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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

September 2, 2015

## Report Card Pick-Up

Report cards will be available for pick-up in the main office on July 13, 14 and 15th from 7:30 to 3:00 pm. Report cards that are not picked up on those days will be mailed home.

Have a restful, enjoyable, and safe summer!



- Editor

## Administrative

### St. Benedict Graduation 2015



## **Congratulations, graduates, and all the best in the future!**

May you always walk in sunshine, slumber warm when night winds blow  
May you always live with laughter, for a smile becomes you so

May good fortune find your doorway, may the bluebird sing your song  
May no trouble travel your way, may no worry stay too long

May your heartaches be forgotten, may no tears be spilled  
May old acquaintance be remembered, and your cup of kindness filled

And may always be a dreamer, may your wildest dream come true  
May you find someone to love as much as we love you!

## **As we reach the end of the year...**

By SBCSS ADMINISTRATION

As an Administrative team, we are always amazed at how fast the end of June approaches each year. This has been a particularly busy year at St. Benedict. As we begin to take time to enjoy the summer ahead, we want to share our appreciation for the tremendous support received from our Saints' families and staff. It has once again been an outstanding year here at St. Benedict. Thanks to our wonderful staff for all they do to run events, supervise, plan and implement all that happens here. Our school truly represents the heart of the community. In addition to all we offer, our focus is always about student achievement and success and we continue to support students who, for a variety of reasons, struggle with school. Our Student Success Centre integrated with our Special Education Department is second to none and arguably the best in the Region. What we do is supported by our families and that is immensely appreciated.

In addition to all we do, we make it a priority to say thank you, welcome and sadly say goodbye to staff who are moving on either retiring, moving schools or doing something different in their careers. At this time it is our honour to say goodbye to Beverly Martin, Jennifer Rodrigues, and Maria Barros who are retiring at the end of the year. We are grateful for their years of service to St. Benedict, may God Bless you as you continue your journey.

For those families moving on from St. Benedict, your path is well groomed from the work of many who share your dream. We hope that you have enjoyed your experience with us and further hope that God continues to bless you along your way. For those returning in the fall, we look forward to re-

connecting soon. It is now time to take a break, relax, and re-energize. We wish each family and staff member a restful and joyful summer. God Bless.

## News from the Guidance Department

By Mr. M. AMBEAU

### Do you have a son or daughter entering Grade 9 in September?

If the answer to this question is “yes,” the following information might be of interest to you:

1. Summer Skill Builder – The WCDSB offers a Summer Skills Builder program for students currently in Grades 7 or 8. This FREE program runs for 10 mornings and offers support in math, reading, writing and study skills. The program is geared towards helping students prepare for the next level of study. The program will run from July 6 – July 17 (Monday to Friday) at St. Benedict CSS from 8:30 to 12:30. Contact your current elementary school or St. Louis, 519-745-1201, [stlouis@wcdsb.ca](mailto:stlouis@wcdsb.ca) for more information.
2. HeadStart – HeadStart is a FREE 4-day program for current Grade 8 students who are entering SBCSS in September. The program will be run by certified teachers and will focus on study skills, managing timetables, school orientation and other keys to success. This is a great opportunity for students to meet school and student leaders and get support for the transition to high school. The program will run August 27, 28, 31 and September 1 from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon. Contact your current elementary school or St. Louis, 519-745-1201, [stlouis@wcdsb.ca](mailto:stlouis@wcdsb.ca) for more details.
3. Consider starting, or completing your 40 hours of required community service this summer prior to starting Grade 9 in September. Beginning July 1, 2015, any community service completed can be counted toward this high school diploma requirement.

### Course Choices for Next Year

Returning students who are considering a course change for next year, are encouraged to make an appointment to see their guidance counsellor during the month of June. Attempting to make changes now, will undoubtedly be easier than trying to do so in September. **NEW FOR SEPTEMBER 2015:** students will only have *one week* to change courses at the start on the semester.



## WHAT?!

### Thinking about September *already*?

Most of you us are just starting to think about the summer. But eventually, you will have to start thinking about September. A hard fact of life, we know.

With your summer report card package you should receive your course selections for September. As September approaches, a big question to ask will probably be *what do I need for all my classes?*

Fortunately, we have answers for that. Today we launch a new page on the school website, called **WhatYouNeed**. It simply provides that information—what supplies you need for all your classes.

Visit our page at <http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca/whatyouneed/> and select your course codes from the drop down list. Click on Submit and voila! A list of materials you need for that course. Repeat for all your courses, and you now know what you need to shop for to get ready for September.



# Need Volunteer Hours? Volunteer Today!



August 7 to 9, 2015

Riverside Park

**Register Online!**



[www.cambridgeribfest.com/volunteers/](http://www.cambridgeribfest.com/volunteers/)

For more information on any of the many exciting volunteer opportunities available, please email us at [volunteer@cambridgeribfest.com](mailto:volunteer@cambridgeribfest.com)



## Community Service Opportunities

Cambridge Ribfest is August 7 to 9, 2015 at Riverside Park. They are looking for volunteers for the event. Please contact [volunteer@cambridgeribfest.com](mailto:volunteer@cambridgeribfest.com)

## What is Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a Ministry approved program that encourages students to focus their education on a specific employment sector.

Components include:

1. A bundle of courses related to a major
2. Co-op experience in an area of interest
3. Industry-recognized certifications related to the employment sector

Students who successfully complete all components of the program earn a Specialist High Skills Major (Red Seal) designation on their Diploma.



## Why get involved?

No matter which path you follow after high school, you will have a better idea of your direction and future career choice when graduating with a SHSM Red Seal. You will:

- understand how and why your classes apply to your future career
- obtain training and certifications from experienced industry staff (e.g. First Aid & CPR)
- learn on-the-job skills during a co-op placement

### Majors offered at St. Benedict's C.S.S. in 2014-15

Arts & Culture • Business  
Construction • Energy  
Environment • Health & Wellness  
Hospitality & Tourism  
Information & Communications

- gain experience in your field of interest

Justice & Community Safety  
Manufacturing • Transportation

## How and when to get involved:

Experiences start in Grade 11 or 12. Now is the time to sign up and get involved! Deadline to sign up is October 30. Sign up forms are available in the Guidance Office. More information can be found online at [www.highskills.ca](http://www.highskills.ca).

## Farewell to some fine folks!

### Old Music Teachers Don't Retire - they just lose their class

BY MRS. J. RODRIGUES, AKA "J-Rod"

A big heart-filled thank you to all of the music students who have touched my life here at St. Benedict's. I will truly miss the rehearsals, laughs, and exceptional music-making that we have done together in musicals, concerts, performances and partnerships with community schools and organizations. Thank you to all of the parents who have supported our ventures and concerts over the past three years. I look forward to returning as an audience member next year to hear the music-making continue!

Keep the music playing!!

### She's cleaned up, now she's cleaning out...

Congratulation to Maria Barros, one of our custodians, who is also retiring at the end of this year. Maria is thankful for having had the opportunity to spend the last 26½ years here at St. Benedict. She will be fondly remembered by staff for her caring nature, for always being helpful, and for taking pride in all she does to help keep our school clean. She plans on spending a lot of time with the grandkids. You will be missed, Maria, congratulations once again on your retirement!

### Phys Ed says goodbye to Mrs. Bev Martin

BY MRS. S. REIS

To be surrounded by Beverly Martin is to pay witness to a strong-willed, hard-working and authentic woman. Important to note is that Beverly will be retiring at the end of June and beginning a new chapter in her life. For the past 30 years, Bev has devoted her life to teaching and we want to celebrate for all that she has done to bring integrity to this profession.

Serving SBCSS for seventeen years and working for the Waterloo Catholic District School Board for 30 years, Beverly has been a key contributor in promoting health and wellness in an evolving discipline. New equipment and trends, Bev is familiar with it all. She has witnessed the evolution of technology in the classroom. From chalkboards, ditto copiers to our bright link technology. Beverly has maintained a balance from the past and updated herself with future technology.

Several years ago, Beverly was diagnosed with breast cancer and had to take an extended leave from teaching while she went through a very courageous battle. She returned back STRONGER than ever, she is truly an amazing woman and role model. Enduring such a personal battle, Beverly recognizes that when people are surrounded by caring adults and life is lived authentically and naturally, great things are accomplished.

Beverly initiated the weight room program. A program that has seen hundreds of students partake in physical activity. Beverly is an informal leader, emerging spontaneously and organically from the teacher ranks. She takes the initiative to address a problem. Her loss to SBCSS will be felt greatly and we fear our existence without her. We will miss her

influence on students and as a colleague—she is a rare teacher and friend.

Wishing you health and happiness in her retirement. All the best!!

## Board implements online payment process

By WCDSB NEWSWIRE

Effective the new school year, parents will pay registration fees, field trips, athletic fees, etc. and complete excursion permission forms through a cashless online payment system. Additional information and account registration instructions can be found below. Go to [wcdsb.SchoolCashOnline.com](http://wcdsb.SchoolCashOnline.com) to set up your online account today!



**Waterloo Catholic District School Board is proud to introduce School Cash Online!**

For safety and efficiency reasons, Waterloo Catholic District School Board would like to reduce the amount of Cash & Cheques coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

**NOTE:** If you require assistance, select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

**Step 1: Register**

- a) If you have not registered, please go to the **School Cash Online** home page <https://wcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and select the **"Get Started Today"** option.

- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps  
\*For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters**, **one uppercase letter**, **one lowercase letter** and a **number**.

**Step 2: Confirmation Email**

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

**Step 3: Find Student**

**Note: Student Number is Not Required**

This step will connect your children to your account.

- a) Enter the School Board Name  
b) Enter the School Name  
c) Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date  
d) Select **Continue**  
e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**  
f) Your child has been added to your account

**Find Student****School Information**

School Board Name:    
 (Looking for a student in a different school board?)

School Name:

**Student Information**

Do you have the student number? ☐

Student Number:

First Name:

Last Name:

Birth Date:    
 Date format: mm/dd/yyyy

**Continue** (No students? [Click here](#))

**Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student**

If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items For Students"** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.



# Used Uniform Sale!

St. Benedict C.S.S. is proud to announce that we will  
once again be hosting a used uniform sale!

***Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2015***

***Time: 2pm—7pm***

***Location: School Cafeteria***

***Items sell for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00***

***(maximum of 6 items per family)***

Funds raised go to the  
St. Benedict Family Crisis Fund  
and Student Services Fund.



***Get there early to ensure the best selection!***

## Catholic Board Welcomes New Director of Education

By WCDSB NEWSWIRE

### Loretta Notten becomes first woman to lead Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Loretta Notten as the board's 11th Director of Education and Secretary of the Board – the first woman to lead Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools. She replaces interim Director Michael Schmitt who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in Catholic education. Her appointment is effective September 1, 2015.

Loretta joins the board from her current position as Superintendent of Governance, Policy and Strategic Planning with the Toronto Catholic District School Board.



## Academics

### Enriching the Lives of Students

By MRS. D. WITTMANN

There are many opportunities for students to enhance their learning experience: Enrichment courses, LEAP, OYAP, UCEP, Co-op, Home Build, SHSM, and Skills Canada. Visit the Enrichment blog for information on all these opportunities. The Blogroll contains a plethora of learning enhancements. To learn more about what we offer, CLICK the link. [Enrichment@St.Benedict blog.](#)



### English Corner

By MRS. D. WITTMANN

To receive an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) each student must obtain 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade). Visit the English blog to read the course offerings provided by the Saint Benedict English Department. The Blogroll has great resources for both students and parents. Enjoy! [English@St.Benedict blog.](#)

## News From the Student Success Centre

By MRS. D. TRENTINI

### Enrichment Opportunities

Waterloo Unlimited, at the University of Waterloo, is pleased to announce its 2015–2016 high school enrichment programs for students from across Canada.

#### **Grade 12 Program: “Road Map to Research: Explore the frontiers of new knowledge”**

Wednesday, November 18 – Friday, November 20, 2015

Application deadline: October 7th, 2015

Expect an immersive, pre-university experience focused on exploring cutting-edge research discoveries with professors, and the chance to engage with current student researchers. Also included: an introduction to the art and science of reading academic papers.

Program fee, includes all meals: TBD (2014 fee: \$300)

Supervised overnight shared hotel accommodation: TBD (2014 fee: \$180)

#### **Grade 11 Program: “Design” Theme**

Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 18, 2016.

Dates may coincide with some school boards' March Break

Application deadline: December 16th, 2015

From engineering and the environment to science fiction and virtual reality, students will spend a week exploring the theme of design with a community of like-minded peers.

Program fee, includes all meals: TBD (2014 fee: \$450)

Supervised overnight shared hotel accommodation: TBD (2014 fee: \$300)

#### **Grade 10 Program: “Change” Theme**

Sunday, May 15 – Thursday, May 19, 2016

Application deadline: March 9th, 2016

We live in the midst of change: technological change, social change, political change, environmental change. In modern times humankind has experienced an unprecedented rapidity of change. How do we

adapt, or not adapt... and what are the consequences? Students will consider the perspectives of scientists, engineers, writers, and philosophers, as they examine the dynamics of "Change".

Program fee, includes all meals: TBD (2014 fee: \$450)

Supervised overnight shared residence accommodation: TBD (2014 fee: \$160)

Details on all programs are available here: <https://uwaterloo.ca/unlimited>.

## Athletics

# St. Benedict 2015 athletes of the year

By MRS. S. REIS

### Sevanne Ghazarian

Sevanne won CWOSSA as an individual in Cross-country. She led the junior girls team to a first place finish at CWOSSA and qualified for OFSAA, which she also did in track and field. She was overall D8 champion winning each of her events, setting a record in the 3000 m by more than a minute. She continues to impress with her long-distance running results.

### Kayla Leusink

In volleyball Kayla was a very positive leader. She is a good athlete and has been involved in a wide variety of sports throughout her years here at St. Benedict's. In basketball, she was the captain of the D8 girls basketball champions, high scorer in the D8 final and CWOSSA qualifier. She also made it onto the D8 first all-star team. She was the badminton MVP, she and her partner finished second at the tournament at Monsignor Doyle and she finished top 12 at CWOSSA. She has a natural athletic ability which has helped her succeed.



### Andrew Horscroft

Andrew competed in Track and Field, finished 2nd in discuss. He was the quarterback for our boys football team. He was a member of the junior boys basketball team and badminton team. He is described as a gentleman with great skill.

### George Monaghan

In football George scored 16 touchdowns, and was the team MVP and 1st Team WCSSA All Star as runner up to Doug Shu Award (MVP of WCSSA football). He was also a member of the badminton team in the men's doubles draw.

## Keeping in shape for Cross Country

BY MR. F. WITTMANN

Consider this to be your special invitation to join our cross-country team of 2015 where the goals have always been fun, fitness, participation, school spirit, and preparation for winter sports.

If you are interested, please [email me](#) from an email that you will check occasionally in the summer, to confirm your interest, and to provide a means to contact you in the event of changes. Stay in shape over the summer. Here are some suggestions:

- Go for a jog/run at least 4 times per week. Record your minutes below and submit September 9. Start with 20 minutes and try to build up to 45 minutes.
- Attend any of Bennie's annual "camp" practices sponsored by [www.runforlife.ca](http://www.runforlife.ca).  
MONDAYS (St. Benedict Track) starting August 24th, 10:00 – 11:10 a.m.  
WEDNESDAYS (Hespeler Arena) starting August 26th, 10:00 – 11:10 a.m.  
(Bring a bottle of water and [the runforlife waiver form signed by parent](#))
- Play other sports.
- Invite a friend to join our team (and run with them over the summer).

All are welcome regardless of ability. Happy running!

## St. Benedict Lacrosse Club

BY MR. N. CALHOUN

St. Benedict's Lacrosse Club is already looking forward to next year. We are excited to announce that both Brad Self of the Rochester Knighthawks (NLL) and Shawn Evans of the Calgary Roughnecks (NLL) will be coming to our school to teach the game of Lacrosse to our Aboriginal Cultures Course along with our grade 9 Phys. Ed program.

Both of these gentlemen grew up in Peterborough playing lacrosse at the Junior and Senior levels. They have since played at the Post-Secondary, National and International levels in both Box and Field.

In respect to our National Summer Sport, they want to grow both the understanding and technical ability of our youth in the publicly funded school setting. Both Brad and Shawn came up with Nation Wide lacrosse (<http://www.nationwidelacrosse.ca>): a sport education company specializing in educating Canadian youth in Lacrosse.

More to come in September..... Have a great Summer!

## Clubs

### Doctor Who Club season finale

BY MR. D. KUKWA

Doctor Who Club ends another year of adventures with the Time Lord from Gallifrey, traveling the universe in his trusty TARDIS, battling monsters, defending the weak, and having lots of fun while running away from danger.

Thanks to all the students this year, who came together to enjoy our weekly time & space pizza outings, and especially to those who enjoyed the fantastic experience of witnessing the dawn of a brand new Doctor, played by Peter Capaldi. Our first semester meetings were dominated by his new adventures...and they're not over yet.

Doctor Who Club will start up again on the first Friday of the school year, after school, in room 226. You have until then to prepare yourself to experience more new adventures for the 12th Doctor & Clara, who are joining forces with UNIT once again in "The Magician's Apprentice". Have a great summer...and

stay tuned...



## Student Activities

### Prom: Midsummer Night's Dream Masterpiece

By NYAWUOR MALEK

On May 28th, Bennies Students celebrated this year's A Midsummer Night's Dream themed prom at the Hacienda Sarria.

One of the most noticeable attributes upon arriving at the Hacienda was how beautiful everything looked, from people to venue. Everyone was dressed to impress, with stunning dresses and striking suits, making a plethora of vibrant and pastels colours.

Along with the amazing looking students, the venue was also remarkable. The grounds of the Hacienda included an appealing stone architecture and manicured landscape. The interior included an exceptional reception, comfy dance floor, and ever supplying juice bar. The décor incorporated lanterns, trees, and flowers, fulfilling the Midsummer Night's Dream theme.

Likewise, the food was on the list of what made prom a fantastic night. The menu provided delicious foods, ranging from grilled cheese to beef sliders with room for dessert, including cream puffs and brownies. The food was an absolutely amazing part of the night.

One of the highlights of the night was the energy on the dance floor. Everyone showed off their best moves, and danced the night away. 'Dancing Queen', 'Blank Space', and the extended version of the 'Cha Cha Slide' were among the repertoire of exciting songs played.

Sophie Pop, one of the seniors who went to Prom, had a few words to describe her Prom experience, "Prom

### Student Council 2015-2016

#### Co-presidents

Tyler DeSousa  
Trevor O'Hagan

#### Arts

Mallory Thompson (Executive)  
Cameron Hall  
Olivia Martins

#### Athletics

Kara Lee (Executive)  
Nikki Davidson  
Sevanne Ghazarian  
Sarah Sue-Ping

#### Communications

William DaSilva (Executive)  
Jieun Huh (Historian)  
Sydney MacLeod  
Natalie Minnick (Secretary)

#### Social Justice

Veronica Reitmeier (Executive)  
Tiana Thomas

#### Special Events

Emma Kelly (Executive)  
Nadine Bilodeau  
Cayce Phelan  
Elaine Rodricks

#### Spirit

Jesse Ventura (Executive)



was a fun experience to end off the Grade 12 year.”

A big thank you goes to SAC for organizing prom and making the night a truly magical and unforgettable experience for all who went.

Kayley Cabral  
Megan Friedrich  
Sarah Joseph

## The Arts

## Other News

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, July 1  
Canada Day

Monday, July 13  
7:30am Report card pick-up

Tuesday, July 14  
7:30am Report card pick-up

Wednesday, July 15  
7:30am Report card pick-up

Monday, August 3  
Civic Holiday

Monday, August 31  
LINK Crew training

Tuesday, September 1  
8:30am Grade 9 registration

Wednesday, September 2  
9:00am Grade 10–12 registration  
2:00pm Used uniform sale

Tuesday, September 8  
9:00am First day of school

To see the full calendar, go to [Benny's News](#) ►  
[Calendar of Events](#).

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



Visit [stbenedict.wcdsb.ca/calendar.php](http://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.

