



# St. Bernard's Catholic School

*Education and Community Working Together, Centered in Faith*

Newsletter #6 March 2017



255 Oxford Street  
Orillia ON  
L3V 1H6

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Mrs. B. Heeneman

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[http://  
sbe.schools.smcdsb.on.ca](http://sbe.schools.smcdsb.on.ca)



## 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

## A Prayer for Lent

Loving God,  
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you.  
Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude,  
so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-ful life.  
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul  
and remind me of the grace of simplicity.  
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and in doing so,  
re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.  
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.  
~ Amen.

## Principal's Message:

The season of Lent offers us many opportunities to walk with Jesus, and to learn to see Christ in others, especially through the Church's emphasis on the three traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

In his annual Lent message, Pope Francis reminds us that before all else, the Gospel of Jesus Christ invites us to respond to God's love and to see God in others and to go forth to serve them.

During the season of Lent we will take this opportunity to help students deepen their relationship with God and our neighbours. Students have been encouraged to think about what they are going to give up, or what they are going to do to strengthen their relationship with Christ.

As we are approaching the March Break I would also like to wish all of our families a happy, restful and safe break.

Yours in Christ,  
Mrs. B. Heeneman

### What is Lent?

Lent is the season of preparation for Easter, the Christian Holy Days that celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Ash Wednesday is the official beginning of Lent.

### Where Do The Ashes Come From?

Collecting and burning the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

### Why Fast?

Jesus fasted to bring himself closer to God. Christians do the same, believing that when a person gives up something dear to them, it makes it easier for them to think of God. Fasting does not mean you stop eating everything. For Lent, people give up different foods. Some people give ups sweets, others meat.



# Important Dates & Events



Mar 1	Ash Wednesday Celebration @ 9:30 am in gymnasium
Mar 6	Chess Tournament @ Orchard Park (Inclement Weather date Mar 7)
Mar 7	Sr. Boys Basketball @ MASK at 12:30 pm
Mar 8	Winter Carnival (Inclement Weather Date March 10)
Mar 9	Gr. 5/6 Trip to Great Moose Adventures Father Prasanth Visits: Gr. 1/2, Gr. 3 & Gr. 5/6
Mar 13-17	March Break!
Mar 20	School Resumes
Apr. 3	Sharp Buses Evacuation Drill
Apr. 4	Grade 8 Graduation Photos @ 9:00 a.m. in the gymnasium
Apr. 5	CSCC Positive Mental Health Presentation (See Flyer)
Apr. 6	School Mass @ 9:30 in gymnasium

## Catholic School Community Council (CSCC):

Thank you to our CSCC for organizing a very fun and successful Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon. After expenses we raised approximately \$815.00 to support our goals.



The school would also like to thank the CSCC and all of its volunteers for making the delicious pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. We appreciate your efforts in making St. Bernard's such a strong and vibrant community.

Please join us at our upcoming Positive Mental Health event on April 5, 2017. All the details are in the flyer at the end of the newsletter. Please note that child care is not provided.

Our next meeting will take place on April 25, 2017 at 5:30 pm in our library. All are welcome!

## Thank you Patrick Fogarty:

On February 12, our Grade 8 class spent a wonderful transition day at Patrick Fogarty. Our students were warmly welcomed, received a t-shirt and were provided an exciting day filled with essential information as they transition to secondary in the fall of 2015. We will continue to support our Grade 8 students as they continue their faith-filled learning next year. Thank you PF!

## Winter Activity Day:

We will be having our Winter Carnival on Wednesday March 8 during the middle block of the day.

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions as we plan on being outside for a good portion of the day. Hat, mitts or gloves, snow pants and boots are necessary. Each family is asked to donate once again this year a box of nut-free cookies if possible. Once again our fabulous CSCC volunteers will be running our rest station. All students will receive a hot-chocolate and two cookies. \*Please note that our inclement weather date for this event will be on March 10 if we have to postpone.

## 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.

## Parish News



### 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.

### EQAO Grade 3 and Grade 6 Provincial Assessment:

Students in grades 3 and 6 will participate in the provincial assessment of reading, writing and mathematics. If your child is in grade 3 or 6 please do not plan any appointments or absences from May 25 – June 5, as this is the assessment writing window.

Education Quality and  
Accountability Office



### Lost and Found Items:

Our Lost and Found bin is overflowing with treasures! Please take the time to check to see if these items belong to your child. Items are currently on display outside of the library. Please note that all unclaimed clothing items will be donated to a local charity on March 10, 2017.

### Kindergarten Registration:

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.



If your family or a family you know have children who will be 4 years old by December 31st 2017, these children are eligible to register for junior kindergarten. Simply contact the school office or stop by anytime to pick up a registration package.

### April Mass

Our next school Mass will be held on April 6, 2017. Our celebration will start at 9:30 a.m. in our gym.

All are welcome!



### 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.





## **New Childcare Centre and Child and Family Support Program Space coming to St. Bernard's Catholic School**

In the fall of 2016, the Ministry of Education announced funding for new childcare spaces at St. Bernard's Catholic School in Orillia. St. Bernard's was approved for \$2 million in funding for a school addition, which will accommodate 49 childcare spaces and one child and family support room.

Orillia Central Preschool will be relocated from its current space to the new addition at St. Bernard's.

Currently, the Board is reviewing design requirements with the Ministry of Education and the County of Simcoe and will begin project designs later this spring. It is anticipated that these spaces will be available in the 2017-2018 school year.

Orillia Central Preschool can be contacted for more information on their program and registration requirements in anticipation of the opening of the centre in the Fall of 2018

We look forward to sharing more information on this new project with the St. Bernard's school community as it becomes available.



Presented by the Catholic School Community Council of St. Bernard's Catholic School  
for the Orillia community

# Parent Engagement Evening

with special guest Dr. Patrick Carney, Mental Health Lead

*Positive mental health: building school communities where all students can flourish.  
What would that look like? What are the contributions of social emotional learning skills,  
resiliency, physical activity and responsive support?*

## Wednesday, April 5th

5:30 p.m. - Meet and greet, refreshments

6:30 - 7:45 p.m. - Presentation

St. Bernard's Catholic School  
255 Oxford Street, Orillia

Dr. Carney has a long standing interest in the promotion of positive mental health to enhance academic success and well being. Hailing from a family of 10 children in a farming community in rural Ontario he appreciates the vital role of the community to help raise resilient children. As past president of the Association for Chief Psychologists with Ontario school boards he enjoys many opportunities to work with his colleagues to help schools understand the diverse learning needs of children. Dr. Carney is one of 72 mental health leaders involved in the roll-out of the Ontario Mental Health literacy strategy among Ontario school boards.

**A must-see  
presentation! All  
PARENTS welcome  
to this community  
event! (NO CHILDCARE  
PROVIDED)**

