



# MUSTANG NEWS



November 2011

St. Mary's High School  
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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

Just last weekend I had the great privilege of joining Eric VanTrigt and his family for the Father Patrick Fogarty Awards dinner in Toronto. The Father Fogarty Awards recognizes the achievements and contributions of Catholic educators and honours the winners of the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario (C.E.F.O) student awards. During this wonderful gathering, a total of 108 students from all around the province were recognized for their contributions to Catholic Education in Ontario. Throughout the evening students were introduced and a short message was read aloud about the student. As each student was introduced, some common characteristics began to emerge about these students. First of all, they were very passionate about the things that they were doing in their Catholic High Schools. They know that it sometimes takes hard work to move a population and these students are more than willing to do their share. These students are very loyal to their respective high schools and they were all very proud of their accomplishments. The staff of St. Mary's is very proud of Eric and we congratulate him on his award. We would also like to encourage all of our students to get involved and to make a difference at St. Mary's High School. Our strength lies in those who are willing to put forth that little extra to make it happen.



## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

The Catholic Church approaches the feasts of All Saints and All Souls Day, on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, reminding us of our relationship with the deceased. These are days of remembrance, celebration and prayer. The Feast of All Saints Day is the celebration of our relationship with those who have preceded us into heaven. All Soul's Day shifts the focus from those in heaven to those in purgatory. The Feast of All Soul's Day reminds us of our obligations to live holy lives and to pray continuously for the souls destined for heaven. We take this time to remember our close ones who have died and remember them in our daily prayers. Please take time to sign the Book of Life, located in the chapel.

Ms L. Foch

## Updated Information

It is important that the school have accurate and current information for all students. We need accurate addresses, phone numbers, and medical information. Please return the personal information sheet distributed in home-room to the main office as soon as possible (even if there are no changes). Also if this information changes at any point during the school year, please contact the office with the changes.

### PEANUT SENSITIVE SCHOOL

St. Mary's High School is a peanut sensitive school. Peanut allergies are potentially life threatening. As a result, absolutely no peanut products are permitted in our school.



### 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.

### STUDENT CELEBRATION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

On Tuesday, October 11, 2011 St. Mary's High School celebrated its first annual Celebration of Excellence Awards Night. The purpose of the night was to highlight our great students and their accomplishments. The following awards were distributed over the course of the night: Hillyer Awards, Doctor Endowment Awards, Honour Roll Certificates, Science Fair Certificates, Ontario Skills Competition Certificates, Avogado Chemistry Contest Certificates, University of Waterloo Math Awards, Outstanding contribution to Yearbook Award, Excellence in Music Awards, and Excellence in Visual Arts Awards. Congratulations to all of our award winners and we look forward to an expanded celebration next year.



*Hogar del Niño* is an orphanage in El Salvador that houses 140 people with mental and physical disabilities located 45 minutes northwest of the capital, San Salvador. This year St. Mary's students will be attending its third mission excursion during March 12-26<sup>th</sup> 2012. You can visit the following webpage for more information about the orphanage: <http://www.fhp.org.sv/>. If you have any questions, please contact Ms Foch at the school, extension 3012 for further details, or if you are available to help in anyway. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

## CONCERNS?

Experience indicates that problems sometimes develop due to incorrect interpretations of information or a lack of transfer of information from home to school and vice-versa. Should you or your child have a serious concern which they do not seem to be able to resolve, please contact the teacher to arrange an interview. Clarification will frequently resolve the problem in the initial stages before it becomes a major concern.

If you have a concern, we hope that you feel comfortable about discussing it. It is only through dialogue and open communication channels that we can hope to resolve difficulties and allay misunderstanding.

In seeking a resolution to concerns, the proper recourse is the following:

- call or meet with the classroom teacher - if this does not resolve the difficulty,
- call or meet with our guidance/resource teachers, if not resolved,
- call or meet with the vice principal (Mr. A. VanWieringen) - if not resolved,
- call or meet with the principal (Mr. G. Miller) - if not resolved,
- call or meet with our area superintendent (Mr. G. Casey), if not resolved,
- call or meet with our Director (Mr. B. MacPherson).

## Visual Arts Field Trip @ AGO Art Gallery of Ontario (Toronto)

**What: Chagall and the Russian Avant-Garde: Masterpieces from the Collection of the Centre Pompidou + 5 Floors of Permanent Collection**

**When: Friday November 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:00AM - 7:00PM**

**Cost: \$40.00 (Admission + Bus Transportation) No Refunds**

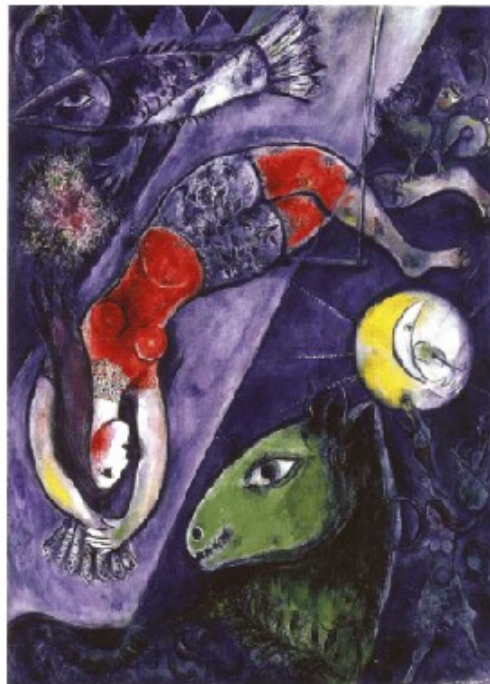
The Art Gallery of Ontario is bringing the magic, whimsy and wonder of Marc Chagall to Toronto a major exhibition organized by the Centre Pompidou. ***Chagall and the Russian Avant-Garde: Masterpieces from the Collection of the Centre Pompidou***, Paris on view from , features the lush, colourful, and dreamlike art of Marc Chagall alongside the visionaries of Russian modernism, including Wassily Kandinsky, Kasimir Malevich, Natalia Goncharova, Sonia Delaunay, and Vladimir Tatlin.

**Chagall and the Russian Avant-Garde: Masterpieces from the Collection of the Centre** comprises of **118** works from a broad array of media, including painting, sculpture, works on paper, photography, and film.

**\*\*All students participating in this Visual Arts Field Trip should make prior arrangements to be picked after return to the school. We will not return to the school until at least 7:00PM that night. Students should also bring extra funds for meals.**

## CHAGALL AND THE RUSSIAN AVANT-GARDE

Masterpieces from the Collection  
of the Centre Pompidou, Paris  
October 18, 2011 – January 15, 2012



Marc Chagall, Blue Green (Le bleu et le vert), 1950. Oil, 24 1/2 x 36 1/2 in. Collection of the MNM, Centre Pompidou, Paris. © ADAGP/Contrasto, MNM/CAA, MNM © Estate of Marc Chagall/ADAGP (2011)

Be a part of history! Explore this landmark exhibition of the 20th century's most diverse Russian artists, showcasing more than 300 works by Marc Chagall. Dozens of paintings, sculptures, works on paper and photographs by Wassily Kandinsky, Natalia Goncharova and Kasimir Malevich, to name a few, offer a rare glimpse into the extraordinary work of the Russian avant-garde. The AGO is the only Canadian destination for this must-see exhibition. Don't miss out.

## Flu Virus

Influenza or “the flu” is a disease caused by a virus. The germs spread when someone with the flu coughs or sneezes and the droplets come into contact with another person’s nose, mouth or eyes. Watch for flu symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, fatigue and muscle pain. The protect yourself and others against the regular seasonal flu and the new pandemic H1N1 flu:

- Get vaccinated for both types of flu as soon as the vaccines are available.
- Wash your hands often throughout the day with soap and warm water for least 15 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based sanitizers to clean hands if soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizers will be made available to staff and students at St. Mary’s High School.
- Cough and sneeze into your upper sleeve or into a tissue, not into your hand. Throw out used tissues and wash hands right away.
- **STAY AT HOME IF YOU ARE SICK. Keep your son or daughter home from school if they show signs of illness.**
- Report your child’s absence to the school and include specific symptoms that your child is experiencing.
- Please note that we will be reporting attendance to the Public Health Unit each day



For more information see [www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

## 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  
 canned kidney beans  
 mayonnaise  
 bread and bagels  
 jam  
 cereal

Food items may be dropped off in the box by the main office marked Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Financial contributions would also be appreciated. Income-tax receipts can be issued for any donations over \$20.



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

## Free Online Math Homework Help !NOW OPEN!

Back to school means the return of math homework. If you are a parent worried about how to support your child's math homework questions, don't worry! An exciting FREE online initiative designed to help students succeed is now available.

The Ministry of Education and the Independent Learning Centre has recently launched Homework Help a website for Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board math students in grades 7 through 10.

Students simply log-on to Homework Help at [www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org](http://www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org) and use an interactive chat room to obtain personalized tutoring from a certified Ontario math teacher. The entire session is recorded and stored in the students 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 will take place Sunday to Thursday between the hours of 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Students will need their Ontario Education Number (OEN) and date of birth to register. Mr. Walter, the eLearning Contact for the BGCDSB, will be visiting every grade 7-10 student's classroom to give them their OEN and help them register. The OEN is also found on the student's report card, if you would like to register your child before this visit.

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

Visit <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> or go to the school's website and click on the quick link at the bottom left called Online Math Help or contact Denise Buttenaar @ Denise\_Buttenaar@bgcdsb.org to learn more.

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Hi! My name is Katie Walsh and I am pleased to represent the students of St. Mary's High School as the student trustee for 2011/2012. As student trustee it is my job to maintain the connection between the students and the school board. One of the ways in which I intend to make parents and students more aware of my position is by writing a monthly update in the school newsletter on the things I am doing and the places I am going in regards to my position. Since the beginning of the school year I have been very busy travelling and planning events. In late August, some of the other trustees and I, attended a luncheon with his Grace, Bishop Crosby, at his residence in Hamilton. This was a great opportunity to meet other student trustees from our region and remind us of our role in the importance of Catholic education. During the month of September I attended Faith Formation Day and the September board meeting in Hanover. I also organized and filmed interviews for a province-wide Equity Documentary, which involved feedback from students into how all members of the school community, can make education more accepting. In October I assisted with the in the organization of a Student Vote for the Provincial Election at St. Mary's. The results of the mock election showed that St. Mary's students would have voted in independent candidate Shane Jolley, if they were to vote. In comparison, the NDP party received the most votes in the province wide student vote. I am very excited for the upcoming year and I hope to represent the needs and opinions of all students.

God bless,

**Katie Walsh**



## **SMHS Student Trustee Report – October**

### **Catholicity**

Our Thanksgiving Liturgy was presided at St. Mary's Church by Fr. Franjo from Port Elgin and Deacon Ron Johnson from Cape Croker earlier this month.

Students attending El Salvador will be attending meetings over the next few months and they are encouraged to take on leadership roles throughout the school.

Eric VanTrigt will be receiving the Father Fogarty Award at the Marriot Hotel on October 29<sup>th</sup>. He will be accompanied to the ceremony by his parents and Mr. Miller.

The Remembrance Day Prayer Service has been planned for November 11<sup>th</sup> in Hillyer Hall.

All the retreats have been planned for this semester:

Grade 9 (October 31<sup>st</sup>) – theme "Belonging"

Grade 10 (October 26<sup>th</sup>) – fasting and community service

Grade 11 (October 25<sup>th</sup>) – will take place at Harrison Park

Grade 12 (October 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>) – will take place at Outdoor Education Centre in Oliphant

Ms. Foch makes a continued effort to mix up the retreats each year.

### **Academics**

The First Annual Academic Excellence Awards Night was held on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. It turned out to be an overwhelming success with a great turn out of students and parents alike. The Hillyer Awards were awarded to Kaitlin Marck, Laura Sawka and Vivian Campbell. The Doctor Endowment awards were presented to Laura Sawka and Marcus Ott. Other awards such as science fair, yearbook, band, visual arts, chemistry contest, math contest and Skills Canada and were also given out. Thank you to the school band under the direction of Mr. Willmus for opening the ceremony, and thank you to Jake See and Mary Cassidy who MCed the event. Special thanks to the Parent Council for their donation of \$500, and the organizing committee, which consisted of Tim Currie, Glen Miller, Brad Lacey, Kim Sadler, Sean Arnett, Weber and Jessica Knox.

The Trinity Peer Leaders have been visiting grade nine classrooms within the last month to help grade nines transition to high school.

Guidance counselors met with senior students this month to remind them to complete their graduating requirements. Information about post-secondary education was also discussed. Last week hopeful college and university students attended the college and university fairs held in Owen Sound.

Parent Teacher interviews were also held on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Athletics**

Mountain biking, cross country, boys' volleyball, girls basketball, football and girls rugby are all underway.

The basketball, volleyball and rugby teams have all been busy participating in tournaments recently.

The football team has had a great start to their season. Despite a disappointing loss against SDSS at their first away game, they have been otherwise undefeated against Grey Highlands, West Hill and John Definbecker.

The cross country team will be competing in Brantford at CWOSSA on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Extracurricular**

Ceramic Club, yearbook, improv and band are well underway

St. Mary's students attended the annual water festival on September 30<sup>th</sup>. High school students were given the opportunity to teach elementary students about the importance of water. Thank you to Mr. Lacey for continually organizing this event.

Despite cold weather and a little bit of snow, the senior science camping trip to Algonquin Provincial Park at the beginning of the month was successful. Thank you to Mr. Ward, Mrs. Solinger and Mr. Hogan for chaperoning.

This month student Council raised almost \$300 for the Alzheimer's Society at their monthly coffee break. Student council have also donated \$3000 to the library, \$1500 to Goderich relief efforts and \$1000 to the new recreation centre. Student council also organized a fashion show to display the new school clothing line for the season.

On October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> St. Mary's held a Student Vote. An all candidates meeting was held leading up to the school wide vote and was attended by representatives from the Conservatives, Liberals, NDP and an independent party. All students were able to cast a ballot at lunch for one of the five politicians running. It was well organized however there was a disappointing 20% voter turnout. The winner of St. Mary's student vote was Shane Jolley. In comparison, the NDP took the most seats winner of the provincial wide student vote.

The drama department has been hard at work this month planning several events including a coffee house, talent show and student written production.

New microwaves were placed in the cafeteria, replaced the old and overused ones. Students are very grateful of this

addition and are reminded to keep them clean so everyone can use them.

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The new Health Ambassadors for St. Mary's this year are Shelby Hunter, Devin Reynolds, Mandy Clark, Sabrina Boers, and Jordan Lumley.

Grade 12 students Nadia Chiaramonte and Karlie Beany will be leading a campaign called the Jack Project over the upcoming school year to raise awareness of mental health issues and treatment. Last year Karlie and Nadia did a similar campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of tanning beds.

In the upcoming month there is a visual arts field trip to the Art Gallery of Ontario. Masterpieces from the Collection of the Centre comprises of 118 works from a broad array of media, including painting, sculpture, works on paper, photography, and film. Special thanks to Mr. Arnett for organizing this field trip.

As well, students will be attending a Youth Forum in Toronto on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

As student trustee, I was asked by the student trustees' association to submit video footage for a provincial wide equity documentary. The following are the views of equity in our schools.

## 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 throughout the year

Girls' Basketball

Boys' Volleyball

Girls' Rugby 7's

Cross Country Running

Football

Yearbook Club

School Advocate (School Newspaper)

Chess Club

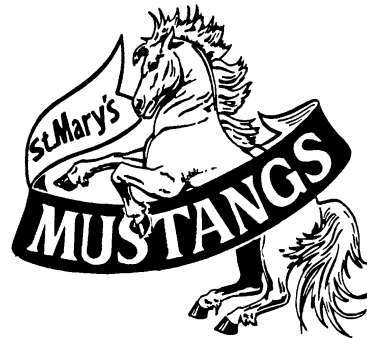
Media Arts Club

Mountain Biking

Student Council

Band

Public Speaking



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 29 ~ Parent Council Meeting 6:30 pm

Nov. 22nd ~ Mid Term Report Cards go out

### Early Dismissal Days

Wednesday November 30th

Wednesday March 28th

Wednesday May 9th



**Other Important Information****CAFETERIA SERVICES**

Our school cafeteria is open daily. The cafeteria is being managed by Chartwell's School Dining Services. They are committed to a Balanced Choice Menu at affordable prices.

**RECREATIONAL FUNDING AVAILABLE**

Need help with funding for Recreational Programs, school electives, class trips to the Outdoor Education Center, Grade 7 or 8 trips? The Grey NCB Program may be able to help you:

- Available for families living in Grey County
- Maximum subsidy currently available is \$200 per child per year
- Total family income under \$35000 per year
- Children 18 years of age and under (residing with parent)
- Refunds can be processed with a paid receipt

For more information or an application form contact the Grey NCB Office at (519)371-8627 or pick up an application at the Family Y in Owen Sound.

**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.

**ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST (OSSLT)**

Students currently in Grade 10 as well as those who were unsuccessful in previous years will write the OSSLT on Thursday, March 29, 2012. Passing the OSSLT or the Literacy Course is necessary in order to obtain an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Further details will follow prior to the test.

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

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## MUSTANG NEWS

### 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 parent/guardians. If alternate busing arrangements are needed for such a reason, an application form available from the school (or downloaded from the board web site) must be completed and returned to the board office for approval.

### INSURANCE FORMS

All students were given an insurance form as part of their opening day package. It offers low-cost insurance to students in case of accidents. Students who participate in sports etc are particularly encouraged to enrol in this program. All students participating in the co-op program must purchase this insurance as per Board Policy.

### 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 it's 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.



### MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mary's High School is a Christian community which promotes excellence and strength in individuals spirituality, intellectually, socially and physically, caring and growing with one another in partnership with families, parish and the community.

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

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