



# Cathcart Boulevard School

## *Cougar Tracks*

Joyce Vlcek  
Vice-Principal

Paul Veriker  
Principal

Jan Moran  
Secretary

We are in ZONE 2. [www.schoolbusinfo.com](http://www.schoolbusinfo.com)  
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### Literacy – Writing News

Over the next four weeks the students at Cathcart School will be working on Report Writing. Report Writing provides a precise, organized, factual record on a specific topic. It has a beginning that defines the topic, a middle that presents facts and details and an ending that summarizes the information. Some types of reports are newspaper, scientific and book.

### Registration for Cathcart Junior and Senior Kindergarten

As you are aware, this month has brought many announcements in regard to full-time learning for our JK/SK students. Due to this timing and the extensive communication needed in the successful school communities, all Early Years registration will be delayed until mid to late February. Once a date has been selected for Kindergarten Registration information will be sent home to parents.

### Christmas Presentation

The Cathcart Choir presented “A Christmas Story” to a full gymnasium. They did an excellent job on their presentation.

### Art Auction is a Great Success

On Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, a large crowd of art enthusiasts gathered in the Cathcart gym for a Silent Auction of works of art created by the Intermediate students.

The auction was organized by Mme. VanPraet in an effort to raise funds for the Grade 8 yearbooks. Friends and family in the Cathcart School Community were invited to bid on works of art; including luminaries, watercolours, etched glass plates and mugs, acrylic paintings and other items donated or made by the students and their families.

Thank you to all who attended. A total of \$1222.00 was raised to help fund the grade 8 yearbooks.

### Canned Food Drive

Cathcart School would like to thank the families that donated canned or packaged

food to the Christmas food drive. All the classes did a great job bringing in such a large quantity of food.

### Grade 8 Parents’ Night

Just a reminder of some upcoming Gr.8-9 transition events at NCIVS.

Wed. Jan. 27th: Grade 8 Parents' Night: Fr.

Immersion. room 106: 6:30 pm

Regular program. Cafeteria: 7pm

Gr. 8 tour of NCIVS: Thurs. Feb. 18th (inclement weather date: Tues. Feb. 23rd)

Friday Feb. 26th: Option sheets due at NCIVS.

Two guidance counselors from Northern Collegiate will be at Cathcart on Wed. January 13th, 2010 at 2 PM.

The Grade 8 Parent/Student Information Night for Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School will take place January 12, 2010 7:00-8:30pm. Please call ahead to RSVP, as soon as possible. (519)542-5505.

### Sports



#### Volleyball

We would like to thank Mrs. McKelvie, Mrs. Stone, Ms. Donohue and Miss Vangorp for the great job they did coaching the girls and boys volleyball teams.

#### Girls

Congratulations to the Girls Volleyball Team who completed the season undefeated and went on to win the Girls Volleyball Tournament.

#### Boys

Congratulations also go out to the Boys Volleyball Team who displayed great sportsmanship and played to their best potential during the season.



#### Basketball

##### Girls

The girls’ basketball team has been selected and scheduled games will start in January. Schedules for the season have been sent home with each player.

##### Boys

The boys are still having tryouts for the team. The team will be selected when we return to school in January. Schedules will be handed out to the students that are on the team.

## Hot Lunches January Dates

January 15<sup>th</sup> – KFC Day

January 29<sup>th</sup> – Pizza Day/Celebrate the Olympics



## Happy Retirement to Mme. Van Praet

Mme. Van Praet will be greatly missed at Cathcart. During her time at Cathcart, she has endeavored to make her school the best “home away from home” it could possibly be. In her classes she has always looked for innovative ways to incorporate her love of art into her instructional practices. Lessons often included making words with pudding and licorice, centres for making ornaments, decorating gingerbread houses, Easter egg hunts and much, much more! Beyond the classroom walls Madame has also been very busy during her years at Cathcart!

Her passion for art has shone through in the annual Art Auction she has worked so diligently to maintain. As the season approached it was not unusual to see Mme. Van Praet scouting the neighbourhood on garage sale days, looking for “treasures” to be transformed into works of art. These painted chairs and tables would then be added to the magnificent assortment of tie-dyed T-shirts, framed water colours, painted glass, etc. to be sold at the auction. Also, we can’t forget the annual painting of the Tim Horton’s windows – wow!

Her famous French Cafés have been enjoyed by so many. We can’t even begin to imagine how many delicious crepes have been consumed at Cathcart over the past years!

I’m sure no one will ever forget the fabulous fortune teller on Winter Carnival days, or the artistic henna tattoos at the Spring Carnival!

Graduation has always been a labour of love for Mme. Van Praet as she has so diligently done everything in her power, from painting vases & making flower banners to creating slideshows to touch the hearts of all while transforming the Golf Club with her magical talent, to ensure that each graduation was an unforgettable experience for every Cathcart grad!

For the staff, she has always been able to find a way to add to the laughter. She has always been able to find a way to support her friends and colleagues through helpful gestures.



She may have very small feet, but she leaves some mighty big shoes to fill!!!

Happy Retirement Mme. Van Praet!!!

## Welcome to Cathcart

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mark Nicholson. Mr. Nicholson will be replacing Mme. Van Praet starting January 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Family Literacy Day

Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> is Family Literacy Day. On that day from 10 -10:30 the entire school will be paired with "Reading Buddies" so that all students will be reading simultaneously. More information will follow in January in individual teachers’ classroom newsletter.

## Sexual Health Education Program

for Grade 5-8 is provided by a Registered Nurse through Community Health Services. The program addresses topics in the Ontario Curriculum and focuses on Grade appropriate material. The program will be held the weeks of January 5<sup>th</sup> – January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Awards for Excellence

The Elementary Teacher’s Federation once again is asking for nominations for teaching excellence. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2010. If you would like to nominate a Cathcart staff member, please contact the school for more information.

## Inclement Weather and School Bus Cancellations

Winter weather has arrived. It is important that in the event of inclement weather, parents listen to the radio for announcements about bus cancellations. The following radio stations will provide the necessary information:

CHOK AM 1070

FM 99.9, FM 96.9, FM 94.0

The following website will also list the cancellations for particular bus zones: [www.schoolbusinfo.com](http://www.schoolbusinfo.com)

Cathcart School is in Zone 2. Schools are not mentioned individually on the radio. Zone numbers will be used when announcements are made about school closures and bus cancellations.

It has been the policy of the board that schools will remain open if buses are cancelled.

If school buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow, there will be no bus service at the end of the day, except on fog days. If you drop your child off at the school in the morning, you are responsible for picking him/her up at dismissal time at 3:30 p.m. If bad weather develops during the day, please listen to your radio for information about an early dismissal. If students are dismissed early we will try to contact the parents of bus students in grade JK-6.