St. Benedict C.S.S., 50 Saginaw Pkwy, Cambridge, ON N1R 5W1

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Administrative
- Academics
- <u>Clubs &</u> <u>Athletics</u>
- <u>Student</u> <u>Activities</u>
- Other news
- <u>Upcoming</u> <u>events</u>

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 <u>Milardovic</u> or the school's principal <u>Jamie</u> McKinnon.

# **Note from Administration**

Welcome to another edition of the BENN newsletter. We are celebrating our 500th subscriber this week! With the successful completion of our grade 8 parent evening, we hope to have a few hundred more new members in the near future.

It was a pleasure to meet so many grade 8 students and families this past week as we continue the journey in education into secondary schools. We hoped you enjoyed the evening as much as we enjoyed welcoming you here. We hope the BENN continues to grow as a powerful tool to communicate the good news that happens every day here at Benny's.

We have been focusing our prayers and actions on the devastation and trauma of the Haitian people over the past weeks. Our thanks to the families, students, and community members, who have been able to support the relief efforts, our school and community response has been compassionate and generous. We will continue to keep the needs of the people in our prayers and actions as they face an uncertain future but a future filled with faith and hope. We can make a difference.

- Mr. J. McKinnon, Principal

## ST. BENEDICT IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: Always time for a good deed CAMBRIDGE TIMES: Saints blow away competition THE RECORD: Devastation of Haiti guake touches region

### **Administrative**

# **Inclement Weather Procedure**

When the weather is bad in the morning, please listen to your local Waterloo Region radio station. For example 96.7 CHYM FM has cancellations at the :15 and :45 of every hour. Other stations you may want to listen to include: KOOL FM (FM 105.3), 570 News (AM 570), KIX (FM 106.7), C JOY (AM 1460), DAVE FM (FM 107.5), MAGIC FM (FM 106.1), OLDIES 1090 (AM 1090) or FAITH FM (FM 94.3). Most local radio stations also have this information posted on their website as well.



#### Unless it is

explicitly stated that the school is closed, students should make every effort to attend. Classes will continue, and the onus will be on students to get caught up on work they miss.

For more information about the Board's Inclement Weather Policy, refer to <u>Administrative</u> <u>Procedures Memorandum APH 008: Inclement Weather</u>.

## SEMESTER 1 FINAL EVALUATION SCHEDULE

All courses (except those listed below) will have a 76 minute Final Evaluation taking place on January 28, 29, February 1 and 2 as per the following schedule. Students who meet the following criteria will not be required to attend school in the afternoon on these days.

- i) have achieved a passing grade;
- ii) have submitted all summative activities and
- iii) have completed all components of their final culminating activity

Students who do not meet the above criteria will be required to attend a 2 hour Credit Rescue class in the afternoon on these days with the possibility of attending an additional 2 hour Credit Recovery class on February 3rd to be successful in obtaining their credit.

The following courses will have a 2 hour Final Evaluation taking place on January 28, 29, February 1 and 2 as per the schedule below:

#### **Business:**

Analyzing Current Economic Issues CIA4U, Introduction to Financial Accounting BAF3M, Principals of Financial Accounting BAT4M

#### **Communications - English/French:**

Grade 11 & 12 University English ENG3U, 4U; Grade 11 & 12 College English ENG3C, 4C; Grade 12 University Writer's Craft EWC4U; Grade 12 University English Literature Studies ETS4U; Grade 11 and 12 University Core French FSF3U & FSF4U)

#### **Geography:**

Physical Geography CGF3M, The Environment & Resource Management CGR4M, Canadian & World Issues CGW4U

#### History:

American History CHA3U, World History CHW3M, Canadian History CHI4U, World History CHY4U & 4C, Understanding Canadian Law CLU3M, Cdn and International Law CLN4U

#### Math:

All Grade 10 Academic 2D; All Grade 11 & 12 University 3U, 4U; Grade 11 University/College 3M, Grade 12 College Technology MCT4C

#### **Physical Education:**

Grade 12 University Exercise Science PSE4U

#### Religion

Grade 11 University/College World Religions HRT3M; Grade 12 University/College Church & Culture HRE4M

#### Science:

All Grade 9 & 10 Academic 1D, 2D; Grade 11 University/College 3M; Grade 11 & 12 College or University 3C, 3U, 4C, 4U

#### **Social Sciences:**

Intro. To Anthropology HSP3M, Ind. & Families in a Diverse Society HHS4M, Challenge & Change in Society HSB4M

# NOTE: ALL STUDENTS ARE TO BE IN FULL UNIFORM DURING FINAL EVALUATION AND CREDIT RESCUE CLASSES

#### PLEASE NOTE

Students given parental permission to sign out of class must leave school property. Students cannot be signed out of class to be studying in areas such as the cafeteria or library. Those doing so will be marked truant.

#### **Thursday, January 28**

8:21 - 9:37 Period 2 class

9:42 - 10:58 Period 1 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation

11:03 - 12:10 Lunch

12:20 - 2:20 Period 1 - 2 hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)

2:30 Bus Pickup

#### Friday, January 29

8:21 - 9:37 Period 3 or 4 class

9:42 - 10:58 Period 2 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation

11:03 - 12:10 Lunch

12:20 - 2:20 Period 2 - 2 hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)

2:30 Bus Pickup

#### Monday, February 1

8:21 - 9:37 Period 5 class

9:42 - 10:58 Period 3 or 4 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation

11:03 - 12:10 Lunch

12:20 - 2:20 Period 3 or 4 - 2 hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)

2:30 Bus Pickup

#### Tuesday, February 2

8:30 - 9:46 Period 5 - 76 min. Final Evaluation

8:30 - 10:30 Period 5 - 2 hour Final Evaluation

11:00 - 1:00 Period 5 Credit Rescue (if required)

1:10 Bus Pickup

#### Wednesday, February 3

8:30 - 10:30 Credit Rescue as arranged by teacher and student

10:40 Bus Pickup

# NEWS FROM ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL COUNCIL

BY BELINDA LUTES AND WILMA WHITE

St. Benedict School Council would like to invite all interested parents and community members to attend a meeting and find out more information about the council.

The remaining St. Benedict School Council meetings for the 2009-2010 school year are:

- Thursday February 4, 2010
- Thursday April 8, 2010
- Thursday May 13, 2010
- June Social (date to be determined)

# **BINGO!**

By Mr. M. Olinski

Many of us are familiar with that excited shout. It brings with it a sense of accomplishment in having lined up random numbers, or, if you've been really lucky, the ability to fill an

All of the meetings begin at 7:00 pm, in room 103. Please check out our page, found on the left side of the SBCSS website under Parent Information > School Council.

Being a member of school council allows you the opportunity to contribute to the success of our students and the school community. The role of the council is to act in an advisory role to our Principal, to ensure student achievement/success and to improve the accountability of the education system to parents. The meetings allow for communication, feedback and information to be valued and shared with all members.

We would also like to wish the staff and students much success and they prepare for their first term final exams and the second semester. entire card with random numbers. More than the sense of accomplishment comes the thrill of knowing you've won some cold hard cash. St. Benedict School Council will become involved in a new fundraising program to support our school community.

Beginning February 6th, and running every Saturday evening in February, members of School Council, as well as other school volunteers, including members of administration, educational assistants, teachers and the chaplain, will volunteer their time from approximately 6:15 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Their goal? They wish to raise funds for a number of projects to support students and programs at St. Benedict. School Council sought and received staff feedback as to wants and needs for the money raised. A number of requests came forward, including money to help pay for a new electronic sign in front of the school, math kits and equipment for the weight room.

So, if you want a chance to win some cold hard cash, have some fun and raise some money for St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School, we look forward to seeing you some chilly night in February at the Cambridge Bingo Centre. Please feel free to check out their website at www.cambridgebingo.com.

# FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S DESK

By Mr. B. REMPEL

#### DISASTER DISTRACTION

The recent earthquake in Haiti produced a humanitarian crisis of immense proportions. In response, the world community is naturally responding with massive amounts of aid. (The Bennies community donated \$10,093.77.) Much more will be needed to rebuild Haiti in the coming decade.

Disasters, such as the one in Haiti, can distract us from the many other world wide humanitarian crises that existed before the Haitian earthquake. One billion people still go to bed very hungry every night. 28,000 children still die daily from water born diseases. Children in Sierra Leone still remain illiterate because they do not have access to a school and teacher.

We rightly donate significant amounts to aid Haitians in their recovery. I would plead, however, that we not allow the disaster to distract us from the many other humanitarian and human rights crises that exist on planet earth. St. Benedict's Lenten giving project this year will be to raise funds to build a school in Sierra Leone, Africa. The cost for the school is \$8500. With our history of generosity, building a school seems like a reachable goal!!

#### DONATIONS FOR HAITI RELIEF

The St. Benedict School community responded to the earthquake disaster in Haiti with a generous outpouring of donations. During the week of January 18 - 22, students donated \$1 for "Haiti" bracelets, donated \$2 to wear blue jeans on Wednesday, and donated money for no other reason than it was the right thing to do.

Thank-you to the many parents who sent checks, cash and even donated for a bracelets to raise support for relief efforts in Haiti.

The combined generosity of our school community raised \$10,093.77 for earthquake relief. Because the Canadian government will match our donations, a total of \$20,187.54 will be sent to Haiti as a result of our efforts.

Thank you and congratulations!!

#### By Mrs. N. Offak

As we celebrate the end of semester one and the dawning of semester two, it is also important to celebrate and recognize the efforts of those who have given their time to be invaluable volunteers in our school. Since September, St. Benedict C.S.S. has had the pleasure of welcoming 14 volunteers who donated countless hours of their time and energy to both teachers and students. These volunteers were instrumental in several capacities, which included (to name a few): one-on-one support, behaviour management, supervisors of small group activities, assisting coaches after school, and some even having the pleasure of being an extra pair of eyes and ears on class trips.

For semester one, our volunteers were Christine Simoes, Robert Wyatt, Valerie Cholette, Joanne Hennig, Luis DaCosta, Kerry Knight, Pepper Cabral, Nicole Amaral, Steve Smidt, Marie Magennis, Vanessa Moniz, Tanya Sousa, John Aguiar and Julia Horgan. To those who are leaving us, we thank you for all your time and effort and will gladly take you back if your schedules see fit. For those who are staying, we welcome you back and are glad that you can continue to join us in semester two.

If you or someone you know would like to join our team of volunteers here at St. Benedict, please feel free to contact me at <a href="Mada.Offak@wcdsb.ca">Nada.Offak@wcdsb.ca</a> or by telephone at 519-621-4050 ext. 654 to set up an appointment to meet.

# HELLO FROM STUDENT SUCCESS!

By Miss A. Gleiser

We wish everyone good luck as we approach exams! Just to recap some of the study tips from the last newsletter...

- Time Manage
- Schedule Study Breaks
- Schedule Sleep!
- Exercise
- Prioritize
- Form EFFECTIVE Study Groups
- Free Your Schedule
- Ask Your Teachers For Help
- · Keep Things in Perspective

Good Luck Everyone!! See you next semester!

Your Student Success Teachers, Dave Jaeger (A-L) John Malnerich (M-Z) Amy Gleiser (Grade 9 Transition A-Z)

## LINK CREW NEWS

By Miss A. Gleiser

#### **COOKIES N' CRAM A SUCCESS!**

Cookies n' Cram took place last Thursday and was an awesome success! Grade Nine students were invited to come to the cafeteria from 6-8pm for help with studying for their very first set of exams!! Thanks to all of the teachers who provided detailed reviews for the students - they were incredibly helpful!!

Link Crew would like to especially thank Laura O'Neill and the Hospitality crew for providing the DELICIOUS cookies!

Also, thank you to those Link Crew Leaders who volunteered their time to help support our Grade Nines and help run the Grade 8 Parent Night.

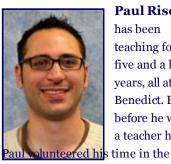
# WHO IS YOUR ADMINISTRATOR?

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, <u>Mr.</u> McKinnon.

# **ENNY'S STAFF BIOS**



**Paul Riso** has been teaching for five and a half years, all at St. Benedict. Even before he was a teacher here,

classroom to help out grade 9 students and to get a feel for the high school life again--he is also a St. Benedict grad. Currently he teaches history, geography and civics.

After school, the "Risk Master" can be seen organizing and participating in the Games Club. He is also a Link Coordinator which is instrumental in supporting the grade nines in the school and building character and leadership in the senior students. When spring rolls around, Paul is the head coach of the Boys Softball Team. Paul's close relationship with St. Benedict is mirrored in his belief that "we have a great community of teachers and students who look out for each other and are always willing to help out".



**Lore Kump** is a familiar face and pillar in the Religion Department. She has been teaching for 18 years in total, thirteen and a half of which have been at St. Benedict. She teaches full-time religion: grade 9 open and grade 11 U/C. Teaching religion is her passion; this is evident in her attitude towards her school community: "I love my students and my colleagues! The religion department works together as

a team, with a lot of collaboration, in order to support our students and deliver the best possible religion programs."

Lore believes strongly in a Catholic-based education, having attended Catholic elementary schools and a high school within the Waterloo Catholic District School Board herself. She continues to be an active member in her church community. Lore is also instrumental in planning and organizing the highly successful annual graduation ceremony. As the semester draws to a conclusion, Lore reflects, "I will miss my Semester 1 students...they were wonderful! I am looking forward to meeting my new students in semester 2."



**Jon Fage** has been in the teaching profession since 2004. Prior to that, he had a career in sales and marketing that spanned 10 years, working for the Quaker Oats Company of Canada and Schneider Foods. Although his tenure has not been as long as others at St. Benedict, Jon has drawn on his real-world experience and has been adept at fitting into a myriad of departments, helping wherever he can at St.

Benedict CSS since 2005, teaching Business, Math, Career Studies, Civics and History. When he's not in the classroom, Jon can be seen coaching and mentoring students for DECA, Curling and "Grunt Crew"--a group of students that prepare our gym for school assemblies. Jon believes that Benny's is a great place to teach because, "I like that our school includes students from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. St. Benedict has the feel of a large family."

## **Academic**

# ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

By Mrs. D. WITTMANN

# **CREATIVE THINKERS - HIGH ACHIEVERS - GIFTED LEARNERS**

GREAT NEWS! A bulletin board has been constructed and is situated on the second floor across from the Ranger Room, Business Office, and the Special Education Department. A special thanks to Mr. Seguin and his crew for their tremendous work.

The board will be constantly updated informing students of enrichment activities including the following: Waterloo Unlimited, Queen's E=mc2, and Shad Valley. As other opportunities arise, such as a possible seminar day at the University of Toronto, they will be posted.

Also: A reminder that the Grade 12 University Autonomous Course is being taught in the second semester (IDC4U). There is still time to register.

A trip has already been confirmed to The Children's Museum to experience Our Body: The Universe Within (Grades 6 to 12). Students will explore the exhibit while completing a variety of hands-on activities to provoke thought and conversation about the inner working of the human body. The focus for the Autonomous class is the anatomy of the brain - neuroscience.

### PROVINCIAL DECA COMPETITION

By MISS B. BESTER

Good luck to the competitors in the provincial DECA competition!!

DECA is an extra-curricular business club. Students are given business cases and scenarios

and need to present possible viable solutions to them. From February 7th through the 9th, at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto, 26 students from St. Benedict's will be competing with students from all across Ontario in business case competitions. Participants will be writing business tests, presenting written projects, and performing role plays. Best wishes for another successful championship!

# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BUSINESS COURSES?

Students interested in the world of business should talk to one of the business teachers or visit <a href="http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca">http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca</a> for course information, including information about the BIT Certificate and the new Business Specialist High Skills Major program.

# LITERARY ARTS MAGAZINE TO LAUNCH IN SPRING!

By Ms. J. CAMPBELL

Creative writers and young artists at St. Benedict will have a chance to see their work in print this spring with the publication of "Halo", a literary arts annual. The glossy magazine will feature poetry, song lyrics, and short stories from student writers accompanied by artwork and photography also produced by St. Benedict students.

The anthology will help showcase young artists at St. Benedict, who have never had an outlet for their creativity. In fact, it will be the first time in over 15 years that the Language and Communications Program Area has published student work in an anthology format.

Ms. Jenne Campbell, one of the new English teachers here at Benny's, has taken on the monumental task of sorting through all the submissions to find not only the best work, but also representative work from all grades. Ms. Sandi Fernandes, one of our visual arts and design teachers, will assist Ms. Campbell by selecting artwork and photography to match the creative writing.

Students who are interested in providing poetry or artwork should submit their original, previously unpublished work to either Ms Campbell in the English workroom or Ms Fernandes in her artroom (Room 112).

Halo will go on sale in early June with a cover price of \$10.00. Look for more details later in the year.

# LITERACY CORNER

By Mr. D. JAEGER

Did you know the grade 10 Literacy Test is now less than 3 months away!? So why not do some reading on the side to bolster your literacy skills? To that end.....

Project READ Literacy Network is a local organization that combines the talents of many social agencies under one umbrella for the purpose of increasing adolescent and adult literacy. They estimate that 24% of the population in Waterloo and Wellington regions have a "low" literacy rate.

# WCDSB STUDENT SUCCESS SITE

http://bss.wcdsb.ca

Resources to help you help your son or daughter succeed.

On Sunday January 31, 2010 (11 am – 3 pm) Project READ will be hosting the 12th annual Family Literacy Day at Conestoga Mall

In Waterloo. There will be activities and information for teachers as well as parents. It's worth a look.

http://www.projectread.ca/

#### **Clubs & Athletics**

# VARSITY BOYS HOCKEY

By Mr. N. O'CONNOR

The Saints fell back to .500 on the season losing by a score of 4 - 1 to Sir John A. MaCdonald. Dan Hurley scored the lone goal for the Saints.

The Saints' record now sits at 3-3-3 with three games remaining in the regular season.

In the last game before the exam break, the Saints gave up a two goal lead in the third period and settled for a 2-2 tie vs. Resurrection. Scott Thompson continued his hot streak with one goal and Dan Avery also scored for the Saints.

# JUNIOR BOYS BBALLERS WIN RAPTORS CHALLENGE

By Mr. R. MARTINELLO

I am pleased to announce that the Jr. Boys won the Raptor's Food Bank Challenge. We collected over 1700 food items. The

next closest school collected just over 900. Needless to say, the boys are very excited. Thanks to all who contributed. The boys have won tickets to a Raptors game but more importantly, the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank will be receiving a phenomenal number of food items. Thank you all for the generosity.

See the article in this past Tuesday's Cambridge Times.

# THE M.A.D. MOVEMENT IS ON A MISSION! (SAY THAT 10 TIMES FAST! :)

By Mrs. M. Rocha

Take action with the Make a Difference Movement (A.K.A. Bennie's Social Justice Group). The M.A.D. Movement is hoping to raise \$8500 by the end of this school year. The money will be donated to "Free The Children" in order to build a school in Sierra Leone. The members of the group passionately believe that education is the key to ending the cycle of poverty.

#### How you can help:

- buy a "brick" in the atrium during your lunch- it will be displayed on our wall of hope
- buy a beaded hemp bracelet carefully knotted by committed volunteers
- donate to mission collections during Lent
- visit our awareness wall under the atrium stairs to educate yourself and others about the situation
- participate in our upcoming fundraisers like hot dog sales, after school movies, "pick a plop", etc.



#### **Varsity Boys Hockey**

SBCSS 2, RCSS 2 SJAM 4, SBCSS 1

**Jr. Boys Basketball** SBCSS 26, SMH 49

**Sr. Boys Basketball** SBCSS 42, SMH 59

Jr. Girls Volleyball SMH 3, SBCSS 0 SBCSS 3, PRDG 0

**Sr. Girls Volleyball** SBCSS 3, PRDG 0

# INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO LIVE OFF THE LAND? EXCITED BY ADVENTURE? THEN THE OUTERS CLUB IS FOR YOU!

BY ANDREW WORLEY

On February 19th, the St. Benedict Outdoors Club will be hosting a three-day two-night excursion to MacGregor Point Park, where campers will be staying in yurts (a hybrid cabin with heat!), to experience some hands on winter camping. We want YOU to come and join! We are looking for anyone who is interested in snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, ice-skating, and other winter activities. The only qualification is that you are in grades 9-12, go to Bennies, and are interested in joining!

Become a member of the Outers Club! More information can be found by going to <u>our ClassNet page</u>, or by contacting <u>Ms. Novakovich</u> or <u>Ms. Dutka</u> for additional details.

#### **Student Activities**

### ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS

BY EMILY PACHEREVA, SAC MEMBER

As the end of Semester 1 draws to a close, the beginning of Semester 2 is just around the corner, and with it come a lot of activities.

From February 8 to February 10, in the spirit of Valentine's Day, we will be having Crush Can sales in the atrium during lunch. These will be delivered to the recipients on February 12 during period 1.

On February 10, we will be selling Spirit wear in the atrium during lunches, and it will be available for pickup on February 11 & 12. The spirit wear will be navy American Apparel hoodies with gold writing. They will cost \$45, with an extra \$5 charge if extra writing is wanted. Students can write names, teams, or clubs on the arms, the hood, or the back of the sweater. Payment is by cash, Mastercard, or Visa only, and the student must bring their Student ID in order to get a sweater. These sweaters may be worn on Wednesdays with the regular uniform pants.

February 10 will also be our Valentine's Day Dress Up, where students can wear a Red, Pink, or White shirt with their uniform pants.

Semi-Formal will be held on Friday, February 19 at the Portuguese Club from 6:30-10:30pm. Students must bring their semi ticket and student ID to enter. All bags will be checked at the door.

### **Other News**



# **Upcoming Events**

Jan 28-Feb 2: Final Eval days (mandatory attendance)

February 3: Final Eval days (Credit Rescue, as necessary)

February 3: Senior Arts Night

February 4: 7:00pm School Council, room 103

February 5: Professional Activity Day

February 5-6: Sr. Bball - Royal City Subway

Shootout (Bishop Mac, Guelph) February 7: DECA Provincials February 8: Semester 2 begins February 8: 5:00 Sr Bball @ Rez February 8: 3:30 Jr Bball @ Rez

February 8-9: DECA Provincials

February 9: 2:00 Girls Hockey vs WCI @ Hespeler

February 9: 2:00 Boys Hockey vs Bluevale @ McCormick

February 10: 3:30 Sr Bball vs Davids @ home February 10: 5:00 Jr Bball vs Davids @ home

February 10: Athletics Pep Rally **February 10:** SAC Valentine Activities

February 11: 2:00 Girls Hockey vs PHS @ Hespeler

February 11: Semester 2 photos February 11: Sears Showcase

February 12: Report card distribution

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 did it!



Last week the BENN subscriber list surpassed the 500 member mark! Thank you to all subscribers! Please continue to encourage your friends who have students at St. Benedict to subscribe to BENN. It's free *and* environmentally friendly!

# **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 <a href="http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca">http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca</a> for news and information updates.

This newsletter is also available on the school website if you <u>click here</u>. 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 • Miss Bobbi Bester • Mr. Kevin Fratarcangeli • Mr. Michael Huemiller

