

JEAN VANIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Year: 2007-2008

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School Community Information

Principal: J. Gillies

Vice Principal: J. Parent

Secretary: M. Terpstra

School Council Chair: M. Warren

Parish: St. John the Divine

Pastor: Fr. Robert Rocheleau

Secondary School Affiliate: St. Thomas Aquinas

School Superintendent: G. Clarke

School Trustee: J. Ferris

Director of Education: W. deRond

Quick Facts About Our School

School Hours: 9:10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Grade Distribution: JK - 8

Student Enrolment: 431



About our School

Description

Jean Vanier Catholic School welcomes 431 Catholic elementary students in the Westmount community of southwest London, Ontario. We are privileged to be part of St. John the Divine and St. George Catholic parishes. We are a community of learners who are dedicated to nurturing excellence in education with a faith that is rooted in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Jean Vanier Catholic School was named by a unanimous vote of the London and Middlesex County Roman Catholic School Board on November 15, 1971. The original school was completed in 1973 and opened that year with eight classrooms, a library, administrative offices, a general-purpose room and a kindergarten. The official blessing and dedication of the building took place on December 14, 1975 and was officiated by Most Rev. J.M. Sherlock, Bishop of London.

The school is situated on a 2.6 hectare (6.35 acre) site and occupies 2775 square meters (29, 860 square feet) of space. In the 1974-1975 school year an addition was added comprised of four classrooms, a kindergarten room and a multipurpose music room. In 1985, a further addition of a Developmental Education Centre was added to accommodate a system program for Special Needs students. A renovation and construction project to modify and update the school was completed in January 2008. This project resulted in a beautiful new library/resource center and added space for six new classrooms within the building. The Ontario Early Years Centre and London Children's Connection is located within the building and provides wonderful supports for families within the community.

Mission Statement

Our goal at Jean Vanier Catholic School is to provide Catholic education in partnership with the family, the parish and the community to nurture the living faith of children. The Jean Vanier Catholic School community is blessed with the opportunity to nurture the spiritual development and academic achievement of children that is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ. The sense of new beginning that is promised each day at school provides many wonderful experiences for the children of our community. We look forward with great respect and stewardship to providing an enriched and fulfilling learning environment for the children entrusted to our care.

Staffing Information

Jean Vanier Catholic School welcomes 431 students that are supported with the following staffing complement: Principal, Vice-Principal, secretary, two custodians, 3 JK/SK teachers, 7 Primary teachers (Grades 1 to 3), 4 Junior teachers (Grades 4 to 6), 4 Intermediate teachers (Grades 7 and 8), 2 French teachers, 1 Music teacher, 1 Student Program Support teacher, 1 ESL teacher, 5 Educational Assistants and one Librarian.

Facilities

There are 19 regular classrooms at Jean Vanier School. Our school comprises 1 gymnasium, 1 library, 1 computer lab. We have presently completed building a new library/resource centre and purchased over \$20 000.00 in new books with the support of our Catholic School Council.

Transportation Information

Students attending Jean Vanier Catholic School who live East of Wonderland Road, North of Commissioners Road and West of Farmington Way are transported to and from school by school bus. Currently we operate two buses, completing two double runs. The bus routes are maintained by Laidlaw Bus Lines. In addition, special vehicles operated by Voyageur Van Lines transport children with special needs. These pupils reside throughout the City of London.

School Safety

The safety and well being of all members of the Jean Vanier Catholic School community is a paramount issue of importance. We implement a Safe Arrivals Procedure for school attendance. We have various programmes in place to support school. The Safe and Healthy School Schools Committee of the Jean Vanier Catholic School Council guides all of our safety initiatives. Our goal this year is to renew and establish a Healthy Schools Profile with specific targets in accordance with the Middlesex-London Public Health Unit.

Living Our Faith

The staff and students at Jean Vanier Catholic School have many opportunities to pray and demonstrate their Catholic faith. These include school-wide and classroom liturgies, the celebration of the Sacraments of first Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Confirmation. The following are the websites for the affiliated parishes of our school community:

[St. John the Divine \(London\)](http://www.stjohnthedivine.rcec.london.on.ca)

<http://www.stjohnthedivine.rcec.london.on.ca>

[St. George \(London\)](http://www.stgeorge.rcec.london.on.ca)

<http://www.stgeorge.rcec.london.on.ca>

Our Student Parliament provides outstanding leadership to nurture and support opportunities for the children to raise funds for charities. Our particular focus on fundraising within this academic year will support the following charities: Canadian Charity for Southern Sudan, L'Arche London, Terry Fox Foundation, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Jesse's Journey Foundation.

Programs and Services

Curriculum Program

The curriculum used at Jean Vanier Catholic School flows from the directions of the Ministry of Education and Training and is supported by policies and procedures developed by the London District Catholic School Board.

Ongoing communication with parents about the classroom curriculum and individual students achievement is an important aspect of the partnership in learning for each pupil. Formal reporting, using the Provincial Report Card are sent home at the end of each term. Senior Kindergarten students receive a report card at the end of terms two and three, while Junior Kindergarten students receive a report card at the end of the third term.

We believe in the philosophy of inclusion and integrate all students with special learning needs into our regular activities.

Co-Instructional Program

Jean Vanier Catholic School offers a wide variety of co-curricular and extra curricular activities designed to enhance and enrich the education experience for its students. Some of these include math contests, design and technology challenges, robotics, public speaking, youth leadership opportunities, writing contests, read-a-thons, book fairs, family celebrations and socials. Intra-mural sports, varsity sports and other athletic events such as cross-country running, dance fest, and track and field meets help to provide a well-rounded experience for our children. We are committed to the advancement of music and theatre, and our Spirit Singers, Guitar Club, choirs, vocal jazz groups and musical productions are evidence to this. We proudly received the Hans Janssen Memorial Award this year for 100% participation in intra-mural athletic events.

School Events

Our goal is to nurture and support the marginalized in the spirit of Jesus and within the model established by the wonderful work of Jean Vanier himself. We proudly support missions and charities throughout our community each year. Please visit our website for pertinent information and details: www.ldcsb.on.ca/schools/vanier.

Results of Province-Wide Assessments

Figure 1. Percentage of Grade 3 Students at Levels 3 or 4 on the EQAO Assessment Result of Reading, Writing and Mathematics 2005-2006

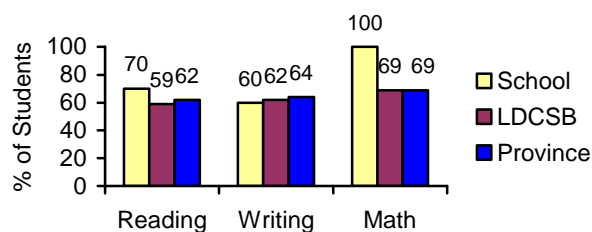
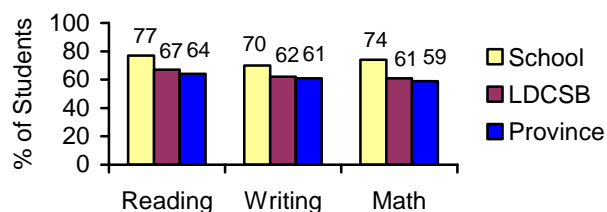


Figure 2. Percentage of Grade 6 Students at Levels 3 or 4 on the EQAO Assessment Result of Reading, Writing and Mathematics 2005-2006



School Improvement Planning 2007-2008

During the months of September and October, school teams will be reviewing and revising their 2006-2007 School Improvement Plan in light of the most recent EQAO results and other relevant data. This process will result in an updated School Improvement Plan for 2007-2008.

The School Improvement Plan will outline the school's priority goals, strategies and success indicators towards improving student learning and achievement for the coming school year.

Our current School Improvement Plan (2006-2007) is presently posted on our school website. Please note that the School Improvement Plan for 2007-2008 will be posted on the school website after October 28, 2007. You are most welcome to view all of our documentation at www.ldcsb.on.ca/schools/vanier.

