

St. Benedict Catholic School

80 McLaughlin Ave., Milton ON L9T 8N2

Website: <http://schools.hcdsb.org/bene> T: 289-851-9353

Principal: Mr. Josey Guerin

Vice Principal: Miss Penny Uniacke

Secretary: Mrs. Diane Reggi

Office Assistance: Mrs. Anna Guzzo

Superintendent: Mr. Camillo Cipriano

Trustee: Mrs. Diane Rabenda

Administrator's Message

The beautiful weather of the early fall is beginning to fade and winter is just around the corner. We wish to thank everyone for another very productive start up to the school year. Later this month the teachers will meet with you to discuss your child's progress. This is a great time to identify goals for your children that will help ensure their continued academic success.

We wish to thank everyone for their assistance as we continue to make the kindergarten drop off less congested in the morning. Please take a moment to park if you want to linger for a few minutes. The Kiss and Ride area is reserved for a quick drop off.

November is a time for us to pause and reflect upon the wonderful freedoms and privileges we have as Canadians and to be thankful for those who have protected them.

Mr. J. Guerin and Miss P. Uniacke



Upcoming Events

November 2

- Grade 8 Tour of Jean Vanier
- Confirmation Group A @ 7PM

November 3

- Picture Retakes
- Vaccinations Gr. 8
- Confirmation Group B @ 7PM

November 7

- School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

November 11

Remembrance Day Liturgy @ 10:35am

November 16

Vaccinations Gr. 7

November 22

- Progress Reports go home
- Early French Immersion Parent Meeting 6:30pm @ St. Benedict

November 24

Parent Teacher Interviews- evening

November 25

PA Day - Parent Teacher Interviews

November 30

Advent Confessions @ 9:45 AM

December 1

Gr. 5 Extended French Parent Meeting 6:30pm @ St. Benedict

Follow St. Benedict on Twitter:
@StBeneHCDSB



St. Benedict Catholic School Council News

Our first major fundraiser took place on October 28th where we raised funds with a Dance-A-Thon to support School Improvement Plan initiatives. We thank all our council members who worked diligently to secure prizes to support us. A special thanks to our Fundraising committee.

On behalf of the staff and students we wish to express our gratitude for your generous support of our school. The Pledge forms continue to come in and we are very blessed with such a supportive community.



Our next Council Meeting is November 7th at 6:30pm. All parents are welcome!

If there are any ideas or suggestions that you wish to be considered by Council they must be presented in writing to the Chair a minimum of 48 hours prior to the next meeting

Safe Arrival

Thank you to all parent/guardians for calling in their child's absence. Just a reminder that if your child will be absent to call the school at (289) 851-9353 and press 1 to be directly linked to our Safe Arrival Program.

If you need **to pick up your child early** for an appointment, please send a note to your child's teacher indicating the time of pick up. This will minimize interruptions to the learning in our classrooms.

All Saints Day – Tuesday, November 1st

All Saints Day is the first of a two day celebration of the saints and all who have died. It is at this time of the year that we

celebrate the communion of saints – the union of prayer and love between saints in earth and in heaven. As a community we join together to sing our song of praise to God and to all the saints. St. Benedict ... pray for us.

All Souls Day – Wednesday, November 2nd

All Souls Day is the second day of our remembrance of the dead, when we remember our relatives and friends who have died. Many of them are not famous. Their statues are not in the church, but their pictures are in our homes and their stories are alive in our families and in our hearts. We pray for them and we remember them with love

Remembrance Day

Please join us for a Liturgy on Tuesday, November 11th at 10:35 a.m. in our school gymnasium.

If you have a family member who is a Veteran, please let the office know if they will be attending. We would consider it a privilege to honour our Veterans by having them join us. If your child belongs to a scouting group, please feel free to have them wear their uniform on November 11th.

During the First and Second World Wars, millions of men and women fought, risked their lives and even died in their efforts to defeat tyranny, and to preserve freedom for all of us. 112,331 Canadians paid the supreme sacrifice in war – and we remember!

Poppies will be available on the 11th should you wish to make a donation.

Volunteer Update

Thank you for volunteering at our school, we greatly appreciate your time. If you have not done so already and would like to volunteer at our school, please submit a current Criminal Reference check to the office.

Please note that a Criminal Reference check does not need to be done if previously on file, but the listed forms below do need to be completed and submitted each year.

- Volunteer Application – Don't forget to check off the boxes indicating the areas you would like to participate in this year.
- Signed Volunteer Criminal Offence Declaration form. Returning volunteers must sign this form each year. New volunteers must submit their CRC/VSS.
- If applicable, the Volunteer Driver form.

If you need some forms, please contact the office. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you. **Please note: All forms are required before assuming any volunteer duties!**

Professional Activity Day – November 25th

Friday, November 25 is designated as a Professional Activity Day. Teachers will be involved in parent teacher interviews.
Students do not attend school on this day.

Progress Reports

The Ontario Provincial Elementary Progress Report Card will be sent home on **Tuesday, November 22, 2016** for students in grades 1 to 8. Teachers use this Progress Report Card to show a student's development of learning skills and work habits during the fall of the school year, as well as the student's general progress in working towards the curriculum expectations in all subject areas. Interviews will be scheduled for the evening of

November 24 and during the day on the 25th, or at a mutually agreed upon time. This progress report will be used to guide the conversation between teacher and parents. Interview request forms will be sent to you. Confirmed times will be with the progress report.

FDK Observations

From November 14-24th, parents will be given a day and time to come in and observe their child in the FDK classroom. More information will be sent home from the teachers.

SEAC – Raising Awareness of Special Education Services at HCDSB

WHAT IS AN IPRC?

The Identification, Placement and Review Committee, "IPRC" for short, is a committee which determines whether or not a student can be identified as "exceptional", according to Ministry definitions.

Categories of exceptionalities include behaviour, communication, intellectual, physical or multiple.

The IPRC meeting can be initiated either by the school or parent, if either party feels that the student could benefit from special education programming. Parent requests should be made in writing to the Principal of the school. Schools are required to convene an IPRC in response to parental requests. The IPRC will decide whether the student is an exceptional pupil and, if so, what type of educational placement is appropriate. The IPRC process also determines the appropriate classroom placement for the student, based on their strengths and needs which are outlined in the student profile. On the basis of

these discussions, the IPRC can recommend the special education programs and/or services that it considers to be appropriate for the student.

Parents are encouraged to attend all IPRC meetings and the school must make every effort to accommodate the parent's availability when scheduling the meeting. Parents are encouraged to provide their input into developing the student profile and recommending the appropriate placement for their child as parental input is a very important consideration in the process. All students identified as exceptional through this process must be provided special education programming to be outlined in an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The IPRC meets annually and while parents have the option to waive the meeting, it is a good opportunity to touch base with your child's Special Education team.

Parents have the right to an appeal if they do not agree with the IPRC's decisions. More information can be found in the Parent Guide, available at your school office or on the Board website.

<http://www.hcdsb.org/Programs/SpecialEducation/Pages/default.aspx>

ECO News

The Eco Club is up and running and we are excited for the new year! This month we are directing a No Idling Campaign, so watch for us in the parking lot after school! We are also doing some fundraising with MacGregor Meats. Please order by November 16 either by Cash Online or sent in with your student. Pick up will be at our school on November 23 in the evening. We are hoping to raise enough funds to put another water

bottle filling station on our second floor as well as send a donation to Halton Children's Youth Foundation. Trashless Tuesday's will be starting up. Please bring only re-usable items in your lunches! Remember at home, to put your garbage and recycling in the correct bins to help our environment!

Spirit News

Thank you to everyone who helped raise money last month for our school fundraiser. This month's Spirit Day will be Paint the town Red day on Friday, November 18th. Students are encouraged to wear Red and bring in \$2 to support the United Way. Thank you!



Winter Weather

Cold weather is here again! Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. All students should wear boots, hats, gloves or mittens, warm coats and scarves. All students will be going outside during the recess and lunch periods, except when the weather is extremely cold and we keep all students indoors. Playing outdoors is a pleasant and healthy activity when students are wearing suitable clothing.

With winter approaching all students should by now have a pair of "indoor shoes." These extra shoes serve many functions, safety being the primary one. Students will not track water into classrooms making them potentially slippery and dangerous. Also students will be more comfortable when wearing dry shoes in the classroom and therefore more able to concentrate on academics.

Weather Watch

Please note that for news about HCDSB school closures and/or bus cancellations due to inclement weather you can tune in to the following radio stations commencing at 6:30 a.m.

CFRB TORONTO 1010 AM
CHFI TORONTO 98.1 FM
CJOY GUELPH 1460 AM
CHWO OAKVILLE 1250 AM
CHML HAMILTON 900 AM
CKOC HAMILTON 1150 AM
CKMW BRAMPTON 790 AM
CJBC (French) TORONTO 890 AM
CING BURLINGTON 108 FM
CKDS HAMILTON 95.3 FM
CKLH HAMILTON 102.9 FM

Grade 1 Early French Immersion Parent Meeting for 2017-2018 School Year (Current SK Students)

An information night for parents interested in the Early French Immersion Program will take place on **November 22nd at 6:30 PM**. It will take place at St. Benedict School in the Gymnasium.

Grade 5 Extended French Program Parent Meeting for 2017-2018 School Year (Current Gr. 4 Students)

An information night for parents interested in the Extended French Program will take place on **December 1st at 6:30 PM**. It will take place at St. Benedict School in the Gymnasium.

Kidssentials Hot Lunch Program

Kidssentials has been serving lunches in our school for a few weeks now. **To place an order and view the menu:** Visit www.kidssentials.com/parents and create your family account.

For more information about Kidssentials meals and any allergy related inquiries, visit the website at www.kidssentials.com. Kidssentials can also be reached by phone at 905-855-1914 or by e-mail at mail@kidssentials.com

St. Vincent De Paul

St. Vincent De Paul has asked for our support for the Christmas season. Each classroom is asked to donate gift cards or money (which the organization will buy gift cards with based on community needs) to help a family in our community. Because storage of items is difficult, they've asked us to donate gift cards/money. The drive will take place the last few weeks of November and the gifts will be picked up on December 9th. More information will be coming from your child's teacher and we thank you in advance for your generosity. St. Vincent De Paul offers assistance to the community in a number of ways. The number to call for assistance is 905-875-7995.

Operation Christmas Child

On Friday November 4th, the St. Benedict school community will begin preparing for Operation Christmas Child. This initiative encourages each family to fill a shoe box which will be sent to needy children overseas. This opportunity connects with our Focus on Faith in every grade and is a tremendous opportunity for our students to help others, to see the power of generosity, and the effects that one school community has to improve the lives of others at Christmas.

An information letter and a box will be sent home with students. We ask that you let your child's teacher know if you would like more shoe boxes to fill on behalf of your family. We appreciate your generosity.



Grade 7 Confirmation takes place on Wednesday, Nov. 2nd and Thursday, November 3rd at 7:00 PM at St. Benedict School.

All Sunday masses are held at Our Lady of Fatima School on Bolingbroke Dr. Mass takes place on Saturdays at 5:00pm and Sunday masses are at 9:00am and 11:00 am. Please

visit the St. Benedict Parish website at: www.stbenedictparish.ca for more information.

Please be advised that **due to the popularity of the topic of this session below, we have moved the presentation to Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School** (2420 Sixth Line, in Oakville). The presentation will begin as originally scheduled, at 7:00 p.m.



Community and Parent Partners for Kids

Understanding Mental Health Issues and Nurturing Positive Mental Health in Our Youth

Guest speaker: Dr. Jane Storrie

Dr. Jane Storrie is a Burlington-based psychologist and founding partner of Storrie, Velikonja and Associates, a full-service psychology practice. She also offers three multi-disciplinary specialty clinics providing assessment and treatment of child and youth mental health issues, concussion and dementia.

In this fast-paced and plugged-in world, our children seem to be increasingly struggling with mental health issues. This presentation will:

- provide information about how to promote positive mental health in youth;
- introduce common mental health issues affecting youth;
- help parents understand when they should be concerned; and
- explain how to find professional support and services.



Date: **Tuesday, November 15, 2016**

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m., community displays are from 6:45 to 7 p.m.

Location: Gary Allan High School/New St. Education Centre

3250 New Street, Burlington

Admission is **free**, but, donations toward future speakers will be gratefully accepted.

For more information visit halton.ca/capp or dial 311



English-speaking American Sign Language interpreters are available upon request. If you wish to use this service at this event, please contact Halton Region by Tuesday November 1, 2016.

In the event of poor weather conditions, please dial 311 for cancellation information.

