



Volume 10, Issue 3 - September 6, 2017

## Welcome Back!

By Mr. A. Milardovic

By the time you read this newsletter, our first full school day of the year will be done. We hope it's a successful start for your son or daughter, and that it's a positive sign of things to come.

Some of the club and team information here will be a duplicate of what was in the last newsletter. We want to make sure our students see that there are many opportunities at St. Benedict to thrive beyond the classroom. If they don't see a club, sport, or activity they are interested in, they can always start the conversation with a staff member or Student Activities personnel to make a suggestion. We hope your son or daughter makes the most of their time with us, and that this is a memorable school year for them!

After this newsletter, we will go back to our bi-weekly schedule; meaning that the next *BENN* is going to be in your mailbox on September 20.

Please remember that if you need to contact a teacher, guidance counsellor or administrator, our email addresses are all on the website under **About Us > Staff List**.

## Greetings from Administration

By Mr. D. Witt, Principal

On behalf of the administrative team, Erin Riley, Delmar Borba, David Jaeger and myself, I welcome everyone back to the start of a new school year at St. Benedict C.S.S.

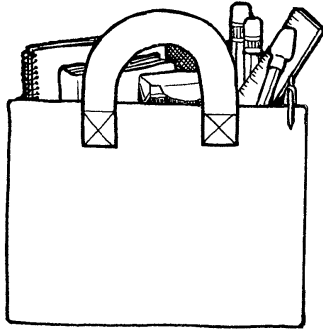
We would like to thank all our students, staff and families for all the efforts the past week to get our year off to another great start! Our Head Start program, registration days, and used uniform sale were a tremendous success. Our opening day yesterday, highlighted by our Grade 9 Orientation led by our absolutely AWESOME Link Crew, has contributed to a very exciting and positive beginning to our school year. Our hope is all students will experience success and feel connected and welcomed in our community.

Many clubs, teams and activities will be starting up in the first few weeks. We encourage students to be actively involved in our community. Students should pay attention to oral announcements as well as the info-reel on the TV screens in the Cafeteria and Atrium. Another great way to stay informed is by checking our website or following @StBenedictCSS on Twitter for the latest event information. Getting involved in the life of the school outside of the classroom is another great way to connect with community and forge new friendships in areas of interest and passion.

Again welcome back and we wish everyone a successful and Blessed school year.

## St. Benedict's in the news

• **THE RECORD:** It's all fun and games at Cambridge library



## Got your eyes on school supplies?

If you still haven't finished with back-to-school supply shopping, make sure you check out our **What you need** page before you go shopping. On this page you will find many of the courses with 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*.



## 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

## News from Guidance

By Mrs. L. O'Neill

### Update Regarding Counsellor Changes in Our Department

Please note that Mrs. Katherine Menjolian has retired and is enjoying time with her family at her cottage. Mrs. Menjolian was a valued member of our school community for over 15 years, and a member of the guidance department for the past 10 years. We wish her all the best in her retirement. Because of this there has been an adjustment in our caseloads (please see the chart below).

Mrs. Lesley O'Toole: A-Di & International Students, ext. 5190

Mrs. Karla Arkell: Dj - Ki, ext. 5636

Mr. Nick Betik: Kl - Pl, ext. 5633

Mrs. Laura O'Neill: Po - Z, ext. 5634

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

## Course changes

In order for a student to make changes they must pick up a pink sheet in Guidance and have a parent/guardian sign off on the change. Pink sheets with changes must be brought to Guidance before September 13, 2017. Please note changes are not always possible due to scheduling restrictions. Students please follow your assigned schedule until you have met with a Guidance counsellor.

## 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.

## 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 will begin at the end of September 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 announcement system, posted on the Guidance bulletin board and listed in the BENN. You can also visit <http://www.uwcambridge.on.ca/volunteer-centre.php>

**Follow us on Twitter . . . @sbenguidance for announcements about volunteer opportunities, important dates and deadlines, scholarship opportunities and everything Guidance!**

## Save the date!

### Academic Awards Night

Academic awards night has been changed from Thursday, October 19 to Thursday, October 12 at 7pm. Mark your calendars, and be prepared to celebrate the academic accomplishments of our students!

# Sports

## 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.

## Fall sport tryouts and information meetings

Please keep an eye on the school website, twitter, and Facebook feeds for up-to-the-minute information about fall sport tryouts and information meetings. Each sport has its own page and news feed which you can find on the school website under **Student Life**.

### Junior Boys Volleyball

There will be an information meeting Thursday, September 7 at lunch in room 307 for any grades 9 or 10 boys interested in the Junior Boys Volleyball team. If unable to attend, please see Mr. Berger or Ms. Gill.

### Girls golf information meeting

Anyone interested in playing Girls Golf there is a meeting at lunch on Thursday September 7th in room 317!

### FFFOOOUUURRR!

If you are interested in trying out for the varsity boys golf team, please see Mr. Krzysztofik in room 306 during the first half of lunch this Thursday.

### Tennis team information meeting

There will be a brief meeting at the start of lunch on Thursday September 7 in the lecture hall for students in all grades interested in trying out for the tennis team. If you cannot be there please see Mr. Jankura or Mrs. Crowell.

## Junior Boys Football

Junior football tryouts begin today after school and will continue all week on the front field. 2:15-4:15. Please bring athletic clothing, cleats, and a water bottle. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Reitzel.

## Junior Girls Basketball

Attention all grade 9 and 10 girls interested in play junior basketball this fall. There will be a mandatory meeting Wednesday, September 6th in the lecture hall at lunch. Tryouts will also be Wednesday from 4:15-6:00 and Thursday, September 7 2:30- 4:15. Be in the gym and ready to go by start time!

## Senior Boys Volleyball

For boys interested in playing, the tryout schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, September 7 in gym 1, 2:20-4pm
- Friday, September 8 in gym 1, 2:20-4pm
- Monday, September 11 in gym 1, 4-5:30pm

Talk to Coach Kreuger for more information.

## Junior Boys Soccer

All grade 9 and 10 boys interested in trying out for the junior boys soccer team please come to an important meeting in the lecture hall on Thursday, September 7 at 2:15, followed by a tryout on the back field. Tryouts will continue on Friday, September 8 at 2:15 on the back field. Don't forget your cleats and water bottles. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mr. Dufresne in the PHE office, Mr. Briere in room 213, or Mr. Chaves in the tech Office.

## Senior Girls Basketball

Senior Girls' Basketball team try outs are on Thursday at 4:15pm and Friday at 2:30pm. Hope to see you there. See Mr. Mascarenhas if you cannot attend.

## Senior Boys Football

Attention all Grade 11 and 12 students interested in playing football: Practices begin today immediately after school on the front field. Bring appropriate athletic wear and a water bottle. If you have not received and submitted team paperwork, you need to see Coach Vale in the Phys.Ed. office before you leave school Tuesday!

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# Clubs

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**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!*



## Do you mean business?

The DECA Business Club is about to get ready for the fierce business competition in Toronto in February, but to get there we need you to start coming to meetings next week! There are plenty of business categories to choose from, with written and oral events, and individual and partner projects. Whatever you are interested in, DECA will have a category for you!

Initially we will meet twice a week, in room 216, at lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information speak to Mrs. Ratz or Mr. Milardovic.

## SBTV to start up soon!

SBTV is looking for new members. If you like or are interested in learning how to do filming, editing, writing scripts, hosting or reporting come on out. Anyone interested in joining SBTv is invited to come to room 323 at lunch on Monday and Tuesday next week to get information and sign up.

## Reach for the top!

Interested in trivia? Join Reach for the Top trivia club. Meetings start Tuesday September 12th in room 317 at lunch.

## Math club starts next week

Starting next week on Thursday, September 14. Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 students who want to:

- be able to answer those tough questions from class
- preview up-coming math contests
- prepare for tests, assignments or final exams
- have all your questions answered
- get ready for college or university

Meet with Dr. Chernysh Thursdays after school in room 309.

## Finance Club

The Finance 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 stock portfolio.

This semester the Finance Club meets in room 216 Mondays and Fridays 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! Attendance at all meetings is not mandatory, but having fun and learning about your money is!

## Programmers Club

Are you interested in learning how to code? Or do you know how to code and are looking for a challenge? If so, programmers club is for you!

Programmers club is a good place to start if you are considering taking the grade 11 programming course, but male and female students of all skills and level of interest are invited to join!

Students with programming experience will get an opportunity to try past ECOO and UW programming contests to prepare for those contests in February and March, and participate in Project Euler online to test their programming prowess! Students in grade 9 and 10 can participate in the University of Waterloo's **Beaver Computing Challenge**.

This semester we will meet Wednesdays in room 216 during lunch. See Mr. Milardovic for details.

## Arts Council

Are you interested in the Arts program at St. Benedict? Want to help organize, run, promote different events? Arts Council is the place for you! We meet every Tuesday at lunch in room 112. Talk to Mr. Renner or Ms. Fernandes for more information.

## Doctor Who club

**“All of time and space, everything that happened or ever will...where do you want to start?”**

Doctor Who Club takes place most Fridays, immediately after school in room 226. Join us every week for adventures in time and space with fellow fans, and lots of pizza, as we watch both new and classic episodes from all 50+ years of the world's longest running (and best) science fiction & fantasy series. There are also monthly raffle prizes featuring various goodies. The Doctor is back...and it's about time.



We start back this Friday, with the final episodes of the 12th Doctor and a welcome back prize raffle. Join us for adventures in time & space, pizza & prizes, starting this Friday, after school, in room 226.

## Model UN club

Are you interested in world issues? Do you enjoy debating with friends and fellow students? Do you enjoy learning about other countries? Are you a problem solver? Would you like to make a difference in the world someday? Become a member of the Model UN club. We meet every Wednesday at lunch in Room 225. New members welcome, attendance is voluntary. See Mr. Martinello if you are interested.

## Concert Band

Come and play in the Concert Band Wednesdays from 2:15-3:30 in room 101! Concert Band is open to all students from grades 9-12 who play flute, clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, french horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion instruments. Our first meeting is Sept.13 (no instruments this first day). Fun, friends and great music! See Ms. Laforet for more details.

## Jazz Band

Looking for a different kind of music group? Enjoy playing swing, Latin, rock, funk or fusion? Join the Jazz Band Thursdays from 2:15-3:30 in room 101! Saxes, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass guitar and drums. Sign up on the music room door. Our first meeting is Sept.14 (no instruments the first day). See Ms. Laforet for more details.

## Praise & Worship

Do you like Christian praise music? Do you sing or play at your church? Maybe you write your own worship music! The Praise & Worship Team provides music for school Masses and prayer gatherings and you are welcome! Information meeting Thursday, September 7 at 2:15 in room 103. Details given at the meeting. See Ms. Laforet for more details.

## Concert Choir

The Concert Choir is forming Mondays from 2:15-3:30 in room 103 this year. Choir is open to everyone who loves to sing. We sing all styles of music and enjoy singing together in harmony. Sign up on the music room door. The first rehearsal is Sept.18. A little bit of everything for everyone. See Ms. Laforet for more details.

## Star Trek club

Are you a fan of science fiction? Then join the **Star Trek club**! Mrs. Kot is hosting and we meet every Friday at lunch in room 123 to watch an episode of various Star Trek series and films. Bring your lunch with you, hope to see you there... live long and prosper! Our first gathering will be on Friday, September 8 at lunch.

## Because I Am A Girl club

This club is about gender equality, raising awareness of the plight of girls and boys here at home and around the world who suffer as child labourers, child brides, the lack of access to education and food for girls in many cultures, and how both girls and boys need to be part of the equality solution! Girls and boys welcome! We need to work together to be part of equality solutions! We will have discussion, participate in activities and hopefully bring greater awareness to the rest of our school and home communities. Join us every Wednesday at lunch in room 123.

## Games club

Games Club will meet every Thursday starting on Sept 14th in room 227 after school. Learn how to play various strategy board games and card games such as Risk and Magic the Gathering. See Mr. Riso in room 227 for details, all are welcome.

## Lost club

Lost Club will meet every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday starting on Sept 13th in room 227 during lunch. Bring your lunch and get "Lost" in the greatest show ever, starting with season one next week. See Mr. Riso in room 227 for details, all are welcome.

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## 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.

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## Calendar of Events

Be sure to visit our school website for an updated calendar with detailed information links for most calendar entries.

### Wednesday, September 6, 2017

2:15 pm: Jr. Boys Football tryouts

2:20 pm: Sr. Boys Football practice

4:15 pm: Jr. Girls Basketball tryout

### Thursday, September 7, 2017

10:40 am: Tennis information meeting

10:40 am: Girls Golf information meeting

10:40 am: Boys Golf information meeting

10:40 am: Jr. Boys Volleyball info meeting

2:15 pm: Jr. Boys Soccer tryouts

2:15 pm: Jr. Boys Football tryouts

2:15 pm: Praise & Worship meeting

2:20 pm: Sr. Boys Volleyball tryout

2:30 pm: Jr. Girls Basketball tryout

4:15 pm: Sr. Girls Basketball tryouts

**Friday, September 8, 2017**

10:40 am: Start Trek Club  
2:15 pm: Jr. Boys Soccer tryouts  
2:15 pm: Jr. Boys Football tryouts  
2:15 pm: Doctor Who Club  
2:20 pm: Sr. Boys Volleyball tryout  
2:30 pm: Sr. Girls Basketball tryouts

**Monday, September 11, 2017**

10:40 am: Finance Club  
10:40 am: SBTV meeting  
4:00 pm: Sr. Boys Volleyball tryout

**Tuesday, September 12, 2017**

10:40 am: Arts Council  
10:40 am: Reach for the Top  
10:40 am: SBTV meeting  
10:40 am: DECA Business meeting

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

First Spirit Wednesday  
Course Change deadline  
10:40 am: Model United Nations  
10:40 am: Lost Club  
10:40 am: Because I Am A Girl Club  
10:40 am: Programmers Club  
2:15 pm: Concert Band

**Thursday, September 14, 2017**

Link Crew Mass  
10:40 am: Lost Club  
10:40 am: DECA Business meeting  
2:15 pm: Jazz Band  
2:15 pm: Games Club  
2:15 pm: Math Club

**Friday, September 15, 2017**

SAC Opening Assembly  
10:40 am: Start Trek Club  
10:40 am: Lost Club  
10:40 am: Finance Club  
2:15 pm: Doctor Who Video Club

**Monday, September 18, 2017**

10:40 am: Finance Club  
2:15 pm: Concert Choir

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017**

10:40 am: Arts Council  
10:40 am: Reach for the Top  
10:40 am: DECA Business meeting

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

BENN Newsletter release  
10:40 am: Model United Nations  
10:40 am: Lost Club  
10:40 am: Because I Am A Girl Club

10:40 am: Programmers Club

2:15 pm: Concert Band

**Thursday, September 21, 2017**

10:40 am: Lost Club

10:40 am: DECA Business meeting

2:15 pm: Jazz Band

2:15 pm: Doctor Who Video Club

2:15 pm: Games Club

2:15 pm: Math Club

7:00 pm: Grade 9 LINK Dance

7:00 pm: Grade 9 Meet the Teacher Night

**Friday, September 22, 2017**

Professional Development Day

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## Follow us online!



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