

## Note from Administration

We continue to work at finishing off a successful school year. We celebrate many accomplishments this final month, both in the classroom and in the school community at large:

Prom, Graduation Mass and Breakfast, COPA arts evening, Athletic and Arts Banquets, Celebration of the Year of St. Paul, as well as an upcoming year end assembly to name a few. It is also a time to focus and celebrate the academic work in the classrooms. So, time in June is focused on attendance, work completion, and picking up those last minute tips and supports that will help students finish the semester strong.

A reminder to all that Marks Work Wearhouse continues to have 50% off Bennies school uniforms. They have a particularly good selection of shirts and ladies pants. We encourage all current students to take advantage of savings if you can.

Thanks for our continued support as we keep focused on a great finish to the school year!

- Mr. J. McKinnon, Principal

## Administrative

### FROM THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

By Mrs. L. Temple and Mr. J. Malnerich Exams and final projects are fast approaching. Please make use of the many supports available at St. Benedict. These supports include:

**Student Success Centre:** Open before school and on both lunches for support and for a place to get work done.

**Homework Club:** Open daily Monday- Thursday in Room 224. Computer access, free teacher support, and a great place to work and get some help.

**Math Credit Rescue:** Open Monday AND Thursday in rooms 310 and 309. Math teachers there to help with the tough concepts, boost skill development, as well as help prepare you for the EQAO test (grade 9s) or for general review from Grades 10-12.

There are many supports available. There is no excuse for not getting work done- so come on in to any one of these places and get some help today.

## STUDENTS...

### NEED HELP PREPARING FOR FINAL EXAMS?

### NEED AN EXTRA BOOST FOR REVIEW?

There is a program running at Laurier University called SOS that is able to help. For a small donation you can attend a review session with a tutor in order to complete practice questions and get the extra boost you need to go into final exam week. The donation is \$25 and it all goes to charity (if you want to go with a friend it is 2 for \$40). Tutoring is done by Laurier students. In addition to the review session you will receive a take home package filled with questions and the answers in order to further help you prepare.

The SOS program offers the following courses:

Grade 9: Math, French, Geography

Grade 10: Math, Science, History

Grade 11: U Math, U Sciences

Grade 12: U Math, U Sciences

It is easy to register: go to [www.soshighschool.com](http://www.soshighschool.com) (more info. is there as well)

For more information at the school please see Mrs. Temple in the Student Success Centre- third floor, by the elevator.

# CHANGES TO ST. BENEDICT UNIFORM COMING IN SEPTEMBER

By MR. J. MCKINNON

We would like to announce that we will have a new uniform supplier for September 2009. R.J. McCarthy School Uniforms will be our official school supplier. McCarthy's supplies uniforms to our other 4 secondary schools in the W.C.D.S.B.

McCarthy's is located at 44 Saltsman Drive in Cambridge or you can visit their web site at [www.rjmccarthy.com](http://www.rjmccarthy.com) to register. Entering your contact information will assist with your "Check In" with the receptionist at the store and for future on line purchases.

We will have flyers and promotional information to be distributed with report cards in April.

We would like to thank Marks Work Wearhouse for their support of our community over the past years. They will be selling off the remainder of the Bennies uniform clothing at 50% off until the remaining inventory is depleted.

We will be expecting all Grade 8's to be in McCarthy uniforms. We will permit next years grade 10-12 to wear existing uniforms from Marks, but all future purchase will be from McCarthy's. By September 2010, all students will need to be in McCarthy's uniforms. It is also important to note that the style and uniform expectations will not be changing, except for the addition of a navy blue jacket with B logo to be added for September.

The uniform is an important part of our community culture at Catholic Secondary Schools. Although much has been written about the safety issues it supports, a primary purpose of the uniform is to identify ourselves as a community. The uniform represents a community that shares values and beliefs of a Catholic education. We believe it must be worn with the dignity and respect that our young people deserve in their education.

Thank you for your continued support.



## HOMEWORK CLUB

**When?** Mondays through Thursdays, starting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> (2:30 – 3:30)

**Where?** Room 224

**Who?** Teacher volunteers from all subject areas – MATH too!

**Why?** To get help with homework, assignments, test preparation, editing essays, etc.... (Computer access too!)

**How?** Just show up!

**NEW ST. BENEDICT PRICING AND INFORMATION FROM R.J.MCCARTHY'S IS AVAILABLE IN PDF FORMAT IF YOU [CLICK HERE.](#)**

**ATTENDANCE ISSUES** If your son or daughter is absent from school on a particular day, please try to call the school by noon **that same day**. **The direct phone line for the attendance office is (519) 621-4001.**

**UNIFORMS** As the weather gets nicer, we remind students that non-uniform clothing is not permitted in the

### WHO IS YOUR ADMINISTRATOR?

The administrative contact for your son or daughter is based on your last name:  
A to F - [Mrs. Daly](#)  
G to O - [Mr. Bellini](#)

classrooms, and should be left in your locker. Pants and shorts are to be wawrn properly, not rolled.

P to Z - [Mrs. Leusink](#)

As always, feel free to contact our principal, [Mr. McKinnon](#).

## **HATS AND CELL PHONES: PUT THEM AWAY, OR LOSE FOR A DAY!**

Students are reminded to keep hats and cell phones in their locker during the school day. Hats are not part of the school uniform, so they should not be worn in the school. Cell phones are distracting and hinder student progress, they should be off and put away.

Students who choose to wear hats or use cell phones in the school will have those items confiscated for the day and will be consequenced.

## **Academic**

### **MATH NEWS**

By Miss C. Stockie

#### **SUN LIFE FINANCIAL CANADIAN OPEN MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE**

Congratulations to Ara Cho and James Kyeong, the two students who represented St. Benedict at this year's Canadian Open Math Challenge in November. Sponsored by Sun Life Financial, this contest calls on Math students to perform challenging algorithms and complete complex problem-solving questions. Both competitors performed admirably.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO JUNIOR MATH CONTESTS**

In February, St. Benedict had 14 students in Grade 9 and 10 competing in the Pascal and Cayley Math Contests, sponsored by the University of Waterloo's Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing. Special recognition goes out to Daniyal Abdali and Evan Peng, who tied as school champions, scoring well over 100 in the Cayley contest. Ara Cho, Gabriel DeSousa, Nathan Tierney and Ante Dodig also scored above the provincial average. In Grade 9, Nathan Schmidt achieved an unheard-of score of 120 on the Pascal Contest, followed closely behind by Sabrina Sikora. Peter Reynolds and Talal Abdali join the "over 100 club" for our grade 9 team. We look forward to next year, when these young people try their hands at the next generation of math contests in 2009/2010.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO'S ELITE JUNIOR MATH CONTESTS**

An outstanding group of Grade 9, 10 and 11 students participated in this year's Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia Contests in early April. In Grade 9, the team of Nathan Schmidt and Kaitlin Kok had an outstanding showing, coupled with impressive results from our Grade 10 team of Daniyal Abdali and Evan Peng. The Grade 11's would not be outdone, with notable showings from Jason Charbonneau, Harpreet Brar and Chris Kok. Congratulations on a job well done - and we look forward to next year!


#### **GRADE 12 EUCLID MATH CONTEST**

High school students from all over North America compete in this event, hosted by the University of Waterloo. Our very own James Kyeong, for the second year running, became our school champion in this very competitive senior math contest. Congratulations to all participants, but especially our "high flyers", Zachary Young, Angie Grigg and Rishi Gupta. Good luck next year, and we hope that your endeavours include Mathematics!

#### **WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR HOMEWORK? NOTHING?**

Ah, that timeless answer students give to parents... Many of our teachers are posting homework assignments on the board's homework repository, ClassNet. In order to get to ClassNet to check for homework, assignments, or other information for classes your son or daughter has, go to <http://classnet.wcdsb.ca>.

On the Benny's website, simply click on the blackboard in the bottom left corner of the screen and it will take you there.

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### **WCDSB STUDENT SUCCESS SITE**

<http://bss.wcdsb.ca>

Resources to help you help your son or daughter succeed.

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## **EQAO MATH TEST INFORMATION....**

MISS C. STOCKIE

All grade 9's enrolled in either Grade 9 Applied or Academic Math classes during semester 2 will be writing the EQAO's provincial Math Test over two days - on Tuesday, June 9th and Wednesday, June 10th. This test will be written during their regularly-scheduled Math class, and will take the full period on both days. It is important that students be prepared for this test, since the EQAO is worth half of their final exam, or 15% of their final, overall mark. Students should already be preparing in their classes by working on practice materials provided by their teacher, but there are also tonnes of on-line resources available to families so that students can practice at home. Just check out the official website: [eqao.com](http://eqao.com) for tests from previous years, complete solutions, tips and reminders, as well as useful links. Lots of luck to all those Grade 9's participating.

**MATH CLUB** Every week ... Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we especially invite students who want to preview and prepare for up-coming math contests. Meet with Dr. Chernysh after school in room 310. See you there!!

## **Clubs & Athletics**

### **BENNY'S ATHLETICS QUALIFY FOR OFSAA**

By MR. N. O'CONNOR

Congratulations to our OFSAA qualifiers: Tia Semplonius, Jellisa Westney and Miranda Dufresne.

- Jellisa Westney won gold in the Junior Girls 100 meters and captured bronze in the Junior girls 200 meters This will be Jellisa's 1st all Ontario championship.
- Tia Semplonius captured Silver in both the Senior Girls 100 and 200 meter. This will be Tia's 4th all Ontario championship.
- Miranda Dufresne finished 4th in the Junior Girls long jump, landing the final qualifying spot out of the West Region.

Tia, Jellisa and Miranda will compete on Friday and Saturday at Varsity Stadium at the University of Toronto. Congratulations also to Kaitlin Skinner, Laury Anne Bolland, Tanika Haughton and Rachel Grant on their appearances at the OFSAA West Regional Championships.

### **A GREAT YEAR FOR GIRLS RUGBY**

By MR. M. HUEMILLER

This year was full of successes for the St. Benedict Girls Rugby Team. Although the team did not make it past the semi-finals, there were many improvements upon last year's season and we are hoping only to get better in the future. Many of the girls worked their hearts out and overall the team came together fairly well. Our girls have always been acclaimed for their toughness and this year proved no different, despite some injuries and speed bumps along the way.

Special mention to the following girls for their exceptional efforts:

**League All-Stars:** Megan McAllister, Annelise McAllister, Amanda Conde, Shy McGregor

**Sportsmanlike:** Rebecca White, Allison Woodfield, Morganne Murphy, Hayley Weiner

**Rookie of the Year: Runner-Up:** Andrea Baron, **Winner:** Olivia Eddy

**Most Committed:** Mandy Byrd, Monica Pickering, Shy McGregor

**Spirit Winner:** Laura Hall

**MVP - Pack:** Amanda Conde

**Team MVP:** Annelise McAllister

A huge thanks to all the girls for their efforts over the season. We are hoping to see you next year! And lastly, much appreciation for all the coaches whose time and efforts made the season possible: Mr. Meyer, Ms. Miller, Mr. Borba, Mr. Pat Martin, and Ms. Melissa Conde. Stay in shape and see you next year!

### **BENNIES ATHLETES LOOKING TO TAKE GAME TO NEXT LEVEL**

As many students begin to plan for final exams, Jeff Hunt, a grade 12 student at Bennies, is in the midst of preparing for the upcoming Major League Baseball draft, held from June 9 to 11. Jeff has spent the last few years

playing for The Intercounty Terriers in the prestigious Premier Baseball League of Ontario and is eligible to be drafted by a major league baseball team this year.

Jeff's skill and dedication to the sport has allowed him the opportunity to play on baseball diamonds across North America and beyond. He has gained tremendous exposure to major league scouts as a member of the Canadian National junior team and has had personal workouts with the Cincinnati Reds and Milwaukee Brewers. Jeff recently returned from a 10 day trip to the Dominican Republic with the national team where he saw action playing first and third base as well as pitching. Over his 4 years at St. Benedict, Jeff has been a member of the basketball, volleyball and hockey teams; however, over the last year he decided to concentrate his efforts strictly on baseball. In September, Jeff will be taking his baseball talents south of the border as he has signed a Division 1 scholarship to Ohio University. Best of luck Jeff!

On Saturday, May 2nd Nick Coone's hockey career took a big leap. The goalie who starred for the Cambridge Minor Midget Hawks was selected in the 13th round (259th overall) by the London Knights of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL). He was the first of three goalies selected by the Knights in this year's draft. Nick recently attended the Knights weekend long rookie camp and impressed coaches enough to be invited back for the team's main camp in August. Nick has been working hard improving his strength and stamina in hopes of earning a roster spot on next year's team.

In the event that Nick does not make the London Knights in the fall, he hopes to play Junior 'B' for the Cambridge Winterhawks or another junior team in the area while continuing to work towards a spot with London in the years to come. Nick has been the starting goaltender for the St. Benedict junior hockey team for the last two years and can be credited with much of the team's success. An exciting hockey career is on the horizon for Nick Coone!

## **BENNY'S BOYS' SOFTBALL SUCCESS**

**By MR. M. AMBEAU**

Congratulations are in order for the boys' softball team as they finished 1st in league play this year going a remarkable 10-0-1. The team is looking to go for its second straight league trophy this Thursday at the ICE Park in an all day tournament.

## **GOLFERS THREEPEAT!**

**By MR. D. JAEGER**

Please join me in congratulating the following athletes who defended their District 8 Senior Boys Golf title for the third straight year: Chris Czeniecki, Steve Filipovic, Brent McKenzie, Brendan Leonard, Taylor Prilisauer, Tyler Ross.

## **AND THE JUNIOR GOLFERS...**

**By MR. T. PAOLO**

Please congratulate the jr boys golfers for their miraculous victory yesterday. Going into the day, the boys were a distant fourth, but had an amazing day to capture their 3rd title in 4 years. Please congratulate: Greg Andreychuk, Sam Garcia, Tyler Kerr (who had the round of his life), Connor Magwood, Christian Clarke, Tyler Fabian, Blake Schuett, Tyler Czaniecki.

## **UNITED CULTURES WRAP-UP**

**By MISS C. STOCKIE**

This year, a terrific group of young people involved themselves in initiatives to highlight the many different cultures that are represented in our school community. They've done their best to promote equity, tolerance and understanding, and to celebrate our differences by hosting events focusing on Christmas Around the World, Chinese New Year, Black History Month, Flag Day, and the International Day to Eliminate Racism. New this year was the introduction of United Cultures spirit wear. Students designed and created our "Coexist" shirts, and have been wearing them proudly around school on Spirit Wear Wednesdays.

Our year concluded with a very successful event: Our 6th Annual International Food Festival. On Tuesday, May 26th, students and staff prepared various dishes that are "traditional" in their own cultures. Plates were sold during both lunches, and we were treated to scones, pasta, olived tuna, perogies, black beans and rice, and a whole host of amazing desserts traditional in Poland, India, Scotland, Portugal, and even right here in Canada.

Thanks to all our amazing cooks, and to the staff and students that supported our event by buying a plate. All proceeds will be forwarded to the "Hope for Michaela" fund, organized by Mr. Milardovic. See Michaela's site at [www.hopeformichaela.com](http://www.hopeformichaela.com).

## **AFTER SCHOOL FITNESS CLUB**

The Fitness Centre is open Monday through Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30. There is still lots of time to get in shape for the summer! Bring a friend and work out after school.

## **Student Activities**

There may be light at the end of the tunnel, but then again it gets worse before it gets better. The combination of these two old adages seems to exemplify the end of the 2008-2009 school year perfectly - and what a year it has been. As a member of SAC, I have had the privilege to participate in dozens of activities ranging from the Arts to Social Justice. But hey - It is too early to ~~celebrate~~ grieve the end! After all, what would June be without exams?

May has been a busy month, with Prom kicking it off on May 8th. It was a resounding success and a perfect celebration of to-be graduates. Following the weekend was the Co-President Campaign Week. It was a hard fought battle between the half-dozen candidates, each one bringing their unique flavour and perspective to the mosaic that is St. Benedict. Congratulations to the two elected 2010-2011 Co-Presidents - Shane Mackenzie and Jordon McKoy! I am certain an exciting year will follow with this dynamic duo.

SAC helped kick off summer on May 20th with BBQ Fun Day. It hardly feels like summer after that freak hailstorm, but the sun was shining brightly which was perfect for the activities we had in store. With hotdogs, lemonade, basketball and rollerball competitions - as well as a dunk tank with our most beloved teachers - what better

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way to celebrate the great weather? COPA immediately followed on the 21st, presenting a cast of the most talented musicians at Bennies. The week after was the premiere of "Pocket Change", a play written and presented by students. Full of energy and spirit, the play was a great success.

As the year draws to a finish, June hosts a number of closing events. June 4th is Grad Breakfast and Athletic Banquet. Grad Breakfast is a breakfast dedicated to graduating students, complete with free(!) breakfast. Semi-formal attire can be worn! June 5 is the Arts Banquet, another celebration of our talented teens. June 12th is the Closing Assembly and Arts Night, and rest assured we have worked tirelessly to ensure a great line-up of performances. So what follows "the greatest years of life"? Some will be moving onto "High School Plus" at post-secondary. Others will head into the trades, and others still will be heading into the workforce. A few will also be returning for a victory lap at Bennies. Regardless of destinations, we at SAC sincerely wish our classmates all the best in the future! Be sure to attend the Graduation Ceremony held on October 30th, 2009!

## **Dates to Remember**

**June 4:** Grad Breakfast

**June 4:** Grad Liturgy

**June 4:** Athletic Banquet

**June 5:** Arts Banquet

**June 12:** Senior Arts Night

**June 12:** Closing Assembly

**June 18-24:** Final Evaluation Days (attendance required)

Be sure to check the calendar on the school website for more information. The details of the exam schedule will be posted shortly.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **NEWSLETTER SURVEY**

**By MR. A. MILARDOVIC**

The BENN newsletter was the result of several teachers coming together to fulfill the communication void between school and the community at large. Our SIP (School Improvement Plan) Team decided that we would put out a biweekly newsletter highlighting some of the initiatives, accomplishments, and important news for parents and students.

## SO, HOW ARE WE DOING?

We invite you to take 5-10 minutes to complete a short survey about our newsletter. This will help us determine how we will proceed next year. One thing already in the works is a transition to the Board's Newsletter service, which we hope will be seamless and barely noticeable. That will happen with our next issue as a trial run for next year.

Please [click here](#) to go to the survey. Many thanks!

Check out our website at <http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca> for news and information updates.

**TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY AND GROWING!** Encourage other parents to join our emailing list! We've now put an image right on the Benny's homepage--click on the icon, and fill in the form, and voila! There are currently **266** people on the list.

This newsletter is also available on the school website if you [click here](#). You may want to send this link to other parents rather than forward your email--doing so may alter the layout and generate the page incorrectly.

Any comments? [Send us an email!](#)

**BENN STAFF:** [Mr. Anton Milardovic](#) | [Mr. Michael Huemiller](#) | [Miss Bobbi Bester](#)



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