



Wednesday, December 1, 2021 - Volume 14, Issue 8

## Message from Administration

December has arrived, and we continue to appreciate the resilience of our staff and students as we observe the [Operational Guidelines](#) to keep our community safe.

We remain hopeful that we will return to a semester system in the new year. This decision will have to be supported by Public Health based on cases and other relevant data. Stay tuned for further information in the new year.

Welcome to Advent – the time to prepare for the birth of Jesus. At St. Benedict, we will celebrate the Advent season in many ways. As students enter the school, they will notice the wreath with the 4 Advent candles as an outward sign of our faith. This week, we began with a prayer service lighting the first advent candle, we will continue our preparation for the season with meaningful prayers for individual classrooms to reflect and share in the Advent Season.

In this time when we are preparing for, and awaiting the birth of Jesus, events around the world serve as reminders that we must continue to build God's kingdom of Peace, Joy and Love for our neighbour. As people of faith, our acts of charity and caring for our neighbours, as well as our daily actions, are how we help each other see the Face of God and put our faith into action. In turn, we bring a message of Peace, Hope and Love to our community. Let us continue to pray for God's grace and blessings on the St. Benedict community.

Thanks again for your on-going support. Please continue to stay safe and follow the guidance of public health, so that we all can make the most of the upcoming holiday season.

## Admin Team

**Mrs. M. Ingoldsby**  
Principal  
A-BI

**Ms. E. Riley**  
Vice Principal  
Bo-G & International

**Mr. R. Stehlik**  
Vice Principal  
H-N

**Mr. R. Roque**  
Vice Principal  
O-Z



## New Bell times

Effective Monday, November 29th, 2021

As you are aware from our last *BENN*, the lunch period has been **extended by 5 minutes**. As a result the school day has been extended until 1:45. Those that have transportation provided should have received messaging from STSWR with updated schedules.

## Positive Parent-Teacher communication

As always parents/ guardians are valuable partners in their child's education. We invite you to keep the lines of communication open as you can be an effective resource to support the learning your child. As per our WCDSB Administrative Procedures Memorandum #APC001, Communication Guidelines, we ask that all public and interpersonal communications must recognize the dignity of the individual and be conducted fairly, honestly, and with respect.

When a parent, guardian or other board stakeholder has a concern or suggestion, it is expected that the concern/suggestion will first be taken up with the staff member with whom the parent / guardian / stakeholder has the concern/suggestion. Therefore, the process outlined on the right will be followed.

1

Speak directly to the staff member. If the issue is not resolved, proceed to step two.

2

Speak to the Principal. If the person with the concern has not yet addressed the issue with the staff member involved, the Principal will ask them to do so.

3

If, having spoken to the Principal, the person with the concern believes the issue is not resolved, they may speak to the Superintendent of Learning responsible for the school.

4

If, having spoken to the Superintendent of Learning responsible for the school, the person with the concern believes the issue is not resolved, they may speak to the

5

If, having spoken to the Director of Education, the person with the concern believes the issue is not resolved, they may register as a delegation to address the Board of Trustees. Information on how to register as a delegation to the board is available in the WCDSB website. Please note that stakeholders are free to address the Board of Trustees as a registered delegation at any time, subject to any pertinent laws, regulations or board policies.

## Inclement weather reminder

## Inclement Weather Protocol

As you know, there are sometimes days in the winter when we have to cancel bussing due to the weather and unsafe driving conditions for our buses. In consultation with the public board, with whom we share bussing, when we cancel buses, we will close schools and have a remote learning day. Your teacher will communicate with you in advance so you know where to look for school work for the day and protocols on such days, but in broad terms, the teachers will post work in the morning, no later than 9:30 a.m. and students will work on their own timing in their home. It will allow all students to access some learning and we will be continuing to keep one and all safe. We realize it may not be a perfect solution and learning day, but bus snow days rarely were. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience and hope that we are not in this situation too often.

## Mr. Castela wins National award

On the evening of November, 25th our own Victor Castela, manufacturing teacher and [E.C.P.](#) Coordinator, was recognized by the [C.T.M.A.](#) as the Trades Ambassador of the Year.

Mr. Castela's recognition took place at the C.T.M.A.'s A.G.M., where several nationally recognized companies were in attendance. Also, recognized were both pre-apprentices and apprentices that demonstrated extraordinary potential in the manufacturing trades.

Since his start with W.C.D.S.B. Mr. Castela has demonstrated a relentless charge to support students in industry apprentice grade learning. His ability to connect with likeminded and influential people led him to Mr. Chris Hergott and Mr. Rob Cuttle of the C.T.M.A. along with other industry leaders, putting him in a unique position to affect the future of trade driven learning; showing trades to be a viable pathway and lucrative post-secondary option for many students.

As a teacher at St. Benedict, Mr. Castela has led the E-Car team with the help of Mr. Scott Granger, Mr. Anatol and recently, Mr. Dutto for over 10 years. What started as a small club has resulted in many eager students who passionately compete in multiple competition entries and that has further led to three student-built e-cars all of which are being updated regularly or rebuilt by the St. Benedict [E-Car club](#).

The enthusiasm that Mr. Castela creates is infectious. His unending drive to support students and industry alike will create community dividend for years to come. Congratulations Vic, from your Technology Department/Team and the Staff and Students of St. Benedict C.S.S.





# HEY GRADS!

## Get ready to SAY CHEESE!

Grad photo appointments are now available  
to book for December!

[Click here](#) to get started.

SCHOOL CODE: TBO

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## COVID-19 Screening

Just a reminder to complete the screening tool before you arrive at school. Any individual who fails the screener or who is symptomatic in any way should not be reporting to school. That is part of our collective responsibility to one another. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

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## Student pick-up and drop-off

We continue to ask parents to **enter off Green Vista into our back entrance, follow the signs in the parking lot and leave out the other exit back onto Green Vista**. We would like to see all the cars drive right through to drop off however. If student get dropped off at the start of that parking lot, it just jams up the traffic as other cars try to pull in. Otherwise, traffic is much better at the school. On the Pick up, please feel free to pull into that lot also to take some traffic away from the actual street on Green Vista.

We would also like to thank those that are dropping off and picking up students in the "Drive to 5" locations. This is also taking strain away from our congested bus routes. All your effort makes a difference and it is very much appreciated!! Thank you again as we work towards safety for all our students!!!



## St. Benedict CSS School Traffic Flow

Student safety and bus schedules  
have been impacted by onsite traffic.

### New!

A drop off/pick up loop off Green  
Vista Drive.

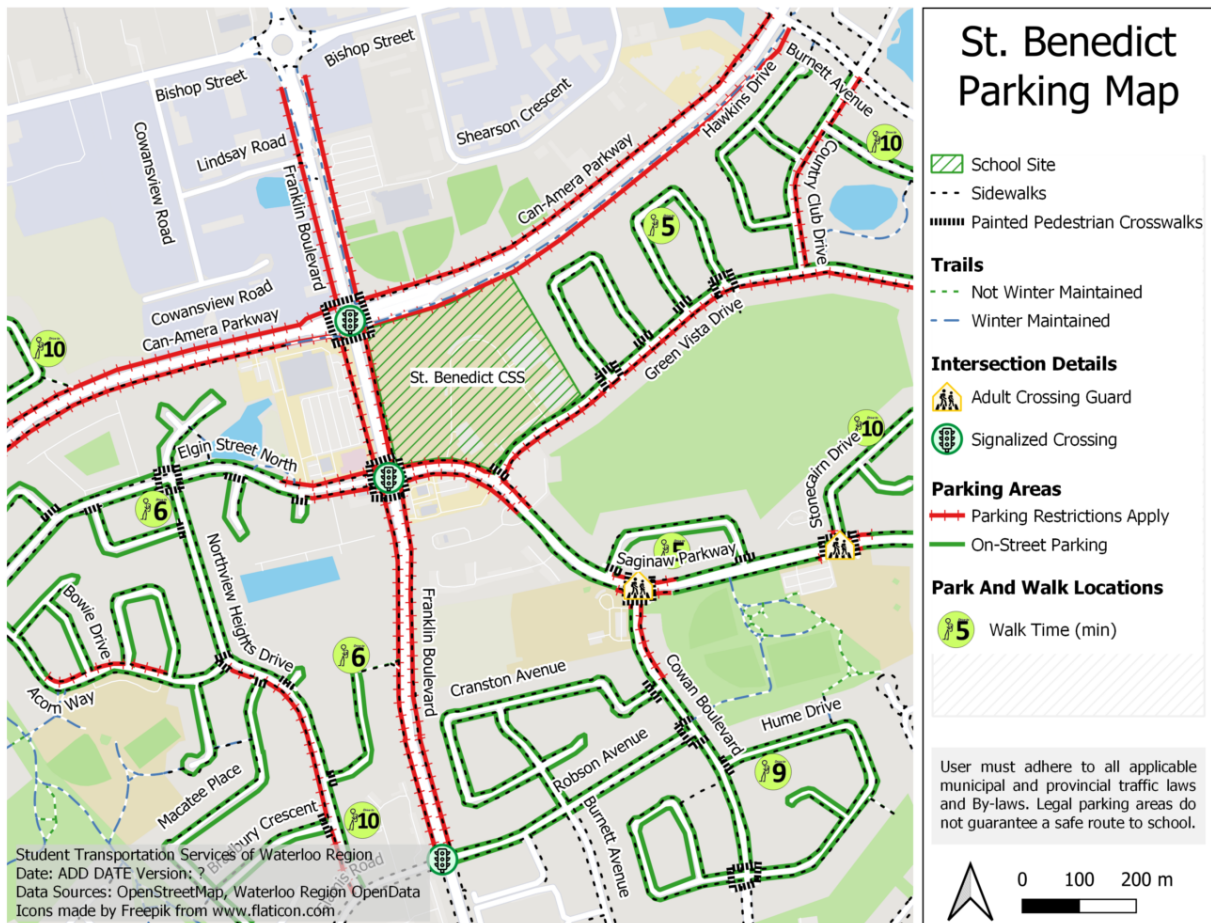
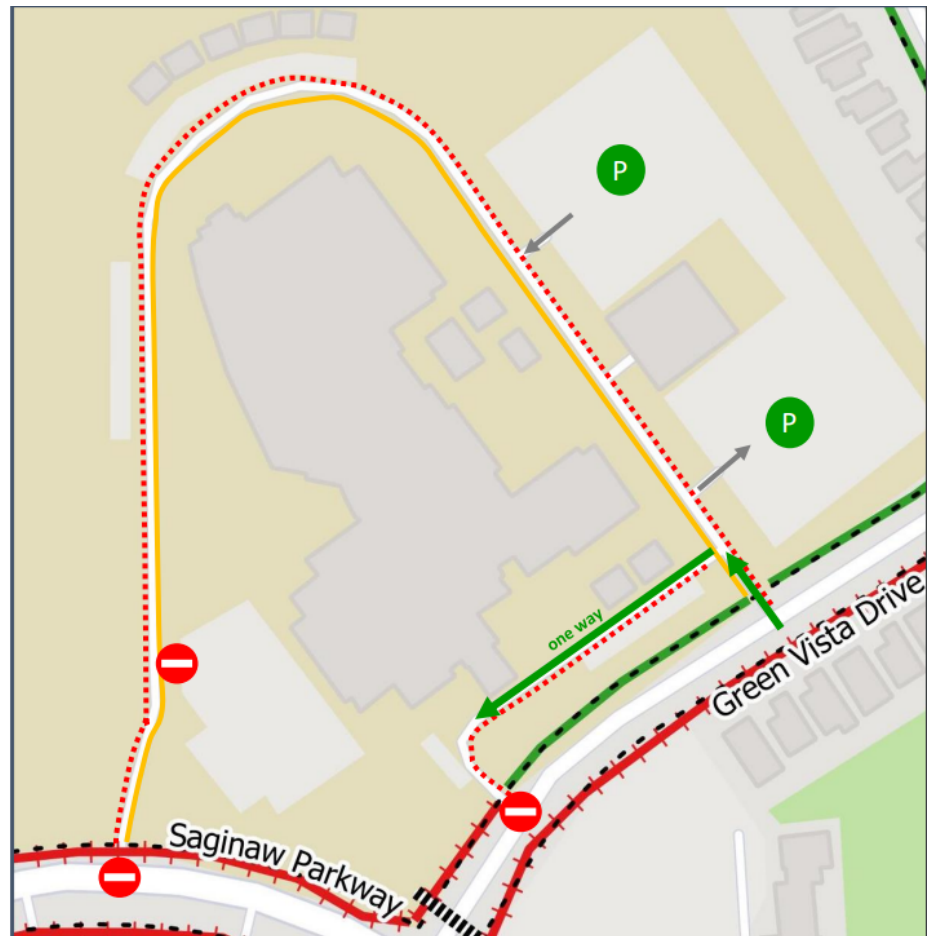
### Parking onsite?

Use the designated lot at the back of  
the school. Do not use the fire lane!

### Alternatives

Avoid school traffic altogether – ask  
for a “Drive to 5” map and walk the  
last few steps to school!

- ⋯ Fire lane  
(no parking/stopping)
- + Parking restrictions
- ⊘ Do not enter  
(buses excepted)
- Bus lane/layby
- Drop off/pick up  
(Single file only.  
Do not park.  
Do not exit vehicle.)
- On-street parking



# Benny has been kidnapped!

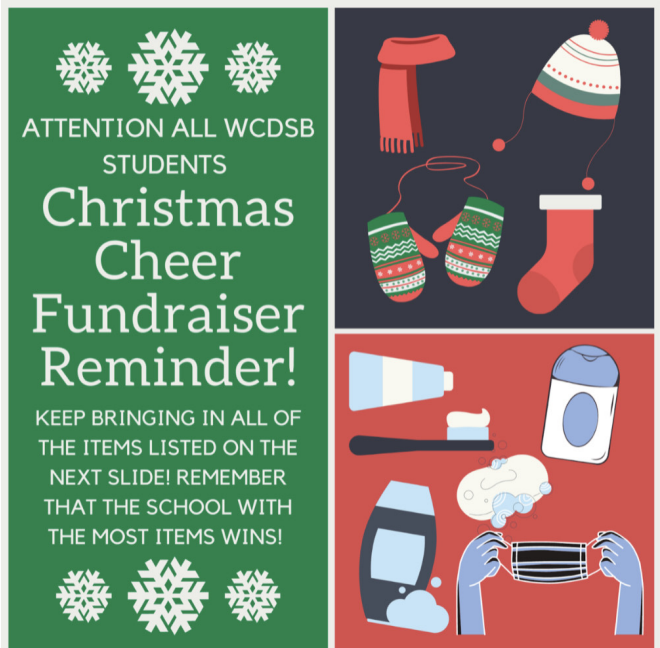
## *Help us rescue Bennie!*

Hey Saints and family members! Elves have stolen our mascot, Benny. They've let us know that he will be released... on one condition, SBCSS donates the most items in the School Board to The Bridges Shelter. Christmas cheer is a board-wide (yes, that means all the Catholic high schools) item drive competition!

We are looking for warm winter accessories, soaps, dental hygiene products, masks, menstrual hygiene products, and hair care items to be donated.

The item drive ends December 13 and winners will be announced on the 17th. Once they arrive at the school, donations may be placed in the wrapped boxes in front of the Christmas tree in the atrium.

Help us make someone in our communities Christmas a little more cheerful because every human deserves to feel normal on this very special holiday. Please check out the school website and SAC Instagram for more details.



### Items:

- Tooth brushes
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/Body wash/Conditioner
- Hats and Mitts
- Scarves
- Socks
- Masks(re-useable and disposable)
- Menstrual hygiene products
- Baby wipes
- Hand sanitizers

## Significant Days & Dates

Click [here](#) to view the most up to date calendar information.

Turn Around Date, Civics/Careers: T2 begins December 16

Parent /Student/ Teacher Interviews: Thursday December 16

### Christmas Break:

December 20 to 30, 2021 (Classes resume January 3)

### March Break:

March 14, 2022 to March 18, 2022

### Professional Activity Days:

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Friday, April 8, 2022

Friday, June 3, 2022

## Stay Connected with St. Benedict's!

Twitter

[@StBenedictCSS](#)

Instagram

[@bennies\\_sac\\_updates](#)



## Are you looking for some Spirit Wear for your Saint?

Our second round of spirit wear stores is open until December 13. Please note, **orders will NOT be in before Christmas**. They will be in by the end of January before the quad change.

There are two shops, one for regular St. Benedict spirit wear, and a second one with several options of spirit wear for the graduating class of 2022.

Pictured on the left are samples from each of the stores. Click on the links below to see other options and place your orders today!

### The links to the e-stores:

[SBCSS Spirit Wear](#)

[SBCSS Class of 2022 Spirit Wear](#)

## News from Guidance

### Who is your Guidance Counsellor?

Counsellor's Name	Ext	Last names
Mrs. O'Toole	5190	A – DI
Ms. Arkell	5636	Do – Ki
Mr. Betik	5633	KI – PI
Mrs. O'Neill	5634	Po – Z

### Guidance Google Classrooms

Once again, the Guidance department will have google classrooms available to share information with our students. Please consider joining the classrooms:

#### Grade 9 and 10

<https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzg1OTc4MjA0MDk1?cjc=7c3t6un>

#### Grade 11 and 12

<https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzg1OTc4MjA0MjMz?cjc=mxmohzx>

Scan the code below to book an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor



Then click the plus sign beside your Guidance Counsellor to book an appointment.

## Need some EXTRA SUPPORT with your classes?

HOMEWORK CLUB has started in ROOM 210. This club will help you with your LITERACY and NUMERACY needs. This program will run every Monday and Wednesday after school until the end of the school year – that's right all the way until JUNE! Come out join us! We look forward to helping you in your learning journey!



*Presented with:*



Join thought-provoking conversations to challenge the stigmas behind careers in skilled trades and technologies and discover how fulfilling and rewarding these paths really are!



**Date: December 7, 2021**  
**Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm (EST)**  
**FREE to attend**  
**Spaces are limited**

*While this event is geared toward young women in grades 7-10 and their parents/guardians, all are welcome!*

Register by December 6, 2021 by visiting [this link](#) or accessing the QR code.



For more information, contact [lchester@skillsontario.com](mailto:lchester@skillsontario.com).

Program Partners of Skills Ontario's Young Women's Initiatives



*This program is funded by  
the Government of Ontario.*

## Academics

## Beaver Computer Contest results are in!



On November 8, students in Mrs. Brennan's grade 10 Academic Math class, students in Mr. Milardovic's grade 10 Introduction to Computer Studies class, and members of the Coders Club participated in the **Beaver Computing Challenge**. Run annually by the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing at the University of Waterloo, the contest gives students in grade 9 and 10 an opportunity to compete against other students around the world to demonstrate an understanding of computer logic, sorting, and critical thinking. The fifteen multiple choice question contest focuses on solving puzzles which may not look like computer problems, but are an introduction to the computing process.

In total, fifty-four students wrote the contest. The top grade 10 student was Billy Hare, with a perfect score of 90. Congratulations Billy! Top grade 9 was Ivan Milardovic with a score of 82.

Students who scored 72/90 or higher have placed in the top 25% and will be receiving a *Certificate of Distinction*. Fourteen of our students will receive that recognition!

All students who wrote the contest should check their emails for their results, or see Mrs. Brennan in Math or Mr. Milardovic in the Business Workroom or room 216.

## Interested in learning more about the Specialist High Skills Major program?

Please go to [highskills.ca](http://highskills.ca) or drop by the coop office on the second floor to speak with Mrs. Crowell



## Athletics



### Reminder

As per District 8 and Public Health protocols

No spectators are permitted in the gym (or school) during Volleyball and Basketball games. It is our hope that these protocols change in the future.

At this time we hope that you respect these protocols and make the return of athletics enjoyable for all participants.

### Sports Results

#### JUNIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

St. Benedict CSS 3, Rockway MC 0

#### VARSITY GIRLS HOCKEY

St. Mary's HS 0, St. Benedict CSS 5

#### JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

St. Benedict CSS 77, Rockway MC 12

# Clubs

## Doctor Who Club is back!

Return to adventuring through time & space with our favourite Time Lord, watching episodes from the world's longest running SciFi/Fantasy series, now entering its 58th year.



We're picking up where we left off, with many weeks of new episodes leading up to the conclusion of Jodie Whittaker's run as the 13th Doctor...and the first woman to ever star in the role.

In celebration of our return, we're holding weekly prize raffles until we break for Christmas.

Join us every Friday after school in Room 226 for travels into the past and the future. New members are always welcome! Come share in the company of your fellow Whovians.

## Cheer Squad is back in action!

Give me a C... give me an  
H... give me an E... give  
me an E... give me an R...  
Gooooo CHEER!

Calling all Grade 12 students, the Co-Chairs of this years Cheer Squad would like to invite you to our first information meeting, this Friday during lunch in Room 124 (Cosmo Room!) Bring your smiles and your Bennies positive energy!! Can't wait to see you there!!

## Fiscal Fun in Finance Club



### Stock Market Challenge

The Finance Club is in full swing and we have even started our stock market challenge back up again! Start with \$100,000 and see how much you can make before the end of the quadmester. We are doing it a bit differently than in the past, but come see Mr. Milardovic to get your money and start trading!

### The Wealthy Barber Returns

Not all members of the Finance Club are interested in trading, but are interested in talking about finances. Through a generous donation by a local organization, several years ago we got a class set of copies of the book by Dave Chilton. Come see Mr. Milardovic to borrow a copy, and be prepared to have some discussion about what you've read at next week's meeting.

Club information is posted regularly on the [Finance Club webpage](#), please check frequently and speak to Mr. Milardovic if you have any questions.

# Student Activities

## We are getting into the Christmas season!

Here are some of the activities your SAC has planned for you as we prepare for Christmas.

### Activities for the week of December 13

#### MONDAY

Santa Bennie photo booth by the tree.

#### TUESDAY

Christmas Card Writing for Senior Citizens

#### WEDNESDAY

Christmas Civvies day

#### FRIDAY

Ugly Christmas sweater day

Candygram deliveries in the morning

Christmas decorations, candygrams, virtual assemblies and more! Follow us on Instagram for more information!

## Hey Saints!

Have a great idea?

Want it to be run by  
SAC?

Fill out the suggestion QR forms posted  
around the school and  
on the Bennies SAC instagram & maybe it will  
flourish into an event!

## Other News

### News from the Library

Clemens Mill  
**IDEA|EXCHANGE**

*Nothing new from the library in this issue! Stay tuned. :-)*

## Calendar of Events

#### Thursday, December 2

**8:00am:** Wrestling Tournament #1

**10:30am:** GSA Club

**10:30am:** Chess Club

**1:45pm:** Robotics Team

**1:45pm:** Math Club

#### Monday, December 13

Christmas Week!

10:30am: Literature Club

10:30am: Coding Club

1:45pm: Debate Club

1:45pm: Homework club

**1:45pm: Games Club**

**Friday, December 3**

**10:30am:** Cheer Squad info meeting

**10:30am:** Star Trek Club

**1:45pm:** Doctor Who Club

**Sunday, December 5**

Second Sunday of Advent

**Monday, December 6**

Grad Photos 1

**10:30am:** Literature Club

**10:30am:** Coding Club

**1:45pm:** Debate Club

**1:45pm:** Homework club

**2:30pm:** Sr. Girls Hockey vs Resurrection CSS

**3:00pm:** Jr. Boys Basketball @ Msgr Doyle CSS

**3:00pm:** Jr. Girls Volleyball vs Msgr Doyle CSS

**3:00pm:** Sr. Girls Volleyball vs Msgr Doyle CSS

**4:30pm:** Sr. Boys Basketball @ Msgr Doyle CSS

**Tuesday, December 7**

Skills Ontario Parent/Guardian Skilled Trade & Technology Information Series

**10:30am:** Chess Club

**10:30am:** Finance Club

**2:30pm:** Sr. Boys Hockey vs Resurrection CSS

**Wednesday, December 8**

**10:30am:** Literature Club

**10:30am:** Coding Club

**1:00pm:** Swimming Mini-Meet #2

**1:45pm:** Racing Saints E-car club

**1:45pm:** Homework club

**2:00pm:** Sr. Girls Hockey @ Msgr Doyle CSS

**3:00pm:** Sr. Boys Basketball @ Resurrection CSS

**3:00pm:** Sr. Girls Volleyball vs Resurrection CSS

**3:00pm:** Jr. Girls Volleyball vs Resurrection CSS

**3:30pm:** Virtual Workshop: Storytelling

**4:30pm:** Jr. Boys Basketball @ Resurrection CSS

**Thursday, December 9**

**10:30am:** GSA Club

**2:30pm:** Sr. Girls Hockey vs St. David CSS

**3:00pm:** Jr. Girls Volleyball vs St. Mary's HS

**3:00pm:** Sr. Girls Volleyball vs St. Mary's HS

**3:30pm:** Jr. Boys Basketball @ St. Mary's HS

**5:00pm:** Sr. Boys Basketball @ St. Mary's HS

**Tuesday, December 14**

**10:30am:** Chess Club

**10:30am:** Finance Club

**2:30pm:** Sr. Boys Ice Hockey vs St. David CSS

**Wednesday, December 15**

Civvies Day

BENN Newsletter release

**10:30am:** Literature Club

**10:30am:** Coding Club

**11:15am:** Swimming Mini-Meet #1

**1:45pm:** Racing Saints E-car club

**1:45pm:** Homework club

**3:00pm:** Sr. Boys Basketball vs St. David CSS

**3:00pm:** Sr. Girls Volleyball @ St. David CSS

**3:00pm:** Jr. Girls Volleyball @ St. David CSS

**3:30pm:** Virtual Workshop: Digital Art

**4:30pm:** Jr. Boys Basketball vs St. David CSS

**Thursday, December 16**

Turn Around Date for Careers/Civics

**8:00am:** Wrestling Tournament #1

**10:30am:** GSA Club

**10:30am:** Chess Club

**1:45pm:** Robotics Team

**1:45pm:** Math Club

**1:45pm:** Games Club

**2:00pm:** Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

**Friday, December 17**

**10:30am:** Star Trek Club

**1:45pm:** Doctor Who Club

**Sunday, December 19**

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Monday, December 20**

Christmas Break

**Friday, December 24**

Christmas Eve



**10:30am:** Chess Club  
**1:45pm:** Robotics Team  
**1:45pm:** Math Club  
**1:45pm:** Games Club  
**3:00pm:** Sr. Boys Hockey @ Msgr Doyle CSS

**Friday, December 10**

**10:30am:** Star Trek Club  
**1:45pm:** Doctor Who Club

**Sunday, December 12**

Third Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 25**

Christmas Day

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*Be sure to check out the  
calendar on the school  
website for updates!*

**The BENN Newsletter**

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