

St. Bernard's Catholic School

Education and Community Working Together, Centered in Faith

Newsletter #1 Sept. 2016



255 Oxford Street
Orillia ON
L3V 1H6

Principal:
Mrs. B. Heeneman

Office Administrator
Mrs. J. Mugford

Superintendent:
Mr. S. Charbonneau

School Trustee:
Mr. F. Smith

Phone: (705) 326-2331
Fax: (705) 326-9234

[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

Blessing for a new school year

Our creator, our Saviour, our companion,
bless this journey of a new school year that we are undertaking.
Refresh our souls and renew our spirits as we embrace
the beautiful ministry you have called us to.
We welcome those who are new to this community and ask that you strengthen
them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.
Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the
return of students to this school,
and may you guide them to return with open hearts
and minds eager to learn.
Amen

Principal's Message:

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 school year!

I hope that you had a relaxing and wonderful summer with friends and loved ones and are ready for another successful school year! For those returning, we warmly welcome you back. For our new families, we would like to welcome you to our school community. Thank you for choosing a Catholic education for your child and I hope that you always feel at home at St. Bernard's.

I would like to welcome some new staff members. Mrs. Charlebois, Mrs. Loader and Mrs. Martin will be joining our amazing team of Educational Assistants. Congratulations to our DECE Ms. Wiles who was married this summer and is now Mrs. Davies in our JK/SK class!

Open communication is the key to building a strong positive relationship. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns.

Every year, our board chooses a spiritual theme, which serves as our inspiration and spiritual focus. The theme for the 2016 - 2017 school year, is *Celebrating God's Family*.

We are all brothers and sisters created and loved by God and this theme helps us to reaffirm that basic truth. Each person is blessed with special gifts and talents which make us unique. As part of God's family, we are called to celebrate our uniqueness and we rejoice in our diversity.

The school classroom organization and student placements have been completed as per school board projections from last

spring. Final school organization and staffing decisions are based on September enrollment numbers. If enrollment numbers are significantly different from projections, classroom reorganization may be necessary. You will be notified directly if there are any changes impacting your child(ren).

I look forward to working closely with parents, students, staff and community members to ensure that this is an exciting, fulfilling, and rewarding year for all of our students!

~ Mrs. B. Heeneman



Electronic Communication Tools:

There are two different ways to stay informed electronically about the exciting events happening in and around SBE:

1. Sign up for eNewsletter

Subscribing to eNewsletters will allow our newsletters to be sent directly to your email. This will also be used to keep you updated on important happenings in the school using our "e-blast" tool. Many families have already subscribed which allows them to receive the eNewsletters. We are grateful for their support in helping us go green! If you are not currently receiving our eNewsletters please sign up following the 3 steps below.

Please note that **all future newsletters will only be sent electronically**. If you require a paper copy, please notify the office by September 25.

Sign up in 3 easy steps!

Step 1: Visit

<http://www.smcdsb.on.ca/sbe>

Step 2: Click the "E-newsletter" Button in the Quick Links Section

Step 3: Click on the "Subscribe" button

2. Visit our Website

St. Bernard's has a web page. Stay informed about upcoming events and interesting information about teaching and learning



Morning Yard Supervision

School begins at 8:55am. Yard supervision is in place from 8:40 - 8:55 am. For safety reasons, please do not drop off students prior to this time. Students are reminded to enter the schoolyard at the beginning of the day. Students arriving after 8:55 am will need to have their parent/guardian sign them in at the office. Students will also require a late slip for entrance to class after morning announcements and prayers.

Our Daily Schedule

8:40	Supervision Begins
8:55	Entry Bell
8:55 - 10:55	Classes
10:55 - 11:15	Nutrition Break
11:15 - 11:35	Morning Recess
11:35 - 1:15	Classes
1:15 - 1:35	Nutrition Break
1:35 - 1:55	Afternoon Recess
1:55 - 3:15	Classes
3:15	Dismissal

Our Staff:

Mrs. J. Sweet	JK/SK
Mrs. E. Whitwell	SK/1
Mr. K. White	Gr. 1/2
Mrs. C. Anthony	Gr. 2
Mrs. A. Moreau	Gr. 3
Ms. Y. Wigglesworth	Gr. 4
Mrs. K. Lassaline	Gr. 5
Mrs. P. Kennedy	Gr. 5/6
Mrs. S. Taylor	Gr. 6/7
Mr. R. Ayers	Gr. 7/8
Mrs. L. Wiles	Special Education Resource
Mr. R. Marwick	Reading Recovery Resource
Mme B. Lawlor-MacDonald	French & Health
Mr. M. Leger	Library, Science & Health
Mrs. H. Davies	DECE JK/SK
Mrs. M. Charlebois	Educational Assistant
Mrs. M. Kehoe	Educational Assistant
Mr. D. Imbeault	Educational Assistant
Mrs. T. Loader	Educational Assistant
Mrs. L. Martin	Educational Assistant
Mrs. B. May	Educational Assistant
Mrs. L. Roth	Educational Assistant
Mrs. C. Schug	Educational Assistant
Mrs. H. Woods	Educational Assistant
Mr. G. Healy	Chief Custodian
Mr. P. Duffy	Evening Custodian
Mrs. J. Mugford	Office Administrator
Mrs. B. Heeneman	Principal



Important Dates & Events

Sept 12	Student Documentation Packages home (Return Sept 23)
Sept 22	Opening School Mass @ 9:30 am in gym
Sept 23	Student Documentation Forms Due to Office Annual Terry Fox Run (Rain Date Sept 26)
Sept 27	CSCC Meeting & Elections @ 5:30 pm in library
Sept 29	Open House 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sept 30	P.A. Day (No Classes)
Oct 10	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct 25	School Photos
Oct 26	P.A. Day for Orillia Community of Schools (No Classes)

Catholic School Community Council (CSCC)

The Catholic School Community Council meets regularly to discuss school issues. Our objective is to provide a caring, nurturing, educational environment steeped in the Catholic tradition. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend our meetings.

Our first CSCC meeting and election will be on Tuesday, September 27th at 5:30 pm, in the school library.

Positions are:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Parish Community Representative

Attached at the end of the newsletter is a copy of the Candidate Nomination Form. If you wish to run for council, please complete and return your nomination form to the school office. All nominations must be received in writing by Friday September 23rd. For more information, please call the office.



Open House Event

Our open house is scheduled for **Thursday, September 29 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**. We look forward to a very enjoyable evening!

Safe Arrival & Attendance

It is important that your child arrives at school safely and on time. Not only does it make things easier for our office administrator and classroom teachers, it also teaches your child the value of being punctual. Our Safe Arrival Program, which includes communicating with our office when your child is late or absent, helps ensure student safety.

Please follow this simple, but critical process when reporting your child as late or absent.

Step 1 – Phone our school at (705)326-2331 prior to the start of the school day on the day your child is going to be absent or late. There is a answering machine 24 hours per day.

Step 2 – Leave your child's full name, classroom teacher's name and the reason for the absence on the school answering machine.

Step 3 – If your child is late, please bring him/her to the office to sign in and obtain a late slip for admittance to class.

School Agendas

Our staff is committed to helping students with time management, organizational and communication skills. For this reason, students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 are required to have a school agenda. The cost of the agenda is \$5.00. Please submit this fee to your son/daughter's classroom teacher by the end of September.

We hope you will find this student agenda helpful. There is a wealth of information related to how our school operates on a day-to-day basis. This agenda also contains useful information from our board office. By taking the time to familiarize yourself with our expectations, you can help us maintain a positive learning experience for all students and staff.

In addition, our agendas are also a great communication tool between parents and teachers as they inform parents of the events in the classroom and in the school. Parents/Guardians are asked to review the contents of the agenda with their son/daughter.

Parish News



Youth Crew

We are starting up youth programs at Guardian Angels Church. All Youth Crew meetings will be held in the Guardian Angels Parish Hall. Our Youth Crew evenings will include: games, activities, reflection time and a peanut free snack time. Regular programs run for students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 every Saturday 3:30 pm with a 6:00 pm pick up time.

Events: Sept 10 Sports Night , Sept 17 Arts and Crafts, Sept 24 Games Night,
Oct 1 Movie Night at Saint Joseph House 3:00 pm @23 Penetang St. (beside church)

Youth Ministry: Call/Text Sandy MacNeil (705) 333-5051 or email smacneil999@gmail.com

Sacraments of Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

The sacrament preparation team at Guardian Angel's Church would like to inform you that the sacrament process will begin after the Christmas holidays in January and will run until the Easter season. Registration dates will be January 10 & 11, 2017 at the church. A reminder will be sent in the December church bulletins. Children must be baptized in order for these next sacraments to take place. If your child is not baptized, our church offers the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) for children ages 2-12 beginning October 16, 2016. Call Deacon Bob Sparkes at 705-325-9044 to register your child.

Reconciliation or Holy Communion Questions Email: Tara Treash sacramentprep@gmail.com

Allergies



St. Bernard's is an allergen aware school. If your child has a severe allergy, it is absolutely critical that you let us know. With your help, we will do our best to reduce risk and make sure all our students are safe, healthy, and able to concentrate on learning.

We have students who have life-threatening peanut and tree-nut allergies. We require that all students' lunches and snacks be nut-free.

Our staff has been instructed on how to deal with anaphylactic shock. However, our best course of action is to prevent exposure to potentially life-threatening allergies. As a school community, we must work together to ensure the safety of our students.

Here is what we are doing to reduce the risk of allergic exposure:

- All food and beverages must be consumed inside the classroom - under no circumstances are students allowed to have snacks in the schoolyard.
- Your child's classroom teacher will inform you if there are

severe and/or other allergies in your child's classroom. We ask that you please understand and appreciate the health and safety of every student by not sending food and beverage items that may be a cause for concern.

- Please check with your child's classroom teacher before providing treats for the classroom for special occasions. There are many students with a variety of food allergies and so we err on the side of caution to make sure all of our students are safe.

Medication



If your child requires any medication to be administered at school, a medication form must be completed and returned to the office. In addition, a new form must be completed each school year.

Medication must be brought to the office by a parent/guardian. Please do not send medication with your son/daughter. Medication must be given to the school in its original container. All medication must be kept in the office and dispensed from the office.

Daily Procedures:

Students who are leaving school early must bring a note to their classroom teacher at the start of the school day stating the need for the early dismissal. All requests must be submitted in writing by the parent/guardian to the school office prior to the change. Please avoid phoning in any last minute changes in dismissal routine.

Morning Drop-off & Afternoon Pick-up

Once again this year, our Kiss and Ride will only be available for student drop-off in the morning.

For the safety and security of our students and staff, the Kiss and Ride will be closed at the end of the school day. Cars will not be permitted to enter the Kiss and Ride area or the school parking lot to pick up students. If you are driving to pick up your child after school, you must park your car on a side street and walk on to the school property. Please do not park on Oxford Street in front of the school as per the by-law signs. Traffic becomes backed up and this can cause unnecessary congestion, which makes it more difficult for our busses to leave in a timely and safe manner. To ensure further the safety of all, please use the sidewalks when escorting your child from school. Parents/Guardians/Visitors with accessibility needs are reminded to please have their permit displayed on their vehicle when using accessible parking spaces. Vehicles in the school parking lot will not be allowed to exit until 3:30 pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

Riding the Bus

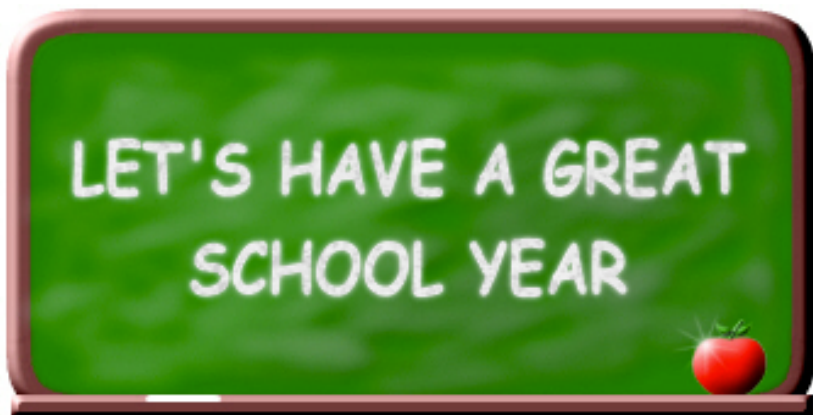
We would like to support the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) in providing safe and reliable bus transportation for our students who are bussed. It is helpful to periodically remind your child about the rules and regulations of riding a school bus. Here are some basic guidelines to follow:

- Your child must always enter the bus in an orderly manner and immediately find his/her seat. Once on the bus, he/she must always follow the instructions of the school bus driver.
- All students must remain in their seats while the bus is in motion. With children sitting quietly, the bus driver is free from distractions and able to focus on road safety.
- Students must also refrain from eating or drinking on the bus.
- Heads and arms must stay inside the bus at all times and aisles should be kept clear.

Occasionally, we receive requests from parents to allow their child to ride the bus in order to visit a friend's house. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate these requests.

Lunch Programs

St. Bernard's will continue to run pizza, pita and milk programs. Milk is being sold daily. The lunch programs will start up in the week of September 26. Food order forms will be sent home the second week of school.



Volunteering at SBE

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 done by the OPP. These documents are provided free of charge to volunteers and we have the letter in the front office for you to complete. This process can take up to 8 weeks. Please consider getting the proper documentation in place now so you and your child won't be disappointed later in the year. Contact the office for more information.

Opening School Mass

Our opening school Mass will be held on September 22, 2016. Our celebration will start at 9:30 am in our gymnasium.



Breakfast Program

We will continue with our Breakfast Program to help ensure that every child attends school well nourished and prepared to learn. Health food items such as yogurt, granola bars, juice etc., will be provided to any student who comes to the Breakfast Club. We are hoping to start the program the week of September 12 but we are still short a few volunteers. The time required is about 45 minutes in the morning from 8:10 - 8:55 am. Anyone who is interested in volunteering to assist with our program is asked to contact the office.



"Gotcha" Program

We will once again be using our "Gotcha" program. The purpose of the program is to encourage our students to perform random acts of kindness. Students who earn a "Gotcha" will be entered into a monthly draw for prizes.



Crossing Guard Program Changes

Effective September 6, 2016, crossing guards will be present during school commencement and dismissal times.

Please note that crossing guards will no longer be assigned to crosswalks during morning and afternoon nutritional breaks.

Crossing Guards shifts are as follows at these locations:
8:00 am to 9:00 am
3:15 pm to 4:00 pm

Locations:

- Gill Street & Highway 12
- Gill Street and Simcoe St.
- Oxford St. and Regent St.
- Forest Ave South & Hwy 12

Upcoming PA Days

Friday, September 30
Wednesday, October 26



If you wish to run for council, please complete this nomination form and bring it to the school office by Friday, September 23, 2016. All nominations must be received in writing. If you have any questions, please call the office.



SIMCOE MUSKOKA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

46 Alliance Boulevard, BARRIE, Ontario L4M 5K3
 Telephone: (705) 722-3555 Facsimile: (705) 722-6534

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM

School:	
Name:	
Address:	
Home Telephone:	Business Telephone:
Email:	

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I, _____, the parent/legal guardian of _____ who attends(s) this school, wish to declare my candidacy for election as parent representative on the Catholic School Community Council. I understand the role and responsibilities of members of said council as described in the policies and procedures set out by the Board and the Ministry of Education and Training. I declare that I meet all of the criteria required for eligibility.

- ◆ Roman Catholic Separate School Supporter YES ___ NO ___
- ◆ Employee of the Board YES ___ NO ___
- ◆ If YES, to employee of the Board, please indicate location: _____

Signature: _____ *Date* _____

RESERVED FOR THE BOARD

Received by: _____ Time: _____ Date: _____
(Principal/Designate)

CONFIRMATION OF CANDIDACY

A confirmation of candidacy for election to the Catholic School Community Council has been received from:
 _____ (Board Official);

Time: _____ Date: _____