



Richview Review

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As this newsletter reaches you, excitement is mounting around our student and Parent Council event, *Stand Up for Saints Comedy Night* at the Capitol Banquet Centre, on February 27. If you have not yet purchased your tickets, you may do so through the school office. Please ask for Mrs. Kingsley.

The purpose of the evening is to raise funds for music, athletic and computer equipment, as well as for bleachers, and for new seats in the auditorium. There will be a Silent Auction, finger food, a cash bar and a comedy show with professional performers. Your sons and daughters will have brought home a brochure advertising the evening. Come out and mingle with some staff and meet other Richview parents while supporting your children's school.

The annual Muskoka Woods week which this year is from March 29 to April 2 is also creating positive excitement around the school. All the Grade Nines, eleven teachers and 80 senior students/counsellors are preparing for a week of making memories through team activities and learning in an outdoor environment.

Our music students are preparing for their cultural trip to Boston in April, and our grads are looking forward to their May weekend in New York.

Richview continues to be an excellent school with a very successful academic and co-curricular program. We are proud of all of our activities, teams and clubs. Our results from this year's literacy test once again place us at the top of Ontario schools with 94 per cent of our students passing both the reading and writing component.

A good school like ours doesn't just happen. It takes a strong partnership of school and parents working together for a common goal, and that is student success. Thank you for your support.

Kim Robinson

Student Council

After the success of such events as Operation Nifty, and the Casey St. Jones hypnotist show, the Student's Council has moved on to more important matters – UNICEF Week! With the third week of February slated for production, Charity Convenor **Ulana Tarapacky** will organize perennial favourites like the Friend auction and Student/Teacher dodgeball game. There is even a rumour that President **Luke LaRocque** might shed some hair in the name of charity! Many other things are on tap, like Spirit Week, with Pyjama Day and other fun events. The Pep guys **James Ketcheson** and **Tyler Sperduti** are hard at work preparing for the next assembly, while Vice-President **Jason Couse** is preparing for the Formal. Overall, the next term is looking like one of the best!

Luke LaRocque, President

Guidance News

At this time our potential Richview graduates have submitted their applications to various universities and colleges within Ontario and across Canada. The marks that have been earned on this February report card have been sent to the admission offices with an additional set of marks to be sent in mid April.

All Richview students have received their "Program Selection Sheets" to select their courses for the 2004-2005 year and should have returned them to their homeform teachers by February 19. Counsellors have visited all classes and if students or parents have questions or concerns about Richview courses, requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma or prerequisites for post-secondary education please contact Guidance.

Lynne Turner

SPORTS

Richview Boys Baseball Team

As spring draws near our sights turn to the sport of baseball. This year's Richview boys baseball team will have many returning players which will hopefully result in solid defense and a hard hitting lineup. Tryouts for the team will be in the beginning of April and the team will begin playing in May. Coaches Mr. Craigie and Mr. Koumoutseas have high expectations for this year's team. With hard work, determination and a little luck, hopefully the team will fulfill their goals of advancing well into the playoffs. The team's schedule will be available in early May for anyone interested in attending games. Fan support would be greatly appreciated, so come on out and cheer on the Saints!

Bantam Boys Basketball Team

The Richview bantam boys basketball team has hit the court. The team, consisting of students in grade 9, has improved tremendously since the start of the season. Our boys have been working hard, showing a great deal of determination with a commitment towards the essential concepts of teamwork and fair play. Team captain **Tyrone Stephenson** has led by example with his excellent offensive skills. The boys have qualified for the playoffs, which will be in late February. Fan support and encouragement for the team would be greatly appreciated. Mr. S. Koumoutseas

Richview Boys Hockey

The Boys Hockey team is having a fantastic time this year. Unfortunately, with a short bench in the first half of the season, we ran out of energy in many of our games. However, we now have a full squad, and, as a result, we are on the road to victory once again. This year's team is a little younger than in recent years, but every player works hard and plays with great emotion. We look forward to the playoffs at the end of February, where our perseverance will be rewarded. Special thanks to our coaches, Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Wade, for devoting much of their time to the team.

Mark De Cesare

Senior Boys Basketball

What is there to say about a heart-breaking season? Actually, there's quite a lot. The newly uniformed Saints had some tough defeats to Etobicoke, George Harvey, Runnymede and Silverthorn, but always kept their heads high and never backed down. The team always demonstrated great spirit, teamwork and determination. Led by Mike "3 point shooter" Mokriy, James "battling under the boards" Ketcheson and Fil "Dribbling Machine" Guzina, the Saints played tough, including a 70-40 romp over Lakeshore C.I. A dedicated Coach K, brought out the best in every player.

Well, there is always next season, and the season after that, or the season after that. But, for now, it's lots of shoe-killing running at 5pm practices and lots of hard work.

Tim Feller

MUSIC

This term has been an exciting one for Richview's Stage Band as they were preparing for "Essentially Ellington", a Jazz festival out of the Jazz Lincoln Centre in New York. The CD was recorded and sent off for adjudication at the end of January. Best wishes to our Stage Band!

The Marching Band's season came to a close on January 17th with a performance at an Awards Banquet for Stock Transportation in Oakville. The Band had a good season, playing at numerous football games and two Santa Claus Parades. The word has spread of our marchers and it has been very positive for Richview, both in reputation and financially! All those practices out in the field in mud or snow have paid off!

Catherine O'Brien

Music Department: Strings

This has been a very exciting year in music. On December 11, 2003, Richview's Music Department presented its annual Holiday Opus concert. The evening was a huge success. Richview's ensembles performed a wide variety of repertoire throughout the evening and the students performed to a full house. The music department would like to thank the parents, friends, families and teachers for their support.

In November, the Senior Strings performed at the Ontario Principal's Council Conference. At this event our students had the opportunity to perform in front of an audience of more than seven hundred principals from around the world. In the month of February, the same ensemble and the Senior String Quartet will perform at another event, the TSAA Principal's Conference held at the Metro Toronto Convention Center in downtown Toronto. At this event, over a thousand principals from around Ontario will be in attendance.

Another event the students are looking forward to participating in is the annual Kiwanis Music Festival. This year, the Richview Symphony Orchestra, Senior Strings Senior String Quartet and Junior Strings will be competing. The Senior String Quartet, consisting of students; **Sarah Yun, Ruth Kim, Leah Schoutsen and Melanie Merglesky**, performs Thursday, February 12th at 4:30pm at Armour Heights Presbyterian Church. Furthermore, the Junior and Senior Strings perform on Tuesday, February 17th, 2004 at 3:30pm and 4:30pm at Cardinal Carter Academy in North York and the Symphony Orchestra performs on Thursday, February 19th 2004 at 9:00am at Sir John A Macdonald Collegiate Institute in Scarborough. Parents/Guardians and families are welcome to attend.

This year, the music department is planning its music trip to Boston Massachusetts. Many music students from grades 10-12 are attending this trip, held from Wednesday, April 28th - Sunday, May 2nd 2004. The students will have several opportunities to perform while away. Some of these performances include a workshop with the Director of Bands from Harvard University, Dr. Thomas Everett, a possible performance at the Boston Red Sox Game on April 28th and other performances at a local school and Quincy Marketplace, in downtown Boston. Students will explore and experience life as a young musician in another city. They will also attend a performance by the world renowned Boston Symphony Orchestra. This trip is an exciting opportunity for Richview music students and will provide the students with memories that will last a lifetime.

On Thursday, April 22nd, 2004, the music department is presenting its annual Symphonia concert at 7:30pm in Richview's auditorium. The students and music teachers have already begun rehearsing and are looking forward to presenting this evening of music. We hope to see you there!

Mrs. J Kayfetz

SWIM TEAM

Before most of you have even gotten out of bed, the 65 members of the RCI swim team have already done 100 laps of the Elms pool. The swim team has had an amazing season so far this year. Our dedicated and talented swimmers have done exceptionally well at all our swim meets. The West Regional Championship was an immense success in which many swimmers qualified for City Championships. Mrs. Pereira and Ms. Waller are very proud of the hard work and commitment demonstrated by this year's team. Go Saints!

Cheerleading

This has been a fantastic year for Richview's Cheerleading team. Once again, the leadership on this team is very strong. Team Captain is **Shauna Gillon**, Assistant Captain is **Alicia Peneycad**, Dance Captain is **Angelica Uruena** and Tumbling Captain is **Bryanna Robinson**. This dedicated group of students have been working very hard all year with the coach and the rest of the team to prepare for performances. In the fall at the football season opener, the students performed at the Skydome in downtown Toronto. This was an exciting opportunity for our cheerleaders as they cheered on the Senior Football team. Furthermore, despite some bad weather conditions, our Saints Cheerleaders attended most football games both at Richview and away and they had a blast supporting our teams.

The Saints Cheerleaders have already had a very successful season with their competitive routine. At the Provincial FlyGirl Holiday Competition in December, held in Barrie, our team won First Place, for Best Performance.

On Saturday, February 21st 2004 at York University, the Saints Cheerleaders will be competing in the Ontario Cheerleading Federation's Provincial Competition. Performance times for this event will be available at a later date.

Throughout the Spring, the cheerleading team will be competing in other competitions as well. We look forward to competing in the annual Power Cheer Competition held in May at Paramount Canada's Wonderland.

In the near future, the team will be doing some fund-raising. Through the sale of chocolate bars, the team hopes to raise some money to attend future competitions. The team and coach would like to thank the parents, friends and families of our team for their continued support. We look forward to seeing you at Regionals!

Mrs. J Kayfetz



Environment

Dear Parents,

The school of Richview has had a standard of decorum that was unparalleled in the past. The reputation of Richview as we know it today is unfortunately declining as a result of our students' behaviour. There are horrible amounts of food and garbage all around the school. After the lunch period the hallways are covered in wrappers, spilt drinks and other pieces of garbage. The students have a total lack of regard for the school's image and reputation. We have tried to encourage the students to have dignity and pride in their school. Regrettably we have been faced with an unyielding attitude of indifference from the students. The discipline and respect needed must come from the home. This is why we, the environment club, ask you, the parents, to help us in teaching your children to respect themselves, others and the environment. We know this will lead to a nobler Richview.

Ali Zaidi, co-President,
The Environment Club



Grade 9 Leadership Camp

The plans are underway for the Grade 9 Muskoka Woods Leadership Program! This wonderful and fun-filled weeklong program will be held from March 29th to April 2nd, 2004. The leadership program is a great way to get Grade 9 students more comfortable with the school and dive into something new. The students will get the chance to experience new activities such as the high ropes course or our very own Survivor Challenge. They will also learn many aspects about leadership including trust, team building and co-operation. The leadership program has been a tradition at Richview and we are hoping that this year we will have our biggest turnout ever. We encourage all grade 9s to participate in this event as it has been a life-changing program for others filled with tons of new friendships and memories that will last forever. The cost for this program is \$300. Applications will be distributed this Friday. Mark it on your calendar and watch for more information soon to come.

Erin Wilkes

RICHVIEW WEBSITE

**"... always something new
being added"**

schools.tdsb.on.ca/richview/

Best Buddies

It has always been hard for teen-agers to make friends in high school. With the Best Buddies program at school, it has been great to meet wonderful friends and enjoy the best of company from all backgrounds. Best Buddies allows Richview students to create bonds with students who face intellectual and physical challenges every day.

As a relatively new group at Richview, we have had some trouble finding press, but never enthusiasm or eager participants. Our first meeting had many interested students, and our final club includes many associate members, who just want to be part of the experience. Peer buddies volunteer their time and are matched up with buddies who have intellectual disabilities. Best Buddies is a great program for all participants. Everybody learns, but most importantly everybody has tons of fun.

We have done many fun and exciting activities together as a group. Our Meet and Greet included such extremely and incredibly hard tasks as blowing marshmallows into plastic cups, using only straws. And I thought homework was hard! One fun-filled game of cat and mouse made me want to spend more time at the gym.

Our Bowling afternoon was a great success, including many strikes and many gutter balls. I'm sure that we may have had a combined score of 360, I hope. Although we're no shoe-ins for Canada's Bowling Team, we sure did more laughing and smiling than any other party. Maybe we could set up Canada's Just-Plain-Having-a-Good-Time Team. Then we'd come out on top.

We are also setting up a raffle fundraiser with lots of prizes to be won. If you would like to make a prize donation, please do not hesitate to contact us at bestbuddies_rci@yahoo.ca. It would be greatly appreciated.

Our next big activity is a Movie Night which will hopefully be followed by a Dance Party later on. Good times, good laughs, and lots of smiles. You can find them all at Best Buddies.

Monica Morin