FAMILY DANCE FIT NIGHT
The Grade 3 Dance Away Hunger in support of the Me to We organization raised just over $600.00. Thank you to everyone who came out and Danced the Night Away!!

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE LUNCH
Thank you to our many volunteers that mixed, grilled and served our pancake luncheon on Shrove Tuesday. Over 400 tummies were filled and well over 800 pancakes were served!!

POPCORN TUESDAYS
Help us raise much needed funds for our Breakfast Program......Students will be provided Popcorn for their afternoon snack every Tuesday for the months of March and April. Popcorn is $1.00 per week, $8.00 for all eight weeks OR families may wish to make a Charitable Donation to our Breakfast Program. Donation of $25.00 or more will be eligible for a Charitable Tax Receipt.

100% of the proceeds of Popcorn Tuesday will go directly to our wonderful Breakfast Program filling many hungry tummies everyday!

VIRTUES ASSEMBLY
Please join us at our recognition assembly to celebrate the Virtues of Compassion on Thursday, March 26th, 2015 @ 9:15 p.m.

Compassion
Compassion is following the example of Jesus the healer, who acted with deep care and concern for the people who were hurt or troubled. When we are compassionate we reach out in love to assist those who need our help.
CLOTHING DONATIONS
GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED
We need your help! St. Basil’s School is looking for donations of the following items:
Boys/Girls (new) underwear, Sizes 4-6 & 6-8
New or gently used socks;
Boys/Girls gently used pants, Sizes 6 and up only
Boys/Girls gently used snow coats & pants
Thank you in advance for your kindness!

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS
Our remaining Early dismissal days this year for Staff Professional Development are April 15th and May 6th. On these days, students will leave for home at 1:20 p.m. For the remainder of the school day, staff will be involved in a number of professional development activities.

GRADE 2 FIRST COMMUNION
Families planning to have their child participate in First Communion should be aware of the following date:
Saturday, May 9th, 2015 – First Communion

Snacking Makes You Smile
Snacks are important in providing a balanced diet for your child’s growth and development.
- Foods and drinks with added sugar should be eaten with meals rather than as a snack
- Choose cheese as a high protein snack to help fight cavities
- Sipping on pop, juice and sport drinks causes cavities
- Sugar-free gum with xylitol fights cavities when you cannot brush
- Drink water

For more information visit: www.publichealthgreybruce.com or call 519-376-9420 press 8 for the dental program
HOLY CHILDHOOD LENTEN BANKS

Each year during the Lenten Season our school provides Holy Childhood Lenten Banks to families. We encourage you to put any loose change in these banks during Lent and help us assist Mission world in developing countries.

“Last year children in schools and parishes throughout Canada raised $237,861 to help children in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, India, and Sri Lanka. All donations (100%) from children in Canada are earmarked exclusively for children in the developing world. Monies fund projects such as catechetical programs, literacy, nutrition, health care, meal programs, and the provision of new schools, libraries, caring for children with AIDS, and orphan care.”

The realities faced by children in developing countries are a world away and it is hard for our children to imagine not having a safe school to come to everyday. Please help us educate our children by participating in our Lenten Bank Mission program by collecting your loose change during Lent.

In previous years we have raised over $1,000.00 to help provide simple necessities like clean and safe drinking water to children in these nations, something we all take for granted everyday.

Thank you for your participation!
**Donate to your Local Catholic School or the Board On-Line**

You can donate on-line to your Local Catholic School or the Board through "Canada Helps".

Making a donation on-line is simple and secure. Just click on the “Donate Now” on this page (or type the address provided into your web browser).

In a few easy steps, you can make a donation to the School or Board. When your donation has been completed, we will receive an email notice of the donation and you will receive an immediate email with a tax receipt from Canada Helps. This reduces administration for your School and the Board.

The funds you donate will be used in accordance with your direction and the School will be notified of your donation. In the message section, please specify the intended use: breakfast program, playground equipment, school supplies etc.

Thank you for your on-line donation and support of Catholic Education.

Your donation is greatly appreciated!

School Attendance

RATIONALE

Student absenteeism continues to be a problem that causes great concern for all schools. For a variety of reasons, there are students who are absent from school for excessive periods of time which in turn has a direct, negative affect on achievement, promotion, graduation, self-esteem and employment potential. Patterns that begin in the school often continue into adulthood. Students whose attendance is problematic “have been found to have less well-developed academic skills, hold lower status jobs, have more unstable job histories, experience higher levels of anti-social behaviours and substance abuse and, more frequently have criminal records” (Harte, 1994, pg 1). Although it may certainly be that a school attendance issue is another indication of the presence of greater concerns for the individual, we must, however, as part of our obligation of working with students in these crucial areas, look at ways of dealing appropriately with the student attendance issue. It is imperative that we try to identify the underlying reasons for the absenteeism and attempt to deal with them using strategies available to us. We thus will work together with all our community partners to deal with school attendance in a way that promotes dignity of the student.

Our obligations in this area are apparent through our Mission Statement. The Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board’s Mission Statement provides the foundation for all that we do and our school attendance policy and procedures are no exception.

Committed to a vibrant Catholic education,
we ensure quality learning experiences through community partnerships
that nurture each student in body, mind and spirit
and embrace the teachings of Christ,
giving witness to Gospel values.

As well as a moral obligation we also have a legal obligation to which we must adhere. The Education Act makes the obligation of the student to attend school very clear.

Every child who attains the age of six years...
shall attend an elementary or secondary school
on every day from the first day in September in that year
until the child attains the age of eighteen years. 2006, c.28, s5(i) [21,(1)]

As well, the consequences for both the student who does not attend as well as his/her parent or guardian are also made very clear in the Education Act.

A child who is required by law to attend school
and who refuses to attend or who is habitually absent from school
is guilty of an offense and, subject to the Provincial Offenses Act...
[Education Act, 30, (5)]

A parent or guardian of a child of compulsory school age
who neglects or refuses to cause the child to attend school is,
unless the child is legally excused from attendance,
guilty of an offense, and on conviction,
is liable to a fine of not more than $200.00...
[Education Act, 30(1)]

BGCDSB Website 2015
MARCH 2015

VIRTUE: COMPASSION is following the example of Jesus the healer, who acted with deep care and concern for the people who were hurt or troubled. When we are compassionate we reach out in love to assist those who need our help.

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<td>Cinnabon &amp; Flower Orders Due to School</td>
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<td>Holy Childhood Lenten Banks Due Back April 7th</td>
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