



MUSTANG NEWS



St. Mary's High School
555- 15th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 1X2
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February 2012

- * Principal: Mr. G. Miller
- * Vice-Principal: Mr. A. van Wieringen
- * Superintendent: Mr. J. Casey
- * Secretaries: Ms. D. Brown, Mrs. M. Bastien, Mrs. J. Quinlan
- * Director of Education: Mr. B. MacPherson
- * Trustee: Mr. N. Bethune
- * School Council Chairs: J. Armstrong, S. Devries

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Where has the month of January gone? It only seems like yesterday since we returned from Christmas and already we are moving into the month of February. As I write this February letter, our students have written their last exams and are anxiously awaiting the start of the second semester. Second semester starts on Monday, February 6th and report cards will be distributed on Tuesday, February 14th. It is my sincere hope that all of our students achieve all of their credits and I wish them all the best as they begin semester 2.

While some of our students are relaxing for a few days we are preparing to greet our new Mustangs to St. Mary's High School. Grade 9 orientation will take place on Thursday, February 2nd and we are anticipating a large group to attend. I want to thank Mr. M. Bethune, Mrs. V. Walsh and Mrs. T. Coburn for their continued support of our great high school. Our system is a K-12 system and we look forward to a smooth and seamless transition from elementary to secondary school. Please note, as well, that your son or daughter will soon be required to complete their option sheets for next year. If your son or daughter requires any help please do not hesitate to call. Wishing you a great February and Happy Valentine's Day!

CHAPLAINCY LEADER'S MESSAGE

After the Christmas Season, the Church enters Ordinary Time. The term "Ordinary Time" may be misleading. In the context of the liturgical year the term "ordinary" does not mean "usual or average." Ordinary here means "not seasonal." Ordinary Time is that part of the Liturgical Year that lies outside the seasons of Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas. In Ordinary Time, the Church celebrates the mystery of Christ not in one specific aspect but in all its aspects. The readings during the liturgies of Ordinary Time help to instruct us on how to live out our Christian faith in our daily lives.

The third week of Ordinary Time celebrates Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Church, led by Pope Benedict IV, continues to work towards ecumenical unity amongst Christian churches that are not in communion with Rome. Below is a prayer for Christian unity.

"Triune God, we come before you with our deep longing for true community between young and old, men and women, rich and poor, between all nations. We long to overcome the divisions among Christians. Help us to tear down the many barriers of hostility we erect and walls of antagonism we build with such zeal.

Help us to dispel our deep-rooted suspicions.

That we may know the good intentions in those we meet.

Help us to put aside our own uncertainty.

That we may truly see the dignity of others.

Help us to cast out our own fears.

That we may allay the fears of those around us.

Help us to conquer our own pride.

That we may love our neighbours as ourselves.

Holy God, grant us the gift of true community, in reconciliation with all your sons and daughters, throughout the whole church in the world, and teach us to pray together:

God, in your grace, transform the world. Amen. Ms L. Foch, Chaplaincy Leader

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
 cereal

Financial contributions would also be appreciated. Incometax 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 or 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.

An immunization clinic will be held at St. Mary's High School on February 17th, 2012 for students who require boosters for tetanus, diptheria and pertussis; measles, mumps and rubella and/or polio. Students who are not up-to-date with these required immunizations will face possible suspension from school. On February 17th, 2012 students need to bring their signed consent forms to the clinic nurse when the letter of their last name is called. If you have lost your form, the clinic nurse will have extras for you to sign. It is important for students receiving immunizations to eat breakfast the morning of the clinic.

Students OVER 18 years of age, please review your own immunization record to ensure you are up-to-date with your immunizations. You will not have received a form, however may be eligible or due for an immunization.

2012 SKI PROGRAM



Be a member of our St. Mary's Ski Club 2012 at Blue Mountain Ski Resort. This year will involve a few changes. We will be at the resort for two full days in February, rather than

four afternoon ski sessions. These dates are February 10 & 24th, 2012, leaving at 9 am returning to SMHS @ 5pm. Please remember that all skiers or snow boarders **must wear helmets**. Rental helmets are available at an additional cost. Registration forms will be available from Ms. Foch and Mrs. Solinger. Please ensure when the forms are available, that *all necessary signatures* are completed.

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

Wednesday March 28th.
 Wednesday May 9th.



Students will be dismissed at 1:10 p.m. and busses will leave at this time.

GRADUATION PHOTOS



Graduation photo retake day will be on Friday February 17th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2nd	Gr 8 orientation to SMHS 10 a.m.-2:15 p.m.
February 3rd	PD day
February 6th	First day of Second Semester
February 6th	Semi Formal
February 14th	Final Report Cards
February 17th	Immunization Clinic
February 20th	Family Day
March 28th	Early Dismissal

MedQUEST-2012

This past summer thirty secondary students from Bruce & Grey Counties participated in MedQUEST, a health career exploration program developed by the SouthWestern Ontario Medical Education Network (SWOMEN), Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario.



Brooke McConnell from St. Mary's was part of this dynamic group of young people who, under the leadership of medical students, had the opportunity to participate in:

- * Hands-on clinical skills sessions, including casting, suturing, injections and vitals.
- * Medical interviewing, ethics cases and public health topics.
- * Job shadowing with health care providers through Bruce & Grey.
- * Health career presentations highlighting nursing, respirology, pharmacy, diagnostic imaging and lab.
- * A full-scale community mock disaster, involving local police, fire & emergency services.

MedQUEST will again be offered in Bruce & Grey in 2012. Applications for the coming year begin February 1st, 2012. Students at St. Mary's High School interested in the MedQUEST program should contact the Guidance department.



Did you make a New Year's Resolution to be more active in your community? Here's your opportunity!

Community Living Owen Sound and District is committed to assist people with developmental needs to live, work and participate fully in the community as valued partners and we are looking for volunteers. Positions are available in Owen Sound, Chatsworth, Port Elgin and Southampton. If you are interested in more information about volunteer opportunities please call Shelley Bell-White at **519-371-9251 ext. 243** or email her at info@comlivos.on.ca

Please join our students from [St. Mary's High School](#), in two breakfast seatings after both masses on Sunday Feb 26th, 2012 at St. Mary's Parish in Owen Sound. All proceeds will assist in fundraising for the students' Mission Excursion to *Hogar del Nino*, El Salvador in March. Pancakes, sausages, fruit salad and a variety of home baked desserts will be served. Adults: \$10, students: \$8. Come and learn about the orphanage and the opportunity these students have chosen to embark on.



Thank you parishioners. Ms Foch, Chaplaincy Leader SMHS.

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-activities are being offered this spring. Students are encouraged to listen to announcements each day for upcoming opportunities.

GET INVOLVED !



- Co-curriculars running:
- Girls’ Rugby
- Cross Country Running
- Boys’ Basketball
- Yearbook Club
- Chess Club
- Media Arts Club
- Mountain Biking
- Skiing
- Student Council
- Band
- Public Speaking

Bound by Respect
Bound by Acceptance
Bound by Faith

* RESPECT * RESPONSIBILITY * COMMITMENT * LOVE * COMMUNITY * HOPE * HONESTY * PEACE * TEAMWORK * EFFORT * FAITH * FRIENDSHIP * LOYALTY * CHARACTER * TRUTHFULNESS * TRUSTWORTHINESS * SERVICE * SINCERITY * LEADERSHIP * INVOLVEMENT * EXCELLENCE * ACHIEVEMENT * UNDERSTANDING * KNOWLEDGE *

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

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 29th, 2012. 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 website at <http://www.eqao.com>**. Students should check out the types 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.

**OWEN SOUND SCENIC CITY LIONS CLUB
&
SAUBLE BEACH AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB**

**REMINDER OF OUR
EFFECTIVE SPEAKING CONTEST**

Location: St Mary's High School
555 15th. St. East,
Owen Sound, Ontario

Date: Saturday February 18, 2012

Time: Juniors Grades 6, 7, 8 10:00 a.m.

Intermediate Grades 9-10 2:00 p.m.

Senior Grades 11-12 2:00 p.m.

Snacks and Refreshments will be provided.

We want to thank all the teachers and principals involved in
making this project such a worth while venture.

Good luck to all and let's have fun.

Please notify how many students will be participating by February 7th 2012.

Lion Lenora Raby
Owen Sound Scenic City Lions
519 371 7761
gdraby@bmts.com

Lion Lesley Wood
Sauble Beach & District Lions
519 422 0379
garyandlesley@sympatico.ca

BUS CANCELLATIONS

In the event of inclement weather please listen to our local radio stations (CFOS 560, Country 93, 98 The Beach, MIX 106.5 or Dock 92.3) for bus cancellations.



Ontario Educational Resource Bank

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

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, Denise Buttenaar at denise_buttenaar@bgcdsb.org to



ONLINE MATH HOMEWORK HELP FOR GRADES 7-10 STUDENTS

- ✓ All grade 7-10 math students in the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board have access to online math Homework Help again this year!
- ✓ Students can log in **Sunday to Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**, for one-on-one confidential tutoring help.
- ✓ Other sources are available 24/7 such as most commonly asked math problems, interactive math tutorials and highlights of best sessions.
- ✓ Want to check out the site. Go to <http://Homeworkhelp.ilc.org> and create a guest account.
- ✓ You can view the wonderful math resources or enter a room and watch the tutors in action!
- ✓ For more information or questions regarding Homework Help, please contact Denise Buttenaar at homeworkhelp@bgcdsb.org or (519)364-5820 ext. 268

TRUSTEE NEWS by Katie Walsh

Exams are now finished and with a new semester beginning, it is a fresh start for students and staff at St. Mary's High School. I, myself, am now halfway finished my final year of high school, and term as student trustee. During my remaining months I hope to continue to act as a strong correspondence between the board, and staff and students at St. Mary's High School, and to arrange campaigns to promote important issues. In keeping with my goal to stay informed, last month, in the midst of exam preparation, I attended the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) Professional Development Seminar with student and adult trustees from our board and across the province. Throughout the duration of the weekend we celebrated mass, listened to numerous speakers, including the new Cardinal Elect Thomas Collins, and discussed ways of improving education. After witnessing the hard work and dedication behind making Catholic education, I left the conference proud to call myself a Catholic student. In the upcoming month I will be travelling to Ottawa to attend a conference by the Ontario Student Trustees Association (OSTA-AECO), and towards the end of the month I will be attending the Science Expo at the Ontario Science Centre, to learn about opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). I also plan to begin a water bottle campaign to raise awareness of the negative impacts of privatization of water sources.

I wish staff, students and the parents the best of luck, and I look forward to keeping you informed in the new semester.

God bless,

Katie Walsh

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 Guidance 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.

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.

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.

PARENT REMINDER

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

Check us out on the web at <http://smhs.bgcdsb.org>