
DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIR'S REPORT

TO: DCPIC, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SCHOOL CHAIRS, STAFF AND PARENTS
FROM: LINDA DODSON TRCHALA
SUBJECT: MARCH 2016 REPORT
DATE: MARCH 10, 2016

This month we will celebrate Easter and His Holiness, Pope Francis shared this message to us:

The Church throughout the world echoes the angel's message to the women: "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised... Come, see the place where he lay" (Mt 28:5-6).

This is the culmination of the Gospel, it is the Good News par excellence: Jesus, who was crucified, is risen! This event is the basis of our faith and our hope. If Christ were not raised, Christianity would lose its very meaning; the whole mission of the Church would lose its impulse, for this is the point from which it first set out and continues to set out ever anew. The message which Christians bring to the world is this: Jesus, Love incarnate, died on the cross for our sins, but God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death. In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death.

That is why we tell everyone: "Come and see!" In every human situation, marked by frailty, sin and death, the Good News is no mere matter of words, but a testimony to unconditional and faithful love: it is about leaving ourselves behind and encountering others, being close to those crushed by life's troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast... "Come and see!": Love is more powerful, love gives life, love makes hope blossom in the wilderness.

With this joyful certainty in our hearts, today we turn to you, risen Lord!

This month our committee will be hosting one of its two PRO Grant events, A Parents Guide to Learning in the Classroom – Numeracy (March 31st). Please visit our website at www.dcpic.ca, for all the details.

Here is the update for this month:

February Report

- OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education)
 - a) OAPCE's next quarterly meeting will be in April 1 & 2, 2016.
 - b) DCDSB provided OAPCE a list of representatives for each school council as requested.
 - c) The 2016 OAPCE Conference will take place on May 6th & 7th, 2016. It will be in Toronto. Mass celebrated by Cardinal Collins.

- PRO Grant 2015-2016
 - a) On March 31st, the first of our two webinar/in person events for our PRO Grant will take place. We will be hosting A Parents Guide to Learning in the Classroom – Numeracy. The keynote speaker is Lynda Cogan, B.Sc., B.Ed. (Toronto), M.Ed. (OISE), Ph.D. (Toronto), Faculty of Education at Queens University.
 - b) On April 18th, DCPIC will host the second A Parents Guide to Learning in the Classroom – Literacy. The keynote speaker is David Booth, M. Ed. (Durham University), Professor Emeritus and Coordinator of the Pre-Service Elementary program at OISE, UofT.

- Conferences/Professional Development
 - a) October 22-24 – When Faith Meets Pedagogy (attended by Kim, Amanda & Richard)
 - b) October 24 – CPF Ontario (attended by Linda & Christina D.)
 - c) November 5 – Cardinal's Dinner (attended by Linda and Roxanne)
 - d) November 7, 8 – People for Education (Nov 8 PIC Chairs/networkers – attended by Linda & Roxanne)
 - e) April 16, 2016 – Ministry of Education PIC Symposium (new this year – 5 parent members from school councils will be attending along with 2 the PIC representatives)
 - f) May 6-7 - OAPCE