



October 2009

Ignition

Flight

"He was alive, trembling ever so slightly with delight, proud that his fear was under control. He was flying now straight down, at two hundred fourteen miles per hour. He swallowed, knowing that if his wings unfolded at that speed he'd be blown into a million tiny shreds of seagull. But the speed was power, and the speed was joy, and the speed was pure beauty."

Jonathan Livingston Seagull

It is a beautiful Tuesday morning towards the end of September. Crisp, cool and clear. I suspect winter is on the way as I have an overwhelming urge to don a turtleneck sweater. I resist the temptation. In a fit of spontaneity I have grabbed my keys and running shoes and within minutes am heading down the highway. Ninety minutes later I arrive at the eastern shores of Lake Winnipeg and am now perched at my favourite rock on the beach. I am giddy. I have

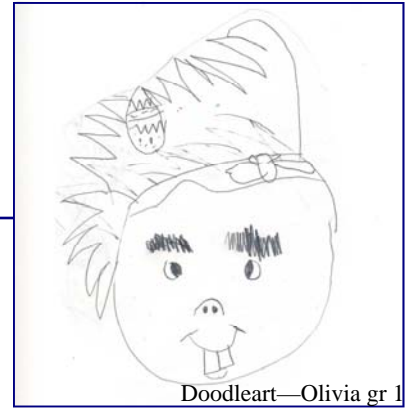
left behind the parameters and responsibilities of my life. I have seven hours.

The warmth of the sun on my face is exhilarating. The lapping of the waves is hypnotic. There is not a soul in sight, and I bask in the solitude. My only company is my dog and a smattering of seagulls who are determined to share my spectacular lunch of a can of tuna and Bartlett pear. The plentiful pelicans are enormous creatures, whose grace suspends their wings as they skim across the water for what seems to be forever. I am thrilled to once again see the pair of majestic bald eagles that I have enjoyed all summer. They take my breath away as they plummet towards the multi-coloured skyline. I remind myself to later watch for the pileated woodpecker that frequents the decaying birch tree outside my cottage door. I will wait in

anticipation for its vibrant red-headed plumage.

I acknowledge to myself that my life is once again in transition. My three children are much older, which brings welcome independence for all involved. Circumstances in my life are much easier than even just a few short years ago. I revel in the gift of serenity. I know that my wonderfully crazed and frenetic pace of life will present itself as soon as I re-enter civilization and for a single second I am hesitant to leave my paradise. So I make a promise to myself. I will continue to carve out snippets of time just for me. Peace and reverence are two essential and necessary ingredients in my life. Like my mentor Jonathon Livingston Seagull, I will continue to spread my wings and learn howto fly. May the Peace of Christ be with you all,

Elly Black



The Principal says...

It has been a fantastic start to the school year: students and staff, alike, are energized and focused; the facility is looking fine; and learning is happening at light speed. I have really enjoyed getting to know our new families and continuing to work with students, parents, and staff in this amazing community. At this time, I would like to **commend our staff** on their energy and ongoing dedication. It has been a busy

start to the year, and I am so thankful for their work ethic, creativity, sense of humour, and steadfast determination to make learning experiences relevant and engaging! Bravo, team!

Our **staff retreat** on Friday, October 2 was a meaningful and reflective day full of laughter, reflection, and personal, professional, and community growth. Our faith development

...Danielle Kolton

journey for the duration of the year (one lunch hour per month) will be based on Blessed Mother Marie-Rose Durocher and the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, one of the founding orders of our school. Deepening our faith through prayer experiences, living the mission of the SNJM congregation, and developing a vision for how to teach our students to put

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their faith in action through community service experiences and social justice initiatives will be our focus. For more information on the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, please see their website at www.snjm.org.

One of the highlights of working in an independent, Catholic school is the **sense of community spirit** that I witness from those parents, grandparents, and supporters who give so generously of their time, talents, and energy; a school is only as good as the people who care about it. We are truly blessed by the contributions of our volunteers because their work helps to make St. Ignatius School the special place that it is. Please visit the *Parent Involvement* section of the website for a complete description of how you can get involved in our school community. How will you contribute this year?

We will continue to send H1N1 updates to parents as they become available to us through the WRHA and MECY. In addition to these bulletins, we will also report abnormal levels of absenteeism on our school website under the principal's message. Parents, staff, and students are reminded to take the following precautions to limit the spread of

infection:

- Washing your hands often and teaching others to do the same;
- Keeping your hands away from your mouth, nose, and eyes ;
- Not sharing eating utensils or drinks, or school supplies such as pencils, rulers or musical instruments with mouthpieces;
- Covering your cough or coughing into your elbow;
- Getting a vaccine (when available);
- **Staying home if you are sick*** Parents will be asked to pick up children who are sick, so please prepare back-up childcare plans. Children who are ill will stay in a separated area in order to minimize the likelihood of transmission between those with influenza and those ill due to other causes.

I would like to conclude by expressing what a privilege it is to work with you and your children. By continuing to work together, administration, staff, students, and parents can truly build and sustain a faith community committed to quality education.

Our door is always open.



Hot! Hot! Hot!
 On Friday, September 25, 2009, our school hosted its first dance. The theme was "This is Going to be a Great year" and the dance proved to be a super kick off to the year. A number of schools supported us as well as various volunteer chaperones who helped to make the evening fun and exciting. Music was provided by Super Sound and our D.J. seemed to be able to judge the pulse of the crowd and got many people dancing. There was a canteen and a number of contests with prizes which added to the excitement. But perhaps the cap of the evening was the arrival of the firetrucks. It appeared the gym was so hot from our exuberant dancing, that the fire alarm went off. Who will ever forget the dance where the fire department arrived! We'd like to thank all of the chaperones, staff supervisors and spouses, especially Madame Marasco, who together made the dance possible.
 Elly MacRae Julie Boulet

Board News

Our Mission: To provide spiritual and academic growth based on the principle that every child is created in the image of God.

We hope that your summer was great despite the weather (though we were blessed with a terrific September). We are looking forward to a terrific year at St. Ignatius School!

We are currently working on our goals and vision for the year, and we welcome three new members to our board. We are happy to introduce Tracy Zapp, Barry Miller and Rob Morello to our team and are very thankful to them for sharing their unique gifts for improving the lives, visions and goals of our school community.

In the very near future, there will be a poster introducing the Board of Directors to everyone. It will include their smiling faces and their respective portfolios. I encourage you to visit our fabulous web site, www.stignatius.mb.ca for more information on the Board of Directors. If you would like to forward any queries to the Board of Directors, please feel free to contact any of us or send us an email to board@stignatius.mb.ca.

We thank you, the parent community, for the privilege of educating your children and the support that you have shown in so many different ways in order to improve and sustain quality education at St. Ignatius School.

Lee Mencik
 Communications Chair
 St. Ignatius School Board
 of Directors Inc.

It was great to see so many faces at our welcome back coffee, we enjoyed meeting many new families and appreciated the enthusiasm with which our volunteers have committed to the various volunteer opportunities through out the school year.

SISPAC is pleased to announce our Executive, Coordinators and Class reps for the 2009-2010 school year

Cara Van de Mosselaer/Carolyn Meadows - Chairpersons Violet Miller - Vice Chair Christine Gillis - Past Chair John Waller - Treasurer

Darlene Lamont - Secretary
Coordinators
Pat MacRae - Wellness
Coordinator
Kristina Ostermann -
Communications
Wendy Lothian - Hot dog day
Donna Lalama - Hot dog day
Kim Lavilla - Bake sale and
Volunteer Co-ordinator Darlene
McPherson - Bake Sale Irene
Gartner - Volunteer Co-ordinator
Elly Black - Faith in Action Co-
ordinator Barbeque Co-ordinator -
Vacant

Class Reps
Kindergarten - Leigh-Ann Laping/

Erin McCance Grade One - Tracey
Zapp/Raquel Godin/Sherry
Griffiths Grade Two - Violet Miller/
Cheryl Hurst Grade Three -
Dorothy Woods/Corrine Palmer/
Christine Gillis Grade Four - Rosa
Militano Grade Five - Regina
Urbano/Christina Tompkins Grade
Six - Vacant Grade Seven - Tannis
Scott/Jody Sharpe Grade Eight -
Linette Robertson/Karlene Boulet

Please join us on October 20,
2009 at 7:30 for our next SISPAC
meeting - we look forward to
seeing you there!

Cara Van de Mosselaer

Reflections From The Resource Room

As parents, we all want to help our children have a successful school year. Here are a few tips to consider in helping your child get started on the right foot.

- Talk to your child each day about the school day's happenings, both academic and social. This will help your child see that you believe school and learning are important.

Possible questions to ask:

- Tell me one new or interesting thing you learned today.
- What was the best part of your day?
- Who did you play with at recess? What did you do together?
- Are you clear about your homework?
- What homework/review are you going to work on tonight
- Is this a long term assignment? If yes, would it help to write out the steps or make a schedule?
- Is there any way I can help you?

Check your child's agenda each night and look for homework assignments and notes from the teachers.

Set up a quiet place with good light for your child to do homework. This should be a place where you can oversee the homework and be available for support and encouragement.

Ensure that your homework area has paper, pencils, pens, pencil crayons, markers and a ruler.

Set up a regular homework time that will happen each day. (YES, there is homework every night)

- In the early years, homework can look like playing games that involve early math skills (eg: Snakes and Ladders, Go Fish), and cozy reading time - you reading to your child, and as they are able, your child reading to you. Research has shown, time and time again, that reading aloud to children is the largest single activity parents can do to increase their child's chance of being successful at reading. Also, don't stop once your child is able to read on their own. Even older children love and benefit from being read to.
- By the middle years there will be regular work assignments to be done at home. This may be in the form of projects and/or work to be finished up from the day. Remember regular review is vital in helping children prepare for tests and exams.

Look over your child's homework, guide them as needed, but ensure that they do the work.

Congratulate your child on using their homework time wisely and helping themselves to be successful.

Setting the stage for success at this point in the year will have a positive effect on your child's learning the entire school year.

Article of Interest

Does $2 + 2$ still = 4?

Have you ever wondered what has happened to math instruction? Do you feel unclear as to why these changes have taken place? If so check out this link to a math message for families written by Cathy L. Seeley.

http://www.mathsolutions.com/documents/9781935099031_message27.pdf

Christy Bedard, Resource Teacher

It has been a great beginning to our year in Physical Education. The beautiful weather has lead to many outdoor gym classes. Our focus at all the grade levels is on team building, sportsmanship and fitness.

Our Terry Fox event occurred on September 25, 2009. Thank-you to the St Ignatius community for your participation and generous donations. The grades three class energized us all with their "Locomotion" dance, and the grade four class shared their personal goals during the morning assembly. The older students worked hard in the "One Minute of Manmakers for Matthew" challenge during the September 28, 2009 afternoon Physical Education classes.

In Motion mornings have started again. Students in grades K-4 can come to play and do morning stretches in the school gymnasium on Tuesday Mornings at 8:30a.m.. Students in grades 5-8 will have skill building opportunities in accordance with our current Physical Education unit on Thursday mornings at 8:30a.m. Students must be in the gym at 8:30 a.m so the students can have uninterrupted participation.

Athletic Council has started for another year with a great student turn-out. Intramurals are run by the Athletic Council during the lunch hours and are offered for each grade level.

Volleyball is underway with three teams participating in the MCSAA

league. A big thank you to all the coaches, teacher supervisors and Athletic Council scorekeepers. Team practices and schedules can be found on the school website under the Physical Education classroom link. We are proud of our school athletes who are developing their skills and demonstrating their sportsmanship as ambassadors of St Ignatius School.

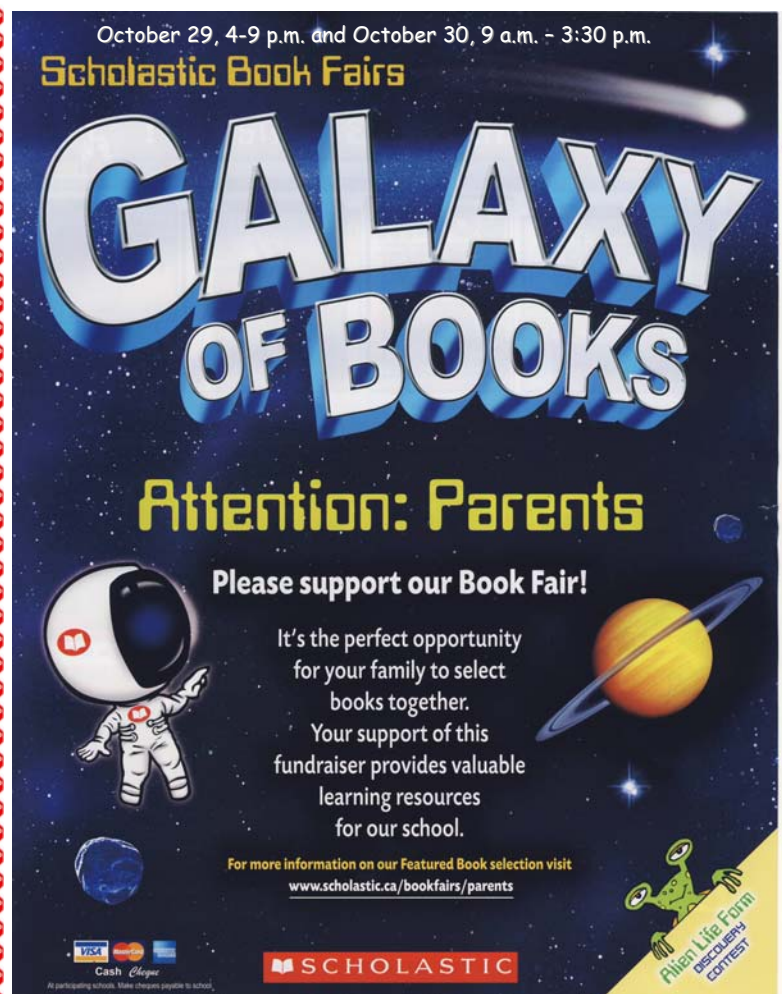
Basketball season is upcoming, and we would like to get an early start on organizing. We are in need of coaches both at the competitive and developmental levels. If you are interested in contributing in this capacity, please contact Mrs. Van Dale at van-dalc@stignatius.mb.ca as soon as possible.

ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL SAFETY PATROLS

The St. Ignatius School patrol team is comprised of members of the grade five and six classes.

The team is divided into shifts that safely cross students and pedestrians before and after school hours and at the lunch hour each school day. The members of the team are carefully trained and instructed in patrol safety by teacher supervisors and student mentors, and the Winnipeg Police Service regularly monitors them. Grade five students that are interested in patrolling receive their training at the beginning of each school year with the instruction of a grade six partner. Under the guidance of Mrs. Kolody-McKay, Mrs. Ouimet, and Mrs. Friesen, the St. Ignatius School patrol team has been a top three finalist in patrol competition in private schools for five of the last seven years. In the 2007-2008 school year, St. Ignatius School won fourth place among all patrol teams in the City of Winnipeg. Our school is proud of the dedication, service and leadership that the team demonstrates in the interest of public safety.

Mrs. T. Kolody-McKay
Patrol Supervisor



October 29, 4-9 p.m. and October 30, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Scholastic Book Fairs




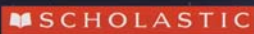
GALAXY OF BOOKS

Attention: Parents

Please support our Book Fair!

It's the perfect opportunity for your family to select books together. Your support of this fundraiser provides valuable learning resources for our school.

For more information on our Featured Book selection visit www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs/parents

All participating schools. Make cheques payable to school.

Alien Life Form Contest