



April 2010

Grace – grade 2

# St. Ignatius School *Ignition*

## Love is from God

...Tracy Zapp

*"What makes a home?" I asked my little boy, and this is what he said. "You, Mother, and when Father comes. Our table set all shiny, my bed. And Mother, I think it's home because we love each other." (anon)*

I am often amazed by my capacity to love and to do for my family. I don't know how many times (mostly in the middle of the night with an infant who just won't sleep) I've thought, "I can't do this anymore" but somehow I reach inside and find what it takes to continue because I love them and love is truly bottomless even when you think you have no more to give.

*"A mother's love rekindles our joys, restores our hopes, renews our dreams." (Anne Parker)*

Sounds like a demanding job, doesn't it? Huge responsibility. It is. It's the hardest job I've ever had and believe me, I've had more than a few. But despite the lack of monetary pay and the crazy overtime hours, it's one I wouldn't trade for anything. Being a parent is an amazing thing. It's not always easy (is it ever? I'm still waiting for that day) but when is it ever easy to co-exist in a small space with several other people who have different likes, dislikes and habits? We may not always like each other but families are bound together by love. Love says, "I will take care of you and watch over you. I will respect your differences and help you to achieve your dreams. You are a part of me and

I will treasure you as I treasure my own life."

Remember to treasure the people you love. Remember to tell them you love them. Now. Tomorrow may be too late. This coming Mother's Day, be sure to acknowledge a mother near you.

The quotes are taken from "Better Than Gold", a treasury of poetry that was my mother's favourite. She was taken from me in 1983 when I was only 14 years old. I miss her and wish I'd had more opportunities to tell her and show her how much I loved her.

*"Love spends his all and still hath store." (Philip James Bailey)*

## The Principal Says ...

...Danielle Kolton

**Happy Easter season** which is comprised of the 50 days following Easter Sunday, ending on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2010. This is the longest liturgical season of the Church. We celebrated the signs of new life at our Easter Celebration on April 20 with butterfly balloons and fresh flowers. It was truly an exciting and uplifting way to rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus and to be reminded of His message to spread love and peace to all. Our school choir is sounding so wonderful, and we are grateful for the hard work of Mrs.

Pleues, Mrs. Taylor, and Mrs. Zapp who look after our music ministry.

**Our Festival of Lifelong Learning** was a wonderful community event. Thank you to the 110 parents and students who came to hear PhillyD and to peruse our class service project displays. PhillyD challenged us to ask ourselves, "Who do you want to **BE**?" This resonates loudly with us because we work hard to develop compassionate, caring, and contributing young people of faith. His sense of humour, inspiring stories, and

dynamic presence created a lot of energy that evening. Thank you to the staff for providing child care and hospitality, to the grade four class for providing music entertainment and delicious cookies, and to the grade three students who sold their homemade buttons declaring "Be the Change".

We are proud of our grade three students who celebrated their **First Reconciliation** last night and our grade two students who will be celebrating their **First Holy**

## The Principal Says... (continued)

...Danielle Kolton

**Communion** on May 2. Thank you to Mrs. Sine, Mrs. Cenerini, Fr. Gerry, and Mrs. Plewes for working with the students in preparation for these sacraments. A special thank you also goes out to Mrs. Lampman, a parent volunteer, who facilitated Montessori-approach presentations for our grade 2 and 3 students throughout this year in order to enhance their understanding of and participation in liturgy. The celebrations for these exciting events are truly the work of many hands, and we appreciate the work of parent volunteers and staff members who assist! At St. Ignatius School, we recognize that parents are the primary faith educators of their children. As such, we thank you for preparing and supporting your child in this sacrament both this year, and in the future. Please see Mrs. Eliasson's article on Sacrament Season in this issue of the *Ignition*.

Did you know that the faculty at St. Ignatius School meets once a month for an extended lunch hour to work on **professional development** (a.k.a.

*Vertical Work Groups*)? Under the direction of the Professional Development committee, faculty has been working on the School Plan assessment goal one hour per month throughout the year. Our April 12 PD day was also devoted to our journey in assessment. Our challenge, over this year and next, is to become more **assessment literate** by:

- Renegotiating our understanding of assessment;
- Increasing our understanding of assessment terms and concepts;
- Examining our current beliefs and practice;
- Expanding our repertoire of assessment strategies; and
- Developing a balanced assessment system.

Do you eat **Campbell's soup**? If yes, please note that we collect these soup labels in the school office. Thank you to Jayne Bond, a parent volunteer, who has collected and counted the labels throughout the year. We accumulate

points throughout each year with which we purchase fun and exciting instructional supplies. Please keep the labels coming!

As the days get brighter and longer, students invariably become distracted by their renewed energy and involvement in spring activities. Unfortunately, this sometimes coincides with a decreased focus on school work. **Please remember that there are still eight weeks of learning to go before we reach the finish line.** Students who continue to be engaged in school will reap the benefits of pride in their work, exemptions from exams, and a June report card to be proud of. I encourage parents to support their children during this time of year when it becomes difficult to focus on school work.

Thank you for the privilege of educating your children;



## SISPAC...

I have a big smile on my face as I sit down to write this. I am still feeling bright and fully of positivity following the inspiring messages from PhillyD at the Lifelong Learning Festival. Many thanks to all the people who gave their time to organize this event. I left feeling full of contemplation, questions, and a tremendous sense of peace.

As usual, I have a few more people to thank and a couple quick reminders to mention. Thanks to the SISPAC Serving Team who performed admirably at the El Siteo Fiesta Dinner. The serving team included: Carolyn Eva Meadows, Linda McVicar, Mary Anne and David Welham, Marina Yogendran, and Natalie and Marie Desaulniers. While

they didn't win a prize, I hear they were crowd favourites.

SISPAC is gearing up to host the community receptions following our children's sacraments, First Reconciliation on April 29<sup>th</sup>, First Communion on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Confirmation on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

We are also looking forward to joining with the School Board and Staff in planning for the School's 100th Anniversary which will be celebrated in January 2012.

SISPAC's annual bedding plant fundraiser has been a huge success again, thanks to all who ordered, the

...Kristina Ostermann

plants will be available for pick up on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Just a quick reminder of the St. Ignatius Logo clothing sale coming soon. It will start on May 26<sup>th</sup> in the foyer. That is the same date as the community barbeque. Keep your eyes open for the display and have a look for child and adult size clothes to show off our school spirit and pride.

Remember, SISPAC meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30. Next meeting to be held May 18<sup>th</sup>. Come and see what is new, grab a coffee and enjoy some fellowship. Hope to see you there!

## From the Board of Directors ...

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual St Ignatius Mixed Golf Classis will be held Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010. This is a superbly organized and completely fun event that benefits our school, as it is the school's biggest fundraiser. You don't need to know how to play golf as there are opportunities such as "play the best ball on your team" to give you a little momentum. If you'd rather not play golf, that's all right too. Just come for the fabulous dinner. Why not support

the school by sponsoring a hole? There are many ways to help make this event the best ever.

Meet, mingle and make a great day of it. All we need is YOU!

For more information, visit our website at [www.stignatius.mb.ca](http://www.stignatius.mb.ca)

Contact:

Tracy Zapp-661-9455  
tracyzapp@gmail.com

**or**

## Physical Education...

April is our *Spring into Movement Month*. All the students in the school are busy with their Music and Movement units and presentations. On April 21 and 26 2010 we had a special visitor Sharon Delbridge who attended and gave us certified instruction on a new physical fitness/music craze entitled *Zumba Kids*.

April 27, 28, and 29 are the MCSAA badminton tournament dates. We wish the best of luck to our junior high students attending the tournaments:

Nicholas A, Connor L, Lauren H, Vanessa R, Laura S and Adan M, Keira H and Karima D-H, Cody C and Gianluca E, Orlando F and John H. Lunchtime intramurals conclude April 30, 2010. Thanks to the Athletic Council for their great job organizing the lunchtime intramurals.

May brings the excitement of training our bodies through running /walking club (organized by Carol Noonan), and for the MCSSA track and field days - more information to follow. Please remember to dress appropriately as the

## Sacrament Season ...

Sacraments are the "masterworks of God"<sup>1</sup> and the very essence of all we do at St. Ignatius. This is why Sacrament Season is such an important time of year for us. Tonight, April 29, the children of grade three will celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation, and on Sunday, May 2, the children of grade two will receive their First Holy Communion. The gifts of the Holy Spirit will be bestowed on our grade eight students on Thursday, May 13, with the sacrament of Confirmation. We have three very important reasons to celebrate!

All grades at St. Ignatius School participate in three aspects of our Sacrament Season: theology, prayer and celebration. The combination of these three aspects enrich students' understanding of the significance of

the sacraments in their own lives. It also helps them to see the importance of recognizing and supporting those receiving sacraments for the first time.

The theological aspect involves a lesson on each sacrament. Lessons are grade-level appropriate and may include activities such as guided meditations, stories of grace and blessing, or dramatizations of sacrament-related scripture. Higher grades may also explore and consider the scriptural basis for each sacrament.

Prayers are distributed to every class for the week before each sacrament is received. Classes pray together for sacrament candidates as they prepare for their very big day. Each sacrament class also has a prayer-buddy class that creates and devotes very special

... Lee Mencik

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## St. Ignatius School Board of Directors Inc.

For information about your school board and its members, please refer to your Family Handbook and [www.stignatius.mb.ca](http://www.stignatius.mb.ca)  
Contact us at: [board@stignatius.mb.ca](mailto:board@stignatius.mb.ca)

...Cheryl Van Dale

sunny days mean more and more outdoor Physical Education classes.

We are already preparing for next year's St Ignatius School Athletics Program. If you would be interested in coaching or co-coaching a team please contact Mrs. Van Dale at [vandalc@stignatius.mb.ca](mailto:vandalc@stignatius.mb.ca). Volleyball is the first sport of the school year and I would like to have the coaches and even the interested volleyball players lined up by June 2010.

...Eileen Eliasson

prayers to them. These powerful petitions help candidates in their spiritual preparations.

Finally, classes celebrating a sacrament also have a celebration-buddy class. Balloons on classroom doors, cross-shaped cookies, little handmade gifts, or donut holes and juice, are all signs that celebration buddies are supporting and honouring those receiving a sacrament. These little celebrations usually follow a day or two after the sacrament.

When Sacrament Season ends, each student at our school will have had an opportunity to celebrate "God's masterworks", will have a deeper understanding of our faith, and will probably have had some fun along the way. <sup>1</sup>p. 245 Catechism of the Catholic Church

