



February, 2018
Volume 6 Number 2

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April 10, 2018



***Ontario Secondary
School Literacy Test
For students writing only***

9:00am—12:10pm



***Classes in the afternoon
for all students***

P.3 or 4—1:03pm—2:03pm

P.5—2:10pm—3:10pm

Chaplain's Message

Annabel MacDonald

Chaplain



*What
colour is
God's
skin*

Back in the late 60's a very popular singing group *UP WITH PEOPLE* (akin to a modern Day Glee) performed at the Kitchener Auditorium. It was an educational organization whose mission was to inspire young people to make a difference in their world by breaking down cultural barriers and by creating global understanding through volunteer service and a musical show

They eventually faded away but resurrected with even more passion. For one year, one hundred *UP WITH PEOPLE* youth travel to 20 countries and stay with over 800 host families. They contribute three million volunteer hours and in the 70's performed at Super bowls – and lately for Pope Francis. From this experience they learn that Places become Faces; how small the world really is with such different backgrounds, different countries and different religions.

One of their popular songs from the 60's and still sung today: *What colour is God's skin?* It is about a child asking his father this very question and the reply is simple: "God's skin is black,

brown, and yellow, it is red and it's white, everyone's the same in the good Lord's sight"

The first week back after the Christmas break I noticed the bulletin board located between the chapel entrance and the sky box (our ESL home base). I saw the titles: *Why is diversity important?* and *Why is accepting diversity important?* Some ESL students' held up the answer with their photographs. Diversity means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs or other ideologies. The display invited people to think about why it is important and to write and display their own answer on the board.

To some, diversity means the world is less boring, many colours of skin make life beautiful, we need to stay united, which brings peace and much more. What does diversity mean in a Catholic school? In Deuteronomy 10:19 - Moses shared one of the world's foremost insights. He told his audience to "love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt." With over 75 countries represented at St. Mary's, and over 50 languages spoken, we learn to love, understand from our many cultures.



/2



Why is diversity so important? Because culture can be shared. It becomes a bridge where two people of different backgrounds by using language, can exchange ideas, practices, and communicating about the world.

I am delighted that our newcomers are learning English and sharing their language and culture. Our board offers many credits in French, Spanish, Italian, German and even at one time Japanese (at Resurrection High).

Today's educational science teaches us that kindness towards foreigners is more than "the right thing to do" – it helps us and our students to learn, strengthens our students' minds and spirits, and by extension, encompasses our community.

Matthew 25:40 has Jesus telling us: "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to Me." As Catholics we are called to include everyone in our lives – to respect them and love them as neighbours. This is a lesson many Christians learned from an early age.

I am proud to be the chaplain of St. Mary's where diversity thrives for our students.



We invite you to join us for our multicultural night on Thursday May 10th in our cafeteria at 6:30 pm. The food is always awesome.

God bless /Dieu vous bénisse/ Dios los bendiga

Niech Bóg błogosławi/ بارك الله فيكم



the Eagle's View



From the Guidance Wing

Guidance Counsellor Alpha during Semester Two

Joanne Regan—Ex. 5638

Joe Taranto— Ex.5635

N. Arruda-DeMarco— Ex. 5634

Colleen Borman - Ex 5636

Michael Ambeau - Ex. 5639

Students with last names **A-Di**

Students with last names **Dj-He+**
International students

Students with last names **Hi-Mi**

Students with last names **Mo-Ri**

Students with last names **Ro-Z**



Course Selection for 2018-2019

1. Students need to complete and submit next year's course selections into Career Cruising by **February 26, 2018**. Our grade 11 students received their course selection presentations before Christmas. Grade 9's will have their presentation on February 16 (P.1) Grade 10's on February 15 (P.1), and grade 12's on February 15 (P.2). Students will receive a condensed course calendar and a more in-depth version is accessible through Career Cruising at www.wcdsb.ca/planner. These presentations will be posted on the school website under Student Services/Guidance/Academic Planning.
2. Printed and signed course selection sheets will be submitted on February 28 and March 1 during our collection days. Students will be scheduled to come down with their classes.
3. **Looking for help with course selection?** Drop in to lunch time support with Guidance on ... February 20 and 22 during both lunches in Room 234.

Please note

Once the submit button has been pressed, the program will not allow students to make further changes, so please choose carefully.

College and University Process

1. In-services on the **College and University application process** for grade 12 students are complete. For Scholarship information, visit the school website; in the guidance section, there is information about current scholarships/ bursaries for post secondary. Also, check the post secondary school websites for scholarships specific to their schools

COLLEGE APPLICANTS

1. All applications were due February 1, 2017 for equal consideration. Student can still apply though.
2. If you are declined a spot in a certain college program, continue to check for other options as you can change your program choices.

UNIVERSITY APPLICANTS

1. Applications were due **January 17, 2018** for equal consideration, but they are still accepting applications
2. **June 1** is the latest date for students to accept an offer from an Ontario university.
3. Students must go into their online college/ university application after **February 16** and check the following:
 - * That your marks are loaded accurately
 - * That your community service hours and literacy test results are also accurate
 - * Any supplementary applications or information required for individual programs



From the Guidance Wing

Summer School

Summer school sign up with the Catholic Board will be available soon for students to enroll **directly on line** through the St. Louis web site. They will need their student and OEN numbers found on their timetable. st.louis.wcdsb.ca/summer-programs.

Summer school sign up with the Public Board begins **end of April**. At that time, students must book an online appointment with their guidance counsellor to sign up.

GR 12's: OSAP PRESENTATION

The OSAP site is open and students interested in applying for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) can apply now. There will be an information session this spring—date and time to be announced.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Grade 12 students have until **April 27, 2018** to complete and hand in their 40 hours of community service hours. Students must submit forms to the guidance secretary as soon as possible. Students will not graduate in June if they haven't completed their community service hours. Forms to log community service hours are available in the guidance office. For volunteering ideas refer to the website www.volunteerkw.ca



Interested in a 5th Year?

Students who applied to college or university may not choose courses for a 5th year but must choose **not returning** in career cruising'. Should they decide to return to St. Mary's for an extra semester, they can book an on line appointment with their counselor in mid May to pick courses

ESL Parent Night

On **May 10th**, we will host a parent ESL night in the chapel from 6:30 to 8:00pm for all students who are entering grade 9 next year. Families will receive invitations through their elementary schools.



Graduation
Tuesday,
June 26th, 2018
7pm
Centre in the Square

Co-operative Education

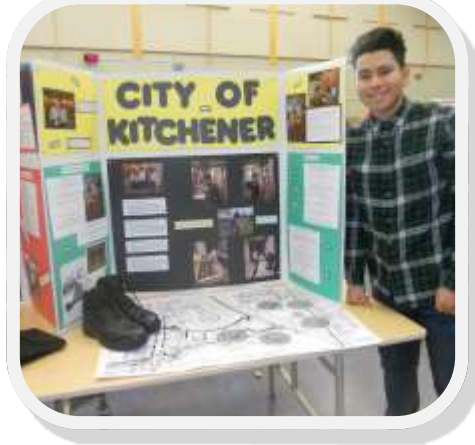
Still exploring career possibilities? Take Co-operative Education to help you narrow down your interests.

Our program provides students the opportunity to extend classroom learning at supervised work placements in the community. Co-op is a requirement of the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program and together help students ensure they are on the correct path to reach their career goal

Visit the [**Career Cruising**](#) link on our website to sign up for next year. To find out more about the many possibilities with Co-op speak to one of our highly trained Co-op teachers, Guidance Counsellors or visit our school website.

Co-op gives grade 11, 12 and fifth year students the opportunity to:

- ♦ 'Test'drive a career of interest
- ♦ Gain valuable work experience to help build their résumé
- ♦ Develop Essential Skills and work habits
- ♦ Experience authentic learning outside a traditional classroom setting
- ♦ Work toward your SHSM designation



**Thank you
to the
employers for
their support
and
commitment
to the
Cooperative
Education
Programs**

Winners

**Sierra Santos
Jarred Paradis
Sierra Schmidt
Sarah McClennan**





SHSM the Way to Grow!

More and more students are gaining an edge by signing up for a **Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)**. Over 50% of all grade 11 and 12 students are currently working on one of 11 possible majors (Business, Health & Wellness, Constructions, etc.). Taking an SHSM encourages you to focus your secondary school education toward a career area of your choice.

No matter whether you plan to go to work, apprenticeship, or college/university you can earn a SHSM. The SHSM symbol on your diploma lets employers and post secondary education know that you have knowledge, skills, and industry-recognized qualifications related to a particular career field.

Ready to Choose Your Courses

Remember to refer to your current Progress Report when choosing next year's courses. Plan carefully to ensure all course requirements will be fulfilled by the time you graduate. It is a good idea to plan your grade 11 and 12 course selections at the same time to make sure you don't miss anything.

Have you taken co-op yet? If not, now is the time to choose Co-op. Remember, Co-op is a 2 credit commitment. You will also need to fill out an application and request 2 teacher references. Paperwork is available in the Co-op hallway.



Are you in Grade 9 or 10?

Plan to start thinking about taking your Specialist High Skills Major. Students participate in grades 11 and 12 here is what you need to do to get started: Visit www.highskills.ca to choose your major – there are 11 to pick from. Complete the registration form and drop it off at the Main Office or Guidance;

During grade 10 Course Selection – choose gr. 11 courses that will help you earn your Red Seal. Consider taking Co-op in gr. 11. If not, you will need to do this in gr. 12.

Did you know?

If you complete 50% of both your courses and certifications, you'll receive a **FREE SHSM T-SHIRT!** Plus! Once you are 100% on track you'll receive a **FREE SHSM SWEATSHIRT!**

FREE SHSM Spirit Wear

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

Need more Information

contact: Ms. J. McCormick at
Joan.mccormick@wcdsb.ca
or

Miss J. McCarroll at
Jeannie.McCarroll@wcdsb.ca

Parents/Guardians interested in receiving SHSM notices quickly, call our Guidance Department at extension 5631 or 5632 to update parent email with information.



GRADUATION 2017-2018

IMPORTANT DATES

[Click to access the Grad Information Package Information](#)
[for](#)
[Ceremony, Breakfast, Retreat, Spirit Wear](#)



Senior Graduation Portraits Photos #2	February 20 - March 2 – listen for announcements in February, sitting fee \$40 www.bookmygrad.ca code MAS
Community Service Hours	Due—Friday, April 27
Special Award Applications	Due—Friday, April 27
Distribute Grad Invites	Week of May 8 Including 4 Tickets
Last Day to Pay for Breakfast	Friday, May 25
Last Day to Pay to Guarantee	Friday, May 25- On stage at the Centre in the Square;.
Breakfast and Liturgy	Thursday, May 31
Retreat – space is limited	Friday, May 25 – Camp Kintail, Goderich, Pick up Time from St. Mary's: 8:15am; Drop off Time at St. Mary's: 6:30pm—\$50.00—No refunds
Last Day to for Grad Refund	Thursday, May 31, No refunds for any reason after this date
Ticket Sales	Begins June 4 - Purchase Additional \$5/each
Graduation Ceremony	Tuesday, June 26—Centre in the Square, see Information Forms
Yearbook Pickup	Available October 2018 – Pick up in the main office (check website for availability dates, http://stmary.wcdsb.ca/)



Did you know?

VERDRIVE <http://vlcguides.wcdsb.ca/stmary>

You can borrow e-books and audiobooks for free 24/7 using Overdrive. Find the link on the Learning Commons website, or by using the link above.

Login: Library card number: your school computer username (employee# for staff)

PIN: your date of birth MMDDYYYY



New books display

Check out our ever-changing new books display. Be the first to check out a new book!



Featured Database: Britannica School <http://vlcguides.wcdsb.ca/stmary>

Did you know that Julius Caesar was once captured by pirates?

Or that the world's first freedom of the press law was passed by Swedish parliament over 250 years ago in 1766?

All this and many more fascinating facts can be found in Britannica School, one of our online databases.

Britannica School is an up-to-date information resource for students of all ages. Included in Britannica School are encyclopedia articles, multimedia, primary sources and other learning resources that support student research. To access Britannica School, see library office for password information.





Our school board hosts students from around the world as they study in our schools. They come to our community to experience our Canadian culture and improve their English-as-a-foreign language.

If you are interested in a unique life experience by hosting an international student, please contact one of the following individuals to learn more about our home stay program.



Canada Linc – jan@canadalinc.com

Waterloo Region Student Placement – hostingastudent@gmail.com



Sports Page



Congratulations to Coach Runstedler and the SMHS Eagles Midget Volleyball team won the District 8 championship in January. The girls went undefeated throughout the season and displayed excellent

What an amazing finish to our ***Midget Girl's Volleyball*** season. On January 16, 2018, our girl's team won 1st overall and remained undefeated in all their games throughout the season. Our girls played extremely hard together as a team, represented our school in a very positive light and finally won first in Midget Girl's Volleyball - something that hasn't happened in 26 years. Mlle Runstedler, your managers and your school are extremely proud on your outstanding victory!



Midget Girl's Volleyball



Sr. Boys Basketball

Our Sr. Boys Basketball team finished the regular season with a 10-1 record in league play. They hosted the semi final on Feb. 12 and defeated St. David's by a score of 51-48

Jr. Boys Basketball

Our Jr. Boys Basketball team has had an incredible season, finishing 9-0 in league play. They hosted the semi final on Feb. 12 and defeated St. Davids by a score of 70-30



St. Mary's Key Club

It's Never Too Late To Join!

Did Someone Say Busy?

Key Club members had a very busy first semester. Students were out in the community helping at events such as Operation Christmas Child and the Waterloo Festival of Lights. We even had students help Santa as elves. At school, they contributed greatly by raising money for the SMH Christmas Cheer fund, and assisted at the Christmas dinner and awards night. Our school production of **Grease** kept students extra busy. Key clubbers spent their lunch selling tickets and during the actual performances acted as ushers and concession workers. Thank you members for all of your dedication and hard work!



***Above:** Jess Garcia and Joia Mendez, our club presidents, present ideas to the group.*

***Left:** It is always fun at key club. A few members share a laugh.*

***Bottom:** Mary Gerges, Rahat Tesfaldet, Rafaela Villamar, and Hannah Zmigrodzki model*



Spirit?...You Bet!

Over thirty Key Clubbers met together to design a new spirit wear shirt for our club. A lot of healthy debate took place, but eventually ideas were narrowed down to a few outstanding designs. Students voted on our new look which features a collage of white keys against a navy background, with our classic saying, "We don't make keys, but we do open doors".

We are brainstorming ways to celebrate our spirit in second semester and are always looking for new ideas. Come join in the fun.

Meetings take place every Wednesday and resume February 21st. See Mrs. Schindler for more information.





News from the Art Department

Do You Recognize Me?

The grade eleven visual art students in Mrs. Schindler's class worked very hard to determine the proportions of the human body. The students then created self portraits. Using this information some had more success at accurate proportions than others, but all students depicted themselves using excellent creativity. They either attempted to portray themselves in a realistic setting or a fictional one. Do you recognize them?



Left: *Trinity Zammit with her pet bird.*

Right: *Justine Dela Cruz in a menacing situation.*

Bottom Left: *Tishara Loucks in a fantastical setting.*

Bottom Middle: *Yujin Oh taking a selfie*

Bottom Right: *Molly Faria hard at work.*



Grade Nines Looking Fine

Grade nine students in Mrs. Schindler's class were happy to try some new media this semester. They had a lot of fun experimenting with painting and printmaking. Students used a lino block, brayers and cutters, to create an image based on the elements and principles of design. Students are excited to sign up for grade ten art next year. If you missed taking grade nine art you are welcome to try grade ten "X" or grade ten craft. No experience needed.



Top: Lina Barker, Nicol Robles and Arianell Atienza showing their prints.

Middle Row: John Han, Cathy Quan, Yusef Salih, Diego Mesa, and Oliva Antic holding their masterpieces.

Left: Elkaris Anaya and Michelle Lawrence displaying their hard work.



Seeing into the Spirit

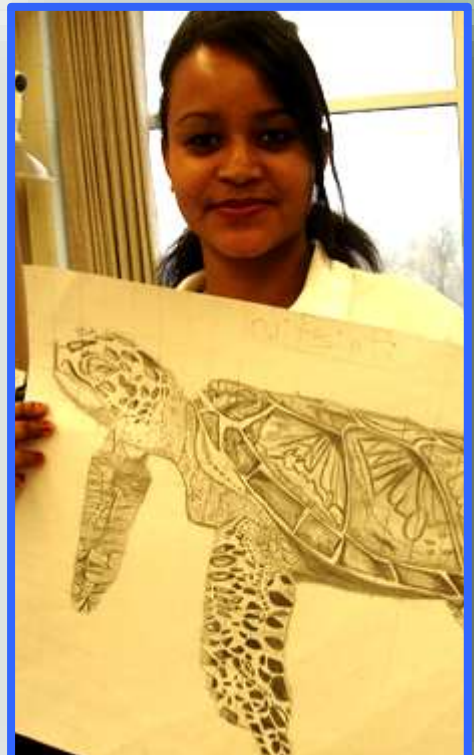
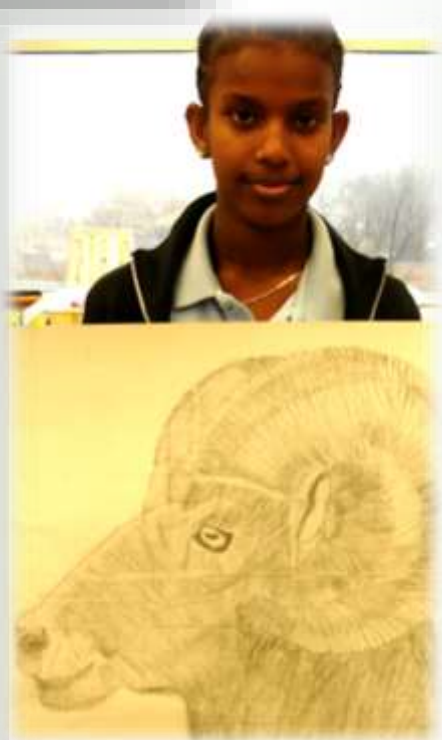
Mrs. Schindler's section of NAC focused on the spirit during the end of the semester. All students enrolled in this course are very new to Canada, so they enjoyed reflecting on Canadian First Nations' peoples and the animal species found in our country. They picked a spirit animal that they thought would be an admirable choice, and then worked hard to create a large scale drawing. After a lot of hard work, all students were very pleased and proud of their results. Especially since most had very little, if any, experience with drawing or any other artistic pursuit.

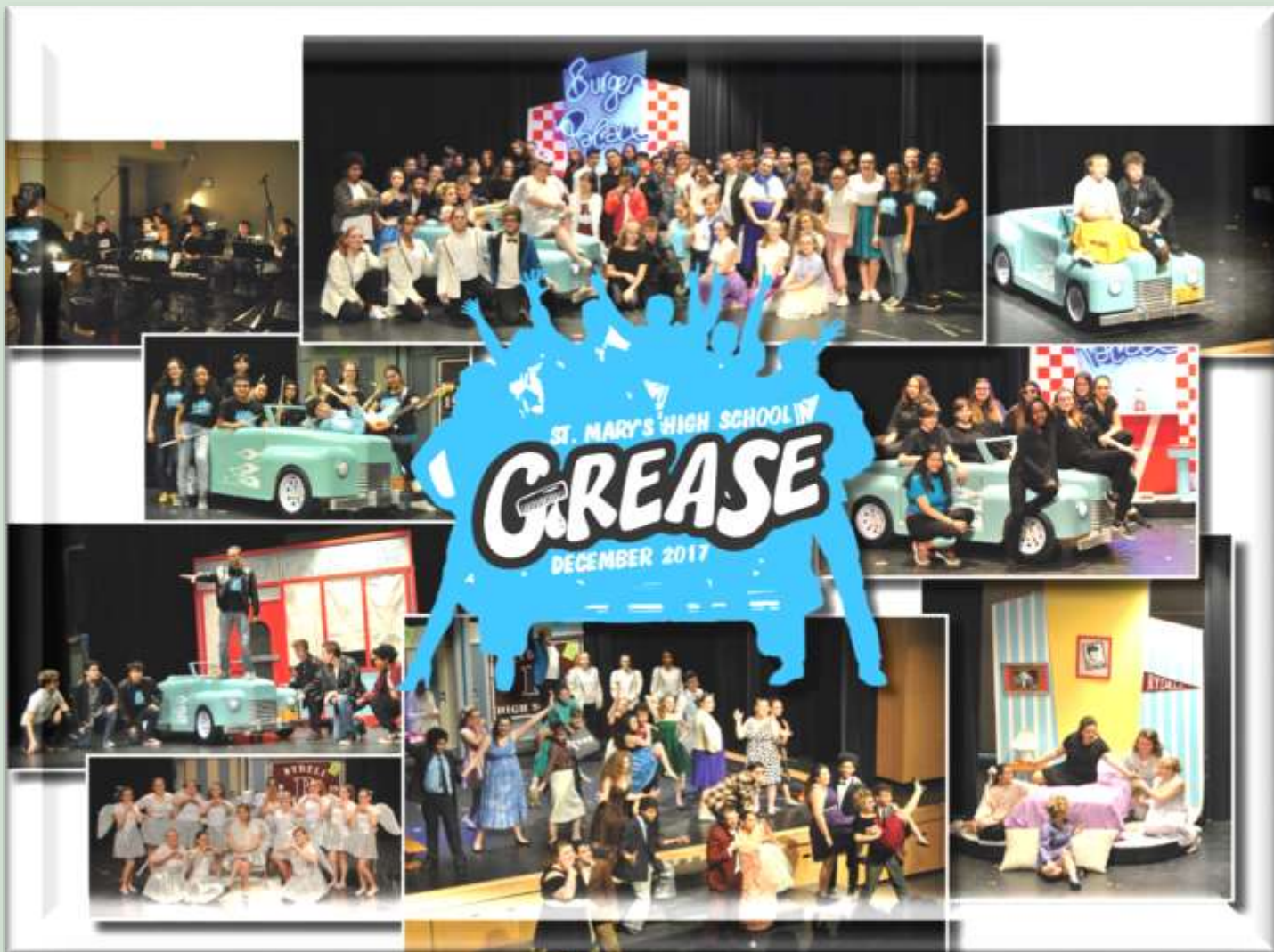
Left: Rynier Bumagat holding his falcon.

Below Left: William Tedros and his wolf

Below: Simer Kidane and her goat

Below Right: Nisihti Abraha and a turtle







Dates To Remember



February 19
Family Day—No classes

February 20—March 2
Grad Photos
Library Seminar room
By appointment only

February 26
School Council Mtg.
6:30-8:30pm

February 27
Pascal, Cayley, Fermat
P.1 & 2— Cafeteria
Gr. 9, 10 11

February 28
2018-19 Course Selection

March 12-16
March Break

March 20
Canadian National
Math Contest
P.2—Cafeteria

March 28
Progress Report
Distribution

March 29
Holy Thursday Celebrations

March 30
Good Friday-No classes

April 2
Easter Monday-No classes

April 5, 2018
**Student/Parent/
Teacher Conferences**
1:30—8:00 pm

April 10



Gr. 10 EQAO
Literacy test
9:05—12:10 PM
For students writing only

April 10
Classes in the afternoon
for all students
P.3/4 1:03—2:03PM
P.5 2:10—3:10pm

April 11
Euclid Math Contest
Grade 12—P.1,2,3

April 12
Fryer, Galois, Hypatia
Math Contest

April 13
PA Day—No classes

April 19
Semester 2—2nd half
Civic/Careers

April 23
School Council Mtg.
6:30pm

April 27
Community Service Hours due

May 2
Mid Term Report
Card Distribution