

# THE CHARGER

#### ALUMNI NEWSLETTER FALL/W

FALL/WINTER 2011

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

ROBYN'S VIEW	1
PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE	2
GRADE 8 FAREWELL AND AWARDS PRESENTATION	3
MEMORIES FROM THE OBLATE SISTERS	4 - 5
SCCS IN THE MILLENNIUM	6 - 7
WHAT'S NEW AT ST. CHARLES	7
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT	8
ROBERT MORRISON GOLF TOURNAMENT	
HOW CAN I HELP?	
OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION	9 - 10
MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION	10



### **ROBYN'S VIEW**



The school has been blessed with the many gifts the Oblate Sisters have bestowed upon us as students and as a community of St. Charles Catholic School for 107 years. The Charger has, over the past few years, been fortunate enough to have the long lasting and fun filled memories of the Oblate Sisters to share with the Alumni. Their stories have helped catalog some of the history of the school, shared fond moments, made us feel their pride and allowed us a look through their eyes.

This is the final issue featuring a memory from the Oblates and it is now our turn. Alumni let's put some of our remembrances on paper.

Faith. Academics. Service.

God Bless, 3-2-1 Chargers Robyn Powell (deBeer) '82-90, Alumni Rep, Board of Directors



rincipal

The Board of Directors decided last spring, due to the

steady increase in enrollment, that it was necessary to increase Administration for the school.

This year, Mrs. Tammy Narynski is the Vice-Principal at St. Charles Catholic School. Mrs. Narynski has been a teacher for 8 years at St. Charles, she taught grade 1 for 5 years and 1-2 combination class for 2 years.



St. Teresa Holy Childhood Enrolment Assembly

# **Principal's Update**

#### Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe that yet another year has gone by! This newsletter encompasses events from the Spring of 2011, including pictures from the Grade 8 and Kinder Farewells through the 2012 Spelling Bee, the Christmas productions, Christian Service Projects, Athletics, Masses, Grade 4 Bible Celebration and Winter Camp.

Thanks to generous donors, you will notice some additional awards have been created for the students. Students in all grades are being recognized for academic success, athletic success, artistic abilities and leadership traits. Of note is the newly created Cornerstone Award which was created this past June and will be granted annually in memory of Bill Senderewich. This award is given to a student who is known for being a strong supporter of his/her peers, the school and the community overall i.e. the student everyone can count on.

A Learn-to-Skate program was piloted this year for all students in Grades K-2. The students were bused to the MTS Iceplex where the skating lessons were taught by Larry Bumstead of Northwestern Hockey Camp, and Ms. Kirkpatrick our gym teacher. The students were so excited to see the Winnipeg Jets practicing on the adjacent rink!

In September, the entire student body spread out into the community for the first annual Community Christian Service Projects Day. Students volunteered at our owner parishes, at Winnipeg Harvest, Chemin Neuf and at Siloam Mission.

There have been some exciting developments in staffing this year: congratulations to Mrs. Narynski our new Vice-Principal; welcome back to Mrs. Prettie; and congratulations to Mrs. Sherlock who is expecting her first child this month. Anne -Marie Ford has stepped down as Chair of the Board and thankfully is continuing to serve as past-Chair. Congratulations to Robyn (deBeer) Powell who has a dual role on the Board of Directors as both Chair and Alumni Rep.

The Middle Years students just completed their mid-year exams and are currently auditioning for parts in the spring musical: *Willy Wonka Junior*. As you may know, 2012 is the 40th anniversary of the first production of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Meanwhile, grades 3-5 are practicing intently for their performances at the Winnipeg Music Festival. The grades K-2 students are eagerly anticipating the celebration of their "100th Day of School" which falls during Catholic Schools Week in February.

If you would like to schedule a visit to the school, please do not hesitate to call the office. May the new year, 2012, be one of health and thanksgiving for all.

- Penny ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL presents our spring musical Roald Dahrs Willy Wonka, Jr. 6:30PM TICKETS: \$5.00

Doors Open at 6:00 School Gymnasium

... There are over 7,300 names in the Alumni database





### **Grade 8 Farewell and Awards Presentation**



















### Student Achievement Awards 2010-2011

Louis Caron Award Music Student of the Year Zachary Rawluk

Robert Morrison Leadership Award Gr. 8—Exceptional Leadership Selena Gelinas

Jordan Paige Citizenship Award Gr. 8—Exceptional Citizenship Nadya Pankiw

Diane Giguere O'Rourke Award Gr. 1 Citizenship Elyse Peacock

Damian Mills Award Strong Athletics and Academics Draven Alvarez

Gladys Belhumeur Volunteer Award Exceptional Volunteerism Veronica and Lance Gelinas

George Jones Memorial Award Strong Athletics and Academics Megan Smith

Please contact Dr. A. P. Penny, Principal, at 837-1520 or dr\_penny@stccs.ca if you are interested in sponsoring a St. Charles Catholic School student award in honour of a loved one.



... we have been blessed with the many gifts of the Oblate Sisters



**Memories from the Oblate Sisters** 

I entered the congregation of the Oblate Sisters in 1940 and spent my first year as a Postulant and 2 years as a Novice at Maison Chappelle in St. Boniface. In the summer of 1943 I came to St. Charles Convent. One of my first duties was to help Sister Pauline in the kitchen. There, I became familiar with new foods, for example how to make fois gras (liver sausage), making desserts with pumpkin and making biscuits for lunch. Every Sunday there would be pies for the children and the Sisters. I was in charge of peeling potatoes and I would ask some of the girls to help me. Here I would have the opportunity to learn some German words as some of our boarders were of German descent. In the fall I helped put out the butter or peanut butter in little butter dishes that each girl had in her drawer of the table in the refectory. Prayers were said before meals and sometimes it was my turn to stand in front of the room to lead them in prayer.

I also helped in the small dormitory where the younger girls, grades 1-4, slept. In the dormitory there were 2 cubicles where the Sisters who helped in the dormitory slept. When the lights went out and everything was quiet, I would mend their clothes. In the morning I braided their hair. There were four Sisters who helped. The girls were awakened at 6:30 by a bell that the Sister in charge would ring and we had to hurry to have their hair done by 7 o'clock in time for Mass. We had 10 girls each. When everyone was ready we led them down two flights of stairs to the chapel which was located on the main floor. A kindergarten class and resource area are now located where the chapel was.

After Mass, all children went downstairs to the refectory (dining room) for their breakfast. This was located in the basement. Today it is used by the Drama and Before and After School Care program. After I had my breakfast, in another room adjacent to the kitchen, I continued to help in the kitchen.

In September 1943, I had the opportunity to teach a grade 2 class as there were too many students for one teacher. My class was in an open area which had been used as a sewing room. Since I had gone to a one room school I had the opportunity to help the teacher with the younger children. This experience helped me with teaching the grade 2 class. Sister Louis de France was the Superior at that time and was a great help to me and she continued encouraging me to upgrade myself to get my grade 12. In 1944-1945 I helped Sister Achille de Rome with her grade 3&4 class.

From 1945 to 1948, I continued to help in the kitchen and other tasks that were assigned to me. During my free time I would study Canadian History and Algebra and in the summer I attended school in the city. I also took courses through correspondence from the University of Ottawa and attended there during the summer months.

At Nazareth, the house on the northwest corner across from the school, where the grade 11 and 12 girls slept, I would have the girls help me in the kitchen to prepare the noon meal and clean up afterwards. They would also be taught how to set a table and other housekeeping duties.

In 1948-1949 I taught grades 5&6, Sister St. Henri was the Superior until 1951.

1949-1950, grades 3&4

1950-1951, grades 5&6. I remember preparing the class for a public quiz on the capital cities of the South American countries.

1951-1952, I attended Teacher's College (in those days it was called Normal School). It now serves as the south campus for the Canadian Mennonite University (CMU). Four Oblate Sisters took the bus each morning from Maison Chappelle on Aulneau Street in St. Boniface to attend a full day at the school in Tuxedo.

### **Memories from the Oblate Sisters**

During the years from 1952-1968, I was teaching at other schools that were administered by the Oblate Sisters, Dunrea, Otterburne, Isle des Chenes, École St. Marie. In 1964-1965, I taught grade 10 and 12 Biology in Cold Lake, Alberta. From 1965-1968, I taught in Assiniboia. Here I learned how to drive a car.

I came back to St. Charles in 1968 and taught grade 11Biology for 3 years.

1971-1972, I completed by Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta. In May and June of 1972 I replaced a grade 12 teacher at St. Charles to teach History and Biology and I continued teaching those subjects the following year.

From 1973-1979, I was teaching grades 9 to 11 in Lestock, Saskatchewan. I came back to Manitoba in 1979 and taught grade 3&4 in Transcona. For the 1980-1981 school year, I came back to St. Charles where I taught grade 4. This was my last year.

During my years at St. Charles I would help out in any areas where necessary. I remember one winter day when Sister Jeanne Boucher (Sr. Jeanne d'Arc) and I poured water down the slide on the hill so the girls could slide down faster on their pieces of cardboard. In doing so the bottom part of our habits got wet and, after awhile, they froze. When they thawed out Sister de la Misericorde had to do some repair work on the hems.

At recess time I would help out with the supervision. During the time when I was studying Latin I would keep a vocabulary list in my pocket and while on supervision duty I would practice my words.

In May and June we would wash the floors and the girls would help with the waxing and polishing. After the work was done they would be allowed to slide down the fire escape. It was located on the north side of the building. A part of this fire escape was used later on as a slide in the playground.

I had various experiences at St. Charles from helping and cooking in the kitchen, to supervising, to making slides for the girls down to the river, to teaching in the classroom. I enjoyed my time at St. Charles Academy, I liked the girls and was happy to be a part of their learning activities. Looking back...those were good, fruitful and happy days.

Sister Aline Bertrand (Sister Joseph de la Providence) 1943-1951, 1968-1971, 1980-1981

The school has been blessed with the many gifts the Oblate Sisters have bestowed upon us as students and as a community of St. Charles Catholic School for 107 years. The Charger has over the last couple of years been fortunate enough to have the memories from some the Sisters to share with all of the Alumni. Their stories have helped catalogue a part of the history of our school, given us fond moments, made us feel their pride and showed us a look through their eyes.

A SPECIAL *Thank You* to Edith Ugrin (nee Havixbeck), 1943-53, for working with the Sisters in organizing their wonderful memories for The Charger.

This is the final issue featuring a memory from the Oblates and it is now our turn as Alumni to put some of our remembrances on paper. Your memories can be sent by mail to the school or email at <u>sec@stccs.ca</u>. Look forward to reading more memories in the Spring!



## **SCCS In The Millennium**



This fall saw the end to a very busy summer at the school, bringing about some significant upgrades and renovations to some sections of the school that will hold some special memories for Alumni. These renovations were deemed necessary not just for improving school life but for ensuring St. Charles will be providing the safest environment to the students regarding Fire and Health regulations.

The Science lab has been given a complete remodel which supports the current curriculum complete with an interactive projector and software for state of the art learning.



Who remembers swimming lessons in the pool? While the pool has been closed

...The original

1960's

Cafeteria

kitchen has

been

remodelled.





since the early 80's and has been used strictly as a storage area, the first stage of reworking this usable space has been completed. Continued construction will continue over the next few years to create a Multipurpose Room.

A pilot program was introduced this fall for the K-2 students which has incorporated skating lessons into the phys ed curriculum during school hours. The students receive 8 one hour sessions of instruction at the Iceplex by Larry Bumstead of Northwest Hockey School. The parents have fully supported this fantastic opportunity and have willingly made a small financial contribution and the school has subsidized the remaining cost.







# What's New at St. Charles??

The main kitchen, which was host to many school events and celebrations over the last 50 some years, has been completely renovated.





The Middle Years students are enjoying a variety of electives that include traditional art, digital art, cooking, rock band, violin, current affairs, drama and sport.



# **Thank You for Your Support**



### Robert Morrison 11th Annual Texas Scramble Golf Tournament



Monday, May 28th, 2012 Breezy Bend Golf & Country Club

To register your team, please visit our office for a registration form or log onto our website at www.stccs.ca. The cost is \$600 per team or \$150 per player which includes lunch, dinner, a round of golf, and a prize for every player. Singles and incomplete teams are welcome.

To make this event a success we are looking for cash sponsors, team prizes of four, silent auction prizes and cash donations. Donations can be dropped off at the office. Thank you for your generosity and tremendous ongoing support!

# How Can I Help?

St. Charles Catholic School believes that every child should have the option of benefiting from a Catholic education.

Thanks to our Student Bursary fund, we are able to welcome families from all circumstances. Last year, the school sponsored \$40,000 in bursaries to families in the school. A collection was also taken up at our Christmas Concerts this year with enough money donated to sponsor an entire tuition! Donations of all amounts are greatly appreciated and will ensure the Bursary Fund's ability to assist.

Donations over \$20.00 will receive a tax receipt and can be forwarded to:

St. Charles Catholic School 331 St. Charles Street Winnipeg, MB R3K 1T6 St. Charles is accepting Corporate/ Personal Sponsorship for programs such as the K-2 Learn to Skate Program or prizes and/or sponsorship for major fundraising events such as the golf tournament.



for your ongoing contributions towards this important fund.

### **Kindergarten Open House** Saint Charles **Catholic School** 331 St. Charles Street Winnipeg MB R3K 1T6 KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE – 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 2012 We invite you to come and find out at Are you ready Is your child Is your child St. Charles Catholic School. turning five for ready for this year? **Kindergarten? Kindergarten?** Pre- register today and reserve your spot! Please call Darlene at 837-1520.

St. Charles is a K-8 school, offering full day, every day kindergarten, Before and After School Care, a Violin Enrichment Program, K-8 French, Arts Program, as well as a Hockey Skills Development Program. Academy Kids Daycare is also located on the premises. For more information, please visit our website at <u>www.stccs.ca</u> or call 837-1520.

### **Quality Education that is Intellectually Challenging and Faith-filled**



### **Kindergarten Open House**

Tuesday, January 31st, 6:30 p.m.

### K-8 General Open House

Wednesday, February 29th, 6:30 p.m.

### Afternoon Open House

Tuesday, March 20th, 1-3 p.m.

St. Charles is a K-8 school, offering full day, every day kindergarten, a violin enrichment program, K-8 French, a hockey skills development program, arts and drama, as well as before and after school care. Academy Kids Daycare is also located on the premises. For more information, please call St. Charles Catholic School at 837-1520 or visit our website at <u>www.stccs.ca</u>.

Quality Education that is Intellectually Challenging and Faith Filled

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#### **MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION**

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

GRADUATING CLASS:

- I have enclosed my annual membership fee of \$10.00. Please continue mailing a hard copy of "The Charger".
- I have enclosed an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_. Please send a tax receipt to the above address.
- Please send the Electronic Charger to the above electronic mail address and enter my name in the draw for a "CHARGERS" Touque.
- Please contact me about upcoming fundraising events.





**RETURN ADDRESS:** 

331 St. Charles Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 1T6

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