
The Villanovan

A Monthly Publication of Villanova Junior High School

Volume 2 Issue 5

February 2008

Principal: Mr. Barry Jenkins

Assistant Principal: Ms. Carolyn Tilley

Parking Lot Safety

As a reminder, during after-school dismissal, when students are in the parking lot making their way to their bus or other ride, traffic is not permitted to move until our busses are dismissed. We will be placing traffic flow barriers in the lanes next to our busses during dismissal, this will begin next week. We have to take this measure to ensure the safety of our students. If you can't wait until the busses are dismissed we ask you to park on the back of the building and your child can meet you through the gym doors. If this is a procedure you would like to follow please contact your child's homeroom teacher so he/she can direct students to the gym.

Scent Allergies

We are still having some problems with students wearing scented products. PLEASE speak to your children about this. One of our teachers have had to leave school during the school day because of the problems caused by these scents. We have sent some students home to get a shower and will continue to do this if the need arises. With everyone's cooperation we should not have to do this again. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Fog Devils Hockey Game

The Fog Devils game was a great success again this year. We sold 637 tickets. This was enough to beat Frank Roberts in the challenge so we will be receiving about \$3,000 from the 50/50 draw. This money will go directly into our Eat 'n Run Café breakfast program. We also received over \$2700 from the sale of the tickets and this money will be used in our homeroom for various supplies and resources. Thanks again for all your support in this FUNraiser.

THINK GREEN - Reminder

There is a blitz every Friday morning from 8:10 - 8:40am, with drop-off on the back of the school. **Please remember that we can only accept beverage (except milk) containers at this time.** All donations, big or small, are greatly appreciated! We look forward to your continued support with this initiative. **Grade 5 & 6 students are reminded of the CBS Winterfest Challenge.** All K - 6 schools have been challenged to bring in recyclables and one grade from all the schools who brings in the most beverage containers will receive a FREE skating session at the CBS Stadium.

School Council

If you have any questions or concerns about any issues relating to our school, please contact your parent representatives, Mr. Paul Dinn, 781-4800 or (paul.dinn@nl.rogers.com), Mr. Brad Butler, 834-1709 or (bradb@gov.nl.ca), Mr. Sid Cox, 781-0085 or (scox@light-partner.com) and Mr. Richard Smith, 834-6788 or (renuindustries@nf.aibn.com).

Our February meeting was held on Feb. 7th. This meeting dealt with the school district strategic plan. A report of that meeting will be sent out later.

The Eastern School Board is currently undertaking a comprehensive consultation process with education stakeholders to assist with the development of its 2008-11 Strategic Plan. Throughout the month of February, Board trustees and senior staff will be travelling throughout the District to meet with administrators, school councils, staff and community representatives.

Individuals may also provide comments by completing the online feedback form on the district website: www.esdnl.ca. Written feedback will also be accepted by email: strategicplan@esdnl.ca; by fax: 758-2706 or by mail: Strategic Plan, Eastern School District, Suite 601 Atlantic Place, 215 Water Street, Box 64-66, St. John's, NL A1C 6C9. The deadline for receiving feedback is April 4, 2008.

Student Reporting Periods

The change over for semesterized courses took place on Monday, February 4th. This involved grade 6 ICF and grade 7 & 8 students only. A report card for the grade 7 & 8 semester 1 courses will be sent home tomorrow, Friday Feb. 15th.

Our next full report card will go out on Thursday, March 13th and parent teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, March 19th. Please mark these dates in your calendars.

School Holiday

Due to a scheduled school board holiday on Monday, February 18th there will not be any classes on this day.

Teacher Professional Development

Our teachers will be involved in professional development on **Tuesday, February 19th**. As a result of this PD-Day there will not be any classes for our students on this day. Please mark this date and the school holiday date in your calendars to avoid any confusion on these days. Students will return to class on Wednesday, February 20th, day 3 on the schedule.

Grade 6 News

Const. D. Nixon and Const. B. Butler completed the D.A.R.E. program to all of our Grade Six students February 13th. The D.A.R.E. Graduation will take place on February 27. Information about this will be sent home next week.

Curriculum News - Junior High

English Language Arts

Our Grade 7's are still busy with the Imagine Poetry unit. As one example of our many poetry-related activities in this unit, students are each presenting a song of their choice, but one that must have both a message and an example of figurative language.

Likewise, Grade 8's continue their What a Story! unit with activities such as learning about urban legends, tall tales, fairy tales, and overall, what makes a great story.

Parents of Grades 7 & 8's, please note that students should be working on their independent novel assignments now. As well, by the last week of February, we hope to begin work on public speaking. Expect students to bring home a list of speech topics at that time. Please encourage your child to put in both the effort and research necessary to achieve well in this important unit.

Socials Studies

Geography Challenge

All students in our school recently competed in a Geography Challenge competition testing students general knowledge and understanding of Canadian and World Geography. Our students initially competed at their class level in two categories: Level 1 - Grades 5 and 6; Level 2 - Grade 7 and 8. The top three class winners at each Grade level then competed in the finals. Winners are:

Level 1:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 st | Lyndon Boone 5-1 |
| 2 nd | Evan Walters 6-5 |

3rd Joseph Hapgood 6-3
Thomas Pieroway 6-4

Level 2:

1st Noah Smith 8-3 /Jared Trask 7-1
2nd Colin Perry 8-2
3rd Michael Fleet 8-2

Congratulations to all participants and special thanks to Ms. Colleen King and Mr. Ron Smith who organized the Challenge.

Heritage Fair

This term, students in Grade 6 and Grade 8 are involved in developing and presenting a Heritage project at the class level. The projects are an important component of the Social Studies program. All projects will be evaluated and graded with the top five projects from each class selected to participate in our School Fair on April 17.

This annual Fair will highlight students' projects on various themes related to our culture and heritage. Our local effort is part of the national Historica Fairs program (www.historica.ca/fairs) which highlights student history projects.

Our Fair on April 17th will be held in our gymnasium starting at 7pm and is open to the public. An awards ceremony will be held that evening where our judges will select the top three student projects to represent Villanova at the Eastern District Regional Fair at MacDonald Drive Junior High on May 2-3. The top projects are then selected to compete at the Provincial Fair; from there projects are then selected to represent the province at the National Fair.

This project is a great opportunity for our students to gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of our rich and colorful culture and heritage. We encourage parents and guardians to offer any help and guidance necessary; but all projects must be produced by the student.

French Department

Grade 7 Core French students continue to work on the unit Grand Voyage which deals with travel and tourism. Grade 8 Core French students are working on the unit À l'action.

Grade 7 Français students are working on their speeches for the Concours d'art oratoire. Grade 8 Français students are working on a novel study of Collège MacDonald: Méfiez-vous du poisson.

A reminder to parents/guardians that the next deposit for the grade 7 trip to Saint-Pierre is March 3rd. There is a need for male chaperones for the Grade 7 trip, April 30th to May 3rd. A valid passport is required for adults travelling to Saint-Pierre. If your child is participating in the trip and you are interested in chaperoning please send an e-mail to margieelms@esdnl.ca.

Guidance

Students involved in the Tutoring for Tuition Program are reminded of their tutoring on Tuesday or Thursday afternoon. It is important that students attend their scheduled time. If for some reason your child can't make a session please contact Ms. Brenton.

Extra-Curricular Co-Curricular



Hockey

Our school hockey team had an excellent showing at the Fog Devils FUNraising shoot-out. Our team defeated the Frank Roberts ravens by a score of 3 - 2 and showed great school spirit.

On February 13th our team won the inaugural Junior High Hockey Challenge as a part of the CBS

Winterfest activities. We won the first game with a thrilling double over-time victory. The second game went to Frank Roberts. An overtime session was played following game two to determine the winner. Andrew Ryan scored the golden goal to capture the Shield for our Vipers with less the two minutes gone in the overtime session. Great Job boys!!

Basketball

The Boys Grade 8 basketball team is participating in the Provincial A Basketball tournament this upcoming weekend at Mt Pearl Intermediate. The Vipers are in a tough division and are ranked third out of 16 teams. They have been practicing hard and have



set their goal to get into the championship. **All are encouraged to get out and support the team this weekend. GO VIPERS!!**

All Games will be played at Mount Pearl Intermediate.

Friday Feb 15

6:30 pm Leary's Brook vs. Villanova

Saturday, Feb 16th

1:30 pm Villanova vs. Beaconsfield

7:30 pm Villanova vs St. Paul's

Play-off games Sunday morning.

9:00 am 1st Division "A" vs. 2nd Division "B"

10:30 am 1st Division "B" vs 2nd Division "A"

1:30 pm Championship

Cheerleading

The girls continue to be busy participating in activities around the school. They were in attendance at the Fog Devils game on Feb 1st and cheered on the Vipers in a 3-2 shootout win over the Ravens.

They will be hosting a Valentine's Dance on Feb. 21st that will assist with fundraising efforts for a set of team shirts. They will also be selling tickets on a basket of goodies that will have items perfect for a movie night with friends.

They are busy working on a routine for Eastern Health's Youth Health Magazine launch that will be held at Villanova Junior High on Monday, February 25th. The team is very excited about this opportunity.

The girls are also looking forward to some projects in the spring so watch upcoming newsletters for updates!

From Miss Ball, Ms. White, and Miss Butt

If you have any questions or concerns relating to any items on this newsletter or any other items please contact, via e-mail, Mr. Jenkins, barryjenkins@esdnl.ca or Ms. Tilley, carolyntilley@esdnl.ca or by telephone at 834-3916.