assign lunchtime detentions to those students who are late more than two times in one week to their first block classes. Please call the school to excuse your child if you know they will be late or absent.

Parking

Drivers are reminded that there is a pick-up loop near the student parking lot. Please do not park along the edge of the staff parking lot as this causes much congestion and also blocks the fire lane. Thanks for your cooperation!

Phone Us...Please!!

The office will be telephoning the parents of each student who has an unexcused absence for the first block each morning. Parents are reminded that to keep proper attendance records for students, absences must be phoned in or they may be recorded as unexcused. Please call the school in the morning at 667-5901 if your child will be absent or late for school. For students who are sick, we would appreciate a phone call each day they are sick.

Cell Phones and Music Players

Parents are also reminded of our policies on cell phones and music players—they are not to be used during class time. These items, when collected by teachers, are sent to the office. After the first offence, parents are required to come and claim the items.



Booster Cards!

Booster Cards are out! If you haven't purchased yours, contact the school office—they're only \$20 for discounts all over town! All proceeds go to support student activities throughout the year.

Quizno's	Sandor's Clothing
Kilrich/Truss Plant	Riverside Grocery
Subaru	Riverstone Dental Clinic
Yukon Meat and Sausage	Midnight Sun
Territorial Auto Parts	Pizza Hut
Plantation Flowers	Mad Trapper Alleys



Exam Schedule - January 2014

Exams in **Boldface** cannot be written at other times.

Students who have exam conflicts need to let Mr. Janzen know as soon as possible.

	Wednesday, January 22	Thursday, January 23	Friday, January 24	Monday, January 27	Tuesday, January 28
9:00 – 12:00 Provincial Exam in Labs	English 12 (E)	Social Studies 11 (E)	Science 10 (E) Communications 12 (E)	Professional Development Day No classes for students	1st day of Term 3 Semester 2
9:00 – 11:00 Homerooms	Humanities 8 (Essentials 8 & 9 in their class)	Math 8 (Essentials 8 & 9 in their class) Math 9 Mining 12 Physics 11	Science 8 Science 9 Math 11 Foundations History 12		
9:00 – 11:00 In Gym	Humanities 9 Biology 11 Beginner Spanish 11				
1:00 – 4:00 Provincial Exam in Labs	English 10 (E)	Math 10 A&W (E)	Math 10 Foundations and Pre-Calc (E)		Important Notice!
1:00 – 3:00 In Gym	English 11 (P) Biology 12 French 12	Chemistry 11	Math 11 A&W Math 12 PreCalc		Civics 11(E) Jan. 29 1-3 PM

(E = Electronic Exam / P = Paper Exam)