

Ryan proves youth not wasted on the young

If you believe youth is wasted on the young, you haven't heard Ryan Mason's take on imagination.

Ryan's a Grade 6 student at St. Brigid Catholic Elementary School in Stouffville.

The 12-year-old is the winner of a public speaking contest held recently by the York District Catholic School Board.

Ryan entered the Grade 4, 5 and 6 category, representing 78 schools and 11,000 students.

On Monday, Ryan gave his winning speech at the Stouffville Lions Club dinner meeting. It was the best speech I've ever heard at a service club meeting. And believe me, I've heard a few.

Ryan Mason has a glint in his eye, a kick in his walk, a fine head of hair and, providing he doesn't take any wooden nickels and avoids needless safety nets, he'll be like cream: he'll rise to the top.

Until then, Ryan is bright, tall and, most important, a happy child. He has spunk, friends, sisters and unlike many children, a pair of together parents. Ryan's mom and his dad love and nurture him.

Ryan's father is my boss. I'm not big on bosses.

But if the company insists I have one, I'll take Ryan's dad. Since Jim Mason helped turn out a kid like Ryan, maybe some of the good stuff will fall my way.

The cardinal rule of a writer and a speaker is: Write and talk about only what you know. And Ryan knows his subject. He has an imagination.

Ryan reminded the Lions Club that Albert Einstein offered us much in his life including this nugget: "Imagination is more important than knowledge".

Einstein believed knowledge is limiting, but imagination encircles the world. Ryan's trying to get his teachers to embarrass Einstein's theory.

He needs to know teachers lead the knowledge parade. And teachers are big on facts.

Here's Ryan's take on facts. "Could it be that it's better to imagine a possibility than to know a fact?"

It's obvious: Ryan rides the imagination highway. It'll lead him to interesting and worthwhile places.

I believe teachers would rather not have an Einstein or a Thomas Edison in their class.

The Edisons and Einsteins of the world are great dreamers.

Of course, the dreaming



Joan Ransberry

is not confined to after class. Teachers and day dreamers are a poor mix. Einsteins, Edisons and the Walt Disneys day dream in the morning, in the afternoon and in the dark of night.

Dreamers don't let the clear light of day interfere with the dreams.

Because the likes of Alexander Graham Bell are imagination driven, they don't take to shelf life, their attention spans are like humming birds and they always color outside the lines. It's prettier out there. It's free.

Einstein and his cronies look at life from the inside out. They ask why and why not in the same breath.

They laugh and love like there's no tomorrow. They imagine the impossible. They dream their dreams.

And when they can and when they can't, they live their dreams. Some people of imagination insist on creating a world worthy of their dreams.

And when they least expect it, they deliver to us such things as telephones, light bulbs, radios, dynamite, insulin, airplanes and talking pictures. The root of each and every invention is imagination.

In his speech, Ryan gives God top marks for imagination. "Could you have imagined a giraffe?" Ryan asked. Good question.

His speech included the one of the grand masters of imagination.

With an ear-to-ear grin, Ryan told the Lions to take Dr. Seuss's advise and, "Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try".

Ryan reached out and touched a soft spot in my heart by quoting Michelangelo.

"I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free," said Michelangelo.

Ryan reminded us that we wouldn't have the angel if "Michelangelo didn't have imagination".

In return I have this to say to Ryan: Go forward.

Take only good things with you, especially your imagination.

FRESH RASPBERRIES

Our fresh raspberries come from California this week. You'll be able to make your own pie without going broke buying the berries — or you can just enjoy them with a bit of sugar, or ice cream.

They're a taste from heaven!

2.49

container

VINE TOMATOES

Most of you will know that we sell an extensive range of tomatoes — and true, at some points of the year they can be expensive as well. The best of the best are those which come in "Clusters", i.e. they've been picked sweet and ripe — at their pinnacle of flavour and flown to us by air — that's why the price.

Now if I told you that you could buy these very tomatoes for not \$4.99, not \$3.99 but only \$1.99 per lb., you'd probably plan a great tomato salad, right?

We'll supply the tomatoes!

1.99 lb. THIS WEEK

EGG PLANT DIP

I have never been a big fan of eggplant until (a) my wife grilled some on the barbecue and served it with Olive Oil and Balsamic vinegar — and (b) I tried this. It's a perfect blend of seasonings and textures — great as a veggie dip, spread on a Manoucher's Baguette (or any other bread) or on a sandwich. Very versatile and definitely worth a try.

Reg. \$1.79/100 g

1/3 OFF THIS WEEK

FARMER'S SAUSAGES

Our Farmer's Sausages are made with a touch of our English seasoning and finished with some of our German Bratwurst spice and you'll call them delicious once you try them!

Reg. \$3.99 lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

SEEDLESS WATERMELON

When I was a kid (not so long ago) I loved the seeds in watermelons — they were great ammunition, much to my mom's displeasure. Now being a parent, I fully appreciate seedless melons at home. Not only are they a lot easier to eat, they're a lot easier to clean up. It must have been a Mom that invented these.

49¢ lb.



WHAT'S HAPPENIN' IN THE BAKERY?

I have it on good authority that most, if not all, fathers like chocolate — so this week it's all about chocolate!

* OUR CHOCOLATE CAKES — decorated for dads in a

sporting way..... \$13.95 & \$18.95 size

* CHOCOLATE ORANGE MOUSSE CAKES — rich, moist chocolate orange cake filled with a layer of chocolate mousse and orange mousse..... \$18.95

* BLACK and WHITE MOUSSE CAKE made with dark and white chocolate mousses layered with chocolate and white cakes..... \$18.95

Jaana says that both this and the chocolate-orange are available in a larger 9" size if dad has a big family..... \$26.00

* TURTLE TART — made with a toasted pecan shortbread crust filled with soft caramel with a hint of honey & maple syrup, topped with soft chocolate ganache & caramelized pecans. Very decadent..... \$17.95

* CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRY CHEESE CAKE cheesecake with dark chocolate & sliced strawberries swirled through, topped with a mountain of strawberries and, you guessed it, more chocolate \$14.95 & \$22.95

and in case we were wrong in thinking that all dads love chocolate, we've made.....

* STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE — amazing!... \$16.95 & \$23.95

* OUR EVER-POPULAR WHITE CAKE. This is Cathy's favourite, but it's decorated for dad! \$12.95 & \$17.95

* LIME CHEESECAKE — this is new! It's similar to our lemon cheesecake, but this one is made with lime curd and a splash of tequila. \$12.95 & \$20.95

* RASPBERRY & WHITE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE BOMBE.

Jaana tells me that men don't like raspberries so much because of the seed-in-teeth problem, but she assures me that all the seeds have been removed — so go ahead and enjoy! It's made with a mound of raspberry mousse covered with raspberry jelly roll and glazed with apricot — it's very pretty!..... \$20.95

— It's probably a good idea to order ahead if there's a particular item you'd like — 905-940-0655 —

ARE YOUR MEN HUNGRY?

We'll have some of our Texas Beef Chops this week. They are extra-thick rib eyes which come with a bone as a handle — and they're rather Neanderthal in size.

11.95 lb. THIS WEEK

CREAMY HAVARTI CHEESE

This is a cheese that can be used to tune-up your salad, top your burger, spice up your veal cutlet, help your ham be its best — or you can just munch it like it is. Good stuff!

Reg. \$1.99 / 100g

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE?

This is the last week of our garden centre. There'll be some bargains this week to clear up some of the seasonal items. It's the last chance to fill a couple of vacancies in your garden or spots on your patio.

OUR OLD-FASHIONED CABBAGE ROLLS

Cabbage Rolls are a hot item in our store. I imagine it's because they're so time-consuming to make that few people make them at home. Whatever the reason, they don't last long in our freezer — especially when they're one of this week's features! So come early and get them while they last. Container of 4

Reg. \$10.95

25% OFF THIS WEEK

SPECIALS IN-EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING SUNDAY JUNE 16TH

Hours:

Mon. 11:00-7:00 ~ Tues., Thurs. 9:00-7:00 ~ Fri. 9:00-8:00

Sat. 9:00-6:00 ~ Sun. 10:00-5:00

548 Carlton Road, Unionville

940-1770