

# January Newsletter 2012



**St. Benedict  
Catholic School**  
INSPIRED BY CHRIST

75 Alton Drive, Leduc AB T9E 7K1 986-7480 Fax 986-7481

## Principal's Message



### Christmas

In a long ago time, and a faraway land,  
A tiny Baby was born to save every man.  
Because of God's Love, so great for us all,  
He sent His only Son, a Baby so small.  
What a huge burden for this Baby to bear  
To help all God's children out of despair.

This Christmas is a reminder to open your heart,  
And this message of Love we should impart.  
Our God showed us how much He cared  
When with us all this Baby He shared.

*Our Christmas Giving Tree was a huge success! We were able to send 226 gifts to Santa's Anonymous. I would like to offer a special thank you to the many families who so generously donated gifts in order to make this Christmas special for children in Leduc. Thanks also to NAVCAN who raised money to help sponsor Wal-Mart gift cards which were given to St. Benedict families in need this Christmas. Finally, thanks to Dawn Galloway who hosted her annual bake and craft sale at St. Benedict School. Proceeds from the sale of her home made goods go to helping others in the community. It is so awesome to see the giving that happens in the St. Benedict School community . . . whether it is giving of time to others, being a friend to someone who is sick or lonely, doing volunteer work, sharing talents, or sharing treasures . . . it's all good in His eyes!*

**Special thanks** to everyone who so generously assisted in our Christmas Concert and to Mrs. Schaefer and Ms. Kooy for their gift of music. We are very proud of our students . . . they performed beautifully! It takes a lot of time and

*commitment to put a concert together, so kudos to all who helped to make the Christmas concert a success!*

*I would also like to extend a very special thanks to Father Leo for celebrating our Advent Mass on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. As well, thanks to Linda Boire, St. Michael's Parish Pastoral Assistant, who helped prepare our students for some of the changes to the Catholic Mass since the new Missal was introduced beginning this Advent season. We are so thankful for our relationship with St. Michael's Parish!*

*I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe over the Christmas holidays and enjoy your holidays and time you have with family and friends!*

*God bless!*

*Monique Tellier-Phillips*

### **COLDER WEATHER**

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for Alberta weather. The playground can be quite windy. Please **label/personalize** toques, mittens, scarves, snow pants and boots visibly on the outside so that we won't have students wearing the wrong ones. If the temperature/wind chill is above -20 then it is outdoor recess.



**FIRST DAY BACK- MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH**

**REMINDER-**  
**NO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST**



## ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL Kindergarten Program

Will be accepting early registration for the 2012-13 school year from our St. Benedict School families on January 9-13<sup>th</sup>. Open registration will begin on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please register early if you would like a certain class time.

Students must be five (5) years of age  
by **March 1, 2013**

A copy of the child's Birth Certificate **must** accompany the registration. Catholic parents should also include a copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate.

Fee amounts will be announced once approved by District.

We are a Catholic Christian school where people of all faiths are welcome.

Call the school to arrange for a tour of our facilities at (780) 986-7480

If you are 8-12 years old, girl or boy and love the water....synchronized swimming may be the activity for you! Synchro Swimming is offering a new 10 week beginner course starting Jan 5-March 8th. For more info call Jody de Waal at 780-986-9833 or at [dewaal1@shaw.ca](mailto:dewaal1@shaw.ca)

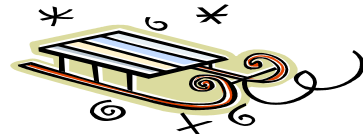


\*Did you know that your child's ability to complete phonological awareness

activities is closely linked to success with early reading and spelling?

\*Some phonological awareness activities include:

- 1) looking for rhyming words in poems, songs or short stories
- 2) clapping out each word in a sentence or each syllable in words
- 3) identifying the first sound in simple words



### Notice to Students & Parents

Please remove all outdoor footwear at the door mat. With the cold weather we cannot have wet floors for the students and staff to slip on.



### ST. MICHAEL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Baptism

If your child is of school age and has not been baptized and is interested in being baptized, please contact Linda at the Parish Office at 986-3253.



A special **thank you** to all our parents who so generously provided us with goodies and good wishes for the holiday season. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Also, **thank you** to all the families who donated to our Giving Tree. We collected **226** gifts for the 156 Leduc families in need of extra help over the Christmas season. Many families were able to enjoy a festive celebration because of the overwhelming giving nature of our school community. **Thank you** as well, to **NAV Canada**. Their generous donation to our fund will bring lots of smiling little faces on Christmas morning.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

What do teachers do on PD Days?

Our professional development days this year have a focus on digital literacy. With the installation of SMART boards in our classrooms, our staff is being in-serviced on using them in their lessons. New technology always adds to the excitement and learning in a classroom.

❖ On Early Dismissal Wednesdays (the first Wednesday of the month except September) we have a combination of a school business meeting and teachers working in PLC's - Professional Learning Communities - Teachers meet with subject and/or grade level partners to plan for curriculum. In addition, on three of our early dismissal days this year, teachers will participate in workshops. The most recent early dismissal, this past December 7<sup>th</sup>, teachers attended a workshop entitled "Engaging Students - The Art of Effective Instruction".

❖ On January 31<sup>st</sup> our school will be having a staff retreat.

❖ Teachers Convention is coming up on February 9 & 10<sup>th</sup>. - teachers will be involved in a series of key note presentations, break out sessions and workshops themed "Achieving Change Together" at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT DVD'S

Our Christmas concert dvd's will be available by the middle of January for you to pick up. It is still not too late to order.

### UNESCO PROJECT

Unesco Talent Show will be held on the afternoon, Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, for Gr. 1-3 and on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> for Grades 4 & 5. The cost to register a performance is \$5 per student. The admission fee to watch the show is \$2. Parents welcome as well. All proceeds will go towards our School Project. This year we are raising funds to build a library for the Kahunga Primary School in Uganda. More information will be sent home in January.



### 2012-2013 Preschool Registration

Will be held on **February 16<sup>th</sup>** in the school gym from 7-9 pm. Please bring your child's birth certificate and checkbook. There are only so many spots and they fill up fast. No registrations will be accepted unless all documentation & post-dated cheques have been received.

### Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

We congratulate the following students who demonstrated leadership and responsibility this past month.

Leif Woolgar  
Sarah Johnson  
Erika Hawes  
Myles Jones  
McKena Fleischhacker  
Shaylin Ekdahl-Wessner  
Mherl Capistrano  
Ariana Power  
Jessy Hauger  
Maria Vos



### Footsteps of Jesus for January

Self-Control - Reflecting God in our behavior. Examples of self-control are:

- Doing what is expected without anyone watching over you
- Doing things on time
- Creating routines that bring peace and order to your day
- Practicing moderation
- Keeping emotions in control so that emotions don't control you

### Happy Birthday!!

Celebrating **January** birthdays are:

Danielle Sisson on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
Ethan Tingey on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Kyle Ariss on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Gabriella Cardinal on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Kayden Fleischhacker on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Liam Klug on the 6<sup>th</sup>  
Megan Dixon on the 8<sup>th</sup>  
Tatum Kirkpatrick on the 8<sup>th</sup>  
Eben Parry on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
Trent Dyck on the 16<sup>th</sup>  
Parker Jones on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Antony Pulikapparambil on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Andrew Calusin on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
Adam Juskiewicz on the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Amanda Garcia on the 24<sup>th</sup>  
Bria Zukowski on the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Emily Hamula on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
Willa McCarney on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
Jacob Hanson on the 27<sup>th</sup>  
Aries Nagy on the 27<sup>th</sup>  
Nolan Heck on the 30<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Moore on the 30<sup>th</sup>  
Carson Schindel on the 30<sup>th</sup>  
Kylie Stewart on 31<sup>st</sup>



Join us for the **2012 Catholic Conference: Open Wide the Doors...Welcome the New Evangelization.** Held on **March 9-10, 2012 in Calgary, Alberta** the Catholic Conference brings together speakers from across the province exploring topics ranging from marriage, faith and culture to pastoral and palliative care and inter-church relationships. The keynote speakers at this year's conference are **Archbishop Gerard Pettipas and Steve Angrisano.** For more information and to register for the 2012 Catholic Conference please visit [www.acsta.ab.ca](http://www.acsta.ab.ca).

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Welcome to Mrs. Rae-Marie Girard who will be replacing Mr. Tchir from January 9<sup>th</sup> until February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012 while he is on leave.

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**Young Authors! Young Writers' Camps 2012**

Students in Grades 4 - 6 interested in pursuing their passion to write are encouraged to sign up for a 2-day camp at The Bennett Centre (9703 - 94 St. Edmonton) which will take place during Spring Break on March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information



St. Benedict School has reached a major participation milestone with Alberta's school milk program, Club Moo! Our school has been recognized by Alberta Milk for being involved in Club Moo for the past 25 years and is being recognized for its hard work, leadership and tremendous contribution to the health and wellbeing of its students! Congratulations St. Benedict School for developing the lifelong habit of drinking milk for good health!

**PAC NEWS**

The PAC is pleased to announce an ongoing fundraising initiative with Boston Pizza. The Boston Pizza "Operation Education" Program is a fantastic fundraising and educational awards Program for our School. All our family's have to do is to submit any Boston Pizza receipts to the box in the front office and Boston Pizza will give the school a 5% rebate back. That's it- simple, easy, and effective! Tell all your family, friends and neighbors about the 'Operation Education" program, so that they can also help in this fundraising effort.



**A New Year With The Lord**

A new year is about to unfold  
With new opportunities to explore  
Doors will open for new experiences  
New adventures with the Lord

Remember not the former things  
The things of this past year  
The Lord will do new things in us  
Much more than we are aware

For He will make a way for us  
As we put our trust in Him  
And He will guide our every step  
By His presence we have within

What God has placed within our hearts  
We find we'll be able to do  
If we look for the opportunities  
We'll see the door to go through

We mustn't let anything hold us back  
But rise up and take our place  
And be all that God wants us to be  
With a fresh touch of His grace

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**MEND (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It!)**

Mend 7 - 13 is a healthy lifestyle program at the LRC for children aged 7 to 13 years who are above a healthy weight. Parents attend each session with their child to learn about choosing healthier foods and spending more time being active. The program runs from January 8<sup>th</sup> to March 18<sup>th</sup> (20 sessions):

Sunday: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Leduc is only one in five communities across Alberta to offer this free program in partnership with Alberta Health Services. No referrals are needed to participate. For more information and to register, email [jbouchard@leduc.ca](mailto:jbouchard@leduc.ca) or call 780-980-8454.