

Rooted in Faith - Learning in Love - Dedicated to Excellence

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April, 2012  
Volume 1 Number 3

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## Semester Two Final Evaluations

June 20, 21, 22 and 25, 2012

### WEDNESDAY, June 20

9:00 - 10:16 - Period 2 class  
10:22 - 11:38 - Period 1 class or  
76 min. Final Evaluation  
11:44 - 12:50 - Lunch  
1:00 - 3:00 - Period 1—2 hour Final Eval-  
uation or Credit Rescue (if required)

### THURSDAY, June 21

9:00 - 10:16 - Period 3 or 4 class  
10:22 - 11:38 - Period 2 class or  
76 min. Final Evaluation  
11:44 - 12:50 - Lunch  
1:00 - 3:00 - Period 2 - 2 hour Final Eval-  
uation or Credit Rescue (if required)

### FRIDAY, June 22

9:00 - 10:16 - Period 5 class  
10:22 - 11:38 - Period 3 or 4 class or  
76 min. Final Evaluation  
11:44 - 12:50 - Lunch  
1:00 - 3:00 - Period 3 or 4 - 2 hour Final  
Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)

### MONDAY, June 25

9:00 - 10:16 - Period 5  
76 min. Final Evaluation

9:00—11:00 - Period 5 -2 hour Final  
Evaluation

End of Transportation

11:30—1:30 - Period 5 Credit Rescue  
(if required)

Transportation home not provided

### TUESDAY, June 26

9:00 - 11:00 - Final Credit Rescue  
(if required)

Transportation to and from school not  
provided

# Chaplain's Message

Father Toby Collins



Discover and live out  
5 different vocations.

Visit

[www.vocationculture.ca](http://www.vocationculture.ca)

Hello SMH!

My name is Fr. Toby Collins, CR or just plain Fr. Toby. I can't tell you how happy I am to visit the high school that I went to. The building is different but many of my amazing teachers are still here. Your chaplain, Annabel, asked me to write an article for the newsletter about myself - the work that I do, the recent green exit sign-game that many of the students played along with.

I am originally from K-W and most of my family lives here. That's a lot of people because I have 16 uncles and aunts, 4 sisters, 2 brothers, and lots of in-laws, cousins, and nieces and nephews. We are far from the perfect family (we go through some hard times, are mean to each other, take things for granted, etc, etc), but we really do try our best to get along. That keeps us together, for the most part.

I was born and raised Catholic and wandered from the faith sometimes. But when I came back I realized that if I really practiced my faith (you know, go to church on Sundays, try and help people who have less, go to the sacrament of reconciliation, etc.) my life got easier and a lot better. As I prayed more often for things I really wanted I found that my prayers were answered. Not always when I wanted the answers, but they came nevertheless.

I finished my degree at Wilfred Laurier University and started my own landscaping business called *Tidy Toby*. Even though the business was doing well and I was having fun landscaping, I felt that something was still missing in my life. I thought that I should get married or look into becoming a priest. To get more information, I talked to people who were happily married or enjoyed life as a priest. That seemed to help but I still needed to pray so that I might know which one God had in mind for me. Through many ordinary events that I talk about on [www.vocationculture.ca](http://www.vocationculture.ca) God assured me that I would be quite happy becoming a priest and joining a Religious Community called The Congregation of the Resurrection.

Sure there were lots of distractions and very tough decisions along the way. As time went on I believed I found that living Consecrated Life and becoming a priest was God's dream for me all along. How did I know? I was happier and more alive the more I went down that path. I became more at peace with who I really was. I got to use and develop more of my gifts and talents in very meaningful and exciting ways. I felt loved. Perhaps more importantly, I got to love in new ways.



Today not much has changed. When I look around I notice that there are many people who are also wondering about their vocation. Sometimes they ask me to help them find what God's dream for them might be. I notice that they too benefit from prayer and the support of people like myself who are finding ways to joyfully live out their vocations.

One day I decided to ask members of my religious community to help me create a website to help others discover their vocation. They all agreed to help because our community has always been a part of bringing positive transformation to people's lives and this website would help to do this. The site [www.vocationculture.ca](http://www.vocationculture.ca) was created and has become a safe place to exhibit real people who are finding ways to discover and live out 5 different vocations in ways that bring much joy to their lives. The website also tries to answer vocation related questions such as "How did you know that married life was for you?" or "Do priests fall in love?" If anyone wants to talk about their own journey with someone living out a particular vocation, I create safe opportunities to meet with people who have proper volunteer screening and a healthy experience of the requested vocation.

It is a unique journey for everyone to find your vocation. Over the years I have seen enough misery in people's lives to know that we could all benefit from *Creating a Vocation Culture*. That is, help to create an atmosphere in which God's dream for each of us is discovered and lived out in a way that brings more joy, love and meaning to our lives. The recent game with the *green exit signs* was just one way to promote [www.vocationculture.ca](http://www.vocationculture.ca) and to encourage you all to check it out.

That is a little about me, the work that I do, and the reason for the game. I hope that this article was helpful to you in some way and that the new website will help you to discover God's dream for you.



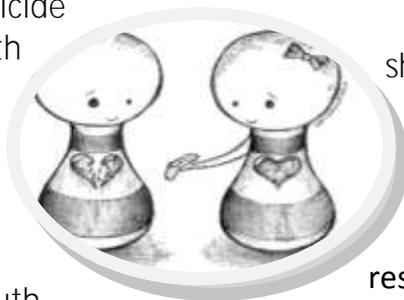
# Kindness Matters

## Safe schools and bullying

We continue our theme of *Kindness Matters* as on May 17<sup>th</sup>, we look to celebrate international anti-homophobia day. Students and staff on our school's *PRISM* (Pride and Respect for Individuals of a Sexual Minority) committee are busy preparing for this day and want to make our school safer and more welcoming for our sexual minority eagles.

Sexual minority refers to students who are lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgendered or two-spirited. A panel of guest speakers (including a former student who is gay and his mother) will address a number of classes and help enhance our knowledge and understandings in this area so that we can get better to ensure all students feel welcome and safe in our school community.

The depression and suicide rates for sexual minority youth are three times higher than for heterosexual youth. Drop-out rates, drug addiction rates, bullying rates and self-harm rates are also much higher for sexual minority youth than for heterosexual youth. Our school wants to be proactive in addressing this very sad reality. Unfortunately homophobia still exists in the larger culture and it makes its way into the school. It causes sexual minority youth to feel extremely vulnerable and alone. Some youths experience rejection at home and that serves to deepen their feelings of alienation and



Matez Goc and Mateusz Tinel

**vulnerability. St. Mary's wants to let** sexual minority students know that there is a place for all students in *our Eagle's nest* and that we value them as we value all students.

Jesus offers us the model for how we should live our lives and teaches us that being inclusive and compassionate is part of our call as Catholic Christians. The Catholic catechism challenges us to treat gay persons with the dignity and **respect deserving of all God's people.** On anti-homophobia day staff and students will be invited to wear a purple shirt to show that we care about and support our students of a sexual minority. Purple is the universal colour for allies of sexual minority people. On May 17<sup>th</sup> please say a special prayer for sexual minority students. Pray that schools, communities, and the world will become a less hostile place for them so they can truly celebrate who they are and feel the love of God surrounding them.



# From the Guidance Wing

Deanna Wehrle, Program Head



## **COURSE SELECTION**

Course selections were submitted for next year. Students need to be sure they have both pre requisites for their diploma, and the pre requisites for their post-secondary options. Career cruising has links on line to this information and research.

## **GR 12'S - COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS**

In order to graduate in the fall, the mandatory 40 hours of community service for Grade 12 students must be completed by the end of May. Submit your form to the guidance secretary as soon as possible. Forms to log community service hours are available in the guidance office. For volunteering ideas refer to the website [www.volunteerkw.ca](http://www.volunteerkw.ca)

## **INTERESTED IN A 5<sup>TH</sup> YEAR?**

Students who have applied to college or university but have now decided to return to St. Mary's for a 5<sup>th</sup> year, need to talk to their guidance counselor immediately.

## **ESL PARENT NIGHT**

We will host a parent ESL night in the chapel on May 15 for students entering grade 9 next year. Families will receive invitations through their elementary schools.

## **SUMMER SCHOOL**

Summer school sign up will begin in May. Courses will run for the full month of July. Students must attend all classes. Eagle vision will announce when the forms have arrived. At that time, students interested in signing up may see their guidance counselor. New courses will be offered full days at Sir John A McDonald, and repeat courses will be offered half days at Cameron Heights and Jacob Hespeler.

## **PEER LEADERSHIP CLASS-**

The peer leaders will head into their placements in April.

## **GR 11'S – INFORMATION SESSION ON POST SECONDARY PLANNING**

During the week of April 16th, guidance will invite the grade 11's for an information session to help plan for college and university. They will learn about the application process and timelines for applying to post-secondary, as well as given research and scholarship sites to explore over the summer. We ask that students share this information sheet with their parents. It is highly recommended to set up college and university campus tours the summer they are going into grade 12.



# Graduation Reminders

Mrs. McCormick



| Date         | Event                                 | Comments   |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| April 2012   | Grad Awards                           | - Applications are now available and are due May 31  |
| May 22/12    | Tim Horton Onondaga Farms             | - 180 graduates have signed up to attend the 5 <sup>th</sup> annual grad retreat; buses leave at 8:00 am and will arrive back at 5:00pm. |
| June 1/12    | Grad Celebration: Liturgy & Breakfast | - <b>A time to share experiences while at St. Mary's.</b>  |
| May 31/12    | Special Awards                        | - Final date to hand in Special Awards applications to Guidance  |
| May 31/12    | Community Service Hours               | - Community Service Hours due in Guidance  |
| June 1/12    | Prom Night                            | - Prom night – 8:00pm – midnight – The Museum on King Street, in Kitchener.  |
| October 4/12 | Grad Ceremony                         | - Centre in the Square, 7:00 pm; Grad invitations with 4 Guest tickets will be distributed in June through homeroom teachers.            |

Parham Hejbian Demonstrates the special edition of our graduation



Starting June 18<sup>th</sup> additional Guest tickets (up to 3) will be available to purchase for \$5 per ticket.

See Ms. Spiewak in the main office.



Sarah Adams winner of our graduation scarf

Thank you to Graduates who returned their Community Service Hours on time. Students who did had the chance to win a Special Edition Graduation Scarf.



# Co-operative Education

## Taking Co-op Next Year?





**Have You handed in your complete Co-op Application Package yet?**

**You need:**  
**1 Co-op Application Form (Yellow)**  
**2 Teacher Reference Forms (Green)**

**Please Drop Off Your Missing Forms to the Co-op Office ASAP**

**Co-op Application Form**

**Teacher Reference Form**

**Teacher Reference Form**

**Co-op Interviews will be held from April 16th - 27th**

Questions? See a Co-op Teacher

## Co-op Education Works

## Taking Co-op Next Year?

Try out a Career BEFORE you Graduate!










Have you Completed your Co-op package?  
 (1 yellow application, 2 green teacher references)

**Co-op courses count toward your Specialist High Skills Major Award!!**

Questions? See a Co-op Teacher

## Co-op Education Works




Co-op Interviews will be held in April

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## Are you a Specialist High Skills Major?

The Specialist High Skills Major is a program that encourages students in grades 11 & 12 to learn more about their career by taking a co-op experience, participating in industry training, and taking related classes in high school.



Second semester was a busy one for the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program, as we organized many training sessions for St.

### Mary's students.

Hospitality and Tourism students spent a day in a Top Chef challenge with Chef Terry from Langdon Hall to produce some tasty food and new creations.

Construction students learned how to install solar panel on flat and angled roofs at Conestoga College.

## Message to Gr. 10 Students

Make sure to get involved for next year by filling out a sign up form online at [www.highskills.ca](http://www.highskills.ca) there are over 10 different majors to choose from.

Questions? Please contact Tara Fitzgerald at (519) 578-3660 or [tara.fitzgerald@wcdsb.ca](mailto:tara.fitzgerald@wcdsb.ca)



# Sports Page

## Fall and Winter Sports

final results available at [sportstats.ca](http://sportstats.ca)



| Sport                   | WCSSAA, CWOSSA, OFSSA   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Junior Boys Basketball  | District 8 and CWOSSA Champs                                      |
| Senior Boys Basketball  | District 8 and CWOSSA Champs, OFSSA Participants                  |
| Junior Girls Volleyball | District 8 Champs, CWOSSA Finalists                               |
| Senior Girls Volleyball | District 8 Finalists  |
| Swimming                | District 8 Finalist—CWOSSA participants                           |
| Wrestling, Sr. Girls    | WCSSAA, OFSSA overall 11th place<br>Alex Mohr—OFSSA Golf Medalist |
| Boys Varsity Hockey     | WCSSA Champions, CWOSSA Finalists,<br>OFSSA Participants          |
| Varsity Girls Hockey    | Finalists WCSAA and CWOSSA Semi-Finalists                         |

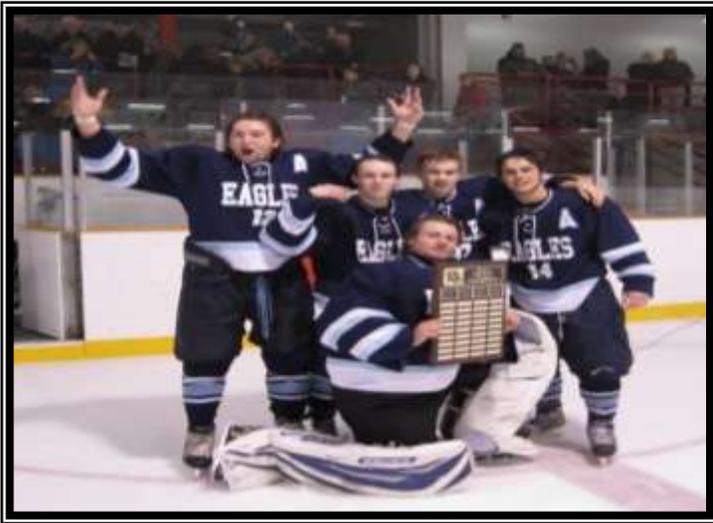
### ***Best Season Ever for Boys' Varsity Eagles Hockey***

The Eagles Boys' Varsity Hockey team started the season by making a successful run to the finals of the NDA Christmas High School Hockey tournament in North Bay and finished with a 9-3 record in WCSSAA league play.

The team made history winning their first ever WCSSAA Championship by beating 3 time defending champs Grand River (for the second time this year) in the final and then continued to make it to the Central Western Ontario finals tournament. The result was enough for the team to earn a spot at the all-Ontario (OFSSA) AAAA Championship in Peterborough. St. Mary's became the first area Catholic high school team to win the WCSSAA championship and to qualify for OFSSA since St. Jerome's HS closed. The team won 21 of their 31 games, lost 8 and tied 2.

Our captain Brett MacDonald was named WCSSAA playoff tournament MVP and the most valuable player of the Waterloo County Boy's hockey league. St. Mary's sniper, Max Reiber, won the WCSSAA league scoring title and capped off an amazing season scoring 50 goals. He was also named to the WCSSAA first team all-star squad with standout goaltender Zach Whelan. Nate Hause was named to the second team all-stars and honourable mention went to Steven Good and Nick Bischoff.

Special thanks go out to the coaching staff: Jordan Figueiredo, Connor Smith and John Weiler, as well as Athletic Director Tom Mandich. This was truly a season to remember—best wishes to all the players in their future endeavours! You have started a great new tradition for Eagles Hockey at SMH.



the Eagle's View



## From the Arts Department

One for All, and All for One

Excitement is building in the St. Mary's drama community as the opening curtain for *The Three Musketeers* draws near. A lively mixture of superb swashbuckling swordsmanship, maniacal political manipulation, and innumerable love affairs, *Three Musketeers* promises an evening of entertainment. The cast has spent months learning lines, sword play, and ball room dancing. The play, by *Peter Raby*, was last presented at the Stratford Festival in 2006. Come out and support the large cast of **St. Mary's students** – many who are on the stage for the first time- *May 22 through to May 25*. The curtain rises at 7:00 and the cost is a flat rate \$10.00.

*St. Mary's  
High School  
presents*

*The Three  
Musketeers*  
*by Peter Raby*

\$10

*May 22, 23, 24 & 25*

*Alumni Hall  
Curtain 7 p.m.  
519-745-6891  
1500 Block Line Road*

### Arts Supplies needed

The Arts department is always on the lookout for materials that can be repurposed by our Arts and Crafts students.

Fabric, stained glass, yarn, beads, buttons, wall tiles or any craft items are always appreciated as donations.

If you have any of these things that you would like to give to the school simply drop them off at the main office.

It is through this kind of generosity that we are able to provide the program that we do.

Thank you for your support.



## *Dates To Remember*



April 26  
AM classes only  
P. 3 or 4 and P.5  
No classes in the pm

May 7-11  
Catholic Education Week

May 15  
ESL Information Evening  
6:00-8:00pm

May 16  
Gauss Math Contest  
Gr.7&8-P.1

May 17  
Co-Op Career Fair  
8:30-11:30am

May 18  
Student Council  
Elections –P.2

May 21  
Victoria Day no classes

May 22  
Grad Retreat  
**Tim Horton's Camp**

May 22  
GRT Bus Pass Processing  
Grade 8 from 5:00-8:00pm  
Upper Forum

May 22 & 23  
GRT Bus Pass Processing  
For Current Returning Stu-  
dents  
9:00am-3:00pm by class

May 23-25  
Drama Production  
The Three Muskateers

May 29  
Spring Concert

June 1  
Graduation Liturgy & Break-  
fast  
8:15-10:30am

June 1  
Grad Prom-8:00pm

June 4-8  
Arts Display Week

June 5  
Athletics Banquet  
5:30-10:30pm

June 6  
Award Assembly P.2

June 7  
Arts Night and Dinner–  
Alumni Hall  
6:00-9:00pm

June 7  
Final Assembly-P.1

June 11  
Locker Clean out  
& Text Book Check  
9:00 –9:20am

June 12  
EQAO Math Test 1st half

June 14  
EQAO Math Test- 2nd half

Final Evaluation  
June 20—June 26

June 29  
PA Day

Week of July 12  
Semester Two Final Report  
Cards and Registration Pack-  
age mailed.



# the Eagle's View

To Parents and Friends of St. Mary's High School,

As we enter the second half of semester two and thoughts are turning to beautiful Spring weather it is often difficult for our students to stay focussed on their academic studies. Sometimes, along with the lovely weather comes an increase in student truancy, which is one of the main factors contributing to poor academic performance. I would encourage you to remind your son/daughter to keep the end goal in mind and to continue to work hard until the very last day of school.

In February and March, a lot of time and effort was spent on the course selection process. Thank you for encouraging your student to complete the option sheet in an accurate and timely manner. Based on the results of those sheets we are now in the process of timetabling and hiring teachers for the next school year.

**This year St. Mary's High School moved to a two-lunch day** and both students and staff are in agreement that this was a very welcome change. We will continue on the same schedule for the 2012-2013 school year.

Thanks to all of you who attended our Parent/Student/Teacher conferences in March. Studies clearly show that students, whose parents are actively involved in their education, have a much higher success rate. We appreciate your involvement and your support as we strive to provide your son/daughter with the best education possible.

On a final note, I would be remiss if I did not mention how very pleased we are with the response to our *Kindness Matters* campaign. Every day random acts of kindness occur within our school and we are extremely proud of our students.

*Kindness Matters* has now become a way of life here at SMHS and it is thanks to your sons and daughters who have stepped up to be so caring and responsible.

