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The Benny's Electronic News Network newsletter is a publication of St. Benedict C.S.S. in Cambridge, Ontario. It is distributed every second Wednesday during the school year using the WCDSB Newswire service. Any questions or comments pertaining to this publication can be sent to the editor [Anton Milardovic](#) or the school's principal [Jamie McKinnon](#).

## BENN STAFF

[Mr. Anton Milardovic](#)  
[Mrs. Sophia Adach](#)  
[Mr. Kevin Fratarcangeli](#)

## NEXT ISSUE

September 2010

## Note from Administration

*In our closing BENN, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, and community for your support of St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School.*

As you may know by now, I will not be returning to St. Benedict in fall. I will certainly cherish the time I have spent here at St. Benedict and hope that the spirit of Benny's, the Celebration of People, the *greeting every stranger as a friend*, the nurturing of hope in every learner, will continue to grow in the lives of the Saints.

This is a great school community, in the classrooms, on the fields and stage, in the community both locally and globally. A huge congratulations to our MAD group (Making A Difference) who have successfully raised the necessary funds of over 8500 dollars to build a school in Sierra Leone. Just one of the many accomplishments of our students and staff!

I would like to wish the staff, students, and parents of the St. Benedict the best of luck in the future, and a healthy and peace filled summer vacation, it is well deserved. Go Saints!

God Bless,

– Mr. J. McKinnon, Principal

## ST. BENEDICT IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [Meant to be for Skinner](#)  
THE RECORD: [St. Benedict student lands volleyball scholarship](#)

## Administrative

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

BY MR. B. REMPEL

Some highlights of the last few months are:

1. Father Fred Scinto celebrated Easter Mass with our school community. Jesus' resurrection reminds us of the power over evil and that we have.
2. Grade 10 retreats were an enjoyable experience once again. We engaged in various activities that encouraged us to "Take care of ourselves, others and God's creation."
3. Our school responded to the Haiti earthquake in January by donating over \$10,000 to the relief effort. On May 28, our faith assembly focused on what the issues are in responding to the needs in Haiti that moves from aid to development, from charity to justice.
4. Send 'Em off Smiling is a local organization that provides children in need with back to school clothes and school supplies. We filled 27 backpacks as a St. Benedict community. That is the most to date.

Blessings on your summer. Be well. Be safe. Have fun.

**SEPTEMBER REGISTRATION INFORMATION**  
*(as well as a countdown to the beginning of the school year)*  
**HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

<http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca>

## **NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE**

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

### **ATTENTION GRADE 12 GRADUATES!**

The counsellors in the guidance department would like to congratulate all of our senior students who have graduated this year and are moving on to the world of work or to post-secondary education. We have enjoyed working with you and wish you all the very best in your future endeavours. We will miss you and look forward to seeing you at the Graduation Ceremony on October 29. Students who missed the registration deadline for the Graduation Ceremony, but still wish to attend should contact the guidance office as soon as possible to fill out their forms and pay their grad fee.

### **SUMMER HOURS**

The guidance office will be closed the last week of July and the first two weeks of August. For the rest of the summer the office will be staffed by Mrs. Eduina Bloomfield who is a member of the secretarial team at St. Benedict. Questions regarding registration may be directed to Mrs. Bloomfield. Should you have a question or a concern that needs to be addressed by a counsellor, Mrs. Bloomfield will forward it the appropriate counsellor who will contact you on their return to school in September.

### **COURSE CHANGE INFORMATION**

Students who wish to make course changes will have the opportunity to do so during the first two weeks of the school year. Please note that all changes must be approved by a parent and/or guardian. The guidance department has a procedure in place which allows us to deal with urgent and important requests first. Requests to make a course change should only occur if a student is requesting a level change, is missing a prerequisite course or requires a change to be accepted into a university or college program. Students who wish to make changes to an elective course will be required to see their counsellor during after school hours. Requests to change lunch periods will not be honoured. Parents, please encourage your sons and daughters to follow the correct procedure for making course changes so that we can process requests as quickly as possible in September.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Summer provides a wonderful opportunity for students to work at completing the 40 hours of community service that is required for graduation. Please remember to document any hours that you complete during the summer months and hand them in to the main office in September when you return to school.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school will be available this summer for St. Benedict students through the Waterloo Region District School Board, our coterminous board this summer. Make-up credit courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Cameron Heights Secondary School in Kitchener. A selected number of new credit courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School in Waterloo. Classes will begin on Monday, July 5th and will run until Wednesday, July 28th. Make-up courses are 3 hours in length, either morning or afternoon, while new credit courses are 6 hours in length, not including a 30 minute nutrition break. More information regarding summer school course offerings and registration is available in the guidance office.

## WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

The following web sites provide a wealth of information regarding the various pathways available to students following high school:

[www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) → Information about Ontario Colleges and Programs

[www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) → Electronic Guide to Ontario University Programs

[www.highskills.ca](http://www.highskills.ca) → Information regarding our Specialist High Skills Major Programs is found here

[www.apprenticeshipsearch.com](http://www.apprenticeshipsearch.com) → A site with a lot of information about apprenticeships

[www.careersintrades.ca](http://www.careersintrades.ca) → Resources for students considering a career in the trades

[www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) → An online career guidance and planning system

[www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca) → Service Canada's job information site

The guidance counsellors of St. Benedict - Ms. Wehrle, Mrs. Menjolian, Mr. Kritz, Mr. Ambeau and Mrs. Klassen, wish you a safe and happy summer vacation. We look forward to working with you again in the 2010-2011 school year.



## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SECTORS?

Arts and Culture • Business • Construction  
Energy • Environment • Health and Wellness  
Hospitality and Tourism  
Information and Communications  
Technology  
Justice, Safety, and Emergency Services  
Manufacturing • Transportation

Get more information at [www.highskills.ca](http://www.highskills.ca)  
Sign up in the GUIDANCE office.

## WHO IS YOUR ADMINISTRATOR?

The administrative contact for your son or daughter is based on your last name:

A to F: [Mrs. Beaucage](#)

G to O: [Mr. Bellini](#)

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

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

# BENNY'S STAFF BIOS



**Jason Kent** has been at St. Benedict's for the last ten years. A welcome and familiar face to many students that require a little extra support for their academic success, Jason has been a Youth Care Worker for the past fourteen years. He advocates and works with students that are at risk or in crisis. In addition to individual support, Jason also does classwide presentations on substance use, self esteem, stress and any other relevant issues facing students at risk. Prior to his role in high schools, he worked as a labourer in a number of different industrial environments. Jason enjoys the work at St. Benedict, largely due to the sense of community of the staff and students.

## Academic

### ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

BY MRS. D. WITTMANN

*The Grade 12 Interdisciplinary Course (IDC4U) for Autonomous Learners is for creative thinkers, high achievers, and gifted learners. It helps students further develop both their critical and creative thinking skills.*

### THE INSEPARABILITY OF CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THOUGHT

#### The word "critical"

When applied to persons who judge and to their judgments, not only may, but in very precise use does, imply an effort to see a thing clearly and truly so that not only the good in it may be distinguished from the bad and the perfect from the imperfect, but also that as a whole may be fairly judged and valued.

#### The word "creative"

1. creating or able to create
2. having or showing imagination and artistic or intellectual inventiveness
3. stimulating the imagination and inventive powers

Accordingly, critical and creative thought are both achievements of thought. Creativity masters a process of making or producing, critically masters a process of assessing and judging. The very definition of the word "creative" implies a critical component.

When engaged in high-quality thought, the mind must simultaneously produce and assess, both generate and judge the products it fabricates. Welcome to IDC4U!

***In short, sound thinking requires both imagination and intellectual standards.***

### LITERACY CORNER

BY MR. D. JAEGER

*Congratulations to the grade 10 class of 2010 as they accomplished two feats never before seen in St. Benedict history. These "First-time Eligible" students were successful on the Literacy Test to the tune of 84%! That met the provincial average of 84% (first time) and exceeded the board average of 83% (first time). Way to go Saints!*

But remember, just because the Literacy Test is over does not mean working on reading and writing should stop.

Literacy is a life-long process and gift.

Parents of current grade 9s (and soon to be grade 10s) should start thinking about next years Literacy Test now and circle March 31, 2011 on their calendars.

## Clubs & Athletics

### **SPECIAL OLYMPIANS**

On June 17, twelve students from St. Benedict participated in the Special Olympics Track and Field meet at Resurrection Catholic Secondary School. The Saints competed proudly and took home many ribbons in the races and other events, including everyone's favourite, the pool noodle toss. A great time was had by all.

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt" — Special Olympics Motto



### **BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMP FOR BOYS & GIRLS ENTERING GRADE 1 TO 9 JULY 12 - JULY 16, ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

*Boys and girls basketball players entering grades one to nine are invited to participate in five action-packed days of basketball drills, games and competitions.*

Our camp has age-specific programming which provides each camper with the chance to improve their skills and gain a thorough understanding of the game of basketball in a fun and encouraging environment. We strive to have the finest teacher-coaches possible to deliver a thorough program to our campers in a favourable camper-to-coach ratio.

All campers will receive a Saints Camp T-shirt, a certificate of achievement, a written evaluation of their play and a package of drills and individual fundamentals to take home. No experience is necessary. Check out the brochure to see more. Don't miss out on the action... register today!

Looking for something fun and exciting to do this summer!

## St. Benedict Basketball Camps 2010

**July 12 – July 16**  
**For Boys & Girls**  
**Entering Grades 1 to 9**



### PROGRAM FEATURES

- ☞ AGE SPECIFIC DIVISIONS
- ☞ CAMP T-SHIRT FOR EACH CAMPER
- ☞ CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT
- ☞ COACHES' INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION
- ☞ PACKAGE OF AGE SPECIFIC DRILLS AND FUNDAMENTALS TO TAKE HOME
- ☞ INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM COMPETITIONS
- ☞ AWARDS AND PRIZES
- ☞ SPECIAL GUEST LECTURERS AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

FORMORE INFORMATION OR  
APPLICATION BROCHURE CONTACT:

JOHN MALNERICH AT  
ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL  
519-621-4050 EXT 250

OR  
SEE OUR WEBSITE AT [stbenedict.wcdsb.ca](http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca)  
and select "ATHLETICS".

## MAD WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SIERRA LEONE

BY MISS K. LAUNSLAGER

*WE DID IT!* With the generous donations from staff and students of St. Benedict, the MAD Movement successfully raised \$8825 to build a school in Sierra Leone, Africa.

By buying hot dogs, bracelets, donating to missions collections, jeans day, and supporting the dance show, St. Benedict has proven that we are MAKING A DIFFERENCE in the world. Through the money raised we are helping to bring education to children who never had the chance to go to school before.

Thank you to all the students, staff and parents who helped throughout the school year.

## Upcoming Events

**June 24:** Final Eval days (attendance required)  
**June 25:** Final Eval days (attendance as needed)  
**July 1:** Canada Day  
**August 2:** Civic Holiday  
**August 31:** Grade 9 and 12 Registration  
**September 1:** Grade 10 and 11 Registration

**September 6:** Labour Day  
**September 7:** First Day of Classes

Be sure to check the calendar on the school website for more information. You can find it under **Benny's News > Calendar of Events.**

## Miscellaneous

### WE WANT TO KNOW...

Your opinions are important to us! Please [email us](#) with your comments and suggestions. If you like our newsletter, tell others; if you don't like it, tell us!

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

## **A WORD FROM OUR ~~SPONSOR~~ EDITOR...**

*As I put fingers to keys for the last issue of BENN for this year I can't help but think how far we've come this year with our newsletter.*

From the beginning of the year we've doubled our subscription level—we now number about 565 subscribers. We've strived to continuously provide you with news and information about events that are happening at St. Benedict's that, as many of you said in your feedback, you "never heard about from your son/daughter". And our format has become more compliant with more browsers and email programs.

St. Benedict's is a fantastic place. My thanks to all the staff and students who have contributed to the BENN this past year, and a big thanks to all of you for subscribing and your feedback. And thanks to my two "staffers", as well as all the unofficial BENN staff who help out when needed. Together we can accomplish great things.

I hope you and your families get an opportunity to spend some quality time together this July and August, have a safe and enjoyable summer, and to paraphrase Baz Luhrmann, don't forget to wear sunscreen!

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.

