

St. Anne Catholic School is a beacon of Catholic education in the South Kanata community of Emerald Meadows. The school was built to meet the continued growth of the area, helping to relieve enrolment pressures at the nearby St. James Catholic School. St. Anne, which is named after the grandmother of Jesus, began in September 1999, not at the Stonehaven Drive location of the school then under construction, but at Georges Vanier Catholic School in North Kanata. The school opened with an enrolment of 231 students, but within four years the population had reached 500 in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6, reflecting the housing growth taking place in the immediate community.

St. Anne Catholic School provides its families with a local Catholic school environment integrating the teachings of Jesus Christ into the day-to-day curriculum and social fabric of school life and learning. The mission of the school is to develop lifelong learners and problem solvers, while pursuing academic excellence. The school consists of 17 classrooms, four kindergarten classrooms, a state-of-the-art computer lab, a library, a gymnasium, a unit for developmentally handicapped children, and a child care facility housing the Emerald Meadows School Age Program.

St. Anne has quickly developed an infectious school spirit thanks to a host of activities and events held throughout the school year that complement the learning atmosphere fostered by the staff. These activities and events have included the Wake Up St. Anne News Show, environmental and sign-language clubs, reading and drama clubs, participation in Board sports tournaments, a chocolate fundraiser, Jump Rope for Heart, a winter carnival and Education Week open houses. There are also programs for kindergarten helpers, "reading buddies" and peer mediators, as well as a complete intramural sports program.

ST. ANNE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



500 Stonehaven Drive
Kanata K2M 2V6
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In 2006, the school launched a PRIDE bully-prevention program. PRIDE stands for "promoting respect, independence, diversity and excellence."

The St. Anne School community has been involved in supporting the "OK Clean Water Project" since its inception in 2003. The "OK Clean Water Project" (OK stands for Ottawa-Kumbo, a town in Cameroon in Africa) is an initiative of the Congregation of Notre Dame, an international religious community of Sisters and associates with a strong presence throughout Canada and a longstanding dedication to education. The project supports

the purchase of water pipes, which are laid from a clean water source into their communities by villagers in Cameroon. Since 2003, thousands of people in eight different villages have been helped and more villages will be aided in the future. St. Anne School was one of eight Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board schools, which in 2005-06 raised about \$6,000 in total for this project. St. Anne raised its funds by creating a 540-metre-long coin line, the length of about 90 water pipes. The students receive annual presentations by Congregation of Notre Dame associates (women and men who share in the mission of the congregation) who show what their funds are used for so that the students can see for themselves that their efforts in helping the "OK Clean Water Project" are making a difference.

In June 2006, two grade six students, Colleen Mahoney and Libby Lough, developed a five-minute video about the "OK Clean Water Project" and showed it to the assembled students. The video included interviews with students talking about helping others and also with Principal Jane Hill talking about the project. The two students did the video to help raise awareness among the students about the conditions in which others in the world live.

St. Anne Catholic School has an active school council. Among the annual events sponsored by the council are a welcome pizza night in September and a Spring Fling.

The students and staff at St. Anne have many opportunities to demonstrate their Catholic faith including school-wide and classroom liturgies. Father Paul Shepherd and Father Oliver Rich of Holy Redeemer Parish visit the school regularly for these liturgical celebrations, fostering a strong parish-school link.

In 2005-06, a schoolyard improvement plan was developed by the principal in collaboration with the school council with the goal of making the schoolyard a place for positive social and physical activity for students. The plan included the addition of a second play structure, line painting for asphalt games, equipment and toys to support yard games, a peace corner for conflict resolution, a quiet area for play, and trees for shade. The new play structure was installed in the spring of 2006, at the same time as the new outdoor equipment and the line painting. The new play structure was made possible thanks to a community grant from the City of Ottawa, funding from the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board and donations from school families and local businesses.

Present Principal

Jane Hill (2005-present)

Past Principals

Lucy Miller (1999)

Daniel Lahey (1999-2004)

Sonja Karsh (2004-05)

First Teaching and Support Staff

Wendy McKinnon

Suzanne Hetu-Descoteaux

Darlene O'Connor

Lisa Connell

Patricia Fiorino

Anna Ferrabee

Mike Kennedy

Joan Sickman

Caroline O'Connor

Josée Hotte

Kevin Carey

Christine Woodley, Library
Technician

Tara Hudon, Educational

Assistant

Carolyn Halley, Resource

Joyce Brulé, Secretary

Jacques Cardinal, Custodian

Staff Recognition

St. Anne Catholic School teacher Michael Kennedy received a National Capital Educator Award in 2006.

School Colours

Beige, navy and white

Motto

"In Faith We Grow"

Mascot

A lion was chosen as the school's mascot as a result of a process in 2006 whereby all students were given the opportunity to provide suggestions. The top five suggestions were tabulated and then narrowed down to two. A lion emerged as the preferred mascot. A lion is considered appropriate, as lions are good protectors of their young and are good mothers.

Team Names

The sports teams of St. Anne Catholic School will now be known as the "Lions."