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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

March 22, 2017

A People of Faith, Hope

Part of being a people of faith and hope is bringing that message to others. Today during our Ash Wednesday celebrations, our chaplain Bob Rempel talked about the Good Samaritan, and all that the poor man who was attacked wanted was to have his existence acknowledged. He ended by saying "isn't that all anybody wants?"

This may seem simplistic, but think about it. We want to be noticed. When people notice us, they acknowledge us, and our humanity, and that we need to be treated with dignity.

So we take that message to heart with a project over the next two days. Tomorrow is a Jeans for Teens civvies day. For a minimum \$2 donation, staff and students can wear jeans (students, with uniform tops). The money raised will be used to purchase jeans. On Friday we invite the St. Benedict community to bring in jeans they no longer wear, and add them to the pile in the Atrium.

The jeans will be taken to Argus House where they will be distributed to those in need, those who want to have their existence acknowledged, and need hope. By our actions, we provide them with not just a new pair of pants, we provide them with so much more.

– Editor

Bennie's in the Media

THE RECORD: [St. Benedict swimmer makes a splash at CWOSSA](#)

THE RECORD: [Saints cruise to District 8 championship over St. David](#)

THE RECORD: [Saints advance to CWOSSA semifinal round](#)

THE RECORD: [Saints punch ticket to OFSAA](#)

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [Saints swept at District 8 girls' volleyball champ...](#)

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [St. Benedict top local school at CWOSSA swimm...](#)

CAMBRIDGE TIMES: [Hawks and Saints advance to OFSAA champions...](#)

CKCO TV: [St. Benedict Saints repeat as District-8 Senior Boys Baske...](#)

Administrative

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM MAKES HISTORY

By Mr. R. MARTINELLO

The 2016/2017 Senior Boys Basketball team made history last Saturday night winning their first CWOSSA basketball title in school history. The Saints will play for the OFSAA championship beginning on March 4 in North Bay.

St. Benedict won all four games on the weekend beginning with a tough 44–35 victory over North Park from Brantford on Friday night. With the score tied 33–33 with 4 minutes to go, the Saints went on an 11–2 run to seal the win. Zubair Seyed led the Saints with 19 points in the victory.

They followed this win with a 52–33 win over the defending champions from Sir John A. Macdonald from Waterloo. The Saints led 26–23 at half-time before going on an 18–0 run in the third quarter to seal the victory. Seyed once again led the Saints with 19 points followed by Evan Rodenburg with 10 points.

The two victories placed the Saints in first place in their pool, setting up a semi-final matchup with Waterloo Collegiate on Saturday. The semi-final started slowly for the Saints as WCI built up 10 point lead at half that was extended to 13 early in the 3rd quarter. That was when the Saints offense exploded as they outscored WCI by 26 points the rest of the way. Seyed once again led the Saints in scoring with 19 points, this time followed by Justin Malnerich with 14 points.

The victory set up a rematch with North Park in the final. After a tense and hard fought first half, the Saints were leading 18–14 going into the 3rd quarter. This time the defense set the tone as the 3rd quarter dominance took place again. The stifling defense saw the Saints outscore North Park 16–0 in the quarter and 27–8 over the entire half. The final score was 45–24 in a defensive battle that led to the CWOSSA title. Seyed led scoring for the 4th straight game potting 14 points, while Malnerich added 11 and Rodenburg added 10.



HISTORY IN THE MAKING: The St. Benedict Senior Boys Basketball team, CWOSSA 2017 champions

The Saints would like to thank their supportive and vocal fans who urged the team on through the four victories. The Saints go into the OFSAA tournament as one of the top seeds and are hoping to create more history with a first ever OFSAA medal (hopefully gold).

Saints host Sears Drama Festival

By OLIVIA MARTINS

The Sears Drama Festival is a week long event that is held at a host school and this year it happens that our school, St. Benedict CSS has the privilege of hosting. Fifteen schools from all around Waterloo Region will come to our school to rehearse and perform their 15 to 50 minute show. The show can be student or teacher written or a professionally written play, as well the entire cast and crew (and possibly director) is all student run.

There will be three plays performed every evening this week starting at 7:00 in the cafeteria. On Saturday there will be workshops for all of the schools who participated in the festival. The workshops can be anything from a how to stage manage workshop to stage combat and special effects makeup. That afternoon and evening all 15 schools share a dinner together. After the dinner there will be an awards ceremony for the schools to attend, followed by a mixer at the end of the night. Saturday is strictly for the students and teachers involved in the shows.

The Sears Drama Festival is an absolutely amazing event, it can bring someone friends they never thought they would have and experiences that they never thought they would share with such a large group of people. This is a very prestigious event for arts students as it brings together a community of people who all have the same passions just as OFFSA or D8 would for sports. Our arts council and arts department is working very hard to make this a memorable week.

This week there will be over 400 people in and out of our school all week; we encourage you to say hi and ask them about their show if you see them in the hallways. As well, we encourage you to come out on any evening this week at 7:00 each night to experience every show. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students or \$15 for a week pass!

Saints Sears entry written by teacher

By OLIVIA MARTINS

Our Sears Drama Festival show is named The Parting Glass. The Parting Glass is written and directed by Mr. Andrew Renner, a teacher here at St. Benedict CSS. He has put a lot of hard work into the script and we feel very lucky to perform his story on stage.

To give a brief synopsis: in 1914 in the good town of Galt people were not allowed to drink alcohol yet in Preston they were allowed to. People from Galt would take the trolley over to Preston to drink, and that is just the case for a group of teenage boys who go over to Preston one night to have a few drinks. After a fun night a boy whose mom is the head of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union notices her son drunk. The son falls into a young German girl's yard and she needs to deal with this young drunk boy in her yard. Later the war breaks out and every Canadian man is called out to enlist, and the boy is faced with a life changing decision.

This story is absolutely breathtaking, and you are sure to shed many tears. This cast and crew has been working very hard to make this a very special play for everyone. You can come and see The Parting Glass on Wednesday, March 1st at the Sears Drama Festival hosted at St. Benedict CSS in the caf at 7:00, this is a show you sure do not want to miss.

Say Cheese!

For those students new to the school this semester, you will need to get your photo taken for a student ID card and the yearbook at Photo Retakes on Thursday during Period 1. Also, if you didn't like your photo the first time around, this is your last chance to get a photo retake for a photo package.

Listen to the PA for your time to go to the SkyBox on the third floor on Thursday morning for photo retakes.

Are you applying for a coop program next year?

BY MRS. M. CROWELL

Make sure you complete a yellow application form and 2 teachers reference forms. These are available in the coop office or guidance and can also be returned to either spot. If you have coop questions please drop in to the coop office at lunch and speak to Mr. Jankura or Mrs. Crowell.

Forms are due back by Friday March 10th.

Saints in Action

BY MRS. I. KLOIBER

The Saints Fund Team wants to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated to and bought tickets for the annual Christmas Basket Raffle. All monies raised from this event went into our Saints Fund. The Saints Fund received \$ 1,710.00! This Christmas, fifty families were helped by the Saints Fund. If, over this coming year, you receive a gift that you may want to re-gift, please keep us in mind and drop it off to the Main Office at school.

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:

Majors offered at St. Benedict's C.S.S.

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

- 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

Information & Communications
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! Sign up forms are available in the Guidance Office. More information can be found online at www.highskills.ca.

Access your 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 information about your son or daughter you can get up-to-the-minute information about their attendance.

Cash Online

You are now able to pay various fees for your child, such as Student Activity Fee, online using School Cash Online.

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash coming into our school. We are asking parents to please take 5 minutes to register. Once you are registered online, you will begin receiving emails about upcoming events.



VOL NTEER

all that's missing is U!

Volunteer at St. Benedict!

Looking into a career in education?

Have some spare time?

Or know someone who does?

Consider volunteering your time at St.

Benedict!

Please contact Mrs. Nada Offak to get started.

Nada.Offak@wcdsb.ca

519-621-4050 ext. 3089

Follow the steps below to register with School Cash Online:

Step 1: Go to the [School Cash Online website](#) or visit our school website and click on the School Cash Online link under the ★.

Step 2: Register by selecting the “Get Started Today” and follow the steps. You will need use the student’s LEGAL NAME and their STUDENT NUMBER.

Step 3: You will receive a confirmation email. Open it up and click on the link that allows you to login and add each of your children to your household account.

If you have any questions, please select the “SUPPORT” option in the top right hand area of the screen.

A Friendly Reminder...

All visitors are reminded to please sign in at the main office upon arrival at the school, our office staff will be happy to direct you to the appropriate office and/or inform your on-site contact of your arrival. We thank you for your continued cooperation and support in keeping our community safe.

Uniform reminders

Keeping your mornings simple and stress-free isn't the only benefit of uniforms, we as a school community value the safety benefit of making our community members and visitors easily recognizable. In addition, school uniforms mean that the pressure to have a wide range of new and expensive school clothes throughout the year isn't an ongoing struggle for parents and being judged by their clothes isn't a pressure for students.

All students and parents received the uniform policy for the year in the registration package and all students participated in a grade level meetings with administration to review this policy and other reminders. The policy is also contained in the student handbook which is located on our school website.

The key reminders are:

- All non-uniform items are to be removed and placed in a student's locker when they arrive to school, this includes all hats, scarves, track pants, jackets, coats etc.
- All items are to be worn as purchased and not altered
- McCarthy's navy blue or khaki pants, capris or shorts with the St. Benedict logo
- McCarthy's white/navy blue short or long sleeve golf shirt with the St. Benedict logo
- McCarthy's navy sweatshirt or navy sweater/cardigan/vest with the St. Benedict logo worn over a uniform shirt or plain white, or dark blue t-shirt.

Please ensure that you are in proper uniform throughout the day so we can get at the great task of learning without the needless interruptions or delays that occur when students need to be asked to follow the policy.

Who is your administrator?



Our 2016-17 Admin Team: Mr. Jaeger, Ms. Riley, Mr. Witt, and Mr. Borba

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

A to B: [Mr. Witt](#) (principal)

B to G: [Ms. Riley](#)

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

P to Z: [Mr. Borba](#)

Classrooms are No Phone Zones!



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



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.

(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.

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.

Attention Grade 10s!
Need extra help to prepare for the Literacy Test?

If you want extra support preparing for the OSSLT on March 30th come by Room 212 every Wednesday and Thursday after school. We will be offering OSSLT Literacy Labs focusing on improving reading, writing and test taking skills.

For more information see Ms. Craftchick, Ms. Parkinson or Ms. Hunt.

Community Build 2017

By MR. M. BERGER

This year the Community Build class is a new evolution of the Homebuild program. Students in this course from St. Benedict's and Monsignor Doyle can earn five credits over the semester – 2 Co-operative Education, 1 Construction Technology, and 2 Dual Credits from Conestoga College. Conestoga credits will be earned in Cabinet Construction and Renewable Energy.

This year we are partnered with BBE Construction and the Working Centre and will be participating in both commercial and residential construction projects. So far, as well as preparing for jobsite work, the students have been earning Specialist High Skills certification in Health and Safety, Working at Heights, Confined Spaces, and Customer Service. We are looking forward to a very exciting and productive semester.

The students have been learning skills which will be needed once they enter the 'On Site' phase of the program. Some of their training can be seen in the photographs here.



Bethany and Kendra show off benches the students have made to perfect their carpentry skills.



Student drill holes to run wires which they eventually connect to an outlet to perfect their electrical skills.

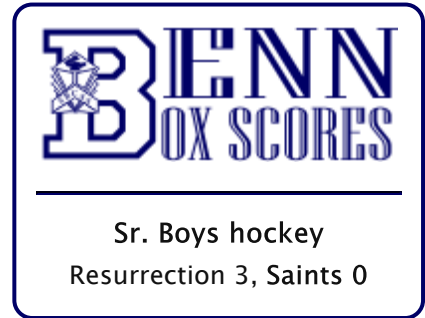


Students practice their tiling skills in the mezzanine of the Construction classroom.

Varsity Girls Soccer tryouts

By Mr. J. BAILEY

Spring is almost here, so that means it is almost time to break out the cleats and hit the pitch for another season of Varsity Girls Soccer at St. Benedicts! Any girls, from Grade 9 to 12, who interested in trying out for the Varsity Girls Soccer Team, should come to our first meeting on Friday, March 3 in Room 316 at the start of lunch. See Mr. Bailey if you are not able to be there on Friday.



Senior Boys Rugby tryouts

All players interested in trying out for junior or senior boys rugby are asked to attend a meeting tomorrow at the start of lunch, room 314.

St. Benedict Spring League Basketball Program registration begins next week

By Mr. J. MALNERICH

We wish to personally invite our future Saints to our 11th Annual St. Benedict Spring League Basketball Program which will be taking place in April and May. This 10 session program will be packed with games, contests and a complete program of instruction covering basketball fundamentals. You also receive a team reversible jersey. You will be placed on a team that will compete each week for the League Championship. Awards and prizes will be given out.

The league will take place on Tuesday evenings beginning April 4th and will end on May 30th. The Freshman Division (Grades 4-6) will run from 6pm to 7:30pm and the Senior Division (Grades 7&8) will run from 7:30pm to 9pm. Go to our school website (<http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca>) and select "Athletics" then "Spring Basketball Program". Schedules, program information and registration forms are all there. Cost for the league is \$80.

We will need to limit our enrollment in order to provide maximum instruction and playing time. Registration will occur on Tuesday, March 7, from 7pm to 9pm in the Atrium at St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School. Come get registered and enjoy a terrific experience!

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](#).



2017 SPRING LEAGUE BASKETBALL PROGRAM

THIS 10 SESSION PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR BOYS AND GIRLS TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS AND GAIN A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE GAME OF BASKETBALL

No basketball experience is necessary.
Players must be prepared to learn, try their best and make new friends from other schools.

Age Divisions:	Grades 4, 5, 6 Tuesdays from 6pm to 7:30pm From April 4 th to May 30 Grades 7, 8 Tuesdays from 7:30pm to 9pm From April 4 th to May 30
Cost:	\$80
Registration:	Tuesday, March 7, 2017 7pm - 9pm St. Benedict Atrium (enter through front doors by the library)

Program Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis is on developing solid fundamentals and basic principles of play in a fun and encouraging environment • Fundamental stations and/or large group instruction emphasizing offensive moves and defensive footwork • Daily League games and team competitions • Will be grouped according to gender if numbers permit • League reversible jersey for each player • Certificate of Achievement • Awards and Prizes

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOHN MALNERICH
ST. BENEDICT C.S.S.
519-621-4050 ext 3070
John.Malnerich@wcdsb.ca
Or
Go to: <http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca>
And look under "Athletics".



Coaching staff includes
John Malnerich,
(Head Boys' Coach)
and
Former and Current
Senior St. Benedict
Players

Clubs

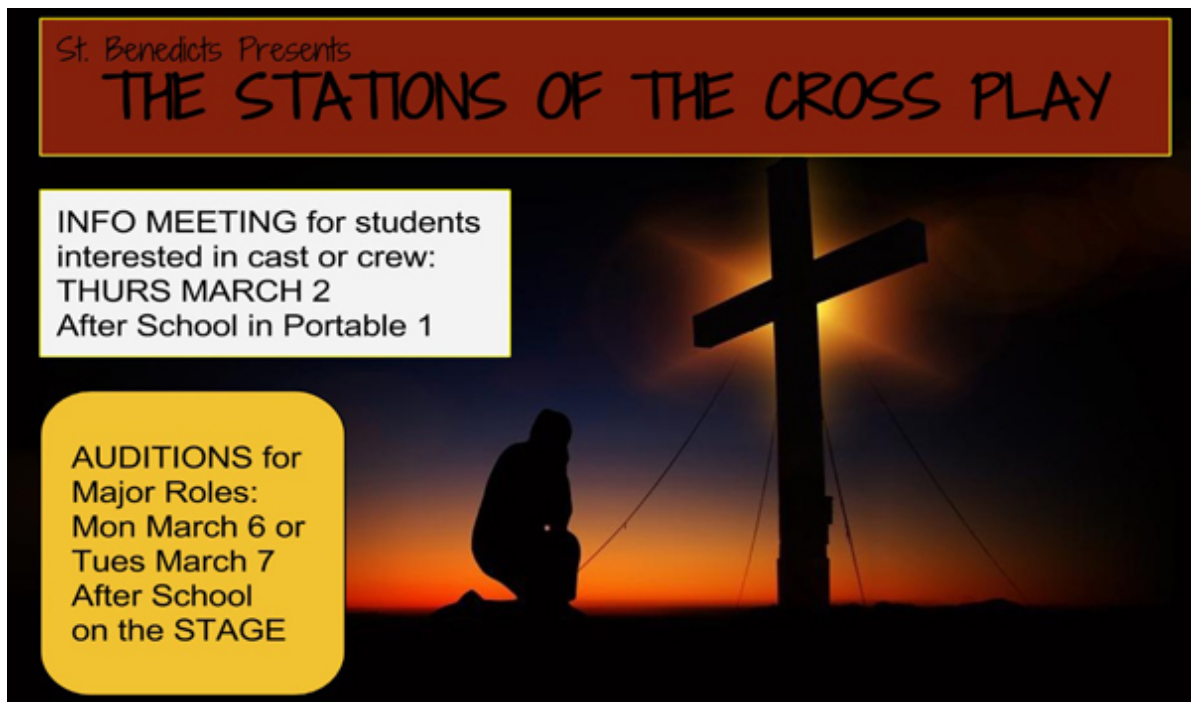
Putting your (virtual) money where your mouth is

By MR. A. MILARDOVIC

Do you like money? Do you want to learn how to make more, keep more, save more, and invest more? Then the Financial Club is the club for you! The club meets on a drop-in basis Mondays and Fridays starting this Friday. Students interested in joining this semester's stock market challenge should come this Friday or next Monday to get the access code. Come get your million dollars, and see what you can do with it by June!

Student Activities

The Arts



Other News

Rescheduling Notice - Dr. Meg Popovic

FROM ST. ANNE SCHOOL COUNCIL (KITCHENER)

We are sorry to share that our event scheduled for this Thursday, "A Conversation about Anxiety, Emotional Health & Our Kids" is going to be rescheduled. Our speaker is under the weather and it's probably best to hold off until she is well. We have had tremendous interest in this presentation, and the event has been rescheduled for April 20. Thank you for your understanding.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Support for a local family

SPECIAL TO THE BENN

Joshua is an 11 year old boy from Hespeler, born with Congenital Muscular Dystrophy, a disease with no cure that will someday sadly take his life. While his health is declining, he and his family are trying to raise money to travel and make lasting memories with the little time they have left.

Local photographer Lindsay Pardo of Juniorkins is offering FREE mini photo shoots for kids with any minimum \$50 donation to the family. Please help make their dreams come true.

For more info please visit their facebook page at

<https://m.facebook.com/juniorkinsportraiture/>

To make a donation go to <https://www.gofundme.com/346s2ww>



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 1

2:15pm Concert Band
2:15pm Games Club
2:15pm Movie Club
BENN Newsletter release
Ash Wednesday

Thursday, March 2

8:00am Photo Retake day
8:00am Graphic Design
8:00am Finance/Quickbooks workshop
10:40am Accepting Differences Club
10:40am Equestrian Club
10:40am Lacrosse meeting
2:15pm Math Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy
6:00pm Badminton Club

Friday, March 3

8:00am Specialized Care: Dementia Training
10:40am Start Trek Club
10:40am Programmers' Club
10:40am Finance Club
2:15pm Doctor Who Club
2:15pm Worship band

Monday, March 6

10:40am Reach for the Top
10:40am Robotics Club
10:40am Spirit Council
10:40am SBTV Crew meeting
10:40am Finance Club
10:40am Programmers Club

Monday, March 20

10:40am Reach for the Top
10:40am Robotics Club
10:40am Spirit Council
10:40am SBTV Crew meeting
10:40am Finance Club
10:40am Programmers Club
2:15pm Pit Band
2:15pm Flute Choir
Spring equinox
Progress Reports Distributed

Tuesday, March 21

8:00am Attraction & Event Management
10:40am Games Club
10:40am Arts Council
10:40am Movie Club
10:40am Accepting Differences Club

Wednesday, March 22

8:00am Infection Control Training
10:40am Cosmo Club
10:40am Reach for the Top
10:40am Seams Sew Easy
10:40am Robotics Club
10:40am Model UN Club
10:40am Movie Club
2:15pm Concert Band
2:15pm Games Club
2:15pm Movie Club
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, March 23

2:15pm Pit Band
2:15pm Flute Choir

Tuesday, March 7

8:00am SafeTalk – Suicide Prevention Training
8:00am Gel Nails and Manicure Techniques
10:40am Games Club
10:40am Arts Council
10:40am Movie Club
10:40am Accepting Differences Club

Wednesday, March 8

8:00am Gel Nails and Manicure Techniques
8:00am Building a strong business foundation
10:40am Cosmo Club
10:40am Reach for the Top
10:40am Seams Sew Easy
10:40am Robotics Club
10:40am Model UN Club
10:40am Movie Club
2:15pm Concert Band
2:15pm Games Club
2:15pm Movie Club

Thursday, March 9

8:00am Working at Heights Training
10:40am Accepting Differences Club
10:40am Equestrian Club
10:40am Lacrosse meeting
2:15pm Math Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy
6:00pm Badminton Club

Friday, March 10

10:40am Start Trek Club
10:40am Programmers' Club
10:40am Finance Club
2:15pm Doctor Who Club
2:15pm Worship band

Sunday, March 12

Purim
Daylight Saving Time starts

Monday, March 13

March Break

Tuesday, March 14

March Break

Wednesday, March 15

March Break

Thursday, March 16

March Break

Friday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day
March Break

8:00am Conflict Resolution &
Lifting/Transferring Patients
10:40am Accepting Differences Club
10:40am Equestrian Club
2:00pm Parent/Teacher Interviews
2:15pm Math Club
2:15pm Seams Sew Easy

Friday, March 24

10:40am Start Trek Club
10:40am Programmers' Club
10:40am Finance Club
2:15pm Doctor Who Club
2:15pm Worship band
Overnight Fast

Saturday, March 25

Overnight Fast

Did you know?

**There are over 1,500 entries
on our school calendar on the
website!**

**This means plenty of opportunities
for your son or daughter to get
involved!**

Check the calendar on our 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.

**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.

