



MAY 2014

Director of Student Supports Message-Mr. Gonzales

Easter is the culmination of Holy Week and marks the Christian belief that Jesus rose from the dead after his crucifixion. I want to offer a special thank you to Mr. Bellevance and Mr. Sorensen for taking us on an inspirational Lenten journey before Easter. On Holy Thursday, students, staff and special guests participated in the washing of the feet. Thank you to Father John Meehan, president of Campion College, for joining us in celebration. Sister ReAnne, shared her gift of music and Doreen Topp, one of our grandmothers, baked bannock for us to break and share as part of our celebration. I hope that everyone had a relaxing and safe holiday during the Easter break. I would like to welcome all of the students and families back and thank you for helping us get back into our regular routine at Mother Teresa Middle School. It is hard to believe we have only two months left of the school year. As the Director of Student Supports, I am going to focus on a few key areas: **attendance, high school placements, mentoring, enrichment programming, and the current recruiting.**

Our attendance for the month of April was 92.39%. Our overall attendance for the year is 95.39%. We have two months left to reach our school goal of 97%. I believe we can still achieve this goal if we continue to focus on working as a **TEAM**. To help us reach this goal, we will be rewarding students who achieve 100% attendance for April, May, and June. We have also organized a competition where the grades will compete with each other for the best attendance for the next two months. I would like to thank the parents/guardians for their continued support. Let's work hard to make our goal of 97% happen.

We have 16 grade 8 students transitioning to high school this year. Currently, we have 7 students who will attend Miller High School, 4 students attending Luther High School, 3 students attending Notre Dame, and 2 students attending Archbishop M.C. O'Neill. I would like to thank the administration and counsellors from each of the respective schools for their help and support of our students. They have made the transition to high school much easier and I will continue to work closely with them to ensure the success of our students. Thank you to parents/guardians and the mentors for your support as well. Our mentors have committed to be positive role models and assist our students in grade 9 next year. **Our "Grade 8 Farewell Celebration" is scheduled to be held at Mother Teresa Middle School on Saturday, June 21st from 1:00-3:30pm.** We will have more details at the **Grade 8 parent/guardian meeting on Thursday, May 15th.** It is important for all grade 8 parents/guardians to **attend this meeting.** A meeting for all parents/guardians will be held on June 19th. I would like to thank **Mr. Maurice Laprairie** for providing the opportunity for our students and their families to get pictures during this event. This special day is very important to us, as it will be the first class transitioning to high school.



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I am excited to announce that our students collectively have had over 200 recorded outings with their mentors. Every week there are 10 to 15 scheduled outings. A special thank you to each **MENTOR** for taking the time out of their life to create a positive memory for our students. Our mentors are so important for the continued success of our students. The students are so excited to share their experiences with us. I would like to mention a few special group mentor outings that are scheduled in May.

The **Dress for Success Power Walk** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10th**. It is a non-profit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire to help women thrive in work and in life. Several mentors and students have attended this event in the past and we will have representation once again! I would like to thank **Kristél Kriel**, one of our grade 8 mentors, for helping to organize this event. The **Regina Lyrical Musical Theatre** will be presenting the musical, **Fiddler on the Roof, Saturday, May 24th at 7:30 p.m. at the University of Regina Riddel Centre Theatre**. The production features two individuals who are part of our MTMS community. Professional musician and MTMS violin instructor, **Eduard Minevich** and MTMS teacher, **Ms. Jessica Scheuer**. Our staff, mentors, and students will be given the opportunity to attend this event.

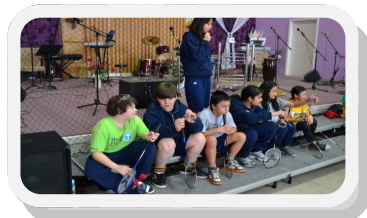
Our afterschool enrichment program continues to offer 4 or 5 activities each day. All of our students are once again taking swimming lessons at the University of Regina on Friday afternoons or five weeks. Students will receive badges after being tested by the university instructors. Badminton was in full swing in March and April. The city championships were held on Wednesday, April 30th and Thursday, May 1st at O'Neill High School. The Drama team has been working very hard the last few months and the school play is scheduled for May 29th at 7:00pm held at Miller High School. We will also honor all of our volunteers at this time. Invitations will be sent out with further details closer to the date. Donnie Mackay, a grade 8 mentor, is teaching lessons on the stock market to our students. Track and Field will also kick off on Thursday, May 1st at Douglas Park. There are 3 mini meets prior to the city track meet which is June 4th.

The network at Mother Teresa continues to grow. On **April 2nd, Susan Zwarych** from **Conexus Credit Union** visited the school. We had two visitors on **April 3rd, Lorna Smith** from **Scotia Bank** and also **Dr. Carlana Lindeman** of **Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative** came to see the school along with our friend **Donnie MacKay**. We also had **John McCarthy, SJ** from **Jesuits in English Canada** visit on **April 7th**. **Prabha Vaidyanathan, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer of Certified General Accountants Association of Saskatchewan** visited on **April 17th** with our friend **Mo Bundon**. Our visitors and guests give us many opportunities to learn about what is going on outside the walls of Mother Teresa Middle School and it is our hope that we can continue to grow and learn from each other. We are confident that we will see our students working and leading in the many different industries, businesses and corporations because their lives have been touched by so many incredible individuals.

We have many students applying to Mother Teresa Middle School for the 2014-2015 academic year. I want to thank all of the families for referring these students to our school. We are interviewing potential students and families and will continue to accept applications until May 23, 2014. Interested families can call the school to arrange an appointment. We will have our final selection of students entering grade 6 next year completed by June 1st, 2014.

We have accomplished many things during the month of April and we have two more exciting months ahead of us. Together Let's work hard and embrace the exciting times ahead of us.

“Success isn't never making mistakes: It's never giving up when you make mistakes.”



MAY 2014

Su	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 DAY 5 BAND GR. 6 AM BAND GR. 7/8 PM 3:15-4:15 Badminton Drama Stocks Videogame Design MacKenzie Art	2 DAY 1 BAND GR. 6 Swimming U of R 1:00-3:30pm School Dismisses @ 3:30 from U of R	3
4	5 DAY 2 3:15-4:15 AR Reading Drama/Set Design Origami Cheerleading Trumpet	6 DAY 3 3:15-4:15 Trivia MacKenzie Art Flute Track	7 DAY 4 BAND GR. 7/8 3:15-4:15 Study Hall Drama Art/Clay Videogame Design Track – Douglas Park @ 12:00 pm	8 DAY 5 BAND GR. 6 AM BAND GR. 7/8 PM 3:15-4:15 McK Art/Set Design Stocks Track Gr. 8 Celebration Photos @ 1:00 pm	9 DAY 1 BAND GR. 6 School Dismisses @ 3:30	10
11	12 DAY 2 3:15-4:15 AR /Drama Set Design Cheerleading Track-Douglas Park @ 9:00 am Gr. 8 Retreat @ St. Michael's Retreat House	13 DAY 3 3:15-4:15 Trivia MacKenzie Art Track Gr. 7&8 Band Trip to Saskatoon	14 DAY 4 BAND GR. 7/8 3:15-4:15 Study Hall Drama Art/Clay/Beads Videogame Design Track	15 DAY 5 BAND GR. 6 AM BAND GR. 7/8 PM 3:15-4:15 McK Art/Set Design Stocks/Track GRADE 8 PARENT NIGHT 6:00-7:30pm	16 NO SCHOOL TPD	17
18	19  VICTORIA DAY NO SCHOOL	20 DAY 1 BAND GR. 6 3:15-4:15 Trivia MacKenzie Art Violin Track	21 DAY 2 3:15-4:15 Study Hall Drama Art/Clay/Beads Videogame Design Track	22 DAY 3 3:15-4:15 MacKenzie Art Set Design Stocks Track	23 DAY 4 BAND GR. 7/8 Swimming U of R 1:00-3:30pm School Dismisses @ 3:30 from U of R	24
25	26 DAY 5 BAND GR. 6 AM BAND GR. 7/8 PM 3:15-4:15 AR Reading Drama-all Set Design Cheerleading	27 DAY 1 BAND GR. 6 3:15-4:15 Trivia MacKenzie Art Violin Track	28 DAY 2 3:15-4:15 Study Hall Drama Art/Clay/Beads Videogame Design Track	29 DAY 3 3:15-4:15 MacKenzie Art Set Design Stocks Spring Drama & Volunteer Appreciation night @ Miller	30 DAY 4 BAND GR. 7/8 Swimming U of R 1:00-3:30pm School Dismisses @ 3:30 from U of R	31