

# SCHOOLS TO BELIEVE IN

Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board Newsletter

## This Issue:

p2

A Christmas Prayer  
NPSC Snapshots

p3

FIRST Lego Leagues  
The Power of Y.E.T

p4

Upcoming Events

## Students Participate in Model Parliament

Students at St. Alexander, St. Hubert and St. Theresa schools “dressed the part” and participated in a Model Parliament in November. This engaging, 2-hour program is a unique educational experience about Ontario's Parliament. Students learned about the function of parliament, the levels of government and their responsibilities, the importance of civic engagement, and participated in a variety of interactive activities.



## You Be The Chemist

Congratulations to our friends at St. Theresa, who participated in the "You Be the Chemist" challenge at Nipissing University on October 10. All students were very successful in their efforts. Special congratulations to Liam Kimber and Logan Duchesne who placed in the top 9, and to Colin Dreany who placed 1st! Way to go NPSC Chemists!



# Christmas

Loving God,  
May the one who came, come again  
May he come to us and reveal himself to us  
May he knock on our door and tell us his name  
May he be present to us and love us  
May the one who came, come again  
We need him more than ever

May the one who came, come again  
May he be our light and our strength  
May he dispel our fears and give us courage  
May he change our hearts and give us wisdom  
May the one who came, come again  
We need him more than ever

May the one who came, come again  
May we accept his word and share his life  
May we welcome his Spirit and be filled with grace  
May we share his love and our sisters and brothers  
May the one who came, come again  
We need him more than ever

May the one who came, come again  
May he come, our Saviour, and our brother  
May we prepare for Christmas and welcome Jesus  
May he embrace us today and on the last day  
May the one who came, come again  
We need him now and forever.

Amen.

-Monsignor Norm Clement



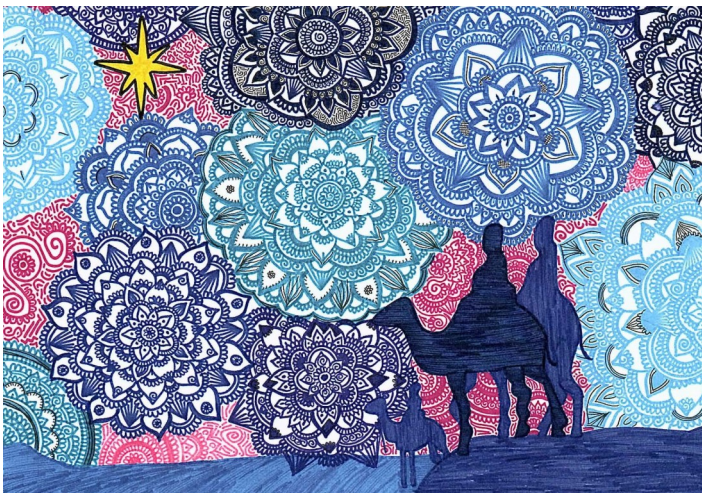
Educators from schools across NPSC took part in the Annual Indigenous Education Staff Retreat in October. Staff participated in lessons and workshops to learn about and experience indigenous culture.



Congratulations to the staff, students, parents and alumni at SJSH who collected 2524 pounds of food for the North Bay Food Bank!



On September 25, students and staff (including St. Francis students, pictured here) joined the province to celebrate Franco-Ontarian Day. Dressing in green and white, students celebrated French language and French culture. Nous sommes vraiment fiers de nos élèves qui continuent leurs études en français et en anglais. Bravo!





# NPSC Embarks on FIRST Lego League Adventure

Schools across NPSC participated in the regional qualifying lego-robotics FIRST Lego League competition on December 8. Teams included: St. Gregory's "Iced-T" team, St. Theresa's "Tiger Robotics" team, St. Francis' "Snowy Dolphins" team, and team "Polar Airglow" made up of students from St. Hubert, St. Theresa and Mother St. Bride schools. FIRST Lego League teams research a real-world problem such as food safety, recycling, energy, etc., and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build, program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS™, then compete on a table-top playing field. This year's theme was INTO ORBIT – Space! All members of the public were welcome to join in the day. The day began with opening ceremonies, followed by a full day of table top robotics matches, project presentations, and judging.

It all adds up to tons of fun while they learn to apply science, technology, engineering, and math concepts (STEM), plus a big dose of imagination, to solve a problem. Along their journey, they develop critical thinking and team-building skills, basic STEM applications, and even presentation skills, as they must present their solutions to the judges with a dash of creativity. They also practice the Program's Core Values, which emphasize discovery, teamwork and good sportsmanship.



## St. Gregory School Investigates “The Power of Y.E.T.”

Three NPSC teachers are taking part in a research project entitled, *The Power of Y.E.T. (Youth Exercising Together)*, that is engaging students in a new way at St. Gregory School in Powassan. *The Power of Y.E.T.* is exploring the ways physical activity and exercise can be incorporated into the classroom setting to enhance student learning and engagement. Teacher leads Kelly Madigan, Shanna Nodwell, and Stacey Walsh are leading the project. “This is such a wonderful opportunity for the students to gain a better perspective with regards to overall health and wellness”, says Walsh.

Walsh, Nodwell and Madigan are recipients of a Teacher Learning and Leadership Grant (TLLP), funded by the Ministry of Education. The grant is an annual professional development opportunity designed to help experienced classroom teachers foster their own growth, leadership and share best practices. “We are noticing a huge change in how our students engage and interact with curriculum subjects, able to focus for longer periods of time, and beginning to take charge of their learning,” says Nodwell.

The funding has enabled the teachers to invest in a variety of resources for their classrooms including stationary bike desks, standing desks, yoga mats, weighted skipping ropes and more. In addition to regular physical education activities, students have the opportunity to select the working station that best meets their needs and learning preferences. “These seats are helping me learn because we get to move around,” says William Hanselman, a student at St. Gregory. “Especially the bike desks because I am a very athletic person and I like to move a lot, so these seats are helpful for me.”

“Students are learning that Physical Literacy is more than just ‘working out’,” says Madigan. “They are learning that having a body that is able to move when they decide, empowers their mental health and well-being. Students are smiling while they are working because their endorphins are activated and in turn, they are producing higher level thinking and collaboration,” she says.

Visit <https://youtu.be/FMVyePwhZl8> to view a video on the project.

## January

16

**Grade 8 Information Night**  
Wednesday, January 16, 2019  
St. Joseph-Scollard Hall  
(675 O'Brien Street, North Bay)  
6:00pm

16

**Early French Immersion Information Night  
(North Bay and Area Families)**  
Wednesday, January 16, 2019  
Holy Cross School  
(602 Lakeheights Road, North Bay)  
6:00pm

17

**Early French Immersion Information Night  
(Callander and Area Families)**  
Thursday, January 17, 2019  
St. Theresa Elementary School  
(1475 Main Street North Callander)  
6:00pm



St. Luke student council raised \$425 for One Kids Place by organizing a pajama and gum day. Thank you to our staff and students who continue to demonstrate leadership and kindness in our community!

## Confirmation Information

Dear Parents, Guardians & Confirmation Candidates,

Confirmation is prepared for and celebrated as a Regional Celebration. We will kick-off our Confirmation Season with a Retreat at Holy Name of Jesus Church on December 1 and our preparation gatherings will be held as part of YEO on Friday nights at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall School. Youth Evangelizing Others (YEO) is a Catholic Youth Group designed for Grade 8-12 students with a mission to bring other teens to know Jesus through testimonies, talks, skits, and games.

**HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Call Colleen  
at 840-3400

**YOU MUST REGISTER THROUGH THE PARISH WHERE  
YOU ATTEND & ARE REGISTERED**

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION DATES

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
WED NOV 21	6:30 PM	ST. PETER'S
SAT DEC 1	9:00 AM—9:00 PM	HOLY NAME OF JESUS <b>RETREAT</b>
FRI DEC 7	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H SCHOOL GYM
FRI JAN 11	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H. SCHOOL GYM
FRI FEB 8	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H. SCHOOL GYM
FRI MAR 1	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H. SCHOOL GYM
FRI APR 5	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H. SCHOOL GYM
FRI MAY 3	6:30-9:00 PM	S.J.S.H. SCHOOL GYM
WED JUNE 5	6:30—8:00 PM	PRO-CATHEDRAL <b>CONFIRMATION PRACTICE</b>
SAT JUNE 8 2019	10:00 AM	PRO-CATHEDRAL <b>CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION</b>

Please note that in requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation it is presumed that you are in Grade 7 or 8 (or older) and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. If you are missing one or more of these sacraments, call your parish

Connect with us!

