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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](#).

BENN Staff

[Mr. Anton Milardovic](#)
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Next Issue

April 23, 2014

FASTING for CHANGE! "WE" did it!

BY MRS. M. ROCHA

The third annual 24-hour Overnight Fast for Change that was organized by the Making A Difference Club was a complete SUCCESS! One hundred and six students gave up solid foods for 24 hours and collected donations towards building a school in a developing country.

We had great fun together during the well-planned after school and evening activities. It all started with a *Free The Children* speaker who inspired us to use our gifts and passions to make a difference, and it concluded in the morning with a community breakfast and finally a student written and led liturgy.

Activities during the evening included soccer, basketball, dance, yoga, board games and henna art. The highlights were the entertainment hour produced by the senior drama class and of course the unforgettable "Hunger Games"!

A special thanks to all of the adult supervisors and student leaders and the dedicated fasters. We toughed it out and roughed it out for a great cause! Hope to see you all again next year!

[See pictures from the Fast for Change](#)

Wishing you and yours a very blessed Easter!

Administrative

News from the Guidance Department

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

ZOOM Into the Workplace Conference – April 30, 2014

If you are a grade 12 student planning to graduate in June and enter the workplace directly upon leaving high school, consider taking advantage of this conference. ZOOM is a one day

conference that provides Grade 12 students with the opportunity to engage and network with employers and industry professionals from a variety of sectors. Students will participate in hands-on, interactive and engaging workshops and will also hear from Ryan Porter, an exciting and young motivational speaker who has the ability to connect with teens on their level. Admission is FREE and transportation and lunch will be provided. Students interested in attending need to pre-register ASAP – see Mrs. Klassen in guidance to sign up and complete your paperwork in order to attend.

Community Service Opportunities

1. The charity founded and created by Kayla Baker, RunaLung, will be hosting its second annual fundraising event on May 31, 2014. Anyone interested in volunteering for the event should sign the list in the guidance office. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to register by visiting www.runalung.ca
2. Great Big Theatre Company (GBTC) is seeking volunteers to work with its Summer Day Camp program. Each week of volunteer work with this program can earn up to 50 volunteer hours. Responsibilities could include planning plays, songs, games and outdoor activities, as well as supervising campers during all aspects of the day. Various dates and locations are available and training sessions will also be held for volunteers at the end of June. Check out their web site at www.gbtc.com or call 1-866-864-4282 and speak to Charles or Lily Small.
3. The Rotary Club of Cambridge Sunrise, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Cambridge North is organizing the first Rotary Ribfest to be held in Cambridge this summer. They will be seeking 400 volunteers to help make this event a success. Ribfest will be held from August 8 - 10 at Riverside Park in Cambridge. This is a fundraising initiative with all proceeds going to local charities. Interested volunteers can email volunteer@cambridgeribfest.com or visit the website at www.cambridgeribfest.com
4. The 10th Annual Healthy Heart Day, April 26 will be held at St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School. The organizers of this event are seeking volunteers to help with set up the day prior to the event, as well as with many tasks during the day of the event. Consider earning community service hours, while at the same time learning more about Heart Disease, Diabetes and Obesity. Please contact healthyheartday@rogers.com or 519-624-3511 to find out how you can help.
5. April, commonly known as Daffodil Month, is the month to fight back against cancer. It is also a time when thousands of volunteers across Ontario work together to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society by selling daffodil pins in their communities. Sign up to volunteer by using their online registration system at www.mycsschedule.ca You will be able to pick the shifts and locations that work for you and enter your contact information. All volunteers will be expected to attend an orientation session which can also count towards your community service hours.

Discover PATHWAYS at WCDSB

On Wednesday, April 16, 2014, the School Council of Resurrection Catholic Secondary School is hosting a special event to introduce and inform parents and students to PATHWAYS at WCDSB. Parents and students are invited to come and listen, chat and ask questions of experts from

various pathways. Speakers will include Mike McClements from Conestoga College and Gary Doyle, an announcer for the Kitchener Rangers. Many other professions will also be represented. The event will run from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM and will include a \$300 draw for Future Shop. Resurrection CSS is located at 455 University Avenue West in Kitchener.

2014 Catalyst Conference

The University of Waterloo Catalyst Conference is open to female students in grade 11 who might be interested in pursuing engineering at the post-secondary level. It includes a series of hands-on workshops exploring several types of engineering, a design competition, as well as the opportunity to engage with current female students in a small group. For more information, visit Catalyst@uwaterloo.ca

Calling all Grade 12 Graduating Students!

1. The Graduation ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, June 25 at Conestoga College. Registration information regarding the celebration of this milestone will be forwarded to you via your period one class in the next week. Registration fees (\$75) and forms are due to the guidance office by May 2, 2014. Students who do not have a period one class, will need to pick up the registration forms in the guidance office.
2. Completion of your Community Service Hours (minimum of 40) is required if you are planning to attend the Graduation ceremony in June. All Grade 12 students who have not yet completed and handed in their hours are reminded to do so as soon as possible. This task needs to be completed by Friday, May 30.
3. Although many students who have applied to either college or university have started to receive admission offers, students need to be aware that many colleges and universities do not send out offers of admission until second semester mid-term marks have been processed. While it would be easier and far less stressful if all post-secondary institutions followed the same timelines with regard to admission offers, this is not the case. Students also need to be reminded that all offers of admission are conditional – meaning that the offer can be removed if graduation requirements are not completed by June. Pay close attention to all of the details contained in emails and correspondence from the various universities and colleges so that deadlines do not get missed.

Summer Employment Opportunities

1. The Grand River Conservation Authority is looking to hire 12, Camp Naturalist Assistants for full time summer work. The pay will be \$11/hour for students over the age of 18. Responsibilities will include assisting with the program development, delivery and coordination of the GRCA day camp



Transportation Changes for September 2014

Please be advised that effective September 2014, most students that have previously been issued GRT passes will now be assigned to a yellow school bus.

School buses pick up students at communal bus stop locations in residential environments

program. See the guidance bulletin board or Mrs. Klassen for specific application details. The deadline to apply is April 14, 2014 at 4 PM.

2. The Optimist Club of Puslinch, in cooperation with the Friends of Mill Creek, Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is seeking four candidates who are interested in working outdoors in Puslinch Township and the City of Cambridge as Mill Creek Stewardship Rangers. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in natural resources management. This will be full time work for the summer at a pay rate of \$11.50/hour. Preference will be given to students who are 17 or 18 years of age. Applications are due by May 2, 2014. See the guidance bulletin board or Mrs. Klassen for more details.

and generally run within a 5 minute window of the scheduled times provided.

Please visit www.stswr.ca to access your individual transportation details including route number, stop locations and times. The details for pick-up and drop-off locations and schedules will be available on or around August 22, 2014 from our transportation website.

To access this information after August 22nd please follow the steps below:

1. Go to www.stswr.ca
2. Go to Student Login (scroll to the bottom of the website)
3. Enter student's Ontario Education Number (this can be found on report card)
4. Enter student's birth date (dd/mm/yyyy)
5. Enter student's street number (house number only)
6. Select student's school

Academics

Enriching the Lives of Students

BY MRS. D. WITTMANN

Queen's University: Summer Programs

In 2011, the Enrichment Studies Unit introduced the new Summer Enrichment Experience at Queen's program, known as SEEQ (pronounced SEEK). Parents were asking us for a summer program that offered learning opportunities as well as a university experience. SEEQ has grown and in 2013, we have made the decision to add a second week. We will continue offering two weeks for SEEQ in 2014.

The courses are grouped together by grade level, and as well as the courses, students participate in social and extra-curricular activities, as well as experience life in residence as a university student.

This summer we will also be offering a new two week international focused program of SEEQ thus named International Summer Enrichment Experience at Queen's (iSEEQ) which takes place August 9-23, 2014.

SEEQ (August)

<http://esu.queensu.ca/programs/summer-programs/seeq-august/>
International Summer Enrichment Experience at Queen's (iSEEQ)

University of Waterloo Math Contests

By Miss C. Stockie

All Grade 12 students who have registered for the *Euclid Math Contest* are to report to the Lecture Hall at the morning bell on Tuesday, April 15th. Please bring a pencil, eraser, and non-programmable scientific calculator along with you. Your \$5 deposit will be returned to you at this time.

All Grade 9, 10 and 11 students registered for the *Fryer, Galois and Hypatia Math Contests* will be writing in the Lecture Hall on Wednesday, April 16th during periods 1 and 2. Please come before O Canada – and be sure to come prepared.

GOOD LUCK to all of our student Mathletes on this difficult challenge!!!!

Benny's Blogs

By Mrs. D. Wittmann

English Blog

<http://englishatstbenedict.wordpress.com/>

An English blog has been set up to inform readers of all the great things happening within the department. Pages have been created, by grade, with descriptions of all the courses provided in English Department with the accompanying prerequisites. The blog also provides an information page regarding Writing Contests.

There is also a blogroll with links to important websites including the guidelines for referencing essays to avoid academic theft (plagiarism).

Follow the posts and keep up with new trends. Join us as we inspire Reading and Writing for Success.

Enrichment Blog

<http://enrichmentatstbenedict.wordpress.com/>

An Enrichment blog has been set up to inform readers of all the enrichment opportunities here at St. Benedict. Students in enriched courses will be evaluated based on the same expectations as students in the regular academic course, but will be challenged with more critical and creative thought, and the underlying concepts of each course will be explored more deeply and broadly. Students opting for these courses must demonstrate a strong and consistent work ethic. These programs will include both structured classes, as well as opportunities for extra-curricular experiences (including field trips and guest-speakers).

Pages have been created, by grade, with descriptions of all the Enrichment courses provided with the accompanying prerequisites.

There is also a blogroll with links to important websites including Enrichment opportunities outside the regular classroom.

Benny's students show skills

By MRS. L. O'NEILL

During the week of March 24 – 28th we had several students compete in the Waterloo Regional Skills competition. Congratulations to these students for taking on the challenge of being part of the Skills competition.

Culinary Skills: Cody Galliot

Carpentry: Barrett Lawless

Hairstyling: Robbi Radmore

IT – Office Software Applications: Kristine Suarez

Photography: Samantha Chalmers, Kayla Da Silva, Samaa Kabbar, Kendra Cassidy, Kaelan Munro

Precision Machining: Patrick Clarke

Prepared Speech: Alexandru Gheorghe

Restaurant Services: Zachary Amaral

Our competitors represented St. Benedict very well and we had some good results. Bronze medal to Kristine Suarez in IT–Office Software Application. A bronze medal was also awarded to Mary Marshall in Automotive Service. Gold medals were awarded to Zachary Amaral in Restaurant Service and Patrick Clarke in Precision Machining, both will compete on May 6 at RIM Park in the Provincial Skills competition. Barrett Lawless won Gold in Cabinetmaking and will be moving on to a qualifying round. Good luck to Barrett, as he shows off his skills at the qualifier, hoping for a win to take him to Provincials. Good luck to Zack and Patrick at Provincials.

The 25th Annual Ontario Technological Skills Competition

The Largest Skilled Trades Competition in Canada

1,900+ Competitors

30,000+ Spectators

60+ skilled trade contest areas

Over 370,000 square feet

Elementary, Secondary and Post-Secondary Students

Be a part of promoting skilled trade and technology careers to youth across Ontario

Monday, May 5 and Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Closing Ceremonies Wednesday morning, May 7, 2014

RIM Park, Waterloo

ACTIVE and Friends

By MR. B. BRIERE

Spring? Is it really here?

After a long cold winter we all are thankful the weather is starting to get nicer. Downed branches from the wind and ice storms along with garbage create the undue task of spring cleanup.

As part of their Co-op placement, Kyle Silveira and Khaled Saleh started assisting in the clean-up of the school grounds. The students are getting an opportunity to experience and practice their teamwork skills, problem-solving, working safely and work ethic.

They already have created quite a pile of branches to cut up. Anyone wanting a box of firewood, please let us know!



Athletics

Benny's Badminton players raise a racket!

By Mrs. S. ADACH

Congratulations to AJ Bajaro & Zoe Zhou for each winning their singles division and to Kayla Leusink & Ashleigh Brimo for their 2nd place doubles finish at The Doyle Invitational Badminton Tournament last Thursday and Friday.

Track and Field off to strong start

By Mr. F. WITTMANN

Congratulations to members of the Bennie's Track and Field community who took home some medals at the Urban Adventure Run on Sunday, April 6. Ms Stang and son Sam won the family category, Taylor Anderson and Natalie Minnick were second in the youth category, and Misters Martinello and Wittmann were 6th in the adult category.

Power lifters pump iron at Rez

By Mr. J. FIGUEIREDO

Please congratulate the members of the Power Lifting team for a great meet at Resurrection CSS.

Medal winners were : Jason Falco – Silver Medal, Brent Moore – Gold Medal and Abdallah Hassan won the Gold Medal and was the winner of best overall lifter in grade 12.

Girls Softball

Girls Softball Tryouts will begin next Monday in the gym at 2:30, bring your glove. If you cannot make it, see Mr Jankura.

Boys Softball: Spring Training Has Arrived!

The Boys Softball Team will be holding workouts on Tuesday, April 15th after school and Thursday, April 17th in the morning.

Both workout sessions will take place in the gym.

All Male students are welcome!

Attention Track and Field athletes!

This is the last week for submitting paperwork. Regular attendance will ensure you stay on the team.



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.

The service is free. Sign up by going to <http://district8.ca/admin/emailSignUp.php>.

Clubs

A Fresh New Club at St. Benedict

BY MRS. R. CURRIE

This year, we've started a new club at St Benedict! It's called the Fresh Club, and it's for anyone who's interested in learning more about how our food gets from the farm to the table. At our meetings on Thursdays at lunch in room 310, we get together to discuss issues concerning food and all its politics—that includes advertising, industry, nutrition, policy, social justice, the environment, animal welfare, and meal ideas.

We are a mix of people with different beliefs and eating habits, with the common goal of wanting to learn more. Some of us

Outers Club

The Outers Club is having a meeting this THURSDAY in room 320 at the beginning of lunch to discuss the spring trip to the Bruce Peninsula. All are welcome

Spring It On Art Battle tomorrow!

It's time Bennies! Spring It On Art Battle is this Thursday at lunch in the atrium! Be prepared to be amazed as the artists complete their creations in the only 30 minutes. Make sure to come out and vote for your favourite

eat meat, some of us eat fish, some of us eat dairy products, some of us can have gluten, and some of us don't eat any of the former—and there is no judgment!

We will be hosting several events this semester, including screenings of interesting documentaries (which, like all our meetings, are open to everyone), a food fair, informational ad campaigns around the school, and more! We hope to continue growing our membership to help bring new perspectives, knowledge, experience, and ideas to the group. Come on out and join us next time you're free on a Thursday at lunch, or after school for one of our film screenings!

Special MAD meeting

The making a difference club will be meeting Thursday at lunch in room 326 for a special guest speaker. Mr. Dwyer Sullivan will be informing us about the annual walk against male violence that is occurring on April 30. He will also speak about the issues that pertain to aboriginal women in Canada.

If you are interested in finding out more please join us on Thursday at lunch. Everyone is welcome!

The YouTube Film Crew Club

BY NATASHA CZAJKOWSKI

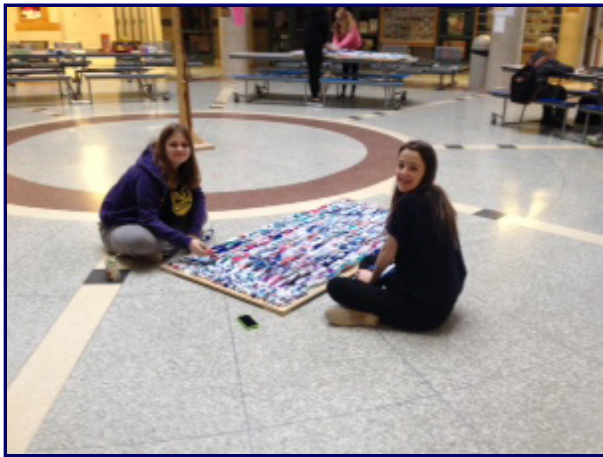
The YouTube Film Crew Club is open to those who are looking to enter the entertainment district, or who are simply curious about the film process. We welcome actors, video/audio editors, makeup artists, musicians and more. The aim is to create and post one short film per month on our channel with various small side projects. We meet Thursdays at lunch in room 109. Hope to see you there!

Student Activities

Did you get photo retakes?

If you got photo retakes this semester, your new student card is available in the SAC Office on the window. Come see us before or after school to pick up your new student card.

Photos from the Fast...



Other News

Parish connections

St. Mary of the Visitation

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY (April 12/13, 2014)

Saturday – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday – 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

(additional parking at the WG Johnson Centre will be available)

HOLY THURSDAY (April 17, 2014)

7:00 p.m. – Mass celebrated by Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki followed by Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Repository with Adoration until 11:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY (April 18, 2014)

11:00 a.m. – Solemn Liturgy adapted for children 3:00 p.m. – Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

7:00 p.m. – Dramatic Presentation of the Stations of the Cross by Kids Klub

HOLY SATURDAY (April 19, 2014)

1:00 p.m. – Blessing of Easter Food

7:00 p.m. – Solemn Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY (April 20, 2014)

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

(additional parking at the WG Johnson Centre will be available)

See our [Easter Invitation](#) video.

Relay for Life looking for volunteers

BY MRS. M. CROWELL

Any students interested in participating in or volunteering with the Cambridge Relay for Life Event on June 6 is asked to drop by the atrium during lunch on Wednesday, April 9 or Wednesday April 16 to speak with members of the committee.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 9

2:30pm Anime Club
2:30pm Reach For the Top
2:30pm Electric Car Club
2:40pm Reach for the Top
Spirit Day
BENN Newsletter release
Jostens Ring Day

Thursday, April 10

11:00am Fresh Club
11:00am YouTube Film Crew Club
11:00am Spring It On Art Battle
2:30pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:30pm Girls' Workout Club

Friday, April 11

2:30pm Doctor Who Video Club

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday

Monday, April 14

11:00am Guitar Club
2:30pm Camera Club
2:30pm Electric Car Club
2:30pm Girls' softball tryouts begin

Tuesday, April 15

8:20am Math Contests
8:20am Suicide Prevention Training
2:30pm Boys' softball tryouts begin

Wednesday, April 16

Wednesday, April 23

8:20am Electronics & Engineering Training
8:20am Health & Wellness Zoom Career Day
11:00am Art Club
11:00am Glee
11:00am Ultimate Club
11:20am Eco Squad
2:30pm Anime Club
2:30pm Reach For the Top
2:30pm Electric Car Club
Spirit Day
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, April 24

8:20am Conflict Resolution & Lifting Techniques Training
11:00am Fresh Club
11:00am YouTube Film Crew Club
2:30pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:30pm Girls' Workout Club

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](#).

8:20am Term 2 begins for Civics/Careers
8:20am Math Contests
8:20am Song Writing Workshop
11:00am Art Club
11:00am Glee
11:00am Ultimate Club
11:20am Eco Squad
2:30pm Anime Club
2:30pm Reach For the Top
2:30pm Electric Car Club
7:00pm Pathways at WCDSB presentation
Spirit Day

Thursday, April 17

11:00am Fresh Club
11:00am YouTube Film Crew Club
2:30pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:30pm Girls' Workout Club

Friday, April 18

Good Friday

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunday

Monday, April 21

Easter Monday

Keep up with what's happening at St. Benedict's using your cell phone



Visit

stbenedict.wcdsb.ca/calendar.php

from your cell phone.

(Be sure to bookmark it!)

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.

