

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 Assistant: Mrs. Anna Guzzo

Superintendent: Mr. Camillo Cipriano

Trustee: Mrs. Diane Rabenda

Administrator's Message

Our new school year has gotten off to a great start! It is our goal as a staff at St Benedict School to promote the spiritual, academic, social, and emotional growth of **all** students in an environment that fosters success, self-worth, respect for others and life-long learning. As primary educators, we trust you will continue to support us in our co-operative effort and in the best interest of all children at St. Benedict School.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us for our Curriculum Night. It was a wonderful demonstration of your commitment to Catholic Education and to your children. Special thanks to our **staff** for their time and hard work in preparing for the evening.

Our hearts are thankful as we prepare to celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving ... may God bless all of the families of our school community with good health, great joy and peace in all the years to come! Happy Thanksgiving!

Mr. J. Guerin and Miss P. Uniacke



Upcoming Events

September 30

Cross Country Gr 6-8 @ Bronte Park

October 1

Cross Country Gr 4-5 @ Bronte Park

October 6

Thanksgiving Day Liturgy @ 1:30

October 7

PA Day – no school for students

October 10

Thanksgiving Day– no school

October 18

Gr 7 Confirmation Retreat @JV

October 28

Hallowe'en Dance-a-Thon

October 29

Gr 2 Reconciliation

Follow St. Benedict on
Twitter:

@StBeneHCDSB



St. Benedict Catholic School Council 2015-2016

On Monday September 26th our 2016 - 2017 Catholic School Council was commissioned. The following individuals were acclaimed:

Melissa Foreman – Co-Chair
Christine Larkin – Co-Chair
Sandra Alva – Parent Rep
Drazen Bertovic – Parent Rep
Michelle Bogle – Parent Rep
Kylie Dillon-Alcasid – Parent Rep
Marvin Duarte – Parent Rep
Marnie Ivanich – Parent Rep
Martin Pajak – Parent Rep
Pervin Pereira – Parent Rep
Carolina Rey – Parent Rep
Kristina Stajduhar – Parent Rep
Summer Saadi - Community Rep
Linda Murray – Non Teacher Rep
Angela Casera – Teacher Rep



Please come out to support your new council at our Council meetings. The next School Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. Following each meeting the minutes are prepared and then vetted. Once approved, they will be posted on our school website. All parents are invited to attend the Council meetings. All School Councils serve as an advisory body to the Principal. Please see the excerpt from the Education Act Ontario Regulation 612/00; School Councils.

Purpose

2. (1) The purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the

education system to parents. O. Reg. 612/00 .s. 2 (1)

(2) A school council's primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations in accordance with this Regulation to the principal of the school and the board that established the council. O. Reg. 612/00. s. 2 (2).

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.

Student Accident Insurance

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Halton Catholic District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Since accidents can happen, and some injuries result in medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans, as a parent, you may wish to consider purchasing student accident insurance.

Student accident insurance can provide you with financial piece of mind against the possible expenses that can be incurred if a child is injured at school.

The Board makes available an Accident and Life Insurance Program for students exclusively through Old Republic/Reliable Life Insurance Company. Participation is voluntary and the costs for the program are paid by the parent or guardian. The program offers a variety of plans and benefits, which can be tailored to suit your needs. The coverage provided by the policy is comprehensive and reasonably priced (\$8.00 to \$32.00 per year depending on plan chosen).

The insurance agreement is between the parent or guardian and the insurance company. If you wish to subscribe or for more information, please visit:

www.insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

Principal Awards

Beginning in October, teachers are going to choose one student from their class to be the recipient of a Principal Award. Reasons for the students being chosen may vary from the child displaying extra acts of kindness and respect, to a child trying their best or persevering through a challenging task. The certificate will be presented by Mr. Guerin or Ms. Uniacke to the recipient at the end of the month. Coinciding with the Principal Awards, there will be a Shining Star celebration. When staff witness random acts of kindness, generosity, respect or an act that they deem worthy of a Shining Star ballot, one may be given to that individual student. Students will place their ballots in their classroom plastic jar. At the end of the month, a Shining Star ballot will be drawn. Students who receive a Principal

Award or Shining Star will be given a \$5.00 gift card.

School Uniforms

According to our school board policy (II-41), the Halton Catholic District School Board determined that all elementary schools adopting a uniform will have one that consists of a combination of navy blue and white only. **The uniform supplier for the Halton Catholic District School Board is R.J. McCarthy's and all uniform pieces must be purchased through this supplier.** Students are expected to be in McCarthy navy and white. All shirts and tops have the St. Benedict crest on them and are the only approved tops. Pants, shorts, skirts, and tunics must also be purchased through McCarthy's. You are welcome to choose appropriate footwear for your children, however, please be aware that flip flops, crocs and some styles of boots pose a significant risk to children at play.

School Cash Online

Please note that payments (field trips, pizza, etc.) are available through our schools Cash Online System found at:



<https://hcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

Dance- a -Thon

On October 28th, the staff and students at St. Benedict School will be participating in a Dance- a – thon. The purpose is to raise money to purchase curriculum support materials to enhance student learning and engagement in support of our School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement

(SIPSA). With your help, we hope to reach a goal of \$10 000.00. The funds will directly impact your child's catholic learning experience through the purchase of classroom prayer table items, and technology supports (iPads, surface pros, interactive whiteboards, and related accessories).

Kidssentials Hot Lunch Program

Kidssentials is very different from other companies. They serve food fresh onsite and they don't pre-package anything that will get soggy or mushy.

100% Nut Free facilities and products - menus always include allergen-free entrées (gluten, soy, egg, sesame, seafood, and dairy free) including vegetarian options, healthy snacks and beverages.

For more information about Kidssentials meals and any allergy related inquiries please contact Kidssentials directly. 905.855.1914 / mail@kidssentials.com / www.kidssentials.com

Pita Lunches

The Pita lunch program has begun. Look for flyers to come home each session. This program be available to students every Tuesday.



Pizza Program

We are pleased to announce that Pizza Pizza will be our pizza supplier for the year. We will be offering a white crust cheese pizza that meets the Healthy Lunch criteria mandate by the Ministry of Education. Pizza days will begin October 8th and continue every Thursday for the remainder of the school year. We will be collecting funds twice during the school year; now and in January. Thank you

to all families who participate in this program. All funds raised will go towards enhancing programming here at the school.

Drop Off & Pick Up



We would like to thank you for your continued patience during the drop off and pick up times. As always, safety of our children is our utmost concern. Please remember that the front driveway is for buses and emergency vehicles only. We ask that you continue to respect the kiss and ride. If you would like to stay with your child until the bell rings, please find a parking spot. This will ensure that traffic can move freely through the parking areas.

Volunteer Update

Thank you to all our volunteers that have already committed to helping our school become a vibrant place of learning for our students. For those parents who have volunteered at one of our HCDSB schools in the past year, please contact that school to forward your Criminal Reference Check. 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!**

Cross Country

Good Luck to all of the boys and girls who will participate in the Halton Catholic District School Board Cross-Country Meet on Friday, September 30th (grades 6-8) and Saturday, October 1st (grades 4, 5, & Special Olympics). We are proud of all of our runners for their enthusiasm, effort and commitment. Thanks to all of our parents and staff who will attend to cheer for our teams. A special thanks to our coaches.

Volleyball Action

Best of luck to our Senior Boys' and Girls' Volleyball Teams who will be starting their seasons this month. Thanks to our coaches.



Thanksgiving Liturgy

We will be celebrating as a community on Thursday October 6th at 1:30 PM. Mrs. Switenky, Mlle Carroll and some students will lead us in prayer as we give thanks for the wonderful bounty that God has provided for us. This will also be our opportunity to focus on our food drive initiative.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

As Thanksgiving approaches we begin to count the many blessings that we are thankful for, family, friends, shelter, and food just to name a few. Unfortunately, not everyone is as blessed as we are. As a school community we have decided to support those in need through the Salvation Army. We will continue the initiative that was started last year, with our Thanksgiving Food Drive. The food drive will run from Wednesday September 28th to Thursday October 6th. There will be announcements made daily to promote the drive to the students. Let's work together as a school

community to provide families in need with food this Thanksgiving.



Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving has been a holiday in Canada since 1957. It was originally a day to give thanks for a good harvest from the past year. Today, people usually get together with family and friends to eat turkey, ham, squash, and apple or pumpkin pie. We give thanks for the many blessing we have received!

Eco Team

St. Benedict's Eco Team will be up and running this month. We are ready for a successful school year filled with "green" activities. Our first order of business is taking care of classroom recycling each week with the help of our custodian. Students are getting back into the swing of things as they properly throw their trash away in the appropriate bins. To cut back on the amount of garbage in the school, please remember to pack lunches in reusable containers. October is Walk to School Month and we are encouraging everyone to participate! Not only is this an Eco friendly way to get to school, but it is also a way to get some physical activity in. Please read and obey street signs and look both ways before crossing the road. Stay tuned for more Eco-updates and initiatives!

Spirit News

Thank you to everyone who participated in last month's Blue Jays blue and white day and supporting the Halton Catholic Children's Education Fund. This month's Spirit Day will be our Halloween Dance a Thon on Friday October 28th. Students are able to wear appropriate costumes for the day. Please support our fundraiser but helping our school

raise funds to purchase new materials for our students.

Professional Activity Day

A reminder that students have a PA Day on Friday, October 7th.

SEAC – Raising Awareness of Special Education Services at HCDSB

What is an IEP?

An IEP is an **Individual Education Plan**. IEP's are developed for students who have been placed in a special education program whether or not they meet the formal definition of "exceptional".

The IEP provides a series of **"educational targets" for a variety of children who may require accommodations, modifications and/or alternative programming**. The IEP includes several important features including **specific educational expectations** and outlines the **special education program and services** that will be received by the student.

The IEP must be developed in consultation with parents. Parental involvement in the IEP process is crucial and collaborative. Collaboration with parents and older students will help to ensure that the expectations are attainable. The IEP must be completed within 30 days after a student has been placed in a program and the Principal must ensure that the parent receives a copy. The IEP is a working document which is intended to be reviewed and updated as needed, with a minimum of once per term or semester.

Did you know that a plan for transition to appropriate post-secondary school activities, such as work, further education and/or community living must be included in the IEP?

Please join us on **Monday, November 28, 2016** at **7:30 p.m.** for our next **SEAC Webinar** where we will share more information on the development of **IEPs and the IPRC Process**. You can also find information on the SEAC

Please feel free to reach out to us at our SEAC email: seac@hcdsb.org

Picture Re-Take Day

Pictures retakes are on November 3rd.



St. Benedict Parish News

Grade 2 Reconciliation takes place on Saturday, October 29th at 11:30AM, 12:30PM and 1:30PM at St. Benedict School. You will receive more information about which session your child will be participating in.

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.



60+ FREE EVENTS HAPPENING IN MILTON!
CELEBRATE THE CREATIVITY OF YOUR CITY!

Artists, organizations and community groups in Milton are hosting free, participatory arts and culture activities during the Culture Days Weekend, and you're invited!

Visit culturedays.ca to find out about what's happening in Milton.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 **culturedays**
Milton Centre for the Arts

Create • Participate • Share • CultureDays.ca



**Schedule for Saturday,
October 15, 2016**

**Location: Cathedral Basilica
of Christ the King (McNally Hall)**

Outline of the Day

10:30-10:45: Arrival and Register

10:45-11:15: Opening Prayer
and Welcome

11:15-Noon: Keynote Address
Dr. Behnke-Cook

Noon-12:30: St. John's Bible
Visio Divina

12:30-1:15: Lunch (Included)

1:15 - 4:00: Children's Program

1:15-2:30: Workshop 1 (14 and up)

2:30-2:45: Break

2:45-4:00: Workshop 2 (14 and up)

4:00: Enter Cathedral Basilica
through Holy Doors (Sacrament
of Reconciliation Available)

5:00: Lord's Day Eucharist



**To Register Contact: The
Family Ministry Office**

**Phone: 905-528-7988
ext. 2249**

**Mail: 700 King St. W.
Hamilton, L8P
1C7**

**E-mail: familyministry
@hamiltondiocese.com**

**On line at:
www.hamiltondiocese.com**



**Jubilee of Families
Saturday, Oct. 15,
2016**



By Way of the Family



DIOCESE of HAMILTON
700 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8P 1C7

For Pope Francis, mercy is not simply one theme of the Church: It's the primary way in which we receive the Lord and give him to others.

"We are all called to become living writers of the Gospel, heralds of the Good News to all men and women today. We do this by practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which are the hallmarks of the Christian life."

We learn about this first in family and relationships.

Keynote Address:

Into the Heart of Mercy, By Way of the Family

Presented by:

Dr. Deanna Benke-Cook

Professor in the
Sociology
Department at the
University of Guelph



Workshops

Children's Program - 1:15- 4:00 PM (3-13 Years)

Session One - 1:15 - 2:30PM

Session Two - 2:45 - 4:00 PM

1. Families: Created in Love, Serving in Love

Presenter: Bishop Daniel Miehlm

The Church sees the family as a Domestic Church with great value; This workshop will look at how we are called to serve in love and mercy.

2. Relationship Smarts: Mercy at its Finest!

Presenter: Dr. Deanna Behnke-Cook

This workshop will help you see that you are powerful beyond measure and that you were created with a purpose: to impact your friends, family, workplace/school and community.

3. Mercy: Living Well, Serving Well - Showing Mercy to Self and Others

Presenter: Dr. Wendy Hofman

We are called to use our gifts to accomplish amazing things in God's world. We'll look at how to do this while looking after ourselves and others!

4. Mercy: Passed on Generation to Generation Through Grandparents! (session 1 only)

Presenter: Mrs. Teresa Hartnett

Grandparents foster love, family and faith in their grandchildren. Their unconditional love has a profound influence on their grandchildren, helping to create hearts of mercy.

5. Amoris Laetitia—The Joy of Love

Presenter: Mrs. Teresa Hartnett

Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation is full of wisdom and insights into how and why we are called to value families. This workshop will explore his writing and our call to be family.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Postal Code: _____

e-mail address: _____

Phone # _____

Your Parish _____

Registration fee: \$ 10.00 per person;
\$ 25 per family

of adults (includes youth to age 14) _____

of Children 4 -13 _____

Children 3 and under remain with parents for the day.

Select One Workshop for each Session by checking your selection:

Session #1 - 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___

Session #2 - 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 5 ___