

NICHOLSON CATHOLIC COLLEGE

301 Church Street, Belleville, Ontario, K8N 3C7

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Principal: Mrs. K. Shannon
Vice - Principal: Mrs. M. Chapman
Chaplaincy: Ms. Joanne Belanger
Trustees: Mr. Tom Dall (dall@alcdsb.on.ca) and Mr. Jim Kennelly (kennelly@alcdsb.on.ca)

Superintendent of School Effectiveness: Mrs. Lynn Wallace (800)581-1116

Priests: Fr. B. Brennan, Fr. R. Whalen, Fr. T. Shea

Chair of School Council: Mrs. Karen Brooks Cathcart—kcathcar@loyalistc.on.ca

Principal’s Message

Nicholson Catholic College prides itself on being a caring community committed to social justice and the virtues of our Catholic faith. Over the past two weeks we have participated in the annual Violence Awareness and Random Acts of Kindness campaign with many positive results. It is our intention, however, to keep this flame burning and further reinforce our commitments to each other and our broader community. On Friday, March 26, we will come together as one assembly for a liturgy and a keynote speaker on the topic of Sharing Our Caring. We wish to answer the call to be ‘a light for our world’.

Within the pages of this newsletter you will find important information concerning scheduled events and procedures which will take place this spring as we prepare for the conclusion of another school year. Foremost, please consider attending the Parent –Student—Teacher Conference session on Wednesday, March 31, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is an important opportunity to discuss the progress of your son/daughter prior to mid-semester.

(...cont’d on page 2)

NCC 50th Anniversary

Nicholson Catholic College turns 50 this year. There are many exciting activities being planned for the week-end of May 14-16, 2010.

Don’t forget to register on-line at www.ncc50th.org.

There will be lots of fun for everyone!



Newsletter—What’s Inside....

Once again, as an Eco School, we wish to reduce our paper usage so we are offering our School Newsletter on-line. To access the rest of this information, please visit: www.nccschool.org or call the school to obtain a paper copy.



Other articles included in our newsletter:

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Principal's Message (cont'd)

Individual Education Plans have now been mailed home for all students working with our Resource Team. Please review the plan, offer your insights and return the documentation page requiring a parent signature to the school at your earliest convenience.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test: Students in Grade 10 and students who were previously eligible yet still require the literacy credential for their Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma will complete the Provincial Literacy Test on April 8, 2010. Grade 9 students will have scheduled classes/program on this day while all Grade 10 students spend the morning writing the two part literacy test. **Students in Grades 11 and 12** will be excused to complete course assignments off campus during this day. The afternoon program for Grade 10 students on April 8th will consist of group activities which students will self-select based on interest.

On April 20th Nicholson will host the **REEL Canada** Film Festival for students in Grades 11 and 12. Senior students from our sister school, St. Theresa, are invited to attend. Students have pre-selected six Canadian films to be screened. A workshop will be facilitated for students after each film by actors/film production staff of that film. This event has been made possible through the work of REEL Canada and their many sponsors dedicated to bringing Canadian film to Canadian student. Grade 9 and 10 students will have regularly scheduled classes on this day.

This leads us to the busy days of May, Education Week, the 50th Anniversary of Nicholson, our Relay For Life Campaign and numerous other wonderful events. Please check the school website on a regular basis to keep informed of all that is happening in this vibrant school community. May God bless you and your loved ones as we enter this Easter season.

Student Council News

Here is a list of upcoming student activities:

- March 26th – Andy Thibodeau guest speaker
- April 15th – Student Council Applications due
- April 21st – Student Council Interviews
- April 26th – 29th Student Council Election Week;
Voting will take place on the 28th
and 29th
- April 29th – School Dance
- May 3rd -7th – Catholic Education Week – activities
- May 15th – Reunion Kids Events at Buckley Field
- June 10th – Final Assembly

Peer Mentors

Peer mentors are the backbone of NCCs transition program. These students are chosen by peers to help new students transition from grade 8 to grade 9. Peer mentors are natural leaders who are energetic, caring and show real concern in helping fellow crusaders. Grade 9 students benefit from having a senior student who they can readily recognize when they have a concern. Every year potential mentors are interviewed by a committee consisting of staff advisors, current peer mentors and a school administrator. This year we will be holding interviews the middle of May. NCC is proud of this program and is excited about its potential growth in the upcoming school year.

Travel Club 2011

Applications are being taken for the Travel Club trip in June of 2011. The trip is expected to depart on June 28, 2011 and return on July 8, 2011. We will be going to Ireland, Wales, and England after which we will take a 2 day extension to Paris. Application, itineraries and price quotes are available from Mrs. Cassidy in Room 105 or you can phone the school at Ext. 231 for further information.

Jamaica Mission Trip

This March Break, a group of NCC students along with Ms. Landry-Kyte, Ms. Woodland and Fr. Brennan went to Kingston Jamaica on a Mission Trip. The experience was a life-changing and unforgettable one.

While there, the group visited schools and hospices, and spent time with the students and residents. We had opportunity to volunteer in classrooms, and some of us actually had a chance to teach a lesson to the students. We were fortunate to be able to paint a mural at Christ the Redeemer school that highlighted our culture and traditions with Jamaica's. We each placed our hand prints on the mural and inscribed our initials in the centre. The friends we made at Christ the Redeemer did the same, highlighting that out of many, comes one people.

We also were able to travel to the countryside for three days, where we did some repair work and painting at a school and two homes. We met many of the residents of the community, and they shared with us their knowledge of the flora and fauna found in the region.

Our last day in Jamaica was spent at Dunn's River Falls, in Ocho Rios. We had a lot of fun climbing the falls and relaxing in the sun. That night, we celebrated mass at Stella Maris church, and had a farewell dinner with some of the lifelong friends we made. We will remember this trip forever, and truly believe that our lives have been forever altered.



Homestay Opportunity

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board will be receiving International Students for classes commencing September 2010 at Nicholson Catholic College. We are looking for homestays for these students. In particular we are looking for a vegetarian/vegan family to host a boy from Japan. If you are interested in providing a home for this student or any other International Student or would like more information on remuneration, etc., please call Madeleine O'Connor at 1-800-581-1116 X 474 or e-mail ocomnorm@alcdsb.on.ca.



“ENLIGHTENED BY KNOWLEDGE...ENRICHED BY FAITH”

Chaplaincy News—February 2010

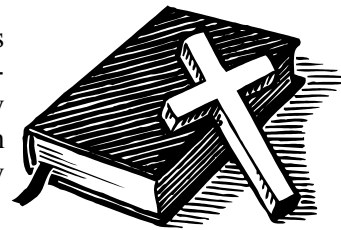
By Jo Belanger

This update comes to you as March Break is upon us. The time since the beginning of Semester Two has flown by quickly.

Our **Retreat Team** led retreat time for the Grade 9 and 10 Religion classes. As always there is a special chemistry generated when the senior students get some time to spend with the junior students. In fact the one noteworthy suggestion that came out of our most recent retreats was that there be more opportunity for the grade levels to mingle.

On March 10th we had our **Vocations Day** here at Nicholson. Our keynote speaker was seminarian Kevin McDonald from Cornwall. Kevin delivered a very humorous talk which was well received by our students but behind his humour was a clear message – in order to have a personal relationship with Jesus, it is important to engage in some time of silence. A hard message no doubt for our young people who acknowledged that they are usually plugged in to music morning, noon and night and who rarely experience true silence. Kevin's talk was followed by class visits by our local priests who shared their vocation stories

with the students. It is amazing to hear the variety of "calls" that they have experienced from very quiet and ordinary to quite dramatic!



Once we return from March Break **Thinkfast** will be upon us and we have a record number of students signed up this year! Quickly following that, St. Mike's Youth office will present the Stations of the Cross for our Holy Thursday Liturgy and then we will experience the joy of **Easter!**

Stay tuned for May updates as the new **Board theme** is unveiled during Education Week, the Archdiocese holds a **Youth Rally** in Kingston on May 8th.

Nicholson students, along with St. Paul's and St. Theresa's travel to **March for Life** on May 13th and we wrap up the year here in Chaplaincy with **Rowing regattas, Grad Retreat, Grad Mass, Closing Staff Mass**, and lots of planning for next year!

ATTENTION Graduating Students

Planning to attend College this fall? Want a head start to post-secondary success?

On-Line to Successful Learning is for you!

Loyalist College is offering an eight-week Student Success course that can be completed from your home computer using Internet resources. Just think, you can log on and do your work wherever you want, wherever you are.

On-Line to Successful Learning is designed to ease your transition into post-secondary studies while providing you with the skills you need to find success in your studies. The eight-week course, which can be completed at your own pace, is estimated to take approximately 24 hours. All you will require are basic computer skills and regular access to a computer with an Internet connection.

You will learn about your strengths and challenges, the skills you need for the program you plan to attend in the fall, and self-advocacy skills that will assist you in the post-secondary environment.

The fee for On-Line to Successful Learning is just \$113.76. A bursary is available for students with a learning disability. For more information, please contact Deiana Gonyea at 613-969-1913 ext. 2164.

"ENLIGHTENED BY KNOWLEDGE...ENRICHED BY FAITH"

celebrate

remember

fight back



Get Involved! Show Your Support!

NICHOLSON RELAY FOR LIFE

FRI. MAY 28 (6p.m.- 6a.m.)

@Buckley Field

Students can register on Wed. Mar. 31 after the assembly.

**Join the biggest Cancer event
to make the biggest difference**

Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life is an opportunity to get together with family and friends and celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and fight back in hope of finding a cure for this terrible disease.

NCC SKI RACING TEAM DOES IT AGAIN!

Once again the Nicholson Ski Racing Team sent ten girls to OF-SAA at Blue Mountain in Collingwood. Maddie McKinney, Hanna Murray, Jenni Thompson, Katie Wiggins and Fiona Emdin won first place at COSSA in the level 1 girl's category, earning their spot at the three day OFSAA competition.

Laura Villemaire, Sarah Letersky, Marisa Mulder, Abbie Emdin and Liz Krock were the gold medalists also at COSSA, but in level two girls.

This is the fourth consecutive year that NCC has had at least 5 racers join the best alpine racers from across the province. Each year our students do better and move up the ranks at the provincial championship. Congratulations go out to Maddie McKinney, Marisa Mulder and Liz Krock for finishing in the top 3rd of all racers.

On the boy's side, improvement continues, but a podium finish eluded them throughout the season. Members of the ski team are:

Patrick Birchard, Luke Brennan, Adrian Ling, Matt McCoy, Vince Shannon, Will Sprague, John Birchard, Haydon Seemungal, Conor McGarvey, Alex Birchard, Max Janke, Abby Emdin, Fiona Emdin, Liz Krock, Maddie McKinney, Hanna Murray, Marisa Mulder, Laura Villemaire, Sydney O'Brien, Haley Pelton, Jenni Thompson, Katie Wiggins and Sarah Letersky.



Dates to Remember

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Tuesday, Mar. 23 | — Early Progress Reports sent home |
| Wednesday, Mar. 31 | — Civvies Day |
| Wednesday, Mar. 31 | — Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. |
| Apr. 2-5 | — Easter Weekend |
| Tuesday, Apr. 6 | — Summer Uniform Begins |
| Thursday, Apr. 8 | — Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test |
| Wednesday, Apr. 14 | — Semester 2, Term 2 Begins (Flip Day) |
| Tuesday, Apr. 20 | — School Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m. |
| Monday, Apr. 26 | — Mid-Term Report Card Distribution |
| Thursday, Apr. 29 | — Civvies Day |
| Friday, Apr. 30 | — P.A. Day |
| Monday, May 3 | — Catholic Education Week Begins |
| May 14-16 | — NCC 50th Reunion |



“The Brain and Gender Learning Differences: What’s It All About?” RND and Holy Cross Catholic School Councils Parent Forum

By - Brian Evoy, Chair RND Catholic School Council

The school councils of RND and Holy Cross invited Dr. Ashleigh Molloy, Director of Transformation Education Institute to speak at 2010 Parent Forum on the topic of “The Brain and Gender Learning Differences”. The event is scheduled for April 14th at RND Catholic High School Kingston beginning at 7p.m.

Dr. Ash as he is known around the world is an author and internationally renowned speaker who appeared on radio and TV. He currently is Director of Transformation Education Institute where he consults and presents at international conferences on varied educational topics with a special focus on diversity issues as seen through the lens of inclusion.

The parent forum being held on April 14th will be an interactive presentation supported with hands on pair share activities, video clips, and group dialogue. Brain based research will be explored to assist parents in understanding how gender learning differences can be facilitated in partnership with school staff. A comparative examination of the cognitive functioning of boys and girls will be presented.

The topics explored will validate diversity, equity and inclusion as factors related to character education and ultimately an informed parent partner. Those in attendance will witness how Dr. Molloy incorporates his experience as an educator, advocate, parent and academic in his presentation.

The school councils of RND and Holy Cross warmly extend an invite to parents, guardians, caregivers, grandparents and teachers to attend. RSVP by emailing brianevoy@gmail.com.

The parent forum is funded by a Ministry of Education Parent Engagement Office PRO Grant for School Councils. The school councils of RND and Holy Cross are very appreciative to the ministry for this grant and to Four Points Sheraton Kingston.

“ENLIGHTENED BY KNOWLEDGE...ENRICHED BY FAITH”



**REGIOPOLIS-NOTRE DAME and
HOLY CROSS SECONDARY
SCHOOL COUNCILS PRESENTS:**



THE BRAIN AND GENDER LEARNING DIFFERENCES - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

PARENT FORUM (Elementary/Secondary)

With:

Dr. ASHLEIGH MOLLOY, PH.D.

Director of the Transformation Education Institute
An active parent member of his daughter's school council in the
Toronto Catholic School Board and board member of the Ontario
Association of Parents in Catholic Education

Date: April 14, 2010

Where: Regiopolis Notre Dame
Catholic High School
Cowdy Street

Time: 7p.m. to 9p.m.
Doors open at 6:15p.m.



**Parents, Guardians, Caregivers, Grandparents
and Teachers are all welcome to attend.**

R.S.V.P. by April 7th, 2010- e-mail: brianevoy@gmail.com

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Guidance News—April 2010

Graduating Students & Parents/Guardians

Graduation Ceremonies will be held **Monday, June 28, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**, at the Maranatha Church, 100 College St. West, Belleville Ontario. An invitation, along with an information letter and tickets will be sent to all graduating students before the end of May.

Last Call for Registration for Graduation ceremonies

The list of grade 12 students who have already indicated they are attending graduation ceremonies is posted in the Guidance office. **Please fill in the Graduation Form to order your guest tickets and Graduation Gown, if you have not done so already.**

Community Hours are still incomplete for large numbers of would-be graduates. ***Colleges and universities await this requirement just the same as marks.***

Final first semester marks for college and university applicants were sent in early March.

Mid-term second semester grades for college and university bound students will be sent by Friday, April 28/10. Many programs and scholarships base their acceptances on these marks.

Some students have already received offers, while others eagerly (anxiously) await the outcome of their applications. If, for some reason, you do not receive an offer from a college or university by May 1st, please contact your counsellor for possible options and assistance. Good luck to all!

Continue to check Bursary/Scholarship deadlines.

Working after grade 12? We can help.

Planning on returning to NCC in September? Tell us and make your course selections now. Don't wait. Don't lose out.

Students need to pay special attention to deadlines and instructions from colleges and universities concerning their acceptance replies.

Special attention to deadlines for supplemental com-

ponents is important. These include personal experience statements or testing requirements. Many colleges have language and/or math testing. In all cases look at the college websites and details in any correspondence received from colleges and universities.

Keep your guidance counsellor informed about your plans.

When you decide, let us know where you are going in September, what program you will be studying, or where you will be working.

Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) application is completed on-line and will be available in late April at: osap.gov.on.ca

The **OSAP presentation** by Pearl Vani Hill, an experienced post-secondary Financial Aid Officer, will be held for graduating students and their parents on May 4, in the Library, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **Graduates and parents are all invited and welcome.**

Caring For Your Graduate

All graduating students, whether awaiting college or university acceptance, apprenticeship placements or going directly to the workforce, are experiencing some anxiety as they leave the comfortable surroundings of high school. Please be aware that they might be in need of extra understanding, patience and support during this important transition in their lives.

Counsellors:

Mr. John Pronovost (ext. #249) for students with last names A to M

Mr. Lou Scanlan (ext. #262) for students with last names N to Z

Ms. Christa Ray (ext. #235) for Grade 9 students.

Guidance Secretary: Miss Marian Murphy (extension # 236)



More Guidance News

Post-Secondary Supports for Students with a Disability

The Following information is similar to the services provided at all Ontario Community Colleges. Contact the college of your choice.

Loyalist College is committed to meeting the learning needs of all students including students identified with a specific disability and **who have an I.E.P.** The Student Office for Alternative Resources (SOAR) at Loyalist College provides services and accommodations on an individual basis to support student success. Supports may include extra test time, a quieter place to write tests, note taking, computer software training to help with reading and writing, as well as learning strategies to help with study techniques, retaining information, time management and organization.

SOAR offers a number of outreach opportunities including an open invitation to students, parents, and teachers to visit our Office, participate in Student for a Day, and to join our Orientation events in August. As well, we are pleased to visit students at their secondary school.

Please note that similar services are available to students with disabilities attending any College or University.

Please contact Jennifer Vincent at (613) 969-1913 ext. 2168 or jvincent@loyalistc.on.ca or visit our website at www.loyalistcollege.com/disabilityservices for further information including information on 'High School to College'.

IS COLLEGE IN YOUR FUTURE?

First in your family to attend a post-secondary institution?

Loyalist College's First Generation Advisor can assist you with evaluating your options. We can help with admissions and funding applications – and introduce you to the full range of support services that will help ensure your success.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact

Ashley Hamilton at
ahamilton@loyalistc.on.ca
613.969.1913 x 2163

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