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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 Newswire service. Any questions or comments pertaining to this publication can be sent to the editor [Anton Milardovic](#) or the school's principal [Dan Witt](#).

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Next Issue

June 26, 2013

It (feels like it) never ends...

BY MR. A. MILARDOVIC, EDITOR

Although we're at the end of the school year, it never seems to come to a quiet ending. There are still exams to write, projects to complete, and for teachers papers to mark, marks to calculate, report card comments to write...

But in the midst of all that we try to take a quick breather. Stop what you're doing for a second. Pause. Think. Reflect. And with that in mind, today's issue was supposed to be a *wrap-up* of sorts to end the year—a final curtain call on the 2012–13 school year, and the closing of yet another volume of the BENN, with eager anticipation as to what volume six will bring us.

But it hasn't ended. Not yet. At the risk of sounding repetitive, there is more. Rather than rushing people to get articles in today, we will be putting out one more issue next week. It may be Wednesday, it might not. There are still some more things to celebrate. But even when we are through celebrating the end of another year, rest assured plans will begin for another year of being *a celebration of people*.

Benny's in the Local Media

THE RECORD: [Politicians stall roundabout plans in Cambridge a...](#)

THE RECORD: [Roundabouts delayed on Franklin for a year](#)

THE RECORD: [Waterloo Region Catholic schools certified green](#)

570 NEWS: [Franklin–Saginaw roundabout to be discussed next...](#)

CKCO News: [Principal of Cambridge school wants more researc...](#)

Administrative

Attention Grads!

Just several important points to remember about the graduation ceremony on Wednesday, June 26th, at the Conestoga Recreation Centre, Doon Campus:

1. Please arrive at 6:00 pm to pick up your graduation gown and to line-up for the

procession – second floor concourse.

2. Do not bring any valuables with you – there is no coat check.

See you next Wednesday!

St. Benedict teachers win Barrday Award

By Mr. A. MILARDOVIC

Barrday, a Cambridge headquartered business, is committed to learning. Every year the company salutes ten inspirational teachers each year in the City of Cambridge, with ten \$1,000 Teacher of Excellence awards.

This year St. Benedict is once again home to some of these award winners. Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Trentini are being recognized for their contributions to success for our students.

Congratulations to you both, the award is most deserved!



St. Benedict Gets Gold for being Green for the Second Year in a Row

By Mr. A. ARKELL



Our Eco Squad is proud to announce that St Benedict has been certified as a Gold Level Ontario Eco-School for the second time in a row and the only high school in the Board to awarded this honour. The Eco-School certification process takes a comprehensive look at how a school promotes and embraces environmentally friendly practices. These practices include the implementation of an effective recycling program, school ground greening projects, having environmentally themed lessons in different subject areas, clubs and activities to promote student involvement in eco-friendly culture in our school and community.

Our squad's focus this year was to increase the rate of recycling in our hallways, cafeteria and school grounds. The Community Environmental Fund of the Region of Waterloo awarded the funds for our students to accomplish this goal in a unique fashion. Our Eco Squad and students from the Manufacturing classes designed and constructed five waste diversion bins for use outside around our campus. These bins were designed from scratch by students on a computer, constructed out of stainless steel by the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) students in the manufacturing class, and then promoted by the Eco Squad in and around the school.



These bins had an immediate impact on our school. They helped increase the amount of recycling in the cafeteria and hallways by 28% over a four week period. The bins were moved outside in May for the spring sports season. Prior to these bins being installed outside, there were no bins or other avenues for students or the community to recycle their sports drink/water bottles. The bins were used so much that they had to be emptied twice a week. Without the funding from the Region for this project, our recycling project would not have had such a large, positive impact on our school community.



Next September, our Eco Squad will be looking for volunteers from the surrounding community to help us have a bigger impact in our school community and neighbourhood. Please contact the school if you are interested in joining our team.



Academics

Enriching the Lives of Students

By MRS. D. WITTMANN

Webb's Depth of Knowledge

The Depth of Knowledge is the degree of understanding a student needs to respond to an assessment item. There are 4 DOK progressive levels: recall, skills, strategic thinking, and extended thinking.

BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

KNOWLEDGE / REMEMBERING

"The recall of specifics and universals, involving little more than bringing to mind the appropriate material"

COMPREHENSION / UNDERSTANDING

"Ability to process knowledge on a low level such that the knowledge can be reproduced or communicated without a verbatim repetition."

APPLICATION / APPLYING

"Using information in another familiar situation."

ANALYSIS / ANALYSING

"Breaking information into parts to explore understandings and relationships."

SYNTHESIS and EVALUATION / EVALUATING and CREATING

"Putting together elements & parts to form a whole, then making value judgments about the method."

WEBB'S DOK

RECALL

Recall of a fact, information, or procedure (e.g., What are 3 critical skill cues for the overhand throw?)

SKILL/CONCEPT

Use of information, conceptual knowledge, procedures, two or more steps, etc.

STRATEGIC THINKING

Requires reasoning, developing a plan or sequence of steps; has some complexity; more than one possible answer

EXTENDED THINKING

Requires an investigation; time to think and process multiple conditions of the problem or task.

Level 1 – Recall

Level 1 Activities require the recall of information such as a fact, a definition, following steps in a simple procedure, performing simple calculations, applying a formula, and making measurements. A student answering a Level 1 question either knows the answer or they do not.

Action Verbs for use in creating Level 1 Activities: Arrange, Calculate, Define, Draw, Identify, Illustrate, Label, List, Match, Measure, Memorize, Name, Quote, Recognize, Repeat, Recall, Recite, Report, State, Tabulate, Tell, "Who, What, When, Where, Why"

Level 2 – Skill/Concept

Level 2 Activities require connecting recalled information and making some decisions about problem solving or procedures. Level 2 activities require students to interpret and develop relationships between concepts.

Level 3 – Strategic Thinking

Level 3 Activities require reasoning, planning, using evidence, and in most cases involves the student explaining their thought processes. Typically level 3 activities have more than one correct response or approach to a problem.

Action Verbs for use in creating Level 3 Activities: Apprise, Assess, Construct, Compare, Critique, Cite Evidence, Compare, Draw Conclusions, Develop a Logical Argument, Differentiate, Explain Phenomena in Terms of Concepts, Formulate, Hypothesize, Investigate, Revise, Use Concepts to Solve Non-routine Problems

Level 4 – Extended Thinking

Level 4 Questions require complex reasoning, planning, developing most likely over an extended period of time. (The extended time is not a distinguishing factor if the work is repetitive and does not require applying significant conceptual understanding and higher-order thinking)

Action Verbs for use in creating Level 2
Activities: Cause/Effect, Classify, Categorize,
Collect & Display, Compare, Construct,
Distinguish, Graph, Infer, Identify Patterns,
Interpret, Make Observations, Modify,
Organize, Predict, Relate, Separate, Show,
Summarize, Use Context Clues

Action Verbs for use in creating Level 4
Activities: Apply Concepts, Analyze, Critique,
Connect, Create, Design, Prove, Synthesize

Math Enrichment Events

By Miss C. Stockie

The University of Waterloo has been hosting a series of Math Contests for decades, and the students of St. Benedict have a long history of exceptional results – and this year is no exception.

The Grade 9 Pascal Contest saw Cameron Hall earning the school champion medal, and teammates Bronwyn Reinhart, Will Flemming and Jerome Vallipando all scoring within the top 25% in all of North America! The Grade 10 Cayley Contest team, led by school champ Dominic Monteiro, also saw Aaron Silver, Aiden Lee, Madison Brook and Alex Wong earn top 25% honours. Grade 12 Euclid contestants Heng Liang, George Yu, Kevin Zeng and Ricky Yang all placed within the top 25%, with Heng Liang being recognized as school champion.

Following the spring contests, several students also took part in the "by invitation only" U of W Elite Math contests. Cameron Hall earned an impressive SILVER standing in the Grade 9 Fryer contest while Michael Dymowski earned a BRONZE in the Grade 11 Hypatia contest.

Math Circles is a four-day Camp, sponsored by the University of Waterloo, where a very select group of students live on campus and engage in an inter-disciplinary study of math – in all its facets. Congratulations Aaron Silver for your participation in this great event.

Math @ MAC is an on-line team Mathematics competition hosted by MacMaster University that drew a wide variety of student participants. Congratulations to George Yu, who finished first in our school. Honourable mention goes out to the team of Michael Dymowski and Jasmin Cowen in Grade 12, Aaron Silver – a Grade 10 team of 1 – and to the Grade 9 team of Andy Rocha and Matthew Sibley.

In December, the Mathematics and Computing contest, also run through the University of Waterloo, recognized Kristine Suarez – our school champion! Kudos also goes out to John Elten, Aaron Silver and Kaitlynn Doolan.

Last, but certainly not least, a team of 16 St. Benedict students from all 4 grades competed in the 5th annual WCDSB Mathematics and Problem-Solving Competition – fondly referred to as the Math Olympics. St. Benedict teams have been Regional Champions for the past 2 years, and this year, our students came SO CLOSE, but were narrowly defeated by a single question. A second place finish is nothing to be disappointed about – so good work team!

Congratulations to all the amazing students who have taken the time to participate in this year's slate of Math Enrichment opportunities. A sincere thanks also goes out to Miss Hall, Mrs. Muscat and the teachers in the Math Department who work to encourage these young people to take a chance in Math.

Junior Achievement at St. Benedict C.S.S.

By MR. F. WITTMANN

Once again, St. Benedict was an active participant in the Junior Achievement program of Waterloo Region. The Entrepreneurial Studies class was assisted by J.A. consultant Kathy Kron, retired teacher, from New Zealand. Students were involved in all aspects of running a business, from idea generation and planning, to production, sales, reporting, and liquidation.

Three non-profit companies were formed:

Company	Product/Service	Price	President
Loopy Lanyards	Bennie's Lanyards	\$3	Patrick Clarke
Tiedemics	Spirit-wear T-shirts	\$15	Bobby Gill
VOIDD	Spirit-wear T-shirts	\$15	Dan Pawelko



Over \$500 was raised for the charities of Kayla Baker, Free the Children, and Organ Donation. The students' skills in problem solving, decision-making, numeracy, literacy, communication and teamwork were put to good practice throughout the process. The program benefits greatly from the inspirational efforts of the JA Consultants, and the school looks forward to this continued partnership next year.

Grade 9 religion classes make rosaries

By MRS. J. DIETRICH

The grade 9 religion classes had the opportunity to make their own rosaries in class this week. Volunteers from the St. Agnes Rosary Guild visited each class and instructed students in creating two different rosaries.

Each student first created a rosary that will be sent to soldiers in the Canadian military. They were able to take home or donate the second rosary that they made.

School leaders offered self-improvement course

By MR. J. CURTIS

Next year, our school will be offering a Grade 12 University-level Leadership Course (IDC4UX) for students hoping to develop their leadership skills, while participating in many worthwhile school projects.

The course focuses on personal development to help each student achieve success in school and in the real world. From communication skills and interpersonal relationships, this course will provide helpful advice on how to make a difference in the St. Benedict community. Using the bestseller "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens" as a textbook, students will learn how to be the best they can be.

As a potential school leader in Grade 11 or 12, this is a perfect course to help get the most out of school next

The Rosary Guild has been visiting Benny's grade 9 classes for the last four years and the students have always had a positive experience.

year, as you grow and develop into a leader that people look up to.

If interested, students are encouraged to talk to their guidance counsellor before the end of June to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for self-improvement.

Saints Strut Money Muscle

By MR. F. WITTMANN

Congratulations to Madi Kerr, James Burns, and Kelsi May who performed very well in the second annual University of Waterloo Financial Literacy Competition. Their scores placed them in the top 20% of contestants.

Science Olympics Team 2012-2013

By MR. A. ARKELL

The 2012–2013 Benny's Science Olympic Team had the most successful and most rewarding year in its eight year history. Our 40 member team is composed from students in grades 9–12 and meets once a week to prepare for competitions and plan science related events.

The Science Olympic events are hosted at universities and involve over thirty schools from around Ontario. The events at the Olympics are based on the high school curriculum and test all aspect of the students' skills. There are pig dissection events, engineering events where students have to build devices and machines, and events that focus on chemical identification and math.

The Universities also use these events to promote the unique programs at their schools. McMaster has events based on medicine and mechanical engineering, Guelph has events based on veterinary science and the environment and Western has events based on Earth Sciences. Our students have a lot of fun.

In the Fall our team competed in one Science Olympics event at McMaster University where we won a Bronze medal in the BioTech Challenge. We also hosted our first ever Grade 7 Feeder School Science Olympic event in November. Our event was a large success! We engaging over 60 students from our feeder schools and they participated in events designed and run by members on our team.

In the Spring, our team competed at 2 more Science Olympic events. At the Guelph Science Olympics at the start of May our team had to race cockroaches, identify common weeds, and assemble a foot using replica bones. For their efforts



our team walked away with two gold medals (Enviro–challenge & Anatomy), two silver medals (Weed ID and Senior Environ–Challenge) and a bronze medal (NanoTechnology).

Our third competition at the University of Western Ontario saw our team earn five more medals; two gold (Junior Ecology Jeopardy and Taxonomy), two silver (Robotic Team and Cup Stacking), and one bronze (Math Team).

Students from every grade contributed to our team's success. We are immensely proud of our achievements this year and look forward to continue our strong performances next year.



Athletics

Channer Races at OFSAA

By Ms. M. BOOTH

Congratulations to Devaughn Channer who competed at OFSAA in Oshawa on June 8th. He ran in the midget boys 800m semi-final with a 2:08 time.

Saints Junior Football Sets Lofty Goals for 2013!

By Mr. J. VALE

Coach Vale is excited about coming back down to the Junior Football ranks in hopes of leading a talented group of student-athletes to another successful season of Saints Football in 2013. Tryouts will begin on September 4th and all Grade 9's and 10's are encouraged to come out and see where their "skill set" fits into next year's squad. All are welcome, regardless of experience! If there are any questions or concerns, students are encouraged to find Coach Vale in the Phys.Ed. office in the first few days of the school year or seek out information flyers posted around the school.

Looking for something fun and exciting to do this summer?

St. Benedict Basketball Camps 2013

July 8 to July 12

For boys & girls
entering grades 1 - 9



Camp t-shirt for each camper
Certificate of achievement
Coaches' individual evaluation
Age-specific drills and fundamentals to take home
Individual and team competitions
Elite sessions for more advanced players
University level guest coaches
Awards and prizes
Early-bird speed and agility sessions
Special guest lecturers and much more!

For more information or
application brochure contact
John Malnerich @ St. Benedict C.S.S.
519-621-4050 ext 5337 or
<http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca/bballcamp>

Clubs

We've all wrapped up for the year... see you in September!

Student Activities

Other News

Quality • Inclusive • Faith-based • Education



Attention Parents

Be part of WCDSB's Global Initiative

Host an international student from Colombia
Share our Canadian culture and support your host's English language learning

Canadian home stay families will offer:

- A bedroom
- 3 meals a day and snacks
- Laundry
- Participation in family activities
- Occasional transportation

What will home stay families experience?

- An opportunity to enhance your family's cultural and global knowledge
 - Creating long lasting global friendships
- 24/7 Support from WCDSB International Education department
 - Monetary compensation
- Comprehensive schedule of activities for your guest

Colombia students will attend your child's school for 6 to 8 weeks in the Fall of 2013

Please contact Lisset Jacinto, program coordinator
519-516-578-3660, ext. 2497
email: Lisset.Jacinto@wcdsb.ca

Note: Those selected will require a police check



Community Supports

Do you have concerns about your child or teen's behaviour or emotional state? Do you sometimes feel as though you have tried EVERYTHING but NOTHING works? Is your family struggling with parenting challenges?

If so, the walk-in counselling program at **Front Door** can help. Call (519) 749-2932 or come to one of the walk-in counselling locations.

Cambridge:

Thursdays 10 am – 4:30 pm 1145 Concession Rd (at Langs Farm)

Tuesdays 12 pm – 6:30 pm 35 Dickson St

Kitchener:

Wednesdays 12 pm – 6:30 pm 1770 King St East, Unit 1

Looking for ongoing counselling – call the Family Counselling Centre of Cambridge and North Dumfries at (519) 621-5090.

Are you concerned about your teen's substance use but aren't sure how to share your concerns or what to do to help? Call **St Mary's Counselling** for information on their parent group (519) 662-9555. You can also contact the Youth 180 program at **Ray of Hope** (519) 578-8018.

The **Community Outreach Program** helps families link with community resources such as: recreation/summer camps – fees and subsidies, food supports, clothing supports, child care and other children's family needs. Contact the Community Outreach Worker closest to you:

Cambridge Family Early Years Centre	(519) 740-8353
Hespeler Area or Cambridge Self Help Food Bank (Susie)	(519) 622-6550 ext. 107
Fiddlesticks and Greenway Chaplin Community Centre (Patti)	(519) 623-4220
Preston Central and Langs Farm (Crystal)	(519) 653-1470 ext. 235
Preston Heights Community Group	(519) 650-2971

If you have questions but don't know where to turn, just dial 211. This referral and information hotline helps families find the right community service.

If you or someone you love is feeling desperate and hopeless and you don't know where to turn, call the **Crisis Line** (519) 744-1813.



Cambridge, ON – You're invited to the summer 2013 Book Sale at Cambridge Libraries and Galleries. Running from Friday, June 21 – Thursday, June 27, at each of the Library locations during normal business hours. This is your chance to fill your personal library with great selections of adult and children's fiction and non-fiction, CDs, cassettes, DVDs, videos, books on tape, magazines and more. Selection is rotated and restocked daily, and varies at each of the library locations – so come often! For more information visit: www.cambridgelibraries.ca or contact 519.621.0460.

Locations & Hours

Queen's Square

Mon – Thurs 9:30am – 8:30pm

Fri & Sat 9:30 am – 5:30pm

Preston, Hespeler and Clemens Mill

Mon – Thurs 12:00 – 8:30pm

Fri 12:00 – 5:30pm

Sat 9:30 am – 5:30pm

Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 20

8:20am Final Evaluations (attendance mandatory)
Grad Mass and breakfast

Friday, June 21

Friday, June 28

School ends
Closing Staff Mass

Monday, July 1

8:20am Final Evaluations (attendance mandatory)
SUMMER SOLSTICE

Monday, June 24

8:20am Final Evaluations (attendance mandatory)

Tuesday, June 25

8:20am Credit Recovery day

Wednesday, June 26

Graduation @ Conestoga College

CANADA DAY

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. To see the full calendar, go to **Benny's News** ► **Calendar of Events**.

Miscellaneous

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.

