



Dear Families of St. Benedict CSS:

We all know by now that January 12, 2010 will be a day that will be remembered for generations to come. On that day the country of Haiti was devastated by a powerful earthquake. As a school community, we are responding to the needs of those who are looking to us for help, guidance, encouragement and prayer.

The St. Benedict Community is dedicating the week of January 18-22 as a time to raise funds for relief efforts in Haiti. Among other things, we will be holding missions collections every day of the week. We will continue to educate ourselves about the situation in Haiti and pray for our brothers and sisters experiencing this catastrophe. Our goal is to collect a minimum of \$3,000. We have chosen **Development and Peace**, a world wide Catholic aid agency, to ensure our funds reach the most in need as quickly as possible.

We will exceed our monetary goal if each student donates a minimum of \$2.00 through the week. We recognize that some families will participate in relief efforts privately or through their parish. However, families may donate to our school Haiti campaign by cheque, payable to Development and Peace and marked "Haiti Emergency." All money will be collected at the school and forwarded to Development and Peace as quickly as possible. Official Tax receipts will be issued by Development and Peace for cheque donations over \$10.00.

We ask Almighty God, Protector of the World, to be present through the compassion of all who remember. May your giving and your prayers be a sign of love for humanity. May your family be blessed through giving and prayers for our suffering brothers and sisters. May God's Peace be upon you.

Sincerely,

Jamie McKinnon  
Principal

Bob Rempel  
Chaplain

## **SCHOOL INITIATIVES TO HELP WITH RELIEF FOR HAITI**

Our school community is responding to the recent earthquake in Haiti.

Led by Laura Milani and Rebecca White, the following initiatives will take place the week of January 18 to 22.

1. 8-1/2" x 11" posters will be placed in attendance folders. Teachers are asked to read the poster to students (discuss if desired) and place the poster in a prominent location.
2. An autodialer message will be sent home to families identifying our Haiti disaster relief campaign and inviting donations.

3. A small paper bag marked "Haiti Relief" will be placed in each classroom. Student can drop donations for Haitian emergency relief in the bag at any time during the day. Home room teachers can include the contents of the bag in the daily mission collection.
4. Images and facts of the disaster in Haiti will be presented daily as preparation for prayer and giving
5. Daily mission collections. Our goal is to exceed \$3000.00 for the week. Donations will be forwarded to Canadian Development and Peace who will forward the funds to Caritas Haiti.
6. Haiti Disaster Relief bracelets will be sold during lunch periods for \$1.00 The week of January 18 to 22 is a busy, pressure packed week as the semester ends. Crisis and the necessary compassionate response seldom wait for more "convenient times".  
Thanks for your leadership in generosity.

## Miscellaneous

### NEWSLETTER FEEDBACK

**WE WANT TO KNOW** what you think and how we can improve communication with you. Please email the Newsletter editor from the link below.

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

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](#) • [Mrs. Sophia Adach](#) •  
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