



Volume 10, Issue 1 - August 23, 2017

Welcome to the new BENN Newsletter!

By Mr. A. Milardovic

Over the summer we have been hard at work transitioning the school website over to the WordPress platform. In the process, we have had to make adjustments to our beloved *BENN Newsletter*. It too will be developed under WordPress.

If you are new to St. Benedict and the *BENN*, then this is your first exposure to our newsletter. Welcome! To parents of returning students, we are glad that you are still with us.

With all the changes we are making, we still hope to provide you with a bi-weekly glimpse into the life of your son or daughter at St. Benedict.

As always, we invite you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Although the *BENN* comes out bi-weekly, as is customary the first two issues come out on two consecutive Wednesdays; between this week's issue and next week's issue we hope to provide you with insight into the many clubs and sports that your son or daughter can partake in. Please do visit our newly revised website for more information!

Saints' Secrets for a Successful School Start

Registration Days

Registration takes place next Wednesday and Thursday, August 30 and 31. Registration and yearbook/student card photos will take place *in the cafeteria--not in the gym as was stated in previous correspondence*. Please bring a uniform shirt for your photo!

Lockers and locks are assigned to students for their entire time at St. Benedict's. New students will receive their lock and combination at registration as well as an assigned locker location. Only St. Benedict *Dudley* locks may be used on lockers – all others will be removed.

Student timetables are distributed at registration. If you have a timetable issue go to the **Guidance Department** to book an appointment to see your counsellor. All changes require parent approval.

Wednesday, August 30

8:30 a.m.: Grade 9's from St. Margaret's, Blessed Mother Teresa, St. Elizabeth, St. Gabriel

9:45 a.m.: Grade 9's from Christ the King, St. Peter's, St. Joseph's, St. Michael's, Our Lady of Fatima

10:30 a.m.: Grade 9's from all Galt, Preston & Hespeler Public Schools

11:00 a.m.: All Grade 12's and returning Grade 12's

Thursday, August 31

8:30 a.m.: All grade 10's

10:30 a.m.: All grade 11's

Please refer to the registration papers from the summer for more information.



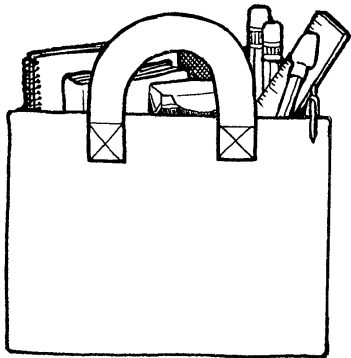
Do students have to be at school on Tuesday, September 5 or Wednesday, September 6?

Both.

On Tuesday, September 5, students have to be in their period 1 class for 10:30 a.m. Morning bus run will be 2½ hours later than normal morning pick-up time. Students who do not have a period 1 class should report to the Lecture Hall. At 11:30, grade 10-12 students will be dismissed, buses are scheduled to depart the school at 11:45. Grade 9 students will remain for Link Orientation (with lunch provided), and will be dismissed at the regular 2:05 time.

Students do **not** need to be in uniform on Tuesday.

Wednesday is the first full day of classes. Students are expected on time and **in uniform** for all of their regularly scheduled classes.



Got your eyes on school supplies?

If you are looking to update that old binder or brighten up that pen collection, you may want to make one more stop online before you hit the stores. On the school website we have updated the page **What you need** to help you be prepared for your classes. On this page you will find many of the courses listed, including requirements and suggestions for materials needed for them. While not all courses are listed, the page will give you a good idea of *what you need to succeed*.

Student transportation information

Students can check their transportation eligibility by going to www.stswr.ca and clicking on **Transportation Eligibility**. It is recommended that students eligible for transportation verify the details as **stop locations and times may have changed**.

Transportation details can be retrieved by visiting www.stswr.ca on August 21, 2017 and clicking on Student Login. Ontario Student Numbers are needed in order to log in and access transportation details.



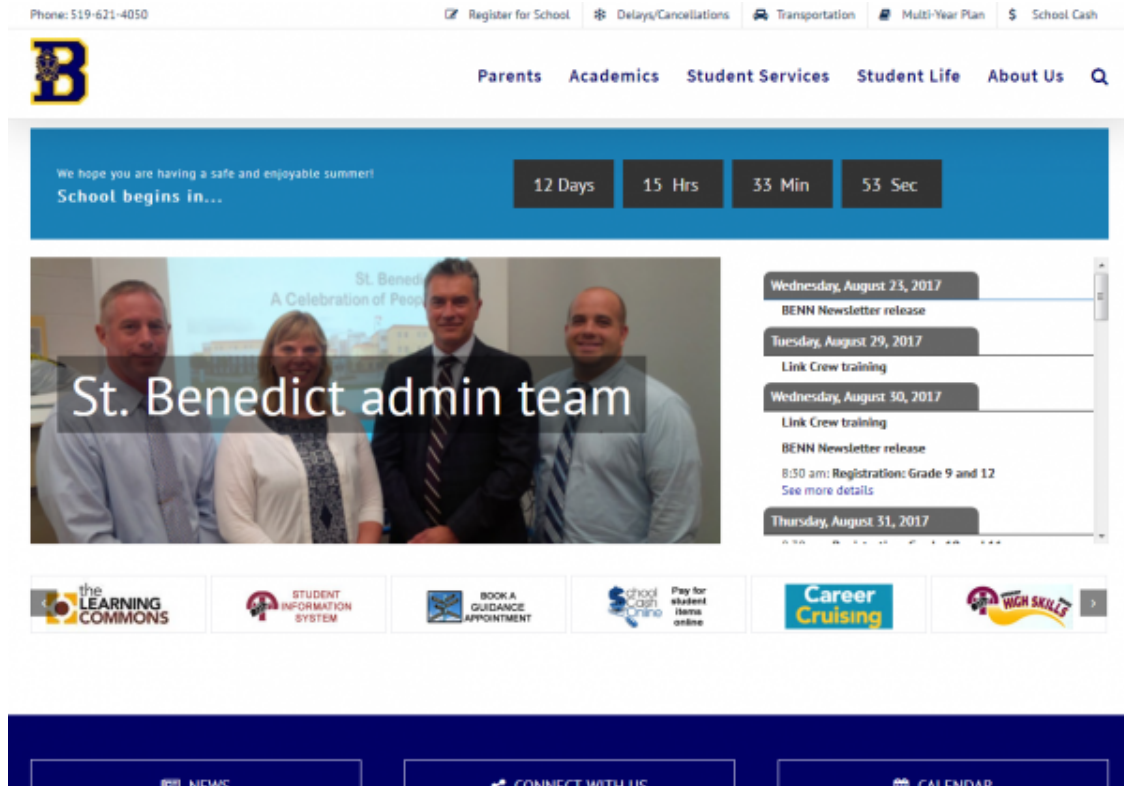
New St. Benedict school website launched

By Mr. A. Milardovic

In early August, the final touch-ups were made and the new school website was launched. Three months in the making, the new site--affectionately dubbed version 3.0--was developed on the WordPress platform, unlike the first two iterations of the site which were completely coded by hand.

While the website will lose some of its *personality*, the new version provides several key advantages. Of most note is the flexibility of viewing the site across many more devices than was previously possible.

The site's homepage will still feature the information slide show, calendar, and social media feeds, and the menu has been reorganized. There is also a new announcement section which, on the home page, will show all the announcements for the site. In many instances, specific announcements pertaining to clubs, teams, and academic areas will also be displayed on their pages.



Over four hundred pages were cleaned up, updated, and converted over to the new platform. As new teams and clubs are created, more pages will be added.

Parents, students, and staff should have no trouble navigating the new site. Still, if you are looking for something and cannot find it, please email the [webmaster](#).

Saints travel to Japan

By Mr. M. Mascarenhas



Konichiwa! This past summer 36 students and 5 supervisors from the Waterloo Catholic District School Board traveled to Yokohama, Japan as part of their involvement in the Japanese Exchange Program. Eleven of our very own Saints participated in the excursion.



Paradise and Tokyo Disney.

After hosting Japanese students from the Yamate International School in their homes this past April, the students made a return visit to live with Japanese host families for two weeks.

While in Japan, the students experienced the beauty and history of Japan by visiting Buddhist Temples and Shinto Shrines, eating traditional Japanese food, and watching various student performances during Culture Day at Yamate. The students also traveled to popular tourist destinations such as Sea

Overall, this experience was life changing for many of the students, as they formed strong friendships with teenagers who live halfway across the world. Our students truly learned to appreciate what it means to be a global citizen.

The School Board plans to offer this opportunity again in 2019. Look for details in the March and April 2018 issues of the *BENN Newsletter* if you are interested in this amazing initiative.



Fall sports season set to start



While the calendar may still tell you that it's summer, the high school fall sports season begins shortly. Watch the announcement section of the school website for tryout dates and times.

Fall sports include: Girls Basketball, Cross Country, Girls Field Hockey, Boys Football, Golf, Junior Boys Soccer, Tennis, and Boys Volleyball.

Each sport has its dedicated page, announcement feed, and schedule posted on the website calendar. Also follow our sports teams on our Twitter feed and Facebook page.

Do you want to have fun? Join a club!

We strive to be a **place for all** at St. Benedict. Currently there are over thirty different clubs and activities listed on our website. Don't see something you like? Want to start a new club? Talk to a teacher or someone in the Student Activities office... don't be afraid to start something new!

If nothing else, be sure to *get involved!*



Clemens Mills Library news

Borrow a Chromebook!

You can now borrow a Chromebook with your library card for 2 hours at a time. Just ask at the main desk in the Clemens Mill library. Did you know that you can also borrow **Sports & Outdoor Game Equipment**, **Video Games**, **Electric & Acoustic Guitars**, and more?



No Food in the Library

We need to keep the library clean at all times for students and members of the public (we are now open to the public at 10 a.m.) enjoying the space and services... and lunch food has been causing the library to be messy and smelly – yuck! What does this mean? Students are not allowed to eat in the library and will need to eat their lunch food before coming into the library.

Library Activities

We also have a new Charging Station coming this September that you can use to recharge your phone while on the go! While you're here at the library, try one of our board games, join a pop-up activity, chat quietly with friends, read or study. Check out our [event calendar](#) for all teen events.

Library Hours

We are open during school hours and on the evenings and weekends. The Clemens Mill Library is now open to the public during weekdays at 10:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday*

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Friday*

9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Saturday

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sunday**

* Students please use public library entrance after 2:00 p.m. on weekdays and on weekends.

** Open Sundays between Labour Day weekend and Victoria Day weekend.

Visit your school's [library web page](#) for more information.

Follow us online!



Thanks for the reading 😊 if you like this issue make sure to forward it to your friends.