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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

December 2, 2015

Today was pink day
in support of
Anti-bullying week.

Be kind today and
always!

Administrative

Your help is needed!

Please consider supporting St. Benedict's Saints Fund

By MRS. D. TRENTINI

The Catholic community of St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School recognizes that there are students and families who at times experience great financial need. A Saints Fund has been established in an effort to support these students. To celebrate the season of Advent the staff of St. Benedict is participating in a raffle to raise money for the Saints' Fund.

Please consider donating any of the following:

- homemade craft items (Christmas ornaments, baby hats & booties etc...)
- re-gift items (i.e. those candles you received from your great aunt that are still in the box :)
- gift cards
- Canadian Tire money (this can be used to purchase items for families in need)

No donation is too small and we truly appreciate anything that you can donate to help raise money for students in need in our community. Thank you for your support!

Donations can be dropped off to the main office at St. Benedict Secondary School located at 50 Saginaw Parkway. If you are able to make a donation, please mark these items "Saints Fund" and we would appreciate it if you left your name and address so that we can thank you for your kindness.

iPlay initiative to promote the power of sport at St. Benedict's

By MRS. S. REIS

On November 21 CBC National will broadcast RBC Sports Day in Canada as they go live from coast to coast in celebration of communities across Canada who support and celebrate the power of sport, build community and national spirit and facilitate healthy, active living. We have themed our initiative "iPLAY" and will be running, intermural activities during lunch in the gymnasium. Students who would like to participate in dodge ball and Gatorade two ball are asked to sign-up at lunch in the atrium and have a sign consent form completed if they would like to participate. See Mrs. Reis-Power for any questions.



GET OUT AND PLAY, CANADA!



Be a part of RBC Sports Day in Canada
– a national celebration of the power
of sport to build community and get
Canadians moving!



TRUE
SPORT



Join this event and you'll be one
of over a million Canadians who
are celebrating sport across
Canada during the Year of Sport.

LEARN MORE AT CBCSPORTS.CA/SPORTSDAY

We acknowledge the support
of the Government of Canada | Canada

Board implements online payment process

By WCDSB NEWSWIRE

Effective this school year, parents will be able to 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 to set up your online account today!



Pay for student items online



www.wcdsb.ca

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.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- Select **Continue**
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**
- 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

(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.

35 Weber Street West • P.O. Box 91116 • Kitchener Ontario Canada • N2G 4G2
Telephone: 519.578.3660

Access student's attendance information in real time

By MR. A. MILARDOVIC

Class attendance is a key component to a student's success in their classes. Timely communication of attendance information between home and school is critical for accurate attendance records.

If a student is away from school a parent must call the attendance line at the school at 519-621-4001. The call can be placed any time, 24 hours a day. It is strongly recommended that you make this call as soon as the absence is known, or at the latest before the student returns to school.

If your son or daughter is going to be away for a trip or extended period of time for a medical reason an *Intent to be Absent* form should be completed in advance by a parent. These are available in the Guidance department.

A student, parent or guardian can access their student's attendance in real time through the Secondary Student Information System (SIS) Website. Information available to view includes student mark history, current timetable, attendance for each course on the current timetable and your contact information. The website link is <https://sis.wcdsb.ca>.

To access the student specific information, you must have the student number (which can be found on a student's timetable) and birth date. If you cannot locate the student number please call the guidance or attendance office for assistance.

By entering your son's or daughter's student number and date of birthday, you can see their attendance in all their classes *in real time*.

Classrooms are No Phone Zones!



Classrooms are for learning. The use of cell phones is not permitted in class. Parents, if you need to get in touch with your son or daughter, please call the school office and we will contact your child.

Students, don't let your cell phone become a distraction to your learning. Many teachers are integrating this technology into their classroom activities, but when it is not part of the learning phones should be away.



Food Allergy Alert!

We have a number of students and staff in the St. Benedict community with severe life-threatening food allergies, particularly related to peanuts and nuts (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe allergic reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. If your child brings their lunch with them to school, please ensure that it is free from peanuts and nut products.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's administrator.

Who is your administrator?

The administrative contact for your son or daughter is based on your last name:

A to G: [Mr. Sauve](#)

H to N: [Mr. Jaeger](#)

O to Z: [Mrs. Temple](#)

As always, feel free to contact our principal, [Mr. Witt](#).



Enriching the Lives of Students

By MRS. D. WITTMANN

There 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.](#)

Reflections by an international student

By RYAN DENG

Hi, I am Ryan and I am a student in the ESL class. This is a class full of international students. We take English as our second language. I have been here for about four months now from China. It's pretty good so far.

To begin, I'd like to write about what I feel about the life in our school. People here are really nice and friendly, and I am always impressed by the responsible teachers. I have learned a lot about Canada while I living here, and I like it here so much.

Second of all, I think it's important to introduce ESL class in detail. In our ESL class, we learn English by discussing different cultures from all parts of the world, by doing fun story reading assignments and so on. We learn about the society from the conversations with each other, and of course, we are all enjoying the life here very much. We can improve our English skills and make friends at the same time.

This is a really great class for me and for every one else in our class, I believe. Every step we take means a great self-improvement for us. Every day we spend with each other, it is always worthwhile and fun.



Athletics

Junior girls basketball wrap-up

By MR. N. KRZYSZTOFIK

Please congratulate all of the junior girls basketball team for their dedication and hard work this season. The Saints had a tough match up against the number one seed Resurrection and despite their hard work the Saints came up short.

Coach K and Coach Lowe couldn't be more proud of the heart and perseverance the girls put forth every day as they portrayed



Jr. Girls basketball
Woodland 28, Saints 19
Resurrection 50, Saints 18

Sr. Girls basketball

exactly what being a Bennie's athlete is all about!

Senior girls basketball wrap-up

By MRS. P. KLASSEN

Please congratulate the Senior Girls' Basketball Team on their successful season. After finishing league play in second place, the Saints season came to an end last week in our gym with a heart breaking 51-49, semi-final loss against the third place St. Mary's Eagles. Afifa Salad led the team with 19 points and Maya Danis chipped in with 16.

Coaches Mascarenhas and Klassen are very proud of this lovely group of hardworking athletes and all that they accomplished this season.

St. Mary's 51, Saints 49

Jr. Boys volleyball

Woodland 3, Saints 0

Rockway 3, Saints 1

Sr. Boys volleyball

Woodland 3, Saints 0

Sr. Boys football

St. David 27, Saints 19

Cross-country season concludes with OFSAA

By MR. F. WITTMANN



The girls quickly found St. Benedict in the list of participating schools at OFSAA.

OFSAA XC took place last Saturday on the escarpment in Collingwood. The Saints had great success as they climbed massive hills and slid down never ending mud trails.

With 300 runners in each race, Midget Nikki Soares was 60th and Junior Hope Harnack was 61st. The Senior Girls team of Sevanne Ghazarian, Emily Soares, Sarah Joseph, Alexandra Kerry, Sydney Papadopoulos, and Makayla Pearl finished 13th out of 40 teams, just a few points out of a top 10 finish in the province. Congratulations!

Clubs

Vow of Silence

By MRS. M. ROCHA

Shhhh...do you hear that? It's the sound of silence, the sound of Bennies taking a vow of silence. On FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20, give up your voice for others who are being denied theirs, because every voice should be heard!

Go silent to raise awareness about an issue that is important to you. Whether you're passionate about girls' access to education, child labour, or something closer to home, let your friends and family know why you're taking a vow of silence. If you'd like to participate in the vow, go to the Vow of Silence table in the atrium at lunch next week to add your name to the list of staff and students who are committing to this very worthwhile event. On the morning of NOVEMBER 20 come back to the table to

receive a vow of silence sticker that you can wear for the day so that others know you are being silent for those who are denied their voice!

Student Activities

The Arts

Other News

The Francis Effect

Developments and Implications for the Church Today



It wasn't long into the pontificate of Pope Francis that the secular media coined the phrase "the Francis effect," referring to the powerful and surprising words and gestures of the first Latin American and Jesuit Pope. In less than three years Pope Francis has become the world's most influential moral leader, inaugurating a fundamental reform of the Vatican bureaucracy and changing the public image of Catholicism through his message of mercy and inclusion. One big question remains: are these simply stylistic changes or something more? What does the pontificate of Pope Francis mean for the Catholic Church in the 21st century?

Sebastian Gomes, a producer and host at Salt and Light Television in Toronto has been following the pontificate of Pope Francis closely since his election. In 2014 he wrote, produced and directed the acclaimed S+L documentary "The Francis Effect." Working in Rome for the Vatican, he covered the 2013 conclave and the 2014-15 Synods of Bishops on the Family. With the 2015 Synod recently concluded and the upcoming Year of Mercy, some clear signs have emerged that shed light on the question of style versus substance and suggest the Francis effect is beginning to take root.

A presentation by **Sebastian Gomes**
Producer and Host at **Salt and Light Television**
Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7pm
St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Cambridge





ST. MARY OF THE
VISITATION PARISH
CRAFT & BAKE SALE



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015

9:00AM - 2:00PM

ST ELIZABETH SCHOOL GYM

Join us for our Craft and Bake Sale
- there is **SOMETHING** for **EVERYONE**

- Baked Goods (Cookies, Muffins, Pies, Cakes and maybe even Fudge)
- Handmade Crafts and Knitting
- Raffles...including the very popular Raffle Draw for Grocery Basket
- Christmas Craft Table

Religious Articles Display & Special Display by the Knights of Columbus

- Special Raffle for "Father Freitas' Special Cake"

- 50/50 Draw and lots more..

AMAZING SILENT AUCTION

- Meal Special: Coffee and Sandwiches



Come Join us and Make this year's event a **HUGE SUCCESS !**

JOSTENS
RING+DESIGNER
DESIGN IT • ORDER IT • SHARE IT

*Please order your ring by 2015/11/13 for pre-Christmas delivery.
** Certain exceptions apply (any of our "Casts" need to be ordered by 2015/11/10)*

Our Value Promise

**ORDER
NOW
FOR
CHRISTMAS
DELIVERY**

1. Go To
www.jostens.com
2. Create Your Item
3. Order it Online

Jostens

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 18

2:10pm Yearbook Team
2:10pm Camera Club
2:15pm Show Choir
2:30pm Girls Hockey tryouts
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, November 19

8:00am Cake Decorating Training
10:40am Robotics Club
10:45am DECA meeting
2:10pm Rock Climbing Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:15pm Games Club
2:15pm Jazz Band
6:00pm Badminton Club

Friday, November 20

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

Sunday, November 22

10:00am Cross Country: Jingle Bell Run

Monday, November 23

10:40am Robotics Club
2:00pm Girls Hockey tryouts
2:15pm Concert Band

Tuesday, November 24

8:00am Suicide Prevention (SafeTalk) Training
9:30am College visit: Centennial
10:40am Arts Council
10:40am Mock United Nations
10:40am Accepting Differences Club
10:45am Games Club
10:45am DECA meeting
10:45am E-Car club
Mid-term report cards distributed
Math contests

Wednesday, November 25

8:00am Business Zoom Career Day
8:00am Standard First Aid & CPR-C Training
10:40am Fresh Club
10:40am Cosmo Club
10:40am Guitar Club
10:45am Financial Club
10:45am E-Car club
2:10pm Yearbook Team
2:10pm Camera Club
2:15pm Show Choir

Thursday, November 26

8:00am Standard First Aid & CPR-C Training
10:40am Robotics Club
10:45am DECA meeting
2:10pm Rock Climbing Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:15pm Games Club

Monday, November 30

10:40am Robotics Club
2:15pm Concert Band

Tuesday, December 1

8:00am Health & Safety + Electrical Safety Training
10:40am Arts Council
10:40am Mock United Nations
10:40am Accepting Differences Club
10:45am Games Club
10:45am DECA meeting
10:45am E-Car club

Wednesday, December 2

10:40am Fresh Club
10:40am Cosmo Club
10:40am Guitar Club
10:45am Financial Club
10:45am E-Car club
2:10pm Yearbook Team
2:10pm Camera Club
2:15pm Show Choir
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, December 3

8:00am Confined Space + Health & Safety Training
10:40am Robotics Club
10:45am DECA meeting
2:10pm Rock Climbing Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy Club
2:15pm Games Club
2:15pm Jazz Band
6:00pm Badminton Club

Friday, December 4

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

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**

2:15pm Jazz Band
6:00pm Badminton Club
7:00pm School Council meeting

Friday, November 27

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

Sunday, November 29
First Sunday of Advent



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.

