

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Administrative](#)
- [Academics](#)
- [Clubs & Athletics](#)
- [Upcoming events](#)

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](#)

Note from Administration

We are in the midst of hosting the Ontario Sears Drama Festival, a spectacular event that show cases hundreds of talented writers, directors, technicians, artists, and actors from around the region. We are certainly proud of our crew and their entry "The Book of Esther"—great work by all.

We also, were able to celebrate the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service at each grade level. As we begin a special time of year in the church we have the opportunity to reflect and discern on our relationship with Christ and our role in contributing to what Bishop Durocher reminded us of in September, "peace, joy, and justice in the Holy Spirit". This time also allowed us to launch our Lenten mission project of supporting Free the Children programming and the 8500 dollars required to build a school in Sierra Leone, Africa. This project is being lead by our social justice club and the M.A.D. movement, Make A Difference.

The great work of our students and staff continues to build a Celebration of People here at St. Benedict, enjoy the BENN and life at Bennies. Good Luck in Semester II.

- Mr. J. McKinnon, Principal

ST. BENEDICT IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: ['Kernels' of inspiration for Haiti](#)

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [Popping up donations for Haiti](#)

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [McKenzie accepts full ride](#)

THE RECORD: [Everything fell into place for St. Benedict golfer](#)

THE RECORD: [Flames geared up to do battle with Saints](#)

THE RECORD: [Saturday a busy day for high school basketball](#)

THE RECORD: [Saints win District 8 volleyball crown](#)

Administrative

LOOKING TOWARDS THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR...

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is currently in the process of consulting with regards to the 2010-2011 school year calendar.

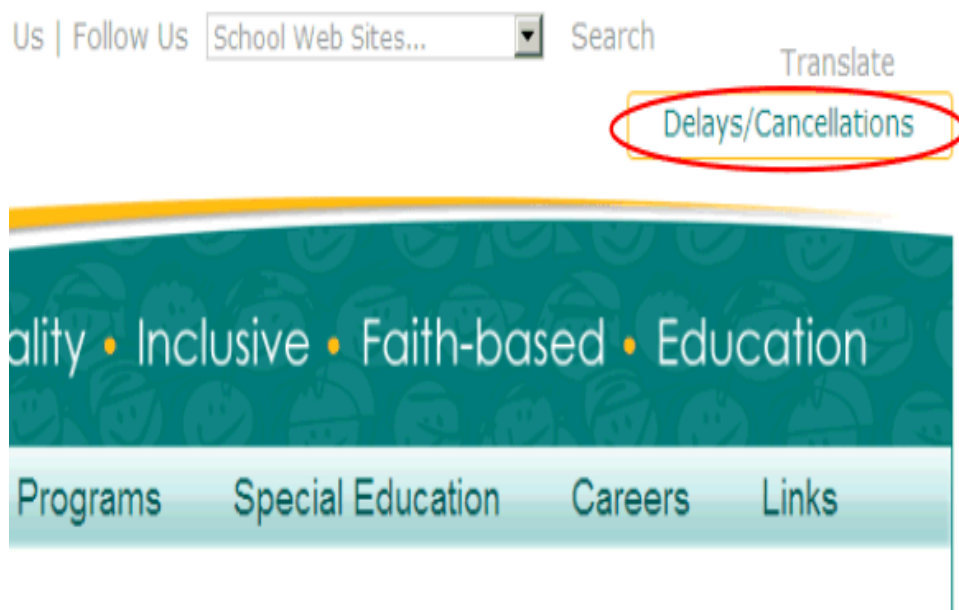
A short five minute survey is posted on the School Board website at www.wcdsb.ca and we encourage you to fill it out. It is posted under the "Headlines" section on the right hand side of the main screen. When you click on: "February 18 - March 3, 2010: 2010-2011 School Year Calendar Survey" you will be taken to the survey page.

Parents *and* students are invited to complete the survey. The survey will be open until March 3rd.

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.

Your best source for information when bad weather hits is our school board's website. Check out our board's web site at www.wcdsb.ca for the **RED cancellations button**. One click will tell you if your bus is cancelled and/or school is closed.



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 [Administrative Procedures Memorandum APH 008: Inclement Weather](#).

NEWS FROM GUIDANCE

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

COURSE SELECTION FOR 2010 - 2011

The process for choosing courses for the 2010 - 2011 school year has begun. Guidance counsellors have visited all grade 9, 10 and 11 students in one of their classes on February 16, 17 or 18 to share information regarding this important process. As has been the practice for the past

number of years, courses will be selected by students using an on-line course planner. We are attaching the instructions for this process in this article of BENN. Option sheets, signed by a parent or guardian are due back to the school by March 3, 2010. [Download a copy of the course selection process in PDF format.](#)

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](#).

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

Sign up in the GUIDANCE office.

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR CASE LOADS

Ms. D. Wehrle: A - C, L, ext. 265

Mrs. P. Klassen: D - J, ext. 190

Mr. S. Kritz: K, M - O'Driscoll, ext. 512

Mrs. K. Menjolian: Oei - Thwaites, ext. 240

Mr. M. Ambeau: Tierney - Z, ext. 503

The above case load assignments represent a slight change from first semester case loads. Please continue to feel free to contact us whenever you have a question or concern.

ARE YOU IN GRADE 10, 11, OR 12? INTERESTED IN CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION FOR NEXT YEAR?

BY MRS. M. CROWELL

Co-op is a two credit program that is a great way to earn compulsory and elective credits while you experience hands on practical learning outside of the traditional classroom setting.

There are many different types of placements available as well as programs that run with local colleges and universities. Once you select co-op on your option sheet make sure you complete an application form and two teacher reference forms that are available through guidance or the coop office.

***There are many different types
of placements available***

Drop into the Co-op office or see Mrs. Crowell, Mr. Jankura, Mr. Bumbacco, or Mr. Lowes if you have questions or want information about some of the different opportunities that are available.

After applying you will be called for an interview to determine your acceptance into the program and then you can start exploring your future career. We hope to see you in Co-op!

HELLO FROM STUDENT SUCCESS!

BY MISS A. GLEISER

Student Success is a program that aims at fostering an environment that provides extra support for students to ensure overall success in school. The Student Success office is located on the 3rd floor in Seminar Room 3.2 (beside the Chapel).

What exactly does a Student Success Teacher do?

- Track progress of students at risk of not graduating
- Provide direct support for student to improve achievement
- Supply school-wide effort to improve the outcomes for struggling students
- Re-engage early school leavers
- Work with parents and the community

Just a few of the tasks involved in Student Success teaching include:

- Developing a positive/constructive relationship with students
- Monitoring attendance/lates for at risk students
- Developing work and study skills for at risk students
- Working one-on-one with students on assignment completion

Student Success is about the whole student and providing the necessary supports so the student has academic and personal success.

WHO ARE 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

As we are now in the midst of Semester 2, Link Crew is proud to say that it was involved in welcoming and introducing our new Grade Nine students to Bennies. Link is a program that helps bridge the gap in the transition process from elementary to high school. Our goal at St. Benedict's Catholic Secondary School is to ensure that EVERY student has a place and that EVERY student feels welcome.

In Semester 1 alone, Link Crew has been responsible for the following fabulous events:

- Specialized leadership training for grade 11 and 12 students chosen as Link Crew Leaders
- Running an amazing Orientation Day for ALL grade 9 students
- Encouraging social interaction with new students at a dance designed ONLY for grade nine students and Link Crew leaders.
- Showing true school spirit through the grade 9 OLYMPICS!
- Providing support in studying skills through IN CLASS short lessons
- Engaging students in group study sessions and providing extra support through COOKIES n' CRAM right before Semester 1 exam

Link Crew is proud to say that it has been a part of so many wonderful things here at Bennies. Stay tuned for even more amazing things Link Crew!!

LINK CREW IS ALSO INCREDIBLY EXCITED TO WELCOME MS. SCHUESTER AND MS. BEAUDRY TO THE TEAM! WOO HOO!

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH MISSION

St. Patrick's Church invites you and your family to our 150th Anniversary Mission

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

Hats and cell phones should be off, and in

celebration March 14th to 17th, 2010, 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm.

The Children's Liturgy program welcomes your children to join us downstairs for crafts, games, story time, face painting, etc.

To help us plan for this event we are asking that families pre-register their children from JK to Grade 8 for the Children's Liturgy program and newborn to 3 yrs. old for Babysitting. Phone St. Patrick's Parish to register at 519-623-3773. Adult and Teen volunteers are welcome

student's lockers 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 may have those items confiscated for the day and will be consequence.

UNIFORMS

A reminder to students that non-uniform

BENNY'S STAFF BIOS



Joe Vale is another example of our versatile young teaching professionals. With seven years experience in various departments such as Physical Ed, Geography and Religion, Joe has also taught Learning Strategies and Leadership classes to round out his teaching practice. Dedicated to the craft of teaching and guiding students, Joe also fills his timetable with the coaching of the junior boys football, senior boys basketball and girls softball teams. His inspiration during his three years at St. Benedict is easily seen in his attitude: "Kids are my motivation! The students of Benny's have so many likeable qualities that make them a pleasure to teach. I feel very fortunate to walk through the doors of Benny's each day knowing that I am going to have the opportunity to teach great kids, while being part of such a wonderful staff."

Academic

ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

By Mrs. D. Wittmann

AUTONOMOUS / INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: THE HUMANITIES AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

ART AS SOCIAL COMMENTARY

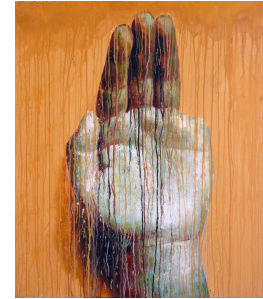
USING VISUAL ARTS AS A MEANS OF CONVEYING CONCERNS ABOUT SOCIAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES

In class, we studied both Pablo Picasso and Sheng Qi. Both of these artists combine the beauty of art with a social statement. It is truly the integration of disciplines.



Pablo Picasso's "Guernica" is modern art's most powerful antiwar statement... created by the twentieth century's most well-known and least understood artist. "Guernica" depicts the bombing of Guernica, Basque Country, by German and Italian warplanes at the behest of the Spanish Nationalist forces, on April 26, 1937, during the Spanish Civil War.

Beijing-based artist Sheng Qi is probably best known for his act of personal defiance following the events in Tiananmen Square in June 1989: he cut off the little finger of his left hand. Since then, he has incorporated the image and concept of this self-mutilation into his work, which includes photography, painting, sculpture, and performance art. His recent work continues in the vein of subtle but firm subversion and quiet political protest.



STUDENTS SHOW THEY MEAN BUSINESS AT DECA

By Mr. F. WITTMANN

DECA stands for Demonstrating Excellence Celebrating Achievements. It is an academic business competition club that has grown to include over 20 categories, 150 high schools, and 6000 students province-wide. Participants learn business concepts and compete in their category by writing a multiple choice test and performing a role play with a judge from the business community.

Students at St. Benedict compete in a regional qualifier at Bingeman's prior to competing in the provincial competition at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto. This year the top provincial performers included Sean deLottinville (Sports and Entertainment Marketing) and Kristin Yates (Food Marketing) who each received recognition for placing in the Top 20 in their written events. Congratulations to all participants from your teachers: Mrs. Ratz, Mrs. Beyerle, and Mr. Wittmann.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BUSINESS COURSES?

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

WCDSB STUDENT SUCCESS SITE

<http://bss.wcdsb.ca>

Resources to help you help your son or daughter succeed.

IS THERE A BENNY'S GRAD IN THE

LITERACY CORNER

By Mr. D. JAEGER

The Literacy test (OSSLT) is now only 6 weeks away! Fortunately for our students, St. Benedict is the place to be in order to better prepare for this graduation requirement.

Besides attending classes and completing all of the formative and summative work, grade 10 students have been completing "targeted activities" that work on specific OSSLT tasks. Our journey began with the popular "Letters to Santa" in December (expressing an opinion, long writing), the recently completed "Back to Semester 2 News Reports" (news reports long writing) and will continue with "Everyone Has an Opinion" Week in March (expressing an opinion, short writing) and a mock OSSLT at the end of March.

HOUSE?

We are looking to compile a list of Benny's grads along with what they are up to now... are you a Benny's grad? Do you have a son or daughter who graduated from Benny's and has gone on to "bigger and better things"? Drop us a line at Anton.Milardovic@wcdsb.ca —we look forward to hearing from you!

As far as extra preparation, the school has that covered too! Mr. Vale, recently voted "Coolest Literacy Teacher" will again be hosting any students interested in free after school literacy help. The Monday and Wednesday sessions begin March 8 and continue March 10, 22, 24, 29, 31 and April 6, 7. The location is room 210. See Mr. Jaeger in SST or Mrs. Ahrens in the main office for more details.

Clubs & Athletics

VARSIITY BOYS HOCKEY

BY MR. N. O'CONNOR

The Saints gave up a 3 - 1 lead in the third period and settled for a 3-3 tie against St. David in the final game of the regular season. Bogojevski recorded a 3 point game with 1 goal and 2 assists. Jordan Kerr and Scott Thompson also scored for the Saints.

The Saints will get a rematch against St. David in the first round of the playoffs on Tuesday, February 16th in Waterloo.

VARSIITY BOYS ADVANCE TO QUARTER-FINALS

The Saints scored two third period goals 14 seconds apart enroute to a 3 - 1 victory over the St. David Celtics. Jordan Kerr scored two power play goals and Brad Evans also scored for the Saints. Dan Hurley recorded 2 assists while Jordan ironside played a very strong game for the Saints between the pipes.

The Saints will take on Grand River on Thursday Feb. 18th at 3:00pm at Grand River Areana.

SAINTS SEASON ENDS

The Saints season came to an end against Grand River. The boys were unable to overcome giving up three early goals en route to a 4 - 1 loss. Alex Bogojevski scored the lone goal for the Saints.

GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAM DEFEATED IN QUARTER FINALS

BY MRS. L. O'NEILL

Sitting one point out of a playoff spot it was win or go home for the girls on Thursday February 11th. The girls came out with all shots firing and managed to take Preston High School by a 5-0 score. All the girls played a fantastic game.

Playoffs started Tuesday February 16th against St. David's. We had played St. David's in the Meltdown Tournament and managed to squeak by them by 1 goal in overtime, so we knew it would not be an easy game. There was lots of back and forth play and our goalie, Alex Buffone came up big in the last minutes of the third period and we once again beat St. David's 2-1.

The quarter finals had us up against the powerful and undefeated Southwood team. At the end of the first period the girls did the unthinkable and held Southwood to a 0-0 score. With some lucky bounces the Southwood team eventually scored and they beat us 5-1.



Junior Girls Volleyball
SBCSS 0, SDCSS 3

Senior Girls Volleyball
SBCSS 3, SDCSS 1

Junior Boys Basketball
SDCSS 28, SBCSS 26
semifinals: SBCSS 12, RCSS 24

Varsity Boys Hockey
SDCSS 3, SBCSS 3
playoffs: SBCSS 3, SDCSS 1

The girls had an excellent season winning the York tournament, second at the Meltdown...

The girls had an excellent season winning the York University tournament, finishing second at the Meltdown, and finishing fifth in league play. Congratulations to all the girls for their outstanding effort and best wishes to our Grade 12's that move on to play hockey on other rinks. Until next season . . . keep your sticks on the ice!

CURLERS ROCK THE HOUSE!

The St. Benedict Curling Club invites new members to come to participate in curling at the Galt Curling Club on Thursdays after school. No experience is necessary. Pick up forms after school today in Room 214. See Mrs. Ratz or Mrs. Adach for more info.

BADMINTON

Badminton Tryouts start Thursday March 4 at 2:30 in the gym. See Mr. Jankura for more details.



TALISMAN SKI TRIP

By MR. N. DUFRESNE

All students who have taken or are presently taking a Phys-ed course this year are eligible to go on our annual ski trip to Talisman on March 4th. The \$45.00 cost includes return trip by motor coach, lift ticket and lesson. Ski, snowboard and helmet rentals are extra! All participants must wear a helmet. All students interested must pick up a registration package down in the PHE office and have their forms and money ready for registration which begins this Friday, February 19th during period 3 and 4 lunch. Spaces are limited so don't delay.

ATTENTION ALL ROCK CLIMBERS!

For anyone interested in joining, there will be a brief but very important meeting on Thursday, February 25th after school (2:20) in room 316. See you there!!!

THE M.A.D. MOVEMENT 2010

By MISS K. LAUNSLAGER

Imagine you couldn't read or write. Imagine you knew nothing of the world that exists beyond your hometown. Imagine you had no idea how to prevent common illnesses that were devastating your community. Or worse yet, imagine you didn't even know your basic human rights, let alone how to fight for them.

For the 121 million primary-aged children who aren't in school, there's no need to imagine- this is their painful reality. Without access to an education, these children remain voiceless and the cycle of poverty continues.

The M.A.D. (Making A Difference) Movement is working with Free The Children, the world's largest network of youth helping youth. The goal is to raise awareness and funds to build a school in Sierra Leone, Africa. During Lent, your generous mission collections will go the MAD Movement's initiative.

Students involved with M.A.D. will be selling bracelets at lunch during Lent. The price ranges from 50 cents to \$1.

GUITAR CLUB

Guitar Club is starting up again for semester 2 on Monday's after school from 2:30 - 3:30 pm. Come on out and jam.

EDUCATION

is the key to ending

POVERTY



SUPPORT THE
BUILD A
SCHOOL IN

SIERRA LEONE PROJECT

- give to missions during Lent
- buy a beaded hemp bracelet
- participate in our "fun"draisers
- visit the awareness wall in the atrium

SAINTS BASKETBALL

2010 HOUSE LEAGUE BASKETBALL PROGRAM

THIS 10 WEEK PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR BOYS AND GIRLS ATTENDING A ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SECONDARY FEEDER SCHOOL.

No basketball experience is necessary.

Players must be prepared to learn, try their best and make new friends from other schools.

Age Divisions: Grades 4, 5, 6
Sundays from 1pm to 2:30pm
From April 7th to May 30th

Grades 7, 8
Sundays from 2:30pm to 4pm
From April 7th to May 30th

Note: A detailed schedule will be given out at registration as there will be three Wednesday dates.

Cost: \$40

Registration: Wednesday, March 10, 2010
7pm - 9pm
St. Benedict Atrium
(enter through front doors
by the library)

PROGRAM FEATURES

- *Emphasis is on developing solid fundamentals and basic principles of play in a fun and encouraging environment*
- *Fundamental stations and/or large group instruction emphasizing offensive moves and defensive footwork*
- *Daily League games and team competitions*
- *Will be grouped according to gender if numbers permit*
- *League T-shirt for each player*
- *Certificate of Achievement*
- *Awards and Prizes*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOHN MALNERICH
AT:
ST. BENEDICT C.S.S.
519-621-4050 ext 250
Or
John.Malnerich@wcdsb.ca



**Coaching Staff
includes**
John Malnerich,
(Sr. Boys Coach)
and
Former and Current
Senior St. Benedict
Players

February 24-26: Sears Week

February 25: Math contests (gr. 9 to 11)

March 11: Coffee House

March 15: March Break begins

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 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!](#)

