

Newsletter – Principal’s Remarks

This school year will be marked by a series of transitions that are designed to improve student learning with respect to our faith, language (literacy) and mathematics (numeracy). We will also embark on a series of projects to improve our school as a facility with respect to ongoing renovations and improvements in computer technology. St. Mary’s will continue to grow in both a capital and educational sense this year. Along with this growth will be the need to be patient.

For this year, we can look forward to a number of exciting initiatives and projects.

We will develop a new School Improvement Plan that continues to aggressively tackle the matter of improving literacy – language, mathematics and faith. Our teachers will participate in learning teams to help improve teaching practice in the classroom.

We will be piloting a literacy support program for teachers that will be facilitated by an expert from the Ministry of Education and Training.

We will continue our Literacy Intervention Program for our primary students.

We will be participating in a technology pilot program that will mean new computers in the computer lab, an updated operating system (Windows XP) as well as two carts containing laptops equipped with wireless technology.

We are planning a big celebration to be held in February or March to mark the official opening of the new addition to our school.

We will continue to update and revise the website to be a better resource to our whole school community – students, parents, and staff.

We will be exploring a Peaceful Schools program for the fall that is intended on rooting out violence in our schools and promoting peace.

We will continue to work closely with our School Advisory Council to work towards the common goal of improving student learning.

We will be renovating the west wing of the school with a new roof, new roof-drains, new mechanical systems and new paint!

We will be unveiling a new school logo that will capture the enduring identity of our school.

In closing, the Vatican announced that this year is the Year of the Eucharist. As with all sacraments – we are looking for the manifestation of God in people, places and things; the celebration of Eucharist brings our faith community together – we ask that you pray for our Grade Two students that will be preparing to receive this sacrament for the first time. I would also ask that you continue to keep the St. Mary’s School community in your prayers and thoughts as we embark on another successful school year.

“They recognized him in the breaking of bread” (cf. Lk 24:35)