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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

January 9, 2013

Do you smell that?

If you've had the opportunity to walk the halls of St. Benedict the last few weeks, you may notice that *there's something in the air*. Now if you walk down by hospitality, or cosmetology, or phys ed, on most days you'll smell something in the air (sometimes the smells are great, sometimes, well, they are teenagers, and they *do* sweat)....

But this smell is different. It's the smell of benevolence. Our community has—as it has many times in the past—looked at the economic situation of our community—school, city, and globally—and has decided it needs to do something about it.

It's the smell of goodwill. Christmas baskets are being put together to help local families in need, as we partner with the Firefighters. It's the smell of justice. Christmas stockings are being filled with supplies to be sent to kids in needy parts of the world, as we partner with St. Mary of the Visitation Parish. It's the smell of family. Today's civies day collection, as well the silent auction you will read about below, will help struggling families within our school community.

It is the smell of recognizing our great fortunes, and sharing with those who are less fortunate. And students don't do it begrudgingly, they want to help.

These are the smells that you cannot sense with your nose, but they're there. And they are sweet. The staff and students of our community are showing that benevolence truly does bloom at Benny's.

May the coming Christmas season bring blessings to you and yours, and may your generosity to those less fortunate be returned to you many times over. God bless!

– Editor

Administrative

St. Benedict CSS Celebrates *La meilleure classe de français en Ontario!!*

("THE BEST FRENCH CLASS IN ONTARIO"!!)

BY MR. J. CURTIS

Rebecca Charron always thought she had the best French class in Ontario. Now, she has proof.

Miss Charron's Grade 12 French class recently won the "La meilleure classe de français en Ontario" video contest organized by the French Immersion Program at the University of Ottawa.

The two-minute video highlights the benefits of French language learning in the school community through music, singing (in French, of course), and dancing. Miss Charron's class of 21 students wrote the lyrics, while St. Benedict Grade 12 student Julia Wittmann composed the music and assisted fellow senior Tully McWatters in producing, filming, and editing the final video.

"Throughout this entire process, the students worked extremely well together, encouraging one another and they constantly surrounded themselves with positive energy," gushes Charron. "I could not be more proud of this class that we call a family!"

The school was chosen to be one of only five schools from across Ontario to attend a gala event at the University of Ottawa campus. The full-day event included presentations from current university students in the French Immersion program, a laughter yoga session, and an interactive survey. The day concluded with a gourmet lunch along with the presentation of the five nominated videos and the announcement of the winning school.

"We believe that (St. Benedict) has demonstrated that learning in French can be a fun experience, and it really looked like they enjoyed creating this video together," says French Immersion Studies Director Marc Gobeil.

The contest, which is designed for Ontario French-as-a-second-language classes, asked students to create a one- to two-minute video showing how their bilingualism, leadership, and community service made them "Ontario's Top French Class" of 2012. The objective of the awards is to encourage Anglophone students taking French programs in high school to continue studying partially in French at the university level.

Each student receives a \$2,000.00 scholarship to the University of Ottawa, which has enticed a few students to apply to the French Immersion program.



Clips from the award winning French video... who would've thought that the last slide—with two students holding a sign saying we will win in French would come true??

Each student in the class receives a \$2,000.00 scholarship to the University of Ottawa, which already has enticed a few students in the class to apply to the French Immersion program.

This is the first year the school has entered the contest and Charron attributes their success to the people in the class.

"We had the perfect combination of talented people—singers, dancers, musicians, writers and highly-competent French speakers," explains



Charron. "They not only impressed the judges, they impressed everyone on our trip from the bus driver, the hotel management, and the university administration. This is definitely an impressive group of young people. Felicitations!"

[Click here to watch the video](#), or follow the link off the front page of the school website.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS REGARDING THE PROVINCIAL LABOUR DISRUPTION'S IMPACT ON WATERLOO REGION'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

WCDSB NEWS RELEASE

The following questions & answers are provided to address public confusion around the status of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools during the ongoing province-wide public school system labour dispute.

Q1: Are Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools open and running on a normal schedule during the ongoing province-wide public school system labour disruptions?

A1: Yes - all 51 of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools are open and running on a normal schedule during the ongoing province-wide public school system labour disruptions?

Q2: Are any full day Kindergarten or before and/or after-school programs in Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools affected by the ongoing public school system labour disruptions?

A2: No - all full day Kindergarten and before and/or after-school programs in Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools are running on their normal schedules. Programs continue to be available to new registrations.

Q3: Are teachers in Waterloo Region's Catholic secondary schools participating in any "work to rule" actions?

A3: Teachers in Waterloo Region's Catholic secondary schools are not involved in any form of organized job actions.

Q4: Are teachers in Waterloo Region's Catholic elementary and/or secondary schools in a legal strike position?

A4: No - teachers in Waterloo Region's Catholic elementary and secondary schools are not in a legal strike position.

Q5: Is the ongoing province-wide public school system labour disruption impacting any programs provided by Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools?

A5: Most programs and extracurricular activities provided by Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools are running as normal - with the exception of several high school sports. The Waterloo Region District School Board's (WRDSB) decision to cancel their winter sport season until December 31st, 2012 impacts the WCDSB's alpine skiing, curling, hockey and wrestling teams. For the time being, these teams will continue to practice. Basketball, swimming and volleyball schedules remain unaffected.

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 100,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 51 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region - continuing a 176-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow on Twitter: @WCDSBNewswire - #WCDSBAwesome.

ST. BENEDICT CHRISTMAS FUND IN SUPPORT OF STUDENTS

Local artist and St. Benedict teacher Ann Weiler has offered two of her works for a silent auction in support of the St. Benedict Christmas Fund to support students and their families who could use *a little help from their friends* at this time of year.



Spirit Walker: Oil on gallery canvas, 24" x 24"



Sunset Paddling: Oil on gallery canvas, 24" x 24"

We invite you to consider placing bids on either of the two pieces of art. Silent auction bids should be directed to [Ms. Fondacaro](#).

Those bidding will be notified of the top bid twice a day. Bids close on December 20 at 12:00 noon. Winning bidders should write cheques to **St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School**.

MESSAGE FROM THE ST. BENEDICT CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE

Today we had a civvies day at the school. This was a special civvies day. Why you might ask? Well, every penny collected will go to help some of our Benny's families have a better Christmas. There are many St. Benedict families that have suffered job loss, or have parents/guardians who are dealing with health issues. Help us make Christmas a little brighter for those in our community.

If you know of someone that you think we should know about, tell someone—your guidance counsellor, your teacher and we'll see what we can do. We need to take care of each other.

Thank you on behalf of the St. Benedict Christmas Committee.

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARIES NEW TEAM WEBSITE

Cambridge Libraries has developed a new student resource that has been designed to be more intuitive and user-friendly, focusing on key areas of interest to youth in the Cambridge community. Find out about new books, read reviews by other students and use booklists to find books of interest in the Reading and Entertainment section. Student submissions, including artwork, photography, short stories, poetry and video productions are wanted for their Creative Spaces. Information on how to study, research and cite sources used in student projects and ISUs can be found in the Homework Help area. They would love to hear what you think of their new site. Contact the teen librarian at ppilon@cambridgelibraries.ca or call 519-740-6294.

TUTORING BEYOND BORDERS

Cambridge Libraries has partnered with a non-profit organization, Tutoring Beyond Borders to offer free exam review session to high school students in the Cambridge area. Review sessions will be lead by Tutoring Beyond Borders tutors and both review sessions and one-on-one assistance to students will be provided. The Exam Cram program will be offered for a number of topics in Grade 11 and Grade 12 Math and Sciences. Students may choose up to three subjects and must register for the free sessions. Students are encouraged to sign up early to assist Tutoring Beyond Borders to schedule their tutors and study subjects. Sessions will be offered at the Clemens Mill Library on:

1. Saturday, January 12 from 12:30 - 5:30 PM
2. Saturday, January 19 from 9:30 to 5:30 PM

Registrations will be accepted until December 31, 2012. Register online at tutoring-beyond-borders.com, or the Cambridge Library website. Paper applications are also available in the guidance office. Drop-off your application at any Cambridge Library or email exam.review@tutoring-beyond-borders.com.

For more information contact Patricia Pilon, Teen Librarian - ppilon@cambridgelibraries.ca or call 519-740-6294.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE IS APPROACHING QUICKLY!

Grade 12 students who are planning to apply to either college or university for the 2013 -14 academic year are reminded that the application deadline is quickly approaching. Please note the following:

- University applications are due January 16, 2013. Students need a PIN number to apply. These numbers are available for pick-up in the guidance office.
- College applications are due February 1, 2013. Students need their OEN number (found on all report card) to set up an account for application.
- Apply early and avoid the stress of last minute on-line delays. Both the OUAC and OCAS sites become overloaded the closer it gets to the deadline date.
- Complete your Community Service Hours as soon as possible
- Review your semester two timetable if you think that you need to make any changes.
- Information regarding university programs can be found at www.electronicinfo.com and at www.ontario.colleges.ca for college programs

GRADE 8 PARENT EVENING

Our Grade 8 Parent Night will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2013 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. The evening will begin with an information session in the gymnasium followed by an open house. Many areas of our school will be open for viewing and information about all of our programs, including our new enrichment programs starting this fall, will be available. Please pass this message along to any neighbours in the community that have a student who is scheduled to begin high school in September, 2013. All Grade 8 students, regardless of where they are currently attending school are welcome to join us that evening.

COURSE CHANGES FOR SECOND SEMESTER

The month of January is a great time for students who are considering a course change for second semester to see their guidance counsellor to discuss this. All timetable changes must be approved by a parent or guardian. Your support in encouraging your sons and daughters to follow protocol is much appreciated by us.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO GRADE 10 FAMILY NIGHT

All parents and their Grade 10 university-bound sons and daughters are invited to attend an information evening hosted by the University of Waterloo on January 16, 2013. Learn about the university application process, financing a post-secondary education, and studying what you love. The event will take place in Hagey Hall at the Humanities Theatre on the University of Waterloo campus. Register to attend or watch the live webcast at: www.findoutmore.uwaterloo.ca/parents

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

In addition to fulfilling a requirement that is necessary for high school graduation, volunteering is an excellent way to develop skills and abilities, as well as a chance to give back to the community. The up-coming Christmas Season provides unique opportunities for students to complete some of the hours that are needed to fulfill this diploma requirement. Volunteer opportunities for students are updated and posted regularly on both the Ranger system and the Guidance bulletin board. Why wait until your grade 12 year to find out how fun and fulfilling volunteering can be! Current opportunities include the following:

1. Sensational Saturdays Enrichment Day Camps are run by the Laurier Faculty of Education. This is a great volunteer activity for someone who is interested in pursuing a career in education. Volunteers will assist certified teachers who design and lead the camps. Volunteers must be 16 by January 26, 2013. The application deadline is January 11, 2013 and application forms are available at: www.wlu.ca/leap.
2. Volunteers are needed at the SVDP (St. Vincent de Paul) store at 75 Dundas Street, Cambridge. This is a great opportunity for students who are looking for experience in retail. Please contact Margie at 519-629-0103 for more details
3. Consider volunteering this Christmas season with The Christmas Kettle Campaign that is run through The Salvation Army. Each year thousands of families all across Canada were helped because of this fund raising effort. For contact information, please see Mrs. Klassen in the guidance office.
4. Volunteers are needed for both the Reading Buddies and Writing Buddies program. Consider partnering with a child and share your love of reading or writing with them. Contact the Ideas Unlimited Volunteer Coordinator at 519-621-0460 (ext.127) for more information.
5. Community Living, Cambridge is currently recruiting volunteers for their winter recreation programs which run from January to March. Please note that these opportunities require commitment for the entire program and may also require a police check. See Mrs. Klassen in guidance for more information.

6. Community Living Cambridge has other opportunities that require a six-month minimum commitment and are an ideal opportunity for students who are considering a career in community/social service work. See Mrs. Klassen in guidance for more information.
7. Heritage Meadows is seeking volunteers to assist with various activities and programs that occur during the evenings and on weekends. Volunteers need to be reliable and committed to their volunteer shifts. Contact Maggie, the activity coordinator at 519-620-9999.
8. Apply online to volunteer at the Cambridge Libraries - www.cambridgelibraries.ca

PEACE TO YOU THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

As the holiday season approaches, the Guidance Department of St. Benedict would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you enjoy the time with family and friends and experience the true gifts of this wonderful season - joy, hope, love and peace.



Academics

ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

BY MRS. D. WITTMANN

EXCERPT FROM IMAGINE: HOW CREATIVITY WORKS BY JONAH LEHRER

"The constant need for insights has shaped the creative process. In fact, these radical breakthroughs are so valuable that we've invented traditions and rituals that increase the probability of an epiphany, making us more likely to hear those remote

UPCOMING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

BY MRS. D. TRENTINI

Canadian National Math League Contest

The Math League, University of Windsor
Annual contest with questions ranging from straightforward to challenging
Upcoming contest dates: Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12s
ranging from straightforward to challenging.
For more information, please visit:

themathleague.com

associations coming from the right hemisphere. Just look at poets, who often rely on literary forms with strict requirements, such as haikus and sonnets. At first glance, this writing method makes little sense, since the creative act then becomes much more difficult. Instead of composing freely, poets frustrate themselves with structural constraints.

But that's precisely the point. Unless poets are stumped by the form, unless they are forced to look beyond the obvious associations, they'll never invent an original line. They'll be stuck with clichés and conventions, with predictable adjectives and boring verbs. And this is why poetic forms are so important. When a poet needs to find a rhyming word with exactly three syllables or an adjective that fits the iambic scheme, he ends up uncovering all sorts of unexpected connections; the difficulty of the task accelerates the insight process. Just look at Dylan's verb choice in the second stanza of *Like a Rolling Stone*, which contains one of the most memorable lines in the song:

*You've gone to the finest school all
right, Miss Lonely
But you know you only used to get
juiced in it.*

Juiced in it? It's an incredibly effective phrase, even though the listener has no idea what it means. It's not until the next couplet that the need for juiced becomes clear:

*And nobody has ever taught you how
to live on the street
And now you find out you're gonna
have to get used to it*

Dylan uses the surprising word juiced because it rhymes with used, which is part of the snarling line that gives the stanza its literal meaning. Nevertheless, the innovative use of juice as a verb is one of those poetic flourishes that makes "Like a Rolling Stone" so transcendent. It's a textbook example of how the imagination is unleashed by constraints. You break out of the box by stepping into shackles" (Lehrer, Jonah).

Young Writers Poetry Contest

Poetry Institute of Canada

Poetry contest: Children ages 7-12; Youth ages 13-17 & Short story contest: ages 7-18
Submission deadlines: March 1, 2013 for short stories. For more information, please visit: youngwritersofcanada.ca

Poetry & Essay Writing Contest

Creative Communication

Fall, spring and summer contests for poetry and essays in grade divisions: K-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 Submission deadlines: Poetry: April 11 & Aug. 15, 2013 & Essays: Feb. 19 & July 16, 2013 For more information, please visit: poeticpower.com
poeticpower.com/Contest.html

Mathieu DaCosta Challenge

Department of Canadian Heritage

For ages 9-18 annual writing and artwork contest. Theme: how people from different ethno-cultural backgrounds make a difference to Canada. French language submissions accepted. Submission deadline December 2012, winners announced January 2013. For more information, please visit: www.cic.gc.ca/english/multiculturalism/math...

SHAD Valley

Not for profit educational organization

Shad Valley is a 4-week enrichment summer enrichment camp for students in grades 10-12. The program focuses on the sciences, technology and entrepreneurship. Students spend a month living in residence at a host university. Applications deadline: Early December 2012 (Program runs: July-August 2013) For more information, please visit: shad.ca

Engineering Science Quest

University of Waterloo

Students in grade 9 and above can apply for activity and/or program leader positions at this popular science camp. Junior leaders earn community service hours. Resumes due: December 2012 and January 2013. For more information, please visit: esq.uwaterloo.ca

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO'S BEAVER MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTING COMPETITION RESULTS ARE IN!

By Miss C. Stockie

Congratulations to the top 3 finishers from Miss Stockie's Grade 10 Math class: in 3rd place - Amber Baetsen, 2nd - John Elten and in 1st place - Taha Elghamudi! Tops from Mrs. Brennan's Grade 9 Math class: 3rd - Noah Meneses, 2nd - Kayla Vieno, and in 1st place - Matthew Sibley! Other students finishing with Distinction were Alyssa Mason, Jenna Menjolian, Kristine Suarez and Hailey Wright.

Way to go, Mathletes! Thanks to all those students who participated.

HIGH SCHOOL MATH LEAGUE COMPETITION

By Miss C. Stockie

Math Geeks are asked to come out to participate in the University of Windsor's Math League competition. This event will be next Tuesday, December 18th after school in room 309. GOOD LUCK!

CO-OP CAREER FAIR

By Mrs. M. Crowell

Congratulations to all coop students for doing a great job at the coop career fair on Tuesday, December 4.



All of the students represented their employers well and we thank all of our community employers for providing this valuable hands on learning experience.

Thanks to Jo-Ann McCabe, Tara Fitzgerald, and Fred Pichler for providing information about the OYAP, SHSM, and CCEP programs.

Students and parents are welcome to contact the coop office 519-621-4050 x 5220 at any time for more information about our experiential learning programs.

Athletics

JUNIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

By Mr. J. Curtis

After a slow start to the season, the Junior Girls volleyball team faced the Resurrection Phoenix at home and lost three straight sets to the undefeated, first place team (25-6, 25-3, 25-18). Highlights from the heartbreaking loss were Hayley Hanson's amazing digs, Kayla Leusink's deceptive serves, Abby Van Groningen's consistent back court play, and Nadine Bilodeau's aggressive play at the net.

Then, on Wednesday, the girls came from behind in the last two consecutive sets for an impressive victory over Rockway (25-19, 19-25, 25-22, 25-22). Hayley Hanson held a clinic for

BENN BOX SCORES

Junior Girls Volleyball

Woodland 3, **Saints 1**

Saints 3, Rockway 1

Resurrection 3, **Saints 0**

Senior Girls Volleyball

Woodland 3, **Saints 0**

Saints 3, Rockway 0

Resurrection 3, **Saints 0**

all-round aggressive play, while Madi Kerr and Victoria Enright offered the strongest offense with consistent serves that fooled their opponents. Afifa Salad demonstrated once again her strength coming off the bench and having an impact on the court in all three wins.

SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

By Mrs. S. Adach

It's been a mixed season so far! The Senior girls had a fearsome first away-set, winning three games to two against Pere Rene. Our thunder rolled away a bit against the Resurrection squad in a 0 - 3 loss against the Phoenix girls.

We roared back with a trouncing of the Rockway girls in a 3-0 defeat of the Flames. In our most recent encounter, the Saints lost in straight sets to the Woodland Christian girls, not being able to hold on to the lead in game 3 of a nail-biting battle. We face the St. Mary's girls tonight in Kitchener and compete in a tournament at Resurrection this Friday. Cheer on our ladies—spectators are always encouraged to show your support!

Junior Boys Basketball

Saints 49, Woodland 11

Saints 64, Rockway 24

Saints 54, Resurrection 48

Senior Boys Basketball

Saints 57, Woodland 29

Saints 66, Rockway 40

Resurrection 59, **Saints 49**

Varsity Boys Hockey

WCI 4, **Saints 1**

JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM WINS IN NIAGARA FALLS

By Mr. J. Malnerich

Congratulations to the Junior Boys Basketball Team for capturing the Saint Michael's Mustang Classic Tournament Championship in Niagara Falls over the weekend.

In preliminary action, St. Benedict defeated the Eden Flyers from St. Catherine's 54 to 30. The Saints were led by Khiem Tran's 12 points and Sameer Arora's 10.

In semi-final action, the Saints faced an aggressive Notre Dame team from Burlington. It was a see-saw battle which saw the lead change continuously throughout the game. In the final minutes, the Saints stretched the lead to a 48 to 42 final score. Top point getters for the Saints were Zubair Seyed with 12 points and Justin Malnerich and Alan McIntosh both with 8.

In the final, the boys faced a tough Blessed Trinity squad from Grimsby who had a front line of 6'1", 6'5" and 6'7". Despite the huge height disadvantage the Saints defense slowed down Trinity's inside game to grind out a 55 to 42 win. On offense, the Saints shot an amazing 10/16 from 3 point land. The team was led by Alex Douglas's 16 points while Justin Malnerich chipped in 12.

The boys are now 10 and 1 on the season and will be continuing league play this week. Due to the cancellation of the Eastwood tournament this upcoming weekend, the boys will be competing in exhibition games in the local area on Friday and Saturday.



St. Benedict Junior basketball team. Front row (l to r): Vicken Geokjian, Lucas Cardoso, Alan McIntosh, Martin Le, Justin Malnerich, Nick Phung, Zubair Seyed. Back Row (l to r): Mohamed Hajjo, Coach Harnack, Jamal Hajo, Alex Douglas, Carter Johnson, Abdul Abdi, Khiem Tran, Sameer Arora, Coach Malnerich. Missing: Evan Rodenburg.

BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY

By Mr. N. O'Connor

The Saints lost their second game of the season by a score of 4 - 1 to WCI. Nick Walton scored the lone goal in the defeat.

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

By Mr. K. FRATARCANGELI

The senior boys basketball team beat an aggressive squad from Rockway 66 to 40. The boys got off to a slow start and after leading by only three points at half had a strong second half performance to eventually win by 26 points. Good luck to the boys as they travel to Woodland for their next game!

In tournament play, the Senior Boys Basketball Team captured the Bronze Medal at the Southwood Roundball Basketball tournament this past weekend. The Saints lost a heart-breaker in the semi-final 65 to 64 to Brantford St. John's. Tyler Moulton netted 28 points in the contest. In the Bronze medal game versus Southwood, Brenden Flannigan was fouled on a three-pointer with 0.2 seconds left and made all 3 free throws for the 48 to 45 win. Flannigan finished with 15 points.

BBALL BOYS WIN AT WOODLAND

The Junior and Senior boys basketball teams had a sweep Monday night at Woodland with the Juniors winning 49 to 11 and the seniors cruising to a score of 57 to 29. Spencer Marshall led the seniors with 28 points while Josh Znidaric had 10 pts. The junior squad was led by Vicken Geokjian with 8 points. Both squads are back in action tonight as they play host to the high flying Eagles of St. Mary's. The Junior game tips off at 3:30 while senior action starts at 5pm.

MIDGET BOYS BASKETBALL

By Mrs. L. EDWARDS

December 6th marked the opening of the season and the Saints held their heads high. The game against St. Mary's had an exciting start with a quick break-away to the basket. We had to overcome some first game jitters, but quickly controlled the court. We entered half time 11 - 1.

In the second half our boys entered the court with more confidence. They continued to play hard and brought the Saints to a solid win; 35 - 10.

During the second game the Saints took on St. David's. It was easy to see that the "back to back" games had an impact that created a bit of a rocky start with some rookie mistakes. Our boys quickly pulled it together and went into half time; 32 - 10. The boys came out in the second half strong and confident. Every player on the team contributed directly to the scoreboard and took an easy win; 62 - 18.

At one point, one of our exceptional players was given a compliment. He was very humble and replied, "No, it's not me. It's our team. We work hard and they make me to look good. But it's really the team that deserves that comment!" - an amazing display of Saints Spirit!

DISTRICT 8 SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS: DATE CHANGE

Laurier University will host the D8 Championships on Thursday, December 13, not tonight as originally posted. Warm-ups begin at 6pm. Good luck to all Benny's swimmers!

STAY UP TO DATE WITH DISTRICT 8 SPORTS

Now receive sports updates in your email or on your mobile device!

The new [District 8 website](#) now allows you to sign up themselves for nightly e-mail updates. You can select the school (or schools) you want to follow, and all the sports results will be sent to your email address.

Clubs

ACTIVE & FRIENDS

By Mr. B. BRIERE

Students from the ACTIVE level program and their friends are welcome to join us at lunch every Wednesday in room 106. Along with a safe place to have lunch, opportunities will be given to participate in discussions around personal life skills which may include teamwork, work habits, respect, and many more.

Other activities:

- Movies
- Games
- Music

Services:

- Bicycle repair
- Building projects - example: birdhouse
- Homework help

ATTENTION SAINTS 4 LIFE & MAKING A DIFFERENCE CLUB MEMBERS!

Next meeting for Saints 4 Life is on December 18 in Room 207 to finalize spirit wear orders.

A reminder to the Making A Difference Club members that this Thursday's meeting is cancelled and we will meet next Thursday, December 20 for our Christmas Potluck lunch in room 326.

WOMEN IN MOTION CLUB

By Mrs. G. LEUSINK

Calling All Ladies! There is a new girls' only workout club on Thursdays after school in the weight room. All women are welcome. Please see Mrs. Leusink for more information.

ACTIVITIES AT ST. BENEDICT'S

With the change in our school schedule back to the common lunch, many new opportunities are now available to our students. Here is our current list of activities:

	Before school	At lunch	After school
Monday	Breakfast at Benny's	Homework help (room 123)	
		Art club (room 217)	
		Fitness Center open (weight room)	Camera club (room 216)
		Saturday morning cartoons (Sem 2.1)	Cross Country training
		Intramurals: indoor soccer (gym)	
Tuesday	Breakfast at Benny's	Puzzles club (room 214)	
		Artistic License (room 303)	
		Homework help (room 123)	Badminton club at 6:00pm (gym)
		Fitness Center open (weight room)	Cross Country training
		Saints 4 Life Club (room 321)	
		Saturday morning cartoons (Sem 2.1)	

		Self Defense and Conditioning club (Gym 1)	
		Science Team (room 314) **	
		Intramurals: floor hockey (gym)	
		Puzzles club (room 214)	
		Glee club (room 103)	
		Homework help (room 123)	
		Active & Friends (room 106)	
		DECA Business club (room 216)	
		Fitness Center open (weight room)	
		Lost club (room 125)	Anime club (room 210)
Wednesday	Breakfast at Benny's	Saturday morning cartoons (Sem 2.1)	Cross Country training
		Intramurals: basketball (gym)	
		Puzzles club (room 214)	
		Wednesdays with Marilyn (room 124)	
		Welding club (Annex room A4)	
		Homework help (room 123)	
		Making a Difference (MAD) (room 321)	Women in Motion (Weight room)
		Saturday morning cartoons (Sem 2.1)	
Thursday	Breakfast at Benny's	Eco Team (room 314)**	Yearbook club (room 216)
		Intramurals: fitness (gym)	Cross Country training
		Puzzles club (room 214)	Games club (room 125)
		Ultimate Frisbee club (gym)	
		Glee club (room 103)	
		Homework help (room 123)	
		Fitness Center open (weight room)	Cross Country training
Friday	Breakfast at Benny's	Lost club (room 125)	Doctor Who Video club (room 226)
		Saturday morning cartoons (Sem 2.1)	
		Intramurals: volleyball (gym)	

** Meets every second week.

New clubs, teams, and events are being added regularly... listen to the announcements, and check out the Ranger system and our school website.

If you have any ideas for a new club or activity, talk to one of your teachers, or someone on SAC. Make it happen!

Student Activities

Christmas is coming up and that means we have many fun festive activities occurring here at Benny's. The entire week before we leave for Christmas is full of Christmas cheer. There will be stocking decorating, Christmas trivia contests, candy cane grams, a Christmas sweater day on Wednesday, December 19, free cookies and milk day on Thursday and Christmas movies playing in the caf. To top it all off Student Council is preparing an awesome Christmas Assembly!

Thanks and Have a Happy and Safe Holiday!

ATTENTION ALL LINK CREW LEADERS!

There will be a brief but important mandatory meeting for ALL leaders at the start of lunch in the lecture hall on Thursday, December 13th. Please see Mrs. Arkell or Mr. Curtis if you cannot attend.



Upgrade your restricted five month student bus pass for the low price of \$50.00* (includes photo)

Available at...

St. Benedict

Monday Dec. 17
Thursday Jan. 20
12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*Debit, Cash or Credit card only!
No cheques accepted.

U get...

- to ride GRT after school hours, 6:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, weekends, PD days, stat holidays, Christmas and spring school breaks.
- to take the bus to your part time job, visit friends, go to the movies, the mall and lots of other great places!

After Jan 20, 2013...

Available at:
Ainslie St. and Charles St.
Transit Terminals

For more information:
Customer Service:
519-585-7555
TTY: 519-575-4608
www.grt.ca



Anything But Merry

December 18, 2012

For those of us who are struggling with grief over the death of a loved one, the holiday season can be anything but merry. It can be a time of overwhelming emotions, new challenges and unrealistic expectations from family and friends.

***How do you manage the holiday season and still allow for grief?
Join us to learn coping strategies that can help you get through
this holiday season.***

Everyone Is Welcome!

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Ratz-Bechtel Family Centre
621 King St. W., Kitchener

Please call 519-603-0196 or email support@bfomidwest.org to register.

Bereaved Families of Ontario-Midwestern Region wishes you peace during
this holiday season.

About Us

Bereaved Families of Ontario - Midwestern Region
678 Belmont Avenue West
Kitchener, Ontario N2M 1N6
(519) 603-0196

support@bfomidwest.org
<http://bfomidwest.org>

Charitable Registration # 871593117RR0001

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 12

2:35pm Anime Club
2:35pm Reach for the Top
2:45pm Homework Club
2:45pm After-school Intramural Hockey
3:30pm Jr. Boys Basketball vs St. Mary's
3:30pm Jr. Girls Volleyball @ St. Mary's
3:30pm Sr. Girls Volleyball @ St. Mary's
5:00pm Sr. Boys Basketball vs St. Mary's
Spirit Day
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, December 13

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Ultimate Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Making A Difference Club
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: fitness
11:00am Puzzles Club

Friday, December 21

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Lost Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: volleyball
11:00am Accepting Differences Club
2:25pm Dismissal for Christmas break
Winter solstice
Christmas assembly

Sunday, December 23

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day

2:30pm Boys Hockey vs EDSS at HESPELER 2
2:35pm Girls' Workout club
2:40pm Games club
2:40pm Yearbook Club
6:00pm Swim Team District 8 Final at Laurier

Friday, December 14

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Lost Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: volleyball
11:00am Accepting Differences Club
2:40pm Doctor Who Video Club
Christmas basket/Advent assembly

Sunday, December 16

Third Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 17

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Art Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: indoor soccer
11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Accepting Differences Club
2:40pm Camera Club
2:45pm Homework Club
2:45pm After-school Intramural Hockey
3:30pm Jr. Boys Basketball @ Msgr. Doyle
3:30pm Jr. Girls Volleyball vs Msgr. Doyle
3:30pm Sr. Girls Volleyball vs Msgr. Doyle
5:00pm Sr. Boys Basketball @ Msgr. Doyle

Tuesday, December 18

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Self Defense and Conditioning Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: floor hockey
11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Artistic License
11:00am Saints 4 Life
2:00pm Boys Hockey vs ECI at HESPELER 2
3:15pm Sr. Girls Curling vs St. David
6:00pm Badminton club, 6:00-7:30
7:00pm Wintersong

Wednesday, December 19

8:20am Girls Hockey: @ Tournament
10:55am Homework help
11:00am Lost Club
11:00am DECA Business Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: basketball

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, January 1

New Year's Day

Monday, January 7

8:20am Classes resume
10:55am Homework help
11:00am Art Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: indoor soccer
11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Accepting Differences Club
2:40pm Camera Club
2:45pm Homework Club

Tuesday, January 8

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Self Defense and Conditioning Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Science Team
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: floor hockey
11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Artistic License
11:00am Saints 4 Life
2:00pm Boys Hockey vs KCI at HESPELER 1
3:15pm Sr. Girls Curling vs Southwood
6:00pm Badminton club, 6:00-7:30

Wednesday, January 9

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Lost Club
11:00am DECA Business Club
11:00am Fitness Centre open
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: basketball
11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Welding Club
11:00am Wednesdays with Marilyn
11:00am ACTIVE and Friends
2:35pm Anime Club
2:35pm Reach for the Top
2:45pm Homework Club
3:30pm Jr. Boys Basketball vs St. David
3:30pm Jr. Girls Volleyball @ St. David
3:30pm Sr. Girls Volleyball @ St. David
5:00pm Sr. Boys Basketball vs St. David
Spirit Day

DID YOU KNOW?

There are nearly 1600 entries on our school calendar on the

11:00am Puzzles Club
11:00am Welding Club
11:00am Wednesdays with Marilyn
11:00am ACTIVE and Friends
2:35pm Anime Club
2:35pm Reach for the Top
2:45pm Homework Club
2:45pm After-school Intramural Hockey
3:30pm Jr. Girls Volleyball vs Rockway
3:30pm Sr. Girls Volleyball vs Rockway
4:00pm Sr. Boys Basketball @ Rockway
5:30pm Jr. Boys Basketball @ Rockway
Spirit Day

Thursday, December 20

10:55am Homework help
11:00am Ultimate Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Making A Difference Club
11:00am Eco Team
11:00am Saturday morning cartoons
11:00am Intramurals: fitness
11:00am Puzzles Club
2:35pm Girls' Workout club
2:40pm Games club
2:40pm Yearbook Club

website!

This means plenty of opportunities for your son or daughter to get involved!

Check the calendar on the school website for more information. 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's coming up in the next week. If you would like to see the full calendar, go to **Benny's News ► Calendar of Events**.

Miscellaneous

HAS YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER LEFT THE ST. BENEDICT COMMUNITY?

If you are no longer associated with St. Benedict's and want to be removed from the BENN mailing list, simply [email us](#) and you will be promptly removed from the mailing list.

WE WANT TO KNOW...

Thank you to those who have taken time to provide us with feedback. 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.

