



MUSTANG NEWS



St. Mary's High School
555- 15th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 1X2
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E-Mail: smhs@bgcdsdb.org

February 2011

- * Principal: Mr. G. Miller
- * Vice-Principal: Mr. A. Van Wieringen
- * Superintendent: Mr. G. Casey
- * Secretaries: Mrs. L. Myatt, Mrs. S. Duggan, Ms. D. Brown
- * Director of Education: Mr. B. MacPherson
- * Trustee: Mr. N. Bethune
- * School Council Chairs: J. Armstrong, L. Newell

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Wow! The first semester has passed and we are now moving into the second Semester. It is certainly my sincere hope that all of our students did well on their exams and that they achieved all of their credits. St. Mary's High School strives for excellent academic achievement.

It is hard to imagine, however, we are now moving into schedule preparation for the 2011-2012 school year. On Friday, February 4th we hosted grade 8 orientation and feedback would suggest a great time was had by all. Grade 8 students participated in a number of mini-classes which were designed to give students a little taste of high school. Thanks to all of our teachers who graciously helped us out with the day. We also hosted grade 8 parent information nights on January 25th and 27th. The purpose of these nights is to give students/parents an idea what St. Mary's has to offer and to allow parents and students to be comfortable.

First semester report cards have now been distributed and I was very impressed with our first semester results. Our data for the first semester would suggest that 97% of our grade 9 students received all of their credits. This is very impressive and I want to congratulate all of our students on their success. I also want to wish all of our students the very best in their academics during semester 2.

CHAPLAINCY LEADER'S MESSAGE

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, he reaffirms what is written: "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Cor. 2). We are reminded that God has many riches for those who love him. And what are these riches he speaks about? There is a contradiction between the wisdom of God and worldly knowledge. God's wisdom cannot be seen, nor fully understood so we turn our hearts to the person of Jesus who draws all creation into a harmonious unity. The desires of earthly pleasure leave us hollow and empty, yearning for something far greater. Temptations lead us away from God. God summons us to a radical way of living and our challenge is to avoid the opportunities that do harm. This pathway is not easy, and as such, God calls us continuously into relationship with him. In Matthew, Jesus said, "For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Riches fill the mind with cares and anxieties and leave little room for God. Some people consider wealth as the chief good and their god. Furthermore, riches often produce dissipation, and vice. It is difficult to obtain wealth without sin, without avarice, without covetousness, fraud, and oppression. Finally, Matthew states, "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money". Which pathway will you choose?

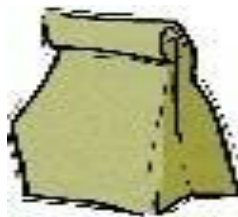
WHO NEEDS BREAKFAST OR LUNCH?

A Breakfast and Lunch Program is being offered daily at St. Mary's High School.

We are in need of food donations such as:
canned tuna & salmon
canned tomatoes & tomato paste and kidney beans
Jam and mayonnaise
bread and bagels,
cereal

Financial contributions would also be appreciated. Income-tax receipts can be issued for any donations over \$20.00

Thank you to those who have already contributed to these much needed programs !



TIMETABLE CHANGES

Current students requiring timetable adjustments for Semester 2 are asked to book an appointment with Mrs. Majury, Mr. Chiasson as soon as possible. Timetable changes will not be processed during the first week of Semester 2.



GRADUATING AND NOT RETURNING FOR SEMESTER 2

If you are graduating and do not plan to return for Semester 2, please notify Mrs. Majury in the guidance office. She will ensure that your name is on the grad list for June, let you know when scholarship applications are due, and get your measurements for your graduation gown.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Dufferin School is looking for volunteers to assist with its student nutrition program on Wednesday nights after school. Interested students should contact Catherine McNabb, the office manager, at 519-376-8696.

Alzheimer Society volunteer opportunities for students: Work in the office and/or during fundraisers. Students will receive instruction and learn project management skills . If interested, please visit the Guidance Office.

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

Public Health will be offering the Adacel vaccine at St. Mary's High School on February 8th for all students needing their booster. This vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. Students requiring a booster dose will receive a consent form. On the day of the clinic, the students must come to the clinic with the completed consent before being vaccinated. Call Public Health at 519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 for more information. Students who are not up-to-date with their needles may face suspension from school as required by the Health Unit. Students receiving boosters are reminded to eat well the morning of the immunization clinic so that they will not feel ill due to low blood sugar.



EARLY DISMISSAL

Students will be dismissed at 1:22 p.m. and busses will leave at this time. The remaining Early Dismissal Dates for the school year are:

- Wednesday March 2nd
- Wednesday May 11th.



GRADUATION PHOTOS



Graduation photo retake day will be on Friday February 18th.

HELP US HELP THE ENVIRONMENT!

St. Mary's High School uses a considerable amount of paper on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis and we need your help. In an effort to be environmentally conscious we would like to offer you the opportunity to send you our monthly newsletter via email. Simply email Dana_Brown@bgcdsb.org.



MedQUEST Health Career Exploration Camp



MedQUEST Health Career Exploration Camp is scheduled to be held at Walkerton District Secondary School, July 11 to 15, 2011. Students who are currently in grades 10 and 11 are eligible to attend this interactive program.

The application process for MedQUEST runs from February 1 to March 16, 2011. Selection this year will be based on a first-come- first-serve basis. A maximum of thirty students from the Grey-Bruce area will be accepted. Students and parents must complete the on-line application form. Confirmation of up-to-date immunizations and the results of a current Two Step Mantoux (Tuberculosis) Skin Test are required at the time of application. Successful applicants will be notified by March 30, 2011.

MedQUEST information and application form are available at www.schulich.uwo.ca/swomen.



*El Salvador Fundraiser
Roast Beef Dinner*

*Friday February 11, 2011
St. Mary's Church Hall*

*Cost: By donation only
2 Seatings: 5:00pm and 7:00pm*

*Proceeds to Support 2011 Grade 12 Mission Trip to
El Salvador*

*Please RSVP Trevor Chiasson by Feb 3, 2011.
Trevor_chiasson@bgcdsb.org or 519-376-4278 ext 3013*

TRANSPORTING EQUIPMENT ON SCHOOL BUS

Musical Instruments May be transported in cases only and shall be kept on the student’s lap.

Skates All skates transported shall have the blades suitably protected with guards and shall be tied together or be in a suitable equipment bag. The skates shall be placed on the floor at the student’s feet.

Hockey Equipment Hockey sticks may only be transported with the approval of the school Principal and Bus Operator. Hockey equipment **may not** be transported on a school bus on a home to school route. On a charter basis, hockey equipment may be transported if it is stored in the storage space underneath the bus or inside, provided it does not block any exits or the aisle of the bus.

Skis, Poles & Snowboards **May not** be transported on a school bus on a home to school route.

Skateboards **May not** be transported on a school bus.

Laser Pointers **May not** be transported on a school bus.

Animals **May not** be transported on a school bus.

GET INVOLVED... IT’S YOUR TICKET TO SUCCESS!

Students are encouraged to get involved positively in their school life. Many co-curricular are being offered this fall. Students are encouraged to listen to announcements each day for upcoming opportunities.



GET INVOLVED !

- Co-curriculars running:
 - Girls’ Basketball
 - Boys’ Volleyball
 - Girls’ Rugby 7's
 - Cross Country Running
 - Football
 - Yearbook Club
 - School Advocate (School Newspaper)
 - Chess Club
 - Media Arts Club
 - Mountain Biking
 - Student Council
 - Band
 - Public Speaking
 - Choir

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • COMMITMENT • LOVE • COMMUNITY • HOPE • HONESTY • PEACE

TEAMWORK • EFFORT • FAITH • FRIENDSHIP • LOYALTY • CHARACTER • TRUTHFULNESS • TRUSTWORTHINESS • SERVICE • SINCERITY

*Bound by Respect
Bound by Acceptance
Bound by Faith*

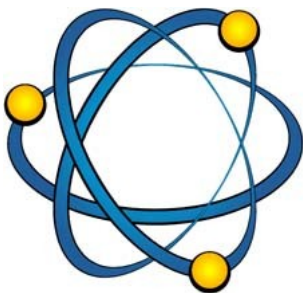
CURIOSITY • INTEGRITY • ENCOURAGEMENT • COURAGE • PERSISTENCE • PERSEVERANCE • HUMILITY • DIGNITY • TOGETHERNESS

LEADERSHIP • INVOLVEMENT • EXCELLENCE • ACHIEVEMENT • UNDERSTANDING • KNOWLEDGE

Bruce Power Co-operative Education Program

Bruce Power Co-op is a full semester on-site program at Bruce Power for senior secondary students. This four-credit program provides valuable experience, essential skills, and career exploration for students on a pathway to post-secondary apprenticeship, college or university.

The program offers a wide range of placements including business (accounting, communications, human resources, marketing, office administration), engineering, fire/emergency response, information technology, nuclear power careers, security, and skilled trades (electrical, mechanical, transportation).



A separate application (March deadline) and interview at Bruce Power are required. Program participation is also dependent upon Bruce Power security clearance.

For more information contact: highschoolcoop@brucepower.com

519-361-2673 extension 14669

Or the school Guidance/Co-op office

Visual, Media and Photography Arts Field Trip: Tim Burton Exhibition

(Limited Seating Available - first come first serve basis)

This major exhibition explores Burton's creative vision and his artistic development from early significant drawings he made as a teenager to sophisticated renderings used to create effects for his most treasured recent films. Delving deep into Burton's visual imagination, the exhibition brings

together more than 700 items including paintings, drawings, puppets, costumes, storyboards and maquettes drawn from Burton's personal vault, studio archives and private collections.

This exhibition was organized by The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York. This exhibition firmly establishes Burton as one of the most important creative forces in modern cinema and is the first MoMA exhibition to be presented in Toronto in over 20 years.

WHERE: TIFF Lightbox Centre, Toronto

WHEN: Friday, April 1st, 2011 - 9:00AM to 6:45PM

COST: \$48.00 - (\$22.00 Admission + Transportation)

*All students participating on this field trip must make prior arrangements to be picked up at the school that evening at approx. 6:45PM. (No late taxi's will be available) *Students should also bring extra funds for gift shop as well as lunch/dinner as we will be stopping on the way back.

See Mr. Arnett in the Artroom (R239) for a Permission Form.

THE ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST (OSSLT)

Students who are in Grade 10 (and those who did not successfully complete the test in previous years) will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on March 31, 2011. Students should be preparing in advance to ensure that they are successful on the test. Sample preparation materials/questions from previous tests can be found on the EQAO Web Site at <http://www.eqao.com>. Students should check out the type of questions that they will face on the test and practice such question types so that there are no surprises on the test. Successfully completing the Literacy Requirement is mandatory to receive your Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2nd 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Gr 8 orientation to SMHS
February 3rd	PD day
February 4th	First day of Second Semester
February 6th	Semi Formal
February 15th	Final Report Cards
February 21st	Family Day
March 2nd	Early Dismissal
March 14th –18th	March break
March 31st	Literacy Test

**2011 SKI PROGRAM**

St. Mary's High School is once again conducting its Alpine Ski Program at Blue Mountain Ski Resort. The ski dates occur on all four Friday afternoons in February. March 4th is an alternate day in the event that one of the February days is cancelled. Lessons appropriate for each student's abilities will be provided as part of the program.



All first time skiers and snow boarders must wear helmets. Busses leave St. Mary's at 11:00 sharp and will return back to the school at 5:30 p.m.

GRADE 9 REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

We are currently compiling a mailing list identifying all current Grade 8 students and parents who may be interested in coming to St. Mary's in September. We will use this list to send out information regarding upcoming dates (Parent Nights/ Student Orientation Days), information about our school, and registration procedures. Grade 8 students currently at Notre Dame, St. Joseph's, and St. Peter's and St. Paul's will automatically receive this information. However, if you know of students currently attending a public or private school who may be interested in attending St. Mary's in the fall, please have them call the school (519) 376-4278 and ask to be added to our mailing list. Thanks for your assistance in getting the word out.

BUS CANCELLATIONS

In the event of inclement weather please listen to our local radio stations (CFOS 560, Country 93, 98 The Beach or MIX 106.5 for bus cancellations.



INCLEMENT WEATHER PLANS

Students and parents are encouraged to develop contingency plans in the event that school buses get stranded in Owen Sound at the end of the day due to inclement weather. Do you have a relative or friend in Owen Sound that can take you in for the night if your bus is unable to leave Owen Sound? A few years ago we had a few occasions when some buses were unable to leave the city due to road closures. Although such an occurrence is rare, it can happen, so we need to be ready for such an event.

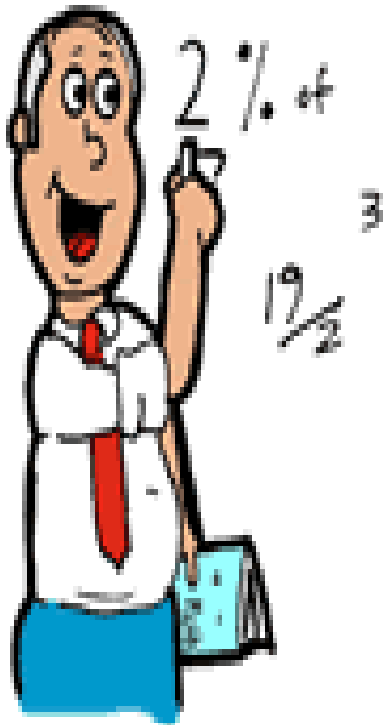
Please note that with 630 students, it is impossible for everyone to make multiple phone calls to develop a plan at the last minute. Please develop a plan in advance so that you will know what you are going to do in such an event.

If you live in Owen Sound and your family is willing to take in a billet in such circumstances please let the school know. Also, if you live outside Owen Sound and don't know anyone in the city please let the school know so that we can help you develop a plan.

MATH CONTESTS

The University of Waterloo Contests are being written on February 24th (Grades 9, 10, 11), April 12th (Grade 12), and April 13th (Grades 9, 10, 11). The school pays the student entry fees and has a library of past contests available for student preparation.

Math contests are great for building problem solving skills and are recognized by some universities and colleges. Interested students should see Mr. Kempe as soon as possible to sign up!



PLANNING AHEAD

The board has renewed its licence to access the website www.Myblueprint.ca. This website allows students to enter the secondary school courses they plan to take and then see the post-secondary programs and careers that are open to them. This is particularly beneficial for students in Grade 8 planning their secondary school program as well as students currently in secondary school. To enter the website use the activation key "marysound". Students are then able to create a profile and go from there.

PARENT REMINDER

Reminder to parents regarding messages for students. Messages will be relayed to the student only in the event of an emergency.



Guidance News

Attention Grade 9 and 10 Math Students Free Math Homework Help

Good news to math students this year! Our school board now has free online math help for all students from grade 7 to 10. The eLearning Contact, Mike Walter, will be visiting all of the semester two grade 9 and 10 math classrooms to help them with registration.

If you wish to try it before this visit, all you need is your Ontario Education Number (OEN), which can be found on old report cards.

Students simply log-on to Homework Help at homeworkhelp.ilc.org and use an interactive chat room to obtain personalized one-on-one tutoring from a certified Ontario math teacher. The entire session is recorded and stored in the student's online locker to allow the student to review what they have learned.

This service is anonymous and the students are unable to chat to each other, making it a safe online environment.

Chats take place Sunday to Thursday between the hours of 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Parents are encouraged to visit the site and log on as a guest to see how the service works.

Feel free to contact the BGCDSB's eLearning Contact Mike Walter at mike_walter@bgcdsb.org to learn more.

Ontario Educational Resource Bank All Grades: K – 12 All Subjects

Would you like extra review for your child? Would you like enrichment for your child?

Over 22,000 resources are online and available for your child for every grade and every subject. Games, quizzes, tutorials, maps, videos and much more.

Log on to resources.elearningontario.ca and use the following: **ID: bgcdsbstudent**

PASSWORD: oerbs

Not sure where to start? Try clicking on "Search", then "Browse by Curriculum". From there, you can put in your child's grade, subject and strand. Press the button "Browse by Strand" and see many of the wonderful resources that will help your child with their school work.

Feel free to contact the BGCDSB's eLearning Contact Mike Walter at mike_walter@bgcdsb.org to learn more.

Club France 2011 Bonjour Paris, Ciao Milan

Ms. Carter and Mrs MacPherson are happy to announce that 31 student travellers have registered for the school trip to France and Italy during the March Break of the 2010-2011 school year. Departing March 9 to March 18,



2011 our group will explore from the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France to Juliette's balcony in Verona, Italy. Travellers from St. Mary's High School will visit numerous world-class heritage sites in France and Italy, such as Versailles, Notre Dame Cathedral, St Mark's Venice, the Duomo and the leaning tower of Pisa.



Flight details are being finalized at this time.

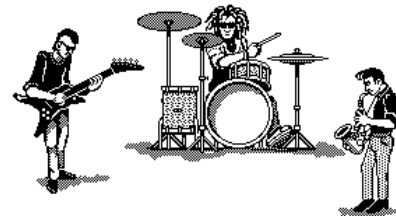
Come and Go Parent/Traveller Meeting
Monday March 9th @ 6:30pm-8pm in the
Drama Room @ SMHS.

Parents are asked to attend to meet our trip chaperones and the club participants.

SAC

Coffee House Wednesday February 9th

- Listen to the AM announcements for band/act registration, time and location. A February Coffee Break is upcoming. Snacks and coffee provided by SAC - donations are appreciated - proceeds to local charities - keep listening to the morning announcements for the date.



OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MATH HELP CENTER - Extra math help is available in Room 24 East every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch.

SEPARATE SCHOOL SUPPORT

When you move, your Catholic school support does not follow you. As soon as any change is made to your address, your school support designation reverts to Public. Unless you update this information, you will not be able to take part in Catholic Trustee elections. Contact the Board Office at (519)364-5820 for more information.

40 VOLUNTEER HOURS

A reminder that students must complete 40 hours of volunteer service prior to graduation. Students who plan to graduate in June are asked to submit the required paperwork to the office a.s.a.p.

LOCKERS

Each student has been given a copy of the school's handbook. Included in this is information about lockers. It is important that students realize that the lockers are the property of the school and as such can be searched as required.

INTERNET USE

All students are reminded that they, in order to comply with board policy, must have a signed acceptable internet use form submitted to the office before they are permitted to use the school's computer system. Contravention of this acceptable use policy can lead to consequences up to and including suspension.

ALTERNATE BUSING

In keeping with Board Policy regarding alternate busing, students are reminded that they are not able to ride a bus different than the one to which they are assigned for reasons such as going to their job, visiting a friend, dental appointment, etc. Permission to ride a different bus is only given by the board in the case of different places of residence of parents or guardians. If alternate busing arrangements are needed for such a reason, an application form is available from the school or downloaded from the website and must be completed and returned to the board office for approval.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

In order to ensure a safe learning environment, the use of video surveillance is in effect at St. Mary's High School and on many of its school buses. The video images are collected under the authority of the Education Act S. 170 and will be used to reduce/prevent property vandalism, theft and violence and to ensure the safety of students.

Check us out on the web at <http://www.smhs.net>

EMERGENCY CONTACTS - It is important that the school have accurate information (i.e. phone numbers, addresses, emergency contacts). If any of this information changes throughout the school year, please be sure to contact the main office at (519)376-4278. We need this information for contacting you in the event of an emergency and when mailing out reports.

REPORTING ABSENCES - If you know that your son or daughter will be away from school, PLEASE CALL and let us know. Messages can be left 24-hours per day at (519)376-4278.

OFFICE HOURS - Our school office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day Monday to Friday. If you call during these hours and get our answering machine this indicates that all of our phone lines are busy. Please leave a message or call back later.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES - Many scholarships and bursaries are available to students heading off to post-secondary schools. Check out the web-sites: <http://www.scholarshipscanada.com> or <http://www.studentawards.com> or <http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca> for more details. Many of the universities and colleges also list scholarships and bursaries in their guidebooks which are available in the guidance office.

PEANUT SENSITIVE SCHOOL - Just a reminder that St. Mary's High School is a peanut sensitive school. Please do not bring peanut products into our school.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL CLEAN - Please do your part to help keep our school looking great. Remember to clean up after yourself. Garbage cans are available throughout the school. If you make a mess clean it up! If you see a mess left by someone else, please help out and clean it up!

EMERGENCY LUNCHES - Emergency Lunches are available in the main office. If you require one, please ask.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL SAFE - In order to keep our school safe, please inform Mr. Miller or Mr. Van Weiringen or one of your teachers of any issues that arise. You have a responsibility to report things that need to be reported. You may leave an anonymous message on the school answering machine 24-hours a day. Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. Thanks for your help in keeping our school great.

Check us out on the web at <http://www.smhs.net>

