



At Saint Jerome School, these are some of the ways we lived our Mission this week....January 27, 2012

Academic excellence

All you have to do is walk through the school to see Academic Excellence! K-1 and K-2 take us on a journey through the Arctic and Antarctic areas, Grade 1 shares some very fluffy snow pictures and great “winter” vocabulary, Grade 2 has on display some very interesting personal stories presented in name anagrams, Grade 3 designed banners that show how each of them live the mission in their personal and school life, Grade 4 is working on the Sacraments of Initiation and illustrated the ways they’ve received, Grade 5 showed their skill in graphing, Grade 7 is an interesting bunch and you’ll agree if you stop by and read their Collins Writing work on their biographies. Grade 8 will be using their Social Studies knowledge of immigration and the precious gift of freedom as they head to New York City for their class trip. Miss Nowell has on display some of the sound words identified in Music class, Senora Barry has some snappy sombreros outside her office and Mrs. Graham has adorned any extra space with fantastic art including half-self portraits that are AMAZING!

Mrs. MacCurtain’s Term 2 Enrichment group is having a great time. Numbers, Numbers, Numbers is the theme for the new group and, word is, the challenges are being met with enthusiasm and anticipation.

My thanks and congratulations to the 5th grade girls who are planning the start of a new book club... details to follow next week! I can’t wait!

I won’t name him because I know he might be embarrassed but one of our 8th grade boys has made a renewed commitment to doing what he needs to do to reach his potential. His teachers have all commented on the changes they’ve noticed and I add my own observations. I am proud of you!

Please remember kids... it is never too late to change your approach and be all that you can be. You can’t beat the feeling that goes along with doing your best!

Ms. Rubera tells me that at Drama, the kids are helping coach each other and are taking feedback to improve their acting each week. There’s a saying about making your “good”, “better” and your “better”, “the best.” I think they’ve taken that to heart! Competition, here they come!



Faith at the center of what we do

Father Blaney will install the new altar servers this Sunday at our Opening Mass at 10 o'clock. I hope all of you will be there to celebrate their service and to celebrate the opening of Catholic Schools Week. The coming week will give us the opportunity to share with visitors, all that we do at Saint Jerome School. I am proud that the way your faith is lived will be obvious to all who take the tour.

The Saint Jerome Youth Group is gearing up for a 30 Hour Famine during Holy Week. They are just sharing the news on it now and those of us who are not in the group can begin to support them through our prayers.

Grade 7 is working on finding ways to create a more caring environment. They have been discussing the issue of bullying and working on ways to keep it from affecting kids in their own classroom. We look forward to the sharing they will do when their projects are complete.

Service as a way to build community

Thank you, thank you, thank you to Mrs. Clogston for arranging the ELF on-sight field trip. I am still hearing stories about all the fun that was had and the lessons on how our own backyards are "green." I believe the ELF Club is one of the most enjoyable and important after-school events ever offered here. Thanks also to Mrs. Donnellan, Mr. Ryan, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. DiModugno, and Mrs. McGurran for their help. I hope you all had the chance to see the full page of pELF pictures in this week's Weymouth News! A wonderful tribute to a wonderful group!

Helena Lynch is a model of all that we strive to be. When we had our BIG snow storm last Saturday Helena made the choice to help out with the shoveling. Though it wasn't her intention, Helena was paid for her efforts. On Monday, Helena brought in her hard-earned money and asked if I would donate it to charity. Her kindness has been shared with Angel's Voice Orphanage. Thank you, Helena for setting such a great example!

Lauren Van Nosedall is another great model. Mrs. DiVito told me that, without prompting, she went to offer a classmate who was struggling some help and worked patiently until the work became easier. Thank you, Lauren.



Service as a way to build community. continued

Thanks to the Student Government and choir for sharing their time and helping us celebrate the start of Catholic Schools Week. We know it will be better through your efforts!

Thank you to all the parents who give service endlessly to make sure our school is the best there is! Just this past week they have volunteered to be at the Parent Council meeting, held a meeting of the Tech Committee, helped in the schoolyard, ran the ELF program, donated supplies for our Open House and will share time giving tours to new families, planned a fun Family night, helped at Drama, gathered donations for the Taste of Spring and sent in candy and gum for our troops. Truthfully, there are so many examples I'm sure I missed a few! Please thank your parents for ALL they do for YOU and our school!

Shout-outs... go to Jack Crowley for making it back onto the court before the season ends. Keep up the great effort, Jack! And a BIG shout-out to our teams who keep showing up and giving their best. Your commitment will train you to accomplish anything that really matters to you.

And lest Grade 6 thinks I forgot to mention their Catholic Schools Week efforts, rest assured I have not. I read each of your essays on how we live the mission each day and I am so proud of your writing and, as importantly, the messages you shared. You are truly aware of our hopes and expectations for each student here at Saint Jerome School. From the Math Wall of Fame to the Science Fair, the prayers offered for others to the way we treat each other, the work done in service for causes like Angel's Voice and the soldiers serving our country, from recognizing you have teachers who try to get your best from you to the efforts made to provide a meaningful Youth Group, you have captured the essence of what it means to be a student at Saint Jerome.

Jack offered, "at Saint Jerome we like to make other people happy."

Patrick added, "at Saint Jerome we try to love everyone the way God loves us."

Mari observed, "we try to do the work of God not to get credit but just to do it."

Thank you Grade 6 for giving us inspiring words and reminding us what it truly means to live the mission at Saint Jerome School. I hope to see you all Sunday to celebrate all we do together!

Mrs. Puleo