

BAC NEWS - NOVEMBER 2009

NEW CHAPLAINCY LEAD

On behalf of the Bishop Alexander Carter Catholic Secondary School community we would like to welcome our new chaplaincy lead Mrs. Jenn Geddes. Mrs. Geddes will be at BAC on Mondays, Wednesdays and alternating Fridays. Our previous Chaplain, Mr. Rob Pappin has accepted a Chaplaincy position at St. Benedict C. S. S. We wish him good luck and success.

DEAR (Drop Everything And Read)

Again this year, BAC has adopted the DEAR program. Once a week, for 15 minutes, all staff and students stop whatever it is that they are doing and read silently. By providing students with an opportunity to include quiet reading into their regular schedule, we are enabling them to develop their literacy skills and to recognize how reading is an everyday life skill. Books are not the only option during this reading time. Newspapers, magazines, even operator's manuals, are also options. The program will run for 12 weeks this fall and then again in 2nd semester for another 12 weeks.

WHITE PINE BOOK CLUB

At the request of several students, BAC will once again run the White Pine Book Club. Students who join will be able to read and discuss up to 10 recently published Canadian teen fiction books. The list of 10 titles to be read will be available at the end of October from the Ontario Library Association who are the organizers of this reading program. Beginning in January, the Book Club will meet regularly to discuss each of the books. At the end of April, participants in the Book Club will have the opportunity to vote for their favourite book on the list.

MISSIONS

BAC's Missions collections made a \$200 donation to the Alzheimer's Society. I would like to thank the staff and students for their contributions to Missions which made this donation possible. Homeroom teachers will continue to collect pocket change from students every Thursday morning for Missions.

ILLNESS/FLU

As you know, flu season is upon us. The following is from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. *"Influenza-like illness is the acute onset of respiratory symptoms with fever and cough and one or more of the following symptoms: sore throat, muscle aches, joint pain, or weakness. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present and fever may not be prominent. To reduce the spread of H1N1 in schools, certain measures such as hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette and staying home when ill can prevent or reduce the spread of influenza."* Schools have been asked to communicate daily with the Health Unit to report any flu-like symptoms therefore, when you contact the school you are asked to report any flu-like symptoms. The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care has also advised that *"Students, staff and volunteers who become ill should be encouraged to stay home until they no longer have a fever and are well."*

ATTENDANCE

If your son or daughter is absent from school or class, parents must notify the school in order to maintain accurate attendance records. Parents can either call the school and speak with one of the secretaries, leave a message on the answering machine or write a note to be brought to the Main Office. ***All absences and lates must be confirmed by a phone call or a written note upon the students return.*** The school day begins 8:10 a.m. in period 1 and students are expected to be present.

RECYCLING

BAC is asking parents to bring in any used ink cartridges from home or workplace, used cell phones, digital cameras and dead batteries for proper waste disposal. These items can be dropped off at the main office. We thank you in advance.