

Winter 2017  
Volume 5, Issue 4

## IMPORTANT DATES

- December 20  
Intl Human Solidarity Day
- December 22  
Last Day of classes before Christmas Break!!!
- December 25  
Christmas Day!!!
- January 6  
Epiphany
- January 8  
Classes resume
- January 27  
Family Literacy Day
- March 10-12  
OECTA Provincial AGM

### Stay Informed Get Involved in Your OECTA

“I felt a sense of duty to model my faith for my students and show that we are called by God to make a difference.

To me that is what makes being a Catholic teacher so special”

(Lisa Beganyi, an OECTA teacher who was a summer volunteer in Possibilities House for Children in Mexico)

### Keep in Touch:



Renfrew OECTA Unit  
Office

349 Christie Street  
Pembroke, Ontario  
K8A 4R6

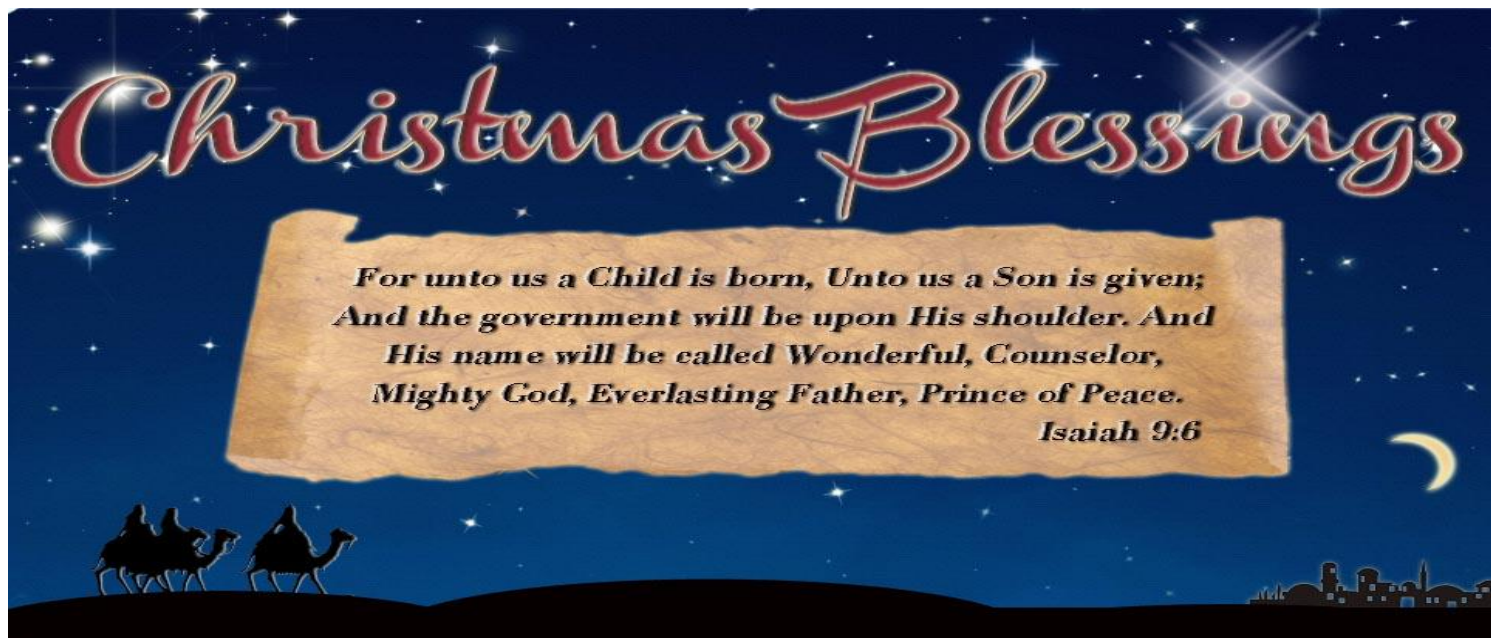
Email:

[oectarenfrew@cogeco.net](mailto:oectarenfrew@cogeco.net)

Follow us on Twitter  
[@oectarenfrew](https://twitter.com/oectarenfrew)

**P: 613 735 0869**

**F: 613 735 1807**



## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

### OECTA IN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

- Since Sept 2017 OECTA Provincial has made donations to the following:
  - \*Canadian Red Cross: [BC wildfire relief effort].
  - \*Education Intl Solidarity Fund: [Hurricane relief in Caribbean and Flood relief in Bangladesh].
  - \*Oxfam Royhingya Refugee Emergency Fund: [Victims of violence and persecution in Myanmar].

### STUDENTS FILL SHOEBOXES WITH LOVE

- Inspired by a Thunder Bay grade 6 OECTA teacher's lessons on residential schools, a class embarked on a 2 week campaign to send individual boxes with school supplies, stuffed animals, and winter wear to needy remote Northern Indigenous communities.
- More information at [www.catholicteachers.ca](http://www.catholicteachers.ca) In the News "Students Fill Shoeboxes with Love."

### LOCAL CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

- The Salvation Army needs volunteers at its Christmas Kettles.
- The Renfrew County Paramedic Service is collecting food and toys for needy local children.
  - More Information from Amber Hutlink 613 433 4904.
- The Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network seeks new or gently used snowsuits/boots as well as gifts of money or time.
- Contact [cpanphoenixctr.com](http://cpanphoenixctr.com) or 1800 465 1870 Ext 250.

### DESIGN THE OECTA 2018 CHRISTMAS CARD

- Entries can be submitted in hard copy or digitally (at least 300 dpi).
- Send to: [a.anezyris@oecta.on.ca](mailto:a.anezyris@oecta.on.ca)
- Submission Deadline: April 1 2018.

### IDEAS NEEDED FOR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

- The Social Committee is seeking input. Any interest in a Trivia Night?
- Let the Unit office know.

### YOUNG AUTHORS

- Entry Forms available at [www.catholicteachers.ca](http://www.catholicteachers.ca)
- Feb 12, 2018 -Deadline to submit entries to OECTA Staff Reps.
- Feb 20, 2018 -Deadline to sign and submit winning entries to Unit Office.

### OTIP TEACHING AWARDS

- 3 categories: Elementary, Secondary, and Beginning Teachers (first 5 years).
- Nomination Deadline is Mar.31, 2018.
- More information at [teachingawards.ca](http://teachingawards.ca)

### PM AWARDS

- Honour outstanding innovative elementary/secondary teachers.
- New Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) awards.
- Nominations close Jan 12.
- Info at <http://bit.ly/2dxlWzU>

### WEBEXPERIENCE

- 8:00 to 9:00PM WEEKNIGHT SESSIONS.
- Bite-sized online PD in Kindergarten, Math, and Wellness.
- Developed and delivered by teachers for teachers.
- Fun/innovative ideas/activities to support curriculum delivery and well-being.
- Earlier sessions posted for viewing at your convenience.
- Info at [catholicteachers.ca](http://catholicteachers.ca) For Your Career.

### SECRET PATH

- Created by an OECTA teacher.
- Based on Tragically Hip singer Gord Downie's creation inspired by the death of a 12 yr old Indigenous youth on his way home after escaping from an ON residential school.
- Teaches literacy, Canadian History, focusing on indigenous history using the ON curriculum.
- More info at [www.catholicteachers.ca](http://www.catholicteachers.ca) In the News "Peterborough Teacher's Secret Path Lesson Plan Goes National."