



April 2017
Volume 6 Number 3

Features

P.2 -Chaplain's Message

P.3/4 -Guidance Wing

P.5 -Vimy Ridge

P.6-7 -Graduation Information

P.8 -SHSM

P.9 - Learning Commons

P.10 -Reach for the Top// UN Day

P.11 -Sports Page

P.12/14 -Arts Department

P. 15 -Dates to Remember

*When you go home tell them
of us and say :
"For your tomorrow, we gave our today"
Unknown*



Chaplain's Message

Annabel MacDonald, Chaplain



**We
no
longer
encourage
just
tolerance
—
we
encourage
acceptance**

The year 2017 marks the 500th year anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (1517). Pope Francis initiates and supports many events to mark that anniversary. Many students who study introduction to Catholic Theology as well World religions get a glimpse of a major schism in the church – and how we are healing.

At one time there was *THE* Catholic Church...and a Catholic Priest named Martin Luther had some pretty valid and serious concerns about how it was run. And so it began with the publication of the Ninety-five Theses by Luther (who as a result formed the Lutheran Faith) and the Thirty Years' War. This war was initially between various Protestant and Catholic states in the fragmented Holy Roman Empire – which resulted in millions who perished for their faith.

What came out of this besides a lot of casualties? The Catholic- or Counter Reformation; our faith had to take a good long look at how the church was being run.

It was a good thing. Fast forward 500 years and we see many very positive ecumenical events taking place; it is the same God and at the end of the day we need to focus on growth in communion through dialogue as well as commitment to communion.

One way special way to honour this 500th anniversary is Lutherans and Catholics Commemorating the Reformation. Through a series of ecumenical study and reflections our churches in Waterloo Region offer this upcoming May. Their focus is seeking to be people of reconciliation striving toward Christian Unity. Please consider attending.

Can students of St. Mary's learn from this? Just what does it mean to get along with people of another faith?

Each year St. Mary's notices more and more Muslim students register at our high school. What does this mean for our Catholic faith? Personally I find this quite fascinating; Muslim students quietly learn about our faith and we in turn learn from them. They understand their lineage from Abraham – do we? It is enlightening when a student learns in gr 11 World Religions class that three of the world religions; Christianity, Judaism and Muslim pray to the same God – and our lineages all go back to Abraham

So what am I learning from this 500th anniversary and the introduction to Muslim students in our school?

That we no longer encourage just tolerance – we encourage acceptance. And that indeed is a good thing.

God Bless.

Annabel MacDonald



From the Guidance Wing

Course Selection

Students have now entered their course selections for next year. They were directed to check both pre-requisites for their 'diploma, and 'Red Seal' if they are in High Skills Major, in addition to their post-secondary options. Career cruising has links to this information and research.

Please note:

Students who wish to make changes to their course selections need to book an appointment on line with their guidance counsellor before Friday, May 19. After that time, there will be no course changes until the **second week of September**.

Students will receive confirmation of their course selection for next year in the report card package mailed home in July

Summer School

Book an online appointment with your guidance counselor. New courses will be offered full days at St. Louis, Sir John A

McDonald and Bluevale, and repeat courses will be offered half days at Cameron Heights and Jacob Hespeler. Courses will run for the full month of July and students must attend all classes.

GR 12's: OSAP PRESENTATION

Students interested in applying for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) are invited to sign up on line (go to St. Mary's web site) for an information session on **Friday, April 28th** at 10:30 in the Library Seminar room.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

In order to graduate, in June, grade 12 students have until the end of April to complete their 40 hours of community service. Submit forms to the guidance secretary by **April 28th**.



Forms to log community service hours are available in the guidance office. For volunteering ideas refer to the website www.volunteerkw.ca

Students can also check Eagle Vision, St. Mary's Facebook and Twitter

Interested in a 5th Year?

Students who have applied to college or university but who have now decided they would like to return to St.

Mary's for an extra semester, need to talk to their guidance counselor after May 15th.



GRADUATION

June 27

7pm at

The Centre in the Square

Gr 11's: Information Session on Post-Secondary Planning

In November all grade 11 students were invited to an information session to help with their planning for post-secondary. They learned about the application process and timelines to apply to college and university. In December students were invited to a computer lab to research program prerequisites and scholarship sites. An information sheet is posted on line. Students are highly recommended to set up college and university campus tours the summer they are going into grade 12. During the 3rd and 4th week of April, Guidance Counsellors will meet one on one with grade 11 students to review their pathway planning.



Important Dates for Gr 12's Who've Applied to College and/or University:



- April 27th - Mid Term marks were sent to Ontario University and Colleges
- University – May 26th – the last day to receive an offer
- June 1st – deadline to accept an offer (check your letter of offer to be sure)
- College – May 1st – last date to accept an offer (check your letter of offer to be sure)
- Colleges are still accepting applications for 'open and wait listed' programs



Specialist High Skills Major



Grad SHSM Award Due April 28th

Have you demonstrated motivation and change and grown both personally and academically as a result of your involvement in the Specialist High Skills Major program?

Recipient will Receive:

Framed certificate and monetary award.

Award value \$250 (donated by Hotzone Training)

Criteria:

Must be 100% on track to earning your Red Seal;

Submit 1 page essay and photo;

Describe involvement in SHSM and how it has affected your life;

See school website, Graduation, Awards for details

Specialist High Skills Major - Focus on a Career Area of Your Choice





Students from our board were given the opportunity to stand as proud citizens and join the rest of Canada to remember and appreciate the 3,400 soldiers who died in this battle alone during World War One. This battle is remembered as the birth of our nation where thousands of multicultural soldiers went into battle. It was the first time that our soldiers fought as a whole Canadian unit under our first Canadian General, Arthur Currie.

This commemoration of the battle coincides with the 150th Anniversary of Confederation.

The Grade 12 Academic Credit course study is specifically designed to understand Canada's role in WW1 and the importance of Vimy Ridge.

While overseas, a visit was scheduled to Essex Farm where McCrae (of Flanders Field fame) had his field hospital.

One student had a great, great uncle who died at Passchendaele and his body was never found. However, his name appears on the Menin Gate. The student pointed out her uncle's name during the visit on the site then the group later attended the *Last Post* ceremony

As follow up activity for this trip there will be a final written evaluation which will include an essay reflection of the experience.

This trip meant to instill patriotism and citizenship in our students.

We are confident that this interactive course and trip will ensure that our students become lifelong learners.

(excerpt from Excursion Outcomes)



DREAM LIKE MARTIN
LEAD LIKE HARRIET
CHALLENGE LIKE ROSA
BELIEVE LIKE THURGOOD
PERSEVERE LIKE OBAMA
ACHIEVE LIKE LINCOLN
WRITE LIKE MAYA

For the first time on February 21, at St. Mary's High School, the Black Matters Club presented an unforgettable Black History Month assembly.

The purpose of the assembly was to educate and increase awareness of the black achievements throughout our history. The assembly contained powerful poems, amazing traditional African and hip-hop dance, and great speeches and videos about the significance of the history of Black people. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience for everyone who attended.

On the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Black Matters Club and the Social Action team sent representatives to attend the events at Kitchener City Hall.



There were great presenters from the aboriginal community, local politicians and leaders and other student groups. A film maker, Narsiesse, showed how he celebrates his culture in his work and the we talked about how stereotypes and discrimination can lead to hate crime.

We came back with good ideas for initiatives we can work on here at school and really appreciate all the work being done in our community to support diversity.

---by *Daniah Al-ajaj* and *Ms. Shea*



Graduation 2016-2017 — Important Dates

Things to consider to Graduate:

Pay Your Grad Fees by May 25th to guarantee a spot at the CITS

If you still like to participate in Graduation activities, please pay online <https://wcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> or in the main office ASAP. You need to ensure there is a space reserved for you on stage at the Centre in the Square. (<http://stmary.wcdsb.ca>)

Grad Spirit Wear

There are a few grad spirit wear items available for purchase. Check at the main office if interested.

Reserving Your Spot For The Grad Retreat – Space for 175 Students – Few Spots Remaining

We look forward to seeing you at Camp Kintail in Goderich on Friday, **May 26th**. Buses will pick up students at 8:15 am and return to the school around 6:30 pm.

There are a number of spaces still available. Drop by the main office to pay ASAP.

Your Community Service Hours

Your 40 community service hours are due **April 28th**. Please make sure you hand them in at the Guidance Office.

Still Want to Attend the Grad Breakfast?

It is still possible to join your fellow graduates for Grad Breakfast on Thursday, **June 1st**. Please pay (\$15.00) online or in the main office. Last day to pay – **May 25th**.

Extra Tickets for June 27th

Four tickets for the Ceremony in June will be handed out beginning the week of May 8th. If you would like extra tickets please contact the main office (\$5 per ticket) beginning the week of June 5th.

Grad Awards?

Applications are now available (website, school network or guidance department). There are many different types of awards given from both within the school and the community - plan to apply by **April 29th** (due in the Guidance Office). Graduates have the opportunity to apply for awards that combined are worth over \$15,000! (<http://stmary.wcdsb.ca>)

Community Service Hours Due	• Friday, April 28
Special Award Applications Due	• Friday, April 28
Distribute Grad Invites and 4 tickets Plus 1 breakfast Ticket	• Week of May 8
Retreat—space is limited	• Friday, May 26—Camp Kintail, Goderich- Pick up time from St. Mary's—8:15am—Drop off time at St. Mary's—6:30pm
Breakfast and Liturgy	• Thursday, June 1
PROM, Federation Hall, U of W.	• Thursday, June 1
Last Day to Pay Grad Fees to guarantee a spot	• Thursday, May 25—Students who intend to participate must pay fees by this date
Last Day to Receive a Grad Refund	• Tuesday, May 31 • No refunds after this date
Ticket Sales	• Begins June 5—Purchase of additional tickets \$5.00 each
Graduation, Centre in the Square	• Tuesday, June 27—7:00pm
Yearbook Pickup	• Available in October at the main office. Check St. Mary's website for availability dates.



GRADS

Have you Paid your Fees?

Don't Miss out - Gowns and Seats need to be reserved; Tickets have been ordered.

Ceremony \$85* Breakfast \$15 Retreat \$35

Pay through CashOnline or in the Main Office ASAP

Important Dates:

**April 28 - Special Award Applications Due;
Community Service Hours Due**

May 8 - Distribute Grad Tickets

(includes 4 for guests);

Last day to pay for a Breakfast ticket

June 1 - Liturgy & Breakfast, PROM

May 26 - Grad Retreat (Camp Kintail, Goderich)

June 27 - Centre in the Square Graduation Ceremony



Spirit Wear Still Available - Large or Xlarge Only - see Ms.McCormick or Ms. Strassburger



Specialist High Skills Are the Way to Grow!

The Specialist High Skills Major program at St. Mary's has been growing rapidly. Over half of all grade 11 and 12 students are currently participating. Students involved in SHSM have used semester 2 to complete their courses and certifications or sign up for Co-op to participate in a career related to their major (eg. Business, Energy and Sports).

As the year draws to a close, many grade 12 students are finishing their training and will receive a Red Seal on their diploma this spring. This seal lets employers and post secondary education know that students have the knowledge, skills, and industry-recognized qualifications related to a particular career field.

This shows that you have given some thought to what you'd like to do for your future – and may give you an advantage over others who have not earned worked on an SHSM.

No matter whether you plan to go to work, apprenticeship, or college/university you can earn a SHSM. Students who participate in grades 11 and 12 take specific Classes, attending Certifications and completing a 2-credit Co-op course.

Plan to visit www.highskills.ca to get started – choose from 11 majors.

Gr.10 & 11's – Get Started this Summer

Check the list of training on the website for certifications that are available online or through St. John's Ambulance. Email SHSM@wcdsb.ca to request training outside of school hours.

Already Participating?

Check your SHSM Progress Report to see if your course selections for next year support your SHSM Major. If you complete 50% of both your courses and certifications, you'll receive a **FREE SHSM T-SHIRT!** Plus once you are 100% done, you will receive a **FREE SHSM SWEATSHIRT.**

Keep checking your progress report from your homeroom teacher to see how far along you are to obtain your sprit wear!

Questions? Need more Information?

Contact: Ms. J. McCormick (Lead Teacher at St. Mary's)

or

Ms. Tara Fitzgerald (Board Office (519) 578-3660x2549 –
SHSM@wcdsb.ca)





Did you know?

Most of the information on the internet is not freely available through Google. Publishers and authors want to be paid for their work!

We pay for databases so you can find some of this reliable and useful information.

You can access the databases on any computer or device, as long as you have the passwords.

Find all the databases at <http://vlcguides.wcdsb.ca/stmary/databases>

See **Mrs. Mulhall** or **Mrs. Walker** in the Library Learning Commons if you need help or the passwords.

Try it out!

There is a 3D printer in the Library Learning Commons for the next few months. Download free software on your own computer to create and edit your 3D model, then upload it to the printer using a USB stick. See the Kitchener Public Library for more details.

Looking for a good book?

Books have trailers, just like movies! Check out the links the Kitchener Public Library put together on [their teen website](#) (or do a YouTube search for: [book trailers kpl](#))





Reach for the Top

The St. Mary's Reach for the Top team made another strong showing this year at the regional tournament.

**Eric Remillard, Josh Terry,
Gillian Belkwell , and
Josh Meyer,**

out-quizzed some of the strongest teams in the region in game play. We look forward to building enough points in next year's tournaments to winning it all!.

Thank you, Mason, for helping out.

Way to go Eagles!

Ms. Shea

UN Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination

On March 21st, the Social Action team and the Black Matters Club sent a core team of students to participate in our local activities to observe the UN Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

We had the opportunity to listen to a speaker who works with the provincial police task force on hate crimes, a local artist whose multimedia work is rooted in his native culture, and do activities on stereotyping.

It was impressive to see the creative work from the Islamic school in Cambridge. We brought back some great ideas to work into our own action teams.





St. Mary's Key Club

It's Never Too Late To Join!

What is Key Club?

Key Club is an international club that consists of students who want to make a difference, and would like to do something to facilitate change. They volunteer in the community, not just to receive their forty hours, but because they actually care. They meet each Wednesday. There is a teacher facilitator, Mrs. Schindler, but really the students are given the mandate to determine the causes that are important to them and to decide how they want to use their time. The club is an international group with organizations across North America. Kiwanis is the community partner for Key Club and guides students to various service projects. Key Clubs from across the region meet throughout the year and Key Clubs from across Eastern Canada meet yearly.



Congratulations

St. Mary's Key Club is pleased to announce that Hannah Zmigrodzki won the *Above and Beyond* award at this year's District Convention. She was chosen for this prestigious award because of the continuous spirit she has displayed. Hannah is a grade nine student, and contributes greatly to making our school Key Club a success.



Eastern District Convention and Beyond

Some Key Club members attended the Eastern Canada District Convention in Niagara Falls. It was a weekend of learning, meeting friends and having fun. *Above, Olisa D., Joia M., Jess, Celestina C., Taliah L., and Hannah Z.* are ready to start the day. Next on the agenda for Key Clubbers is the Brain Tumour Walk in the spring. Key Clubbers want to support a grade 11 student who recently lost her mom to a brain tumour. You can contribute to the *St. Mary's Key Club walk team* by following the link below: http://www.braintumourwalk.ca/site/TR?fr_id=1397&pg=entry





News from the Arts Department

Let the Sun Shine In!

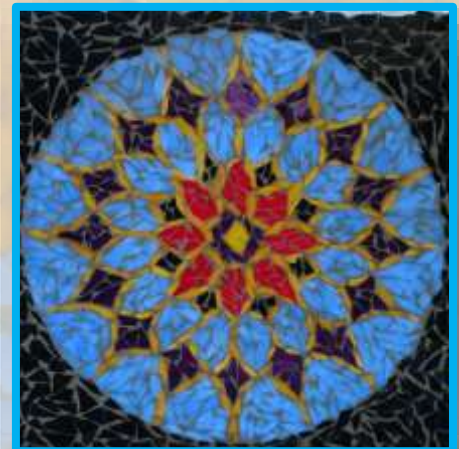
Mrs. Schindler's grade 11 craft class will enjoy the sunshine this spring. They created lovely glass mosaics that look even more amazing with the sunshine beaming through them. The students used a variety of glass cutting tools to size stained glass pieces for their designs. The project requires a considerable amount of planning, as students have to determine the size, shape, colour and texture. Some students made more than one piece creating a theme of treasures. As with any project, safety came first and students took the required precautions when handling or cutting glass.



Above: Aiden Samms working on his mosaic.
Left: R2D2 and a lovely mosaic owl.

Left: Danna Torres working on her glass.

Below: Glass mosaic bee and mandala design



Grade Ten Students Making An Impression

The grade ten visual art class literally made an impression by creating their own original printing designs and turning them into a printed series. The process involved students drawing a design, carving it into a soft plate, inking the plate with a brayer, and transferring the image to paper. Some students later added hand colouring to their work. Most of the students were printing for the first time and achieved fantastic results.

Right: A hand tinted print of an empowered fist.

Below: Tigarie Reid holds abstract initials, Rahat Tesfaldet holds her lion king.



Crafters With A Brush! We Have Talent!



Mrs. Schindler's craft students may not have taken traditional visual arts classes, but you would never know that from looking at their great paintings. Craft students may have been new to the brush, but they wasted no time in creating their own master pieces using dynamic techniques and colour. The results were very professional.

Above: Xinying Yao and Zipei Shen holding their cityscape paintings.

Below : Julia Summers' first painting, Alyssa Coelho with a tribute to her dog, and Alyssa Fonseca's northern lights.



Below : Anna Leuenberger with her textured hand, Mark Majerski with Scarface, and Ciara Edwards with her eye on the world. All students did a fantastic job!





Dates To Remember



May 2

CEW P.2 Liturgy

May 3

CEW P.1 Assembly

May 11

Spring Concert
Alumni Hall
7-9pm

May 17

Anti-Homophobia
Assembly P.1

May 18

Co-Op Career Fair
P.1 and P.2
Cafeteria

May 22

Victoria Day
No classes

May 23-26

Drama Production
The Rules of Comedy

May 26

Grad Retreat—Camp Kintail

May 29

D8 Math Contest
P.1,&P.2 Cafeteria

May 31

Awards Assembly
P.2—Alumni Hall

June 1

Grad Mass—P.1
& Celebrations follow in
Cafeteria

June 2

PA day—No classes

June 7

Athletic Banquet
5:30—9:30pm

June 9

Final Assembly—P.1 Gym
Kindness Matter BBQ
Celebration

June 12

Locker Clean Out and
Text Book Check
9:05—9:20

June 14

EQAO Math Test
P.1&P.2

June 15

Uniform Collection Day

June 27

Graduation
Centre in the Square 7pm



Evaluations Schedule

For Grade 12 Students

Quiet Days—June 14, 15, 16

June 19-Period 5 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

June 20-Period 3 or 4 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

June 21-Period 2 Evaluations
9:05—11:05 am

June 22-Period 1 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

For Grade 9,10,11 Students

Quiet Days— June 19, 20, 21

June 22 Period 1 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

June 23 Period 2 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

June 26-Periods 3 or 4 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

June 27-Period 5 Evaluation
9:05—11:05 am

**Final Report Cards and Registration package
will be mailed in Mid July**