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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](#)

Next Issue

October 7, 2015

You are invited... to *get involved!*

Parents who were at our Grade 9 meet the teacher night were treated to a taste of Bennie's life. They got to experience a bit of what a high school dance sounds and looks like, if they dared pass the cafetorium. They got to see the path their children traverse over the course of the day, albeit at a significantly greater pace. They also got to hear warm greetings from our chaplain and principal, and an entertaining presentation about the information sources here at Bennie's by Mr. Milardovic (hey, sometimes I have to pat myself on the back, even though most didn't laugh at my Carey Price play on words, much to the delight of Mr. Bruins-fan Witt).

But the theme in both Mr. Witt's and my presentations was the same: get involved. To both the students and the parents. Students, there are currently 22 clubs listed on the school website. Get out there, try something new, find your passion. Or talk to a teacher and create a club that fuels your passion. Parents, you can get involved by engaging your son or daughter in conversation about their school day, or for greater involvement join school council, which meets tomorrow evening.

You get out of high school life what you put into it—students *and* parents. Put in 110%. You will get 110%. This is a great time in your life (again, student or parent), so make the most of it... don't just stand there, *get involved!*

– Editor

Administrative

Catholic Board Launches Project Hope in Response to Refugee Crisis

By WCDSB NEWswire

Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools, responding to the ongoing and worsening humanitarian crisis that has displaced thousands of families in war torn regions of the Middle East, today launched "Project Hope" – raising funds to assist in the resettlement of families fleeing the war-torn Middle East.

This special campaign supports efforts already begun by Toronto Archbishop Thomas Cardinal Collins as well as the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In coming weeks each of WCDSB's five secondary and 46 elementary schools will engage in school-specific activities to raise funds for this vitally important cause. Further information about specific activities will be made available as school plans are finalized.

KW Legacy Golf Tournament provides WCDSB with \$80,000 in scholarship money

BY MRS. N. OFFAK

On Saturday, September 19, 2015, KW Legacy, a new non-profit organization, held their St. Jerome's Alumni Golf Tournament. Here, the Waterloo Catholic District School Board was presented with a generous cheque in the amount of \$80,000 to put towards the Legacy Scholarship Program which would be distributed amongst the five Catholic high schools.

The Legacy Scholarship Program was established to provide exemplary students with meaningful financial assistance for their pursuit of post-secondary education. Recipients of a Legacy scholarship will be leaders who create footprints, citizens who pay tribute to others, and individuals who enjoy fellowship with other members of the community.

The first ever Legacy Scholarships will be presented in June 2016 with student application details coming out in November.



News from the Guidance Department

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

Course Changes

The period of time officially allocated to making changes to first semester courses has passed. The Guidance Department would like to thank the parents, students and staff of St. Benedict for their patience and understanding during the first 2 weeks of the school year as we have worked to settle all students into their classes as quickly as possible. In addition to dealing with course changes, our school has also welcomed many new students to our community. Students who wish to change courses for second semester are welcome to make an appointment with their guidance counsellor at any time to do so.

Update Regarding Counsellor Changes in Our Department

Please note that Mr. Michael Ambeau is no longer with us as he has transferred to St. Mary's High School in Kitchener. Mr. Ambeau was a valued member of our school community for 14 years, and a member of the guidance department for the past 8 years. We wish him the very best of luck in his new role at St. Mary's. His departure has meant some adjustments to our caseloads and these are noted below. Mrs. Laura O'Neill, who had joined us on a part-time basis this fall, has moved to the guidance office on a full time basis and will be taking over part of Mr. Ambeau's caseload. Mrs. Karla Arkell will join the department on a part-time basis in the afternoon and has assumed the rest of Mr. Ambeau's caseload. In the morning, Mrs. Arkell will continue to be part of the science department.

Mrs. Laura O'Neill	A-C and Pi-R	ext. 5634
Mrs. Karla Arkell	D - E	ext. 5636
Mrs. Patricia Klassen	F-K & International Students	ext. 5190
Mr. Nick Betik	L - Ph	ext. 5633
Mrs. Katherine Menjolian	S- Z	ext. 5635

Mrs. Christine O'Connor, Administrative Assistant, ext. 5631

St. Benedict Welcomes International Students

This fall the St. Benedict community has welcomed several International Students to our school. We have a growing number of Chinese students, as well as students from South Korea, Hong Kong and Colombia. These students are here on student visas and will study at our school with the intent to graduate with their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. While a few of our International students live with relatives while they are here, the vast majority of them live with "home stay" families. All of them bring something special to our community and we look forward to learning more about them and the countries and cultures that they come from.

Grade 12's and Post-Secondary Options

The process of meeting with Grade 12 students to help them review and plan their post-secondary options has started. Meetings for grade 12 students who are considering college or university application for September, 2016 took place last week during lunch on Wednesday and Thursday. If you are feeling confused about the application process and are having difficulty navigating through web sites and documents, consider taking advantage of the following supports:

1. Please confirm with your son or daughter that they have completed, signed and handed in the "Consent for Disclosure of Information to the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) and/or the Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC). This form was part of the registration packages that were sent home this summer to all grade 12 students. Unless this form is completed and signed, the school is not allowed to transmit marks to colleges and universities. If you are unsure as to whether or not your son or daughter has taken care of this important detail, please contact the appropriate counsellor for clarification.
2. Plan now to attend our Post-Secondary Information night on Thursday, October 29 at 7:00 PM. This event is being hosted by the Guidance Department and coincides with parent/teacher/student interviews. The presentation will take place in the Lecture Hall.
3. St. Benedict will be the site for the Cambridge University Information Presentation on November 5 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. All Ontario universities will have representation at this event and there will be opportunity to attend formal presentations, as well as time to tour displays. If you are unable to attend the Cambridge event at St. Benedict, you are welcome to attend a similar event being held at Huron Heights in Kitchener on Tuesday, November 3.
4. Conestoga College will be hosting their annual College Information Presentations on Wednesday, October 21 from 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM and from 5:00 - 7:00 PM at their Doon Campus. All Ontario colleges will have representation at this event and Conestoga will also have additional information available to parents and students regarding their programs.
5. Become part of the email distribution list sent out by the Guidance Office. This list is available to both students and parents. Details on signing up were shared with grade 12 students last week.

and are also available on the school web site. Go to the guidance section and click on “Join Our Information List.”

6. Both the Ontario Colleges website and the Ontario University website offer a wealth of information regarding schools, programs and the application process. To research colleges and their programs go to www.ontariocolleges.ca To research Ontario universities and their programs go to www.electronicinfo.ca

College and University Presentations

We have been fortunate in arranging visits to our school with liaison officers from several Ontario universities and colleges who will be making presentations to interested grade 12 students. These presentations have already started and provide an excellent way for students to ask questions about specific schools that they are interested in. Students must sign up to attend the presentations that they are interested in attending, by the end of lunch the day prior to the visit. While we do not limit the number of visits that students may attend, we do encourage students to be selective about the visits that they attend as many of them take place during class time. Students are responsible for any school work that they miss if they choose to attend a presentation. Please refer to the complete list of presentations that is posted on our school website.

Community Service Opportunities

In addition to fulfilling an important diploma requirement, volunteering provides students with a way to give back to their community. As opportunities become known to the guidance department, they will be announced on the ranger announcement system, posted on the Guidance bulletin board and listed in the BENN.

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
- gain experience in your field of interest

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

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

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.

Speak English?

Do you like helping other people? Are you interested in volunteer hours? Please see Mrs. O'Connor in Room 3.3 to sign up for conversational English. Our international students are seeking students to practice their English with. All are welcome.

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](http://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](http://English@St.Benedict.blog).

Athletics

Senior Girls Basketball Update

By MRS. P. KLASSEN

The Senior Girls participated in the Early Bird Basketball Tournament, held at Eastwood Collegiate this past weekend. The Saints moved to the Championship side of the tournament after opening with a convincing win over Sir Winston Churchill from Mississauga. The girls continued their stellar play on Saturday morning and were victorious in a back and forth battle with a competitive team from Elmira District Secondary School. This hard earned victory moved the girls to the championship game against a strong team from Cameron Heights from Kitchener.

The Senior Saints, competed hard until the end of the game but came up short and settled for second place. Coach Mascarenhas and Assistant Coach Klassen were pleased and proud by the excellent effort, hard work and sportsmanship that was displayed throughout the weekend and are looking

BENN
BOX SCORES

Jr. Boys soccer
Resurrection 6, Saints 3

forward to a good season ahead. Returning starters from last year's District 8 Championship Team include Laura Ivits, Julia Mascarenhas and Afifa Salad.

District 8 action is scheduled to be on Wednesday, September 23 in our gym as the girls take the St. Mary's Eagles. Come on out and support your 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 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 [following this link](#).

Clubs

Camera Club

If you want to learn how to take better pictures with your smartphone or digital camera, you should consider joining the Camera Club. We meet every Wednesday after school in Room 214. You don't even need a camera to join. Just bring your interest in photography.

Mock United Nations

Are you interested in world issues? Are you interested in debating? Are you interested in being part of a new and exciting club at St. Benedict. Join the Model United Nations Club. Our first meeting will be on September 29 in Room 225 at the start of lunch. See you there.

Badminton Club

Badminton Club starts on Thursday, Sept 24th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm and continues every Thursday that the gym is available. Bring comfortable gym clothes and runners. Racquets and birdies are provided. All skill levels are welcome. Come meet some new friends.

Follow Badminton club on TWITTER at @StBen_Bdmtn to stay informed.

Financial Club

The Financial Club meets in room 216 Wednesdays at lunch. If you get on our email list, we will send out an email to inform you of the coming week's topic of discussion. Bring your lunch and a friend!

The Financial Club is a chance for students who are interested in the world of investing and financial instruments to get together to share their passions, and look at what it takes to have a seven-digit figure in the bank. We will look at stocks, investing, and run a bit of a contest to see who can build a money making portfolio.

Another important component of the club is financial literacy—knowing what to do with your money, from earning it to spending it, saving, and investing. *It's the important money stuff that most people don't know where to turn to get.*

While we cannot guarantee that you will leave the club at the end of the year with a million dollars in your pocket, we do guarantee that you will have fun talking with other students about your financial passions, share some hints and tips, and gain some insight into the world of investing.

Attendance at all meetings is not mandatory, but having fun and learning about your money is!

E-Car Club

The Electric Car club will be having its first meeting Wednesday September 23 at 10:40am. It will be held in room 110, the auto shop, for the preliminary meeting. See Mr. Granger or Mr. Castela if you can't make it. All are welcome– see you there.

United Cultures

Do you speak more than one language? Are you interested in learning about other cultures and languages while making new friends? Do you have the desire to travel and to learn about what the world has to offer?

If so, then The United Cultures Club may be for you! If you are interested in joining us, please come to our first meeting on Friday October 2nd at lunch in Room 3.3. All are welcome! Please see Mrs. O'Connor if you have any questions. Bring your lunch.

Student Activities

NEW! Shop online for spirit wear!

Now you can buy your favourite St. Benedict spirit wear--- including 2 new styles---online at www.spiritwear.ca.

If you were away when they had the spirit wear sales at school or didn't have enough money to buy it at the time, now you can shop online.

No waiting in lines, no bugging your parents, no remembering to bring money to school. Just click on the link



below and use a credit card to buy

your favourite spirit wear. In a few weeks, you will be wearing the new hoodie or new long-sleeved T-shirt and making all your friends jealous.

With 24/7 online sales, we now make it even easier to show your BENNIES pride!

* If you're not sure of the size to order, please check at the SAC Office for samples to try on.



The Arts

Other News

TUESDAY NIGHT *Together*
October 2015



Me. **My #Selfie.** And I.
what on earth am I here for?

Join us for a fun filled family event!

ALL ARE WELCOME!
free admission

6:00 pm Supper

6:45 pm Presentation
Adult /Highschool Track
Youth Gr.5-8 Track
Kids JK-Gr.4 Track

8:30 pm Conclusion

October 6 I'm Here to Love God
October 13 I'm Here to Belong to Family
October 20 I'm Here to Serve
October 27 I'm Here to Go and Tell Others

 **REGISTER** on our website:
stmaryhespeler.ca

Youth/Kid Theme:
To Serve the Most Magnificent Master!

 **St. Mary of the Visitation Church**

Da Crew

— 09.26.15 —

ILLUMINATE

Glow in the Dark party

6:30 pm
Parish Center



Silverheights Neighbourhood Association (SNA) Program and Volunteer Opportunities for Students

DODGEBALL

Grades: 8-12

When: Wednesdays

Where: Silverheights Neighbourhood Association (SNA) in St. Gabriel's Elementary School, 15 Baldwin Drive

Time: 7:30 – 9:00pm

Cost: \$1 /Drop In fee

TUCK items for sale (Chocolate bars, chips, candy, water)

VOLLEYBALL

Grades: 8-12

When: Thursdays

Where: Silverheights Neighbourhood Association (SNA) in St. Gabriel's Elementary School, 15 Baldwin Drive

Time: 6:00 – 7:45pm

Cost: \$1 /Drop In fee

TUCK items for sale (Chocolate bars, chips, candy, water)



Why should the kids have all the fun?!

Mondays. 8 – 9:30 pm

Only \$1 / drop in

Starts September 21st

@ Clemens Mill School

For Grade 9's and up!
Bring your friends!



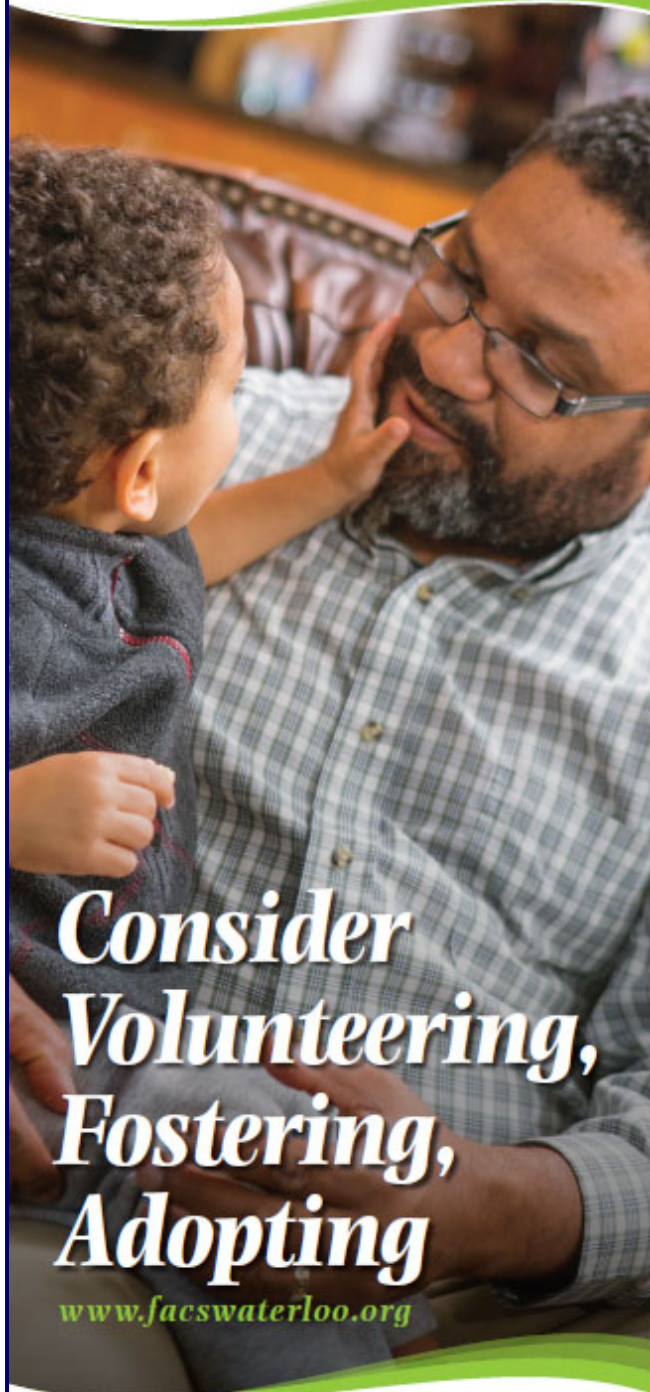
fiddlesticks
Community Centre

For more information:
519-621-4040 ext 223 • www.fiddlesticks.ca • laurenm@fiddlesticks.ca



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CHILDREN'S SERVICES
OF THE WATERLOO REGION

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Volunteering,
Fostering,
Adopting***

www.facswaterloo.org

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 23

2:10pm Yearbook Team
 2:10pm Camera Club
 2:15pm Show Choir
 2:15pm Dance Crew tryouts
 3:00pm Jr. Boys Soccer @ Msgr. Doyle
 Autumnal equinox
 BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, September 24

10:45am DECA meeting
 2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
 2:15pm Games Club
 2:15pm Jazz Band
 7:00pm School Council meeting
 Say HI day

Friday, September 25

10:00am Univ. visit: Ont. Universities Fair
 10:40am Star Trek Club
 10:45am Programmers Club
 2:15pm Dr. Who club
 Opening assembly

Saturday, September 26

10:00am Univ. visit: Ont. Universities Fair

Sunday, September 27

10:00am Univ. visit: Ont. Universities Fair

Monday, September 28

1:00pm Univ. visit: Windsor University
 2:15pm Concert Band
 3:00pm Jr. Boys Soccer @ St. David

Tuesday, September 29

9:30am College visit: Humber
 10:40am Arts Council
 10:40am Mock United Nations
 10:45am Games Club
 10:45am DECA meeting
 10:45am E-Car club

Wednesday, September 30

10:45am Financial Club
 10:45am E-Car club
 1:00pm College visit: St. Clair College
 2:10pm Yearbook Team
 2:10pm Camera Club
 2:15pm Show Choir
 3:00pm Jr. Boys Soccer vs St. Mary's

Thursday, October 1

8:15am College visit: Fanshawe
 9:30am Univ. visit: Lakehead University
 10:45am DECA meeting
 1:00pm Univ. visit: University of Western Ontario
 2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
 2:15pm Games Club
 2:15pm Jazz Band
 Opening school mass

Friday, October 2

9:30am College visit: Sheridan
 10:40am Star Trek Club
 10:40am United Cultures
 10:45am Programmers Club
 2:15pm Dr. Who club

Monday, October 5**Tuesday, October 6**

8:15am Univ. visit: Redeemer University
 10:40am Arts Council
 10:40am Mock United Nations
 10:45am Games Club
 10:45am DECA meeting
 10:45am E-Car club

Wednesday, October 7

10:45am Financial Club
 10:45am E-Car club
 11:30am College visit: Conestoga
 1:15pm Univ. visit: Guelph Humber
 2:10pm Yearbook Team
 2:10pm Camera Club
 2:15pm Show Choir
 3:00pm Jr. Boys Soccer vs Msgr. Doyle
 BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, October 8

10:45am DECA meeting
 2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
 2:15pm Games Club
 2:15pm Jazz Band

Friday, October 9

10:40am Star Trek Club
 10:40am United Cultures
 10:45am Programmers Club
 2:15pm Dr. Who club

Monday, October 12

Thanksgiving

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
 from your cell phone.
 (Be sure to bookmark it!)

2:15pm Concert Band
3:00pm Jr. Boys Soccer @ Resurrection

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.

