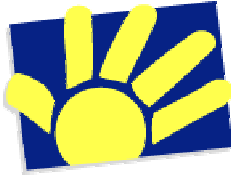


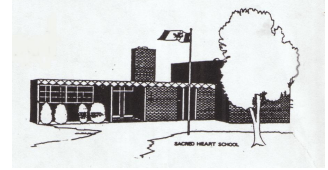
December 3, 2007

[HTTP://WWW2.HPCDSB.EDU.ON.CA/~SACREDHEART](http://www2.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca/~sacredheart)



## Sacred Heart School

225 Cornyn St.  
Wingham, On.  
N0G 2W0



Phone: 357-1090 or 357-2289 **Issue 4**

### Principal's Address

It is very hard to believe that December is here. It truly is a time to celebrate. The month of December will undoubtedly be a busy one with Advent celebrations, Christmas activities, and our school Christmas Celebration at church on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. It is with much excitement and anticipation that we prepare for the Holy Christmas Season.

Our Church's new year has begun with the season of advent. Sacred Heart community certainly displays the spirit of giving through their generosity with school projects.

During these days of Advent let us remember Jesus' first coming in Bethlehem and review and reflect on our lives in preparation for his coming at Christmas.

Our major Outreach Project for the Christmas Season is gifts for the Huron County Christmas Bureau.

*Sacred Heart School is inviting all families to donate toques, waterproof mittens and/or socks to the Huron Christmas Bureau to help clothe needy children in our area.*

*Sacred Heart School would be happy to receive your donations from November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007.*

*Thank you for your support,  
Sincerely, Mrs. Ippolito & Mrs. Anderson.*

**All gifts must be at the school by December 12<sup>th</sup>.** The staff at Sacred Heart asks that students give gifts to the Christmas Bureau in lieu of teacher gifts. The spirit in which this community embraces the projects to help the less fortunate is indeed incredible and something to be extremely proud of. **"What ever you do for the least of my brethren that you do unto me"**.

I wish to extend to all families warm wishes for a holy and safe Christmas season and a happy and prosperous New Year.

*Jackie Simpson*



### A Catholic Community of Caring

A huge congratulations goes out to Mrs. Weiler and the Grade 3-4 classroom for their excellent garage sale to raise money and items for the local food bank and the Salvation Army. Also we thank this class for their recent visit to the Wingham Day Center. Their visit truly brightened the lives of others.

**HELP NEEDED** We are currently looking for a volunteer to offer a couple of hours each week to accompany students for visits at the local nursing home. If you think you could help in this capacity please contact the school.

Remember: Our focus for December continues to be on the importance of family.

### Advent Celebrations

On Sunday, Advent began. Advent is a time of preparation and prayer in anticipation of the birth of our Saviour. The first coming of Jesus, at Bethlehem, will not happen again but at Christmas we remember and celebrate that coming.

Each Monday during Advent our school community will join together for a brief Advent celebration in the gym. Each class will take turns leading the prayer services. The celebrations will begin at approximately 11:35 a.m.

Parents and community members are invited to join us for any of these special celebrations. Term 1 award winners will be recognized at our December 10<sup>th</sup> assembly.



### School Mass

Our December School Mass will be celebrated on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. The Grade 4-5 class is helping to prepare and celebrate this Christmas Mass. All parents and community members are invited to join us for this last celebration before the Christmas break.

### Reconciliation

IN preparation for the Holy Season of Christmas, all of our students from Grades 3-8 will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the month of December.

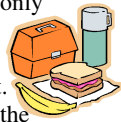
### LSAC NEWS

The LSAC Christmas meeting was held on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at the home of Amy Cronin. The school's School Improvement Plan was discussed as well as many other initiatives. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>** in our school library.

### SAFE & HEALTHY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sacred Heart continues to be a designated Safe & Healthy School. We have a number of initiatives underway to help promote this designation.

1. We continue to be involved in daily physical activities in all of our classrooms.
2. With parents support, we encourage healthy lunches only and water only in classrooms.
3. We offer our school-wide snack program.
4. We continue to provide a Nut Safe School environment. This means all eating is limited to classrooms only and the kindergarten classroom is nut or nut traces free.
5. Our school wide Peer Mediators program is getting established. More information will soon be sent to you on this.
6. If you would like to access support from our school based social worker, please contact the school.
7. Our school Safe & Healthy School Committee continues to meet once a term.



positive comments to them after interviews and express confidence in your child that they will be successful as a learner. Please ensure that page 3 of your child's report card is completed and returned. Be watching. The school has many excellent books regarding parental issues. These books are available for sign-out anytime. Check out the display during interview times. A new book display will be installed in the main foyer after Christmas.



## **SAFETY UPDATE**

With winter approaching it is extremely important that students take extra caution in walking to and from school. Students are reminded not to play or slide down snow banks along the road. Also if sidewalks re not accessible, students should walk as closely to the base of the banks a possible. A reminder to aid in the safety of everyone concerned at arrival and dismissal time. **Dropping students off in the morning has become a major safety concern due to the volume of the buses. Parents must drop off children only at the bus unloading area. Do not pass buses. Do not let your children off at any other location.** Younger children will be escorted around the back of the school to the Primary Playground area. Your child's life is at stake. Also just a reminder: No vehicles are to park in the school turn around area. **This is a fire route!!**

### **Scarves**

Parents are asked to not allow children to wear scarves to school. We suggest neck-warmers only. Scarves, especially when children are using our playground can become a choking risk.

**Also parents are reminded that no yard supervision is provided before 8:30 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. Students are encouraged not to linger on the yard before or after those times.**

### **Early School Closure**

If the possibility arises that students have to be sent home before regular bus times, you will receive a call from the school if you requested us to do so.

Also, please remind your child(ren) to call you immediately upon their arrival home.

### **School Closing Due To Inclement Weather**

With snowy weather upon us, we wish to remind you to listen to the following radio stations: a.m.: CKNX-Wingham 920, CFPL London 980, CJCS Stratford 1240, CJBK London 1290, 570 News Kitchener 570, FM: F.M 102 Wingham 101.7, FM 96 London 95.9, Energy London 103.1, Hawk London 103.9, Mix FM Stratford, 107.7, Q97.5 London, BX93 London, CBC London, 93.5 Koof FM Kitchener 105.3 for details regarding school closures. If you do not hear the message on the radio, it means the school is open. It has always been the position of the Board and of the Transportation Dept. that the safety of students in paramount. When transportation services are cancelled due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions, announcements of the closures and cancellations will be broadcast on the above radio stations. The same information can be found on the Board's website at [www.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca) under School Bus Delays/Cancellations. When schools are open with no buses running, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to decide if conditions are safe for a child to walk to and from school.

We thank all of our families for their continued support on helping keep our school a safe and healthy environment for our students. We are always looking for any donations of fresh fruit, veggies or any healthy snack. Exposing children to good eating habits is a great gift to give.

### **Important Reminder:**

Thanks to everyone who supported our recent chicken and candle fundraisers. The funds earned are going to purchase a much needed independent reading cart for our primary division. Chicken and candles are due to be delivered to our school on December 6th at 2:15. Please make arrangements to pick your orders up between 2:15 and 7:00 p.m.

### **Important Updates**

**A huge thank-you** and congratulations to all the students and families who took time to make nativities for the 1000 Nativity display that took place in Walkerton in November. Sacred Heart students were outstanding contributors to this display. 3 of our students Wyatt McIlhargey & Nicole & Victoria Jacobs were interviewed by the A Channel in recognition of Sacred Hearts outstanding work. School Information items.



### **School Information Items**

It is with great honour that we recognize the following students for receiving the Principal's Award for Term 1. This award is given to students who demonstrate excellence in the learning skills described on the Provincial Report Card. Congratulations goes to Mary Kate Higgins, Maisy Jefferson, Hannah McCutcheon, Amber Wilson, Alyssa Cronin, Nicole Jacobs, Scot Jefferson, Alex Sanders, Kerri Campbell, Jayden Anderson-Johnston, Loretta Higgins, Rebecca McDougall, Kyle Cronin, Victoria Davies, Abbie Matekovic & Rochelle Franken.

We also recognize the following people for being a person who demonstrates our theme "What Would Jesus Do?" Congratulations to Courtney Main, Liz Dwyer, Katherine Dwyer, Julie Steffen, Courtney Nesbitt, Tyler Schiestel, Wyatt McIlhargey, Eric VanNes, Sami Weiler, Andrew Fear, Melanie House, Gael Romero, Rachael Ventura & Peyton Schiestel. The above award winners will be recognized at our assembly on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Parents are most welcome to join us.

### **PARENTS AS PARTNERS**

Our Term 1 parent/teacher interviews are being held on December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. As part of the learning team, parents contribute significantly to the goal setting required for the development of their child's growth plan. You can support your child(ren) in several ways. Make

A reminder to parents that we strongly discourage, except in extreme circumstances, allowing students to stay in at recess for health reasons. Our philosophy is that if a student is well enough to come to school, they are well enough to go outside at recess. If you don't think they are well enough to take part in recess, please keep them at home. Please always ensure your child comes appropriate outside clothing.

### **Bus Reminder**

Transporting students safely to and from school is a huge responsibility of our bus companies. There are important points parents should be aware of:

#1. It is very important for bus companies to stick to strict timelines to ensure safety of all students. This means that drivers cannot wait on students who are not at their bus stops on time. Nor can drivers extend the time at a stop. Students must board promptly.

#2. Many drivers do not allow transportation of larger items such as crazy carpets or hockey sticks on the bus. Parents are asked to drop these items off at school for their child. Please ensure items are clearly labeled.

### **Upcoming Curricular events**

#### **Grade 8**

Although we have just entered the second term, the planning process for the academic year 2008-09 is already underway. Our grade 8 class will be visiting St. Anne's Secondary School on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Students will be given information to help them in choosing courses for next year. Students are asked to bring a lunch and snacks with them. The parent information evening for your grade 8 students is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 7:p.m.

### **Public Speaking and Storytelling**

Public speaking and Storytelling will begin in early January. This year speeches will be done primarily at home for students who so choose. If your child is interested more information will follow.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**A huge thank-you** goes out to all those parents and families who helped decorate and ride on our school float that was in last Saturday's Santa Claus Parade. A special thank-you to Marc Nesbitt, Lorraine McIlhargey and Mary Ellen Foran for heading up this committee. We truly appreciate all the hard work you did.

**Our school's Christmas Celebration** will be on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart Church at 7:00 p.m. All students in K-8 are involved. We hope all parents and family members will be able to join us for his special evening. Immediately following the concert there will be a Christmas Social and a visit from Santa in the church basement from 8:00-8:45 p.m. Please plan on complimenting this wonderful musical evening with some Christmas goodies afterward. A huge thank-you to Mrs. Waechter, Mrs. Ross, staff and the Christmas Concert Committee for all their work in preparing for this special evening.

**The school will be going skating** for the first time on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Grades 1-5 will skate from 11-12 p.m. and 6-8 will skate from 10-11 p.m. Please ensure students have mitts, hats, and, if possible, helmets on skating day. Please remind your child(ren) to have skates protected by skate guards (labeled with their name) and stored in a durable bag to ensure the safety of our students, especially on the bus. Parents and preschoolers accompanied by a parent are most welcome to join us. Also, we would appreciate parents offering

to help tie up the skates of younger students. Helmets, especially for primary students, are highly recommended.

### **Sports Update**

November has seen the beginning of the volleyball season. We applaud the grade 6-8 students who tried out for our school teams. The teams are busy preparing for the divisional competition on December 11<sup>th</sup> at Listowel. Special thanks to Mrs. Weiler and Mrs. Anderson who are busy preparing our teams. Please join us on the day to cheer our teams on.

### **Stinger Cheers**

**Cheers** to all those who come out to our Parent Literacy night. Vital information for parents was shared.

**Cheers** to Amy Cronin and LSAC for their constant support of Sacred Heart.

**Cheers** to Linda Cox & Lisa Hanna for helping with our Flu Clinic.

**Cheers** to our Grade 4-5 class for their very touching Remembrance Day assembly.

**Cheers** to the Schmidt Family for donating the magnificent Christmas Tree.

**Cheers** to all our students for an excellent first term.

**Cheers** to Mr. Cann and the Gr. 4-5 class for their excellent sales of CFL light bulbs.



The majority of clothing that finds its way into our Lost and found Box appears to be from our senior grades. The students are asked repeatedly to leave their clothing in the designated areas provided for them, however, the clothing inevitably finds its way to our lost and found box and despite announcements goes unclaimed. We ask parents to discuss this continuous problem with your children and to put a stop to these expensive items of clothing being sent to the Salvation Army on a regular basis.

### **Christmas Gift Idea**

Looking for a Christmas idea?

Children from grades 4 to 8 need a French dictionary. Please ensure your child has a dictionary for 2008! It could make a great stocking stuffer too.

*Madame Ippolito*

