



# St. Bernard's Catholic School

Education and Community Working Together, Centered in Faith

Newsletter #5 Jan. 2017



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## Balance Day Schedule 2016-2017

8:40 am	Supervision
8:55 am	Entry Bell
10:55 - 11:15	Nutrition Break
11:15 - 11:35	AM Recess
1:15 - 1:35	Nutrition Break
1:35 - 1:55	PM Recess
3:15 pm	Dismissal

## Prayer for the New Year

○ God of this New Year that stretches before me,  
teach me the secrets of wisdom.

○ God of this New Year that beckons to me,  
"create a clean heart in me, put into me a new and constant spirit."

○ God of this New Year that holds out hope to me,  
"be my savior again, renew my joy, keep my spirit steady and willing."

○ God of this New Year that gives me another chance,  
"in your great tenderness wipe away my faults."  
Instill some joy and gladness into me.

Loving God, it is time to turn again to you.  
Come to meet me,  
God of life,  
Reach into the mystery of myself.

Take me into the heart of this year and give me the confidence to journey freely,  
lovingly, with risk, wonder and laughter.

~ Amen

## Principal's Message:

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you all had a restful break and time to spend with family and friends. The St. Bernard's staff continues to look forward to working with our families in providing academic and spiritual opportunities for our children.

With your support, we look forward to a prosperous and positive new year.

Yours in Catholic Education,  
Mrs. B. Heeneman & St. Bernard's Staff  
~ Mrs. Barbara Heeneman

## St. Bernard's Gives Back at Christmas!

I would like to sincerely thank the entire school community for their generosity over the Christmas season! We collected an outstanding number of mittens and hats for our mitten tree! This amazing donation to St. Vincent de Paul Society provided warmth and comfort for families in need.

## P.A. Day Reminder:

All elementary schools in SMCD SB including St. Bernard's will be having a P.A. Day on Friday February 3rd, 2017. Please note that there are no classes for students that day.

# Important Dates & Events



Jan 9	Happy New Year! Classes Resume
Jan 11	Father Prasanth Visits JK/SK, SK/1 & 6/7
Jan 13	Gotcha Assembly focus on the value of "Truth"
Jan 17	CSCC Meeting at 5:30 pm in library
Jan 25	Patrick Fogarty Catholic High School Gr. 8 Open House 6:00 pm
Jan 26	School Mass at 9:30 am in gymnasium
Feb 3	P.A. Day (No classes for students)
Feb 8	Parliament Outreach Program Grades 5 - 8
Feb 14	CSCC Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon
Feb 20	Family Day Holiday (No classes for students)
Feb 22	Gr. 8 Orientation Day at Patrick Fogarty Catholic High School Term 1 Report Cards sent home
Feb 23	Father Prasanth Visits 1/2, 3 & 5/6 Gr. 7 Immunization Dose #2 Health Unit
Feb 28	Shrove Tuesday

## Catholic School Community Council (CSCC):

Our CSCC will be once again hosting our Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon. This year the dance will take place on Tuesday February 14, 2017.

In February, each student will receive a 'pledge form' to use to record donations given to the students so that they can dance with their classmates. Classes will dance for approximately one hour each in the school gymnasium and prizes will be given once again for spot dances and for the student who raises the most pledges. Students are encouraged to wear pink, red or white for this school spirit day. The CSCC is fundraising to help off-set costs of field trips, educational enhancements, Gotcha spirit wear prizes and special events/activities (e.g., Shrove Tuesday pancakes, Winter Carnival refreshment station etc...). If you would like to donate a prize for this event, kindly contact any member of the CSCC or the office. Thank you for supporting our efforts.

Our next meeting will take place on January 17, 2017 at 5:30 pm in our library. All are welcome!



## Volunteering at St. Bernard's:

We are always looking for volunteers to help enhance our school community. Anyone hoping to volunteer must have a Criminal Background Check (CBC) and Vulnerable Sector Screening completed by the OPP on file at the school. These documents are provided free of charge to volunteers but a letter from the school needs to accompany the request to the OPP. Kindly contact the office should you have any questions.

## Dressing For Winter & Inclement Weather:



Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions throughout the day. Hat, mitts or gloves, snow pants and boots are necessary. Please label all clothing items. Students will be outside for recess during the winter months as weather permits - please always send your child to school dressed for outdoor recess.

Bus cancellation announcements can be heard on our local radio station or viewed on our board website at [www.smcdsb.on.ca](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca) or [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). We are in the North Weather Zone. In the event that the busses are cancelled, the school is open for drop off at 8:40 am in the main foyer and students must be picked up at dismissal at 3:15 pm. Please note that your child will require a lunch on inclement weather days as food orders are cancelled and re-scheduled for the following school day. If your child walks, please call the Safe Arrival line to report if they will be absent or late.



### **Sacrament of Confirmation:**

Grade 7 students: The church is once again providing students in Grade 7 through the Sacrament of Confirmation, with a chance to deepen the grace received through Baptism. Students who have not received First Communion can prepare for and receive that sacrament with Confirmation. Students in Grade 8 who missed receiving confirmation last year are invited to register. Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday May 28, 2017 at the 11:00 am Mass at Guardian Angels Church with Most Rev. Wayne Kirkpatrick, Auxiliary Bishop. Confirmation will also be celebrated on Sunday June 4, 2017 at St. Columbkille's Church in Uptergrove. Details about the preparation sessions are available by contacting [GAngels.Confirmation@gmail.com](mailto:GAngels.Confirmation@gmail.com) or Eileen Brown (705) 326-9403.

### **Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion:**

This is a reminder that registration for Reconciliation and First Communion for children Grade 2 and older will take place at Guardian Angel's parish hall on Sunday January 29th from 1:00 - 2:00 pm and Monday January 30th from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. You will need a copy of your child's baptismal certificate and \$30 to register.

Reconciliation or Holy Communion Questions Email: Tara Treash [sacramentprep@gmail.com](mailto:sacramentprep@gmail.com)



## **Welcome to Kindergarten!**

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting and special time for parents and children. Our entire Catholic school community looks forward to welcoming our youngest students as they begin a lifelong journey of faith-filled learning. We believe there is something truly unique and special about learning that is rooted in faith and spiritual growth. By choosing a faith-filled education, we know you will share that belief with us.

### **All the Information You Need**

Children born in 2013 are eligible to register for Junior Kindergarten. To help parents and students get ready for this important milestone, our board has developed an award-winning package. Commencing February 2017, we encourage parents who are looking to register their child for Kindergarten to drop by the office to pick up their copy of the package.

### **January Mass**

All are welcome!

Our next school Mass will be held on January 26, 2017. Our celebration will start at 9:30 a.m. in our gymnasium.



### **Lunch Hour Supervisors Needed:**

We are looking for a responsible adult to join our team of Nutrition Break Supervisors. This is a paid work position in the school. If you are interested in this opportunity please contact the office.