

"We need to love each other and then, as we learn to work together in a place of belonging and togetherness, we begin to see that it is important to listen to each other. You have ideas much better than mine, I may have some that are better than yours. We don't have to be powerful; we don't have to be right."

Jean Vanier

As the school year comes to an end, there is much to celebrate in our SMCDSB family. Trustees are joining students, staff and families as students celebrate both sacraments and other achievements; this is a very special time of year! It is the time of year when we are recognizing staff for their years of service to Catholic Education in Simcoe, Muskoka and Parry Sound. It is the time of year when provincial organizations are honouring education staff who are making a contribution to Catholic Education at the provincial level. I was very proud to attend events where both our Director, Brian Beal, and our Controller of Plant, Glenn Clarke, received prestigious provincial awards.

It is also the time of year when staff are announcing retirements. It is with sadness that the school community at Saint Mary's says goodbye to Mrs. Jenkinson and Mrs. Vanclieaf; they will be long remembered for their years of dedication to students and families throughout Muskoka.

Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees made the very difficult decision to close Our Lady of Mercy School in Honey Harbour. Beginning in September, students in Honey Harbour will be bussed to St. Antoine Daniel in Victoria Harbour. On Sunday June 25th, there will be a celebration of the rich history of Our Lady of Mercy beginning with a mass in the church at 11:00 am. Bishop Miehm will join us to say mass.

At the Board table, Trustees continue to work our way through the budget process. I look forward to seeing many of you at school celebrations and graduations throughout June. I also wish each of you a safe and fun-filled summer!

God Bless,
Carol Corriveau-Truchon