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The BENN newsletter is a publication of St. Benedict CSS. It is distributed every second Wednesday during the school year using the WCDSB News-wire service. Any questions or comments pertaining to this publication can be sent to the editor [Anton Milardovic](#) or the school's principal [Dan Witt](#).

BENN STAFF

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NEXT ISSUE

June 20, 2012

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 20

8:21 to 9:37: Period 2 class
9:42 to 10:58: Period 1 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation
11:03 to 12:10: Lunch
12:20 to 2:20: Period 1 two hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)
2:30: Bus Pickup

Thursday, June 21

8:21 to 9:37: Period 3 or 4 class
9:42 to 10:58: Period 2 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation
11:03 to 12:10: Lunch
12:20 to 2:20: Period 2 two hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)
2:30: Bus Pickup

Friday, June 22

8:21 to 9:37: Period 5 class
9:42 to 10:58: Period 3 or 4 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation
11:03 to 12:10: Lunch
12:20 to 2:20: Period 3 or 4 two hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)
2:30: Bus Pickup

Monday, June 25

8:30 to 9:46 Period 5 76 min. Final Evaluation
8:30 to 10:30: Period 5 two hour Final Evaluation
11:03 to 12:10: Lunch
11:00 to 1:00: Period 5 Credit Rescue (if required)
10:40: Bus Pickup

Tuesday, June 26

8:30 to 10:30: Credit Rescue as arranged by teacher and student
No buses

NOTE: All students are to be in full uniform during final evaluation and credit rescue classes

Administrative



NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

CALLING ALL GRADE 12 GRADUATES

Although we have not yet formally said "good-bye" to our Grade 12 class as of yet, plans are well under way to welcome them back to St. Benedict on Friday, October 26, 2012 for our annual Graduation celebration. Grade 12 students are reminded that if they are planning to attend the

October celebration, they must complete their graduation forms and pay their graduation fee by Friday, June 8. Completed forms and fees can be handed in at the Guidance Office. Potential Graduates are also reminded of the importance of completing the mandatory 40 hours of Community Service prior to the end of June in order to meet diploma requirements.



CHECK OUT A SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR!

The Specialist High Skills Major is a program that encourages students in grades 11 & 12 to learn more about their career by taking a co-op experience, participating in industry training, and taking related classes in high school.

Second semester has been a busy one for the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program, as we organized many training sessions for St. Benedict students.

Information & Technology students participated in the Electronics training at the University of Waterloo, where students completed a soldering project with Engineering graduate students. Hospitality and



Tourism students spent a day with Chef Terry from Langdon Hall in a Top Chef challenge to create some tasty food and new creations. Construction students learned how to install solar panels on flat and angled roofs with Conestoga College.



Grade 10 students!

Make sure to get involved for next year by filling out a sign up form online at www.highskills.ca! There are over 10 different majors to choose from.



For any questions about the SHSM program, please contact Tara Fitzgerald, SHSM Learning Officer: (519) 578-3660 ext. 2549 or tara.fitzgerald@wcdsb.ca.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school will be available this summer for St. Benedict students through our co-terminous board, the Waterloo Region District School Board. 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, as well as online blended courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School in Waterloo. Classes will begin on Wednesday, July 4th and will run until Friday, July 27th. 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. Make-up courses involve 54 hours of teacher instruction and are available either in a morning time slot or an afternoon time slot. It is possible for students to take 2 make-up courses if they meet the requirements. New credit courses involve a full day of teacher instruction so students may only take one new credit course during the summer. The Online Blended Model is new this summer and provides a flexible learning environment where students complete the course using a variety of online resources. Students taking on-line blended courses are required to complete the first and last modules on site, however the rest of the course work can be accessed using a computer and the internet at any place and at any time during the duration of summer school. More information regarding summer school course offerings and registration is available in the guidance office. Please note that students interested in taking a new credit course in summer school must register by June 14 while registration for make-up credits will continue until June 26. All summer school registration forms require a

student is over the age of 18.

parent/guardian signature unless the

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

The summer holidays offer a perfect opportunity for students to complete their 40 hours of Community Service that are required for high school graduation in Ontario. Opportunities for community service are posted at the school as we are made aware; however students are also encouraged to check out local agencies that rely on volunteer support on their own.

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
www.electronicinfo.ca
www.apprenticeshipsearch.com
www.careersintrades.ca
www.careercruising.com
www.jobbank.gc.ca
www.skillsontario.ca



NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

BY MR. B. REMPEL

As the school year wraps up, we are already looking to next fall. Send 'Em off Smiling is a charity that provides back to school items for students whose families struggle financially. This year we are sponsoring 18 students. We will fill a backpack with a back to school outfit and school supplies. What better way to anticipate the new school year than with new stuff. Thank you to all for supporting St Benedict's various charity/social justice projects this past year.

RELAY FOR LIFE 2012

BY MRS. L. O'NEILL

Thank you to the two hundred participants that came out on Friday June 1st. We also had over forty volunteers and seventeen survivors come out to participate in Relay For Life. The weather didn't cooperate, but it didn't dampen our spirits.

We created a track in the gym and they walked the track. Students participated in ceremonies; it was quite something to see the gym glowing with all of the luminaries that lit the path. Some students slept, some played a rousing game of dodgeball and they all walked some more.

When the sun came up in the morning the students had a new feeling of accomplishment. Some awoke to learn they had helped to raise \$27,300.00. We are hoping to finish off the fundraising and hit the \$30,000.00 mark.

When the sun came up ... some awoke to learn they had helped to raise \$27,300.00.

The organizers would like to thank all those that came out to help supervise and gave up some of their own time and some of their sleep! We couldn't have done it without the hard work of the student organizing team, the adult supervisors and the participants.

For more information about The Canadian Cancer Society visit www.cancer.ca.

Academics

ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

BY MRS. D. WITTMANN

BRAINRULES BY JOHN MEDINA

Part 4 of a 4 part series

Dr. Medina has proposed twelve rules to improve how our brain works. Over the next few issues, a short excerpt of each of his rules will be described.

Dr. John J. Medina, a developmental molecular biologist, has a lifelong fascination with how the mind reacts to and organizes information. He is the author of the New York Times bestseller "Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and School"—a provocative book that takes on the way our schools and work environments are designed.

Rule #10

Vision trumps all other senses.

Vision is by far our most dominant sense, taking up half of our brain's resources. What we see is only what our brain tells us we see, and it's not 100 percent accurate. The visual analysis we do has many steps. The retina assembles photons into little movie-like streams of information. The visual cortex processes these streams, some areas registering motion, others registering color, etc. Finally, we combine that information back together so we can see. We learn and remember best through pictures, not through written or spoken words.

Rule #11

Male and female brains are different.

The X chromosome that males have one of and females have two of—though one acts as a backup—is a cognitive "hot spot", carrying an unusually large percentage of genes involved in brain manufacture. Women are genetically more complex, because the active

BEYOND BENNY'S

BY MRS. N. OFFAK

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY:

Eden Mills Writers' Festival

High school poetry contest has two levels: Grades 9&10 and Grades 11&12.

Submission deadline: July 2012

<http://edenmillswritersfestival.ca/EMWF/c...>

Sponsored by: Eden Mills Writers' Festival

Poetry & Essay Writing Contests

Summer contests for poetry and essays in grade divisions: 7-9 and 10-12.

Essay submission deadline: July 18, 2012

Poetry submission deadline: August 15, 2012

<http://www.poeticpower.com/Contests.ht...>

Sponsored by: Creative Communications

SCIENCE:

Engineering Science Quest

Submissions Year Round

Register online

<http://www.esq.uwaterloo.ca/>

Sponsored by the University of Waterloo

THE ARTS:

Public "Art Talks"

Check website for class and talk listings

<http://www.kwag.ca/en/exhibitions/ArtTa...>

Sponsored by the K-W Art Gallery

Art Exhibits and Programs

Check website for program listings

<http://www.theclayandglass.ca>

Sponsored by Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery

Arts & Culture Venues & Events in Waterloo Region

Check website for program listings

<http://www.explorewaterlooregion.com/a...>

Sponsored by Waterloo Region Tourism

Wilfrid Laurier Music Workshops

Check website for program listings

http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=160...

Sponsored by Wilfrid Laurier University Music Department

X chromosomes in their cells are a mix of Mom's and Dad's. Men's X chromosomes all come from Mom, and their Y chromosome carries less than 100 genes, compared with about 1,500 for the X chromosome. Men's and women's brains are different structurally and biochemically—men have a bigger amygdala and produce serotonin faster, for example—but we don't know if those differences have significance. Men and women respond differently to acute stress: Women activate the left hemisphere's amygdala and remember the emotional details. Men use the right amygdala and get the gist.

Rule #12

We are powerful and natural explorers.

Babies are the model of how we learn—not by passive reaction to the environment but by active testing through observation, hypothesis, experiment, and conclusion. Specific parts of the brain allow this scientific approach. The right prefrontal cortex looks for errors in our hypothesis ("The sabertoothed tiger is not harmless"), and an adjoining region tells us to change behavior ("Run!"). We can recognize and imitate behavior because of "mirror neurons" scattered across the brain. Some parts of our adult brains stay as malleable as a baby's, so we can create neurons and learn new things throughout our lives.

Source: <http://www.brainrules.net/>

NEW HALO RELEASED

BY MISS R. CHARRON

The St. Benedict Literary Arts Magazine—HALO—has arrived!!! Many of our student authors, artists, and photographers now have their work published! A great gift for family members, this full-colour glossy publication costs only \$5.00 and supports student literacy while encouraging creative outlets for teenagers in our school community.

Contact [Miss Charron](#) to purchase your own copy of HALO today!

OTHER:

Waterloo Region Museum Leadership Camp

Youth leadership camp for ages 13-16

Date: August 2012

<http://waterlooregionmuseum.com/>

Sponsored by Waterloo Region Museum

Youth Committee on Public Affairs

Assist in planning and participating in the annual summer conference in Orillia.

Contact information on website under "Youth".

Spring 2012

<http://www.couch.ca>

Sponsored by Couching Institute on Public Affairs

Laurier Enriched Academic Program

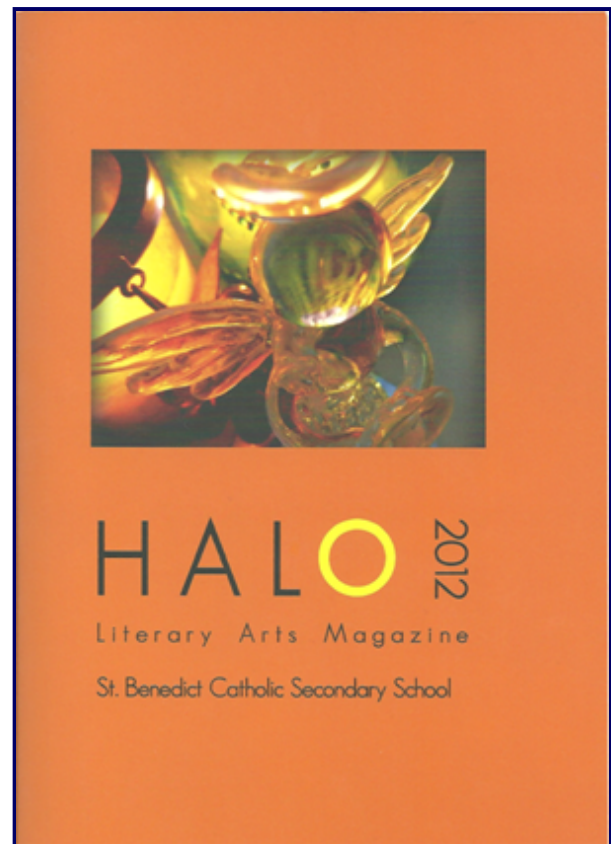
<http://www.wlu.ca/leap>

Summer camp for gifted/highly able students in grades 1-9. Saturday morning programs and summer camp.

Summer 2012

Registration information on the website.

**For more information on these
Enrichment Opportunities, please
[contact Mrs. N. Offak](#)**



SCIENCE TEAM

By Mr. A. ARKELL

Congratulations to the members of the Science Olympic Team on their performance this spring in the Science Olympics at the University of Guelph and at Western University. The team competed against thirty schools from around the Province at Western. The Grade 9 Team of Leanne Jenkins, Sarah Richardson, Madison Brook, Courtney Sloan, Nyawuar Malek, Kristine Suarez, Julia Murphy and Jasmine Harding-Baker earned a Silver Medal in the Ecology event. Rachel Tari, Maria Quiroz, Sarah Fournier, Kennedy Thompson and Colleen Ivits earned a Gold Medal in the Pig Dissection Event.

STUDENTS EXCEL AT UW CONTEST

By Mr. F. WITTMANN

Ten St. Benedict junior students participated in the first annual University of Waterloo Financial Literacy Contest, sponsored by Sunlife. They answered 70 multiple choice questions about investing, borrowing, credit, budgeting, accounting, and economics. As a school, we ranked 12th out of 21 schools - a respectable placement, given the fact that our students did not have the opportunity to take the Introduction to Business course (which returns to the curriculum next year).

Congratulations to Bennie's top 3 performers: Drew Gheorghe, Alex Steinke, and Darrell Relleve!

BENNY'S MATHLETES REPEAT AS CHAMPS

By Mrs. J. MUSCAT

A group of St. Benedict mathletes from Grades 9 to 12 competed at the board-wide Problem Solving and Math Team Competition on May 30th. After one hour of intense problem solving, the Saints won 1st place for the second year in a row!

Congratulations to Tim Cowen, Aaron Silver, Kristine Suarez, Alec Oatridge, Michael Dymowski, Michael Burgess, Mitchell Hall, Mitchell Smith, David Li, Jasmine Cowen, George Yu, Aleesha Gregorio, Talal Abdali, Edward Palffy, Sabrina Sikora and Jenna Jenkins.


NEED MATH HELP?

Homework Help is a free online math help for students in Grades 7-10. It is funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVO's Independent Learning Centre.

Homework Help provides free, live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers Sunday to Thursday from 5:30pm - 9:30pm ET.

If you would like access to all these great math resources, click on the image.



 [TVO Math Homework Help site](#)

Clubs and Athletics

RESULTS FOR CWOSSA TRACK AND FIELD

By Mr. F. Wittmann

Seventeen St. Benedict athletes competed at CWOSSA. The following six athletes placed in the top 5 to advance to West OFSAA in Windsor:

Nathan Schmidt in Steeple Chase
Scott Herod in 100m Hurdles and Javelin
Augustine Soga in Long Jump and Triple Jump
Lauren Robbins in 200m
Dan McArthur in 200m
Michaela Worrell-Rogers in 100m Hurdles



School records were set by Nathan Schmidt (800m) and Augustine Soga (Long Jump).

Looking for something fun and exciting to do this summer?

St. Benedict Basketball Camps 2012

July 9 – July 13

**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!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
APPLICATION BROCHURE

CONTACT:

JOHN MALNERICH AT
ST. BENEDICT C.S.S.
519-621-4050 EXT 5337

OR

SEE OUR WEBSITE AT
stbenedict.wcdsb.ca and
select "ATHLETICS".

The St. Benedict Summer Basketball Camp is fast approaching. It runs from July 9 to July 13. We are looking for more campers entering Grades 1 to 3. This session runs daily from 8am to 10am and features smaller balls and lower hoops so players can develop confidence and achieve early success. Please go to our school website and look under athletics for more information, including the camp brochure and registration form.

DOMINICAN ENCOUNTER 2012

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board would like to invite current grade 10 and 11 students to apply to the The Dominican Encounter With Faith and Hospitality program.

Participants will travel to the Dominican Republic from Friday, November 23 to Friday, November 30, 2012.

The experience will provide students with an opportunity to live with host families and to see the world through the eyes of the poor. If you are open to experiencing a different culture and are interested in issues of faith and social justice than this is a great opportunity for you. Grade 10, 11 and 12 students that are returning to secondary school in September are invited to apply.

Information and applications for the experience are available on your school's Classnet page under the heading "WCDSB Dominican Encounter With Faith and Hospitality Program".

If you would like more information, please email or speak to [Ms. Smukavich](#) or [Mr. Betik](#), or attend the brief information session held after school Wednesday June 6th, 2012 in room 227.

Student Activities

Other News

COMING IN SEPTEMBER ...



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, June 6

2:30pm Fanime/Anime Club
2:30pm Dominican Encounter meeting
2:45pm MAD Movement
2:45pm Strategy Games Club

Thursday, June 7

8:00am Graduation Breakfast
8:21am Graduation Liturgy
2:30pm Yearbook Club
2:30pm Jazz band rehearsal
2:45pm Track and Field training
6:00pm Athletic Banquet
7:00pm School Council meeting
Track and Field OFSAA, Brockville

Friday, June 8

2:40pm Conditioning Club
2:45pm Doctor Who Video Club
7:00pm Junior drama class performance
Track and Field OFSAA, Brockville

Saturday, June 9

Track and Field OFSAA, Brockville

Monday, June 11

2:30pm Camera Club
2:40pm Math Club
2:45pm Glee rehearsal

Tuesday, June 12

Thursday, June 14

2:30pm Yearbook Club
2:30pm Jazz band rehearsal
2:45pm Track and Field training

Friday, June 15

2:40pm Conditioning Club
2:45pm Doctor Who Video Club
Closing assembly

Sunday, June 17

Father's Day

Monday, June 18

2:30pm Camera Club
2:40pm Math Club
2:45pm Glee rehearsal

Tuesday, June 19

2:45pm Track and Field training

Wednesday, June 20

8:21am Final evaluation days (attendance required)
Summer solstice
BENN Newsletter out

Check the calendar on the school website for more information.

2:45pm Track and Field training
EQAO Grade 9 math assessment

Wednesday, June 13

2:30pm Fanime/Anime Club
2:45pm MAD Movement
2:45pm Strategy Games Club
EQAO Grade 9 math assessment

New information is always being added, and more detailed information about upcoming events can be found there.

On the front page of our website, the calendar displays what is coming up in the next week. If you would like to see the full calendar, 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.

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.

