



Rooted in Faith - Learning in Love - Dedicated to Excellence

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November 2018  
Volume 8 Number 1

## *Features*

- P 2-3.....Chaplain's Message
- P 4-5.....Guidance Information
- P 6-7..... Graduation Information
- P 8..... Aviva Community Fund
- P 9..... SHSM
- P 10..... DECA
- P 11..... Academic Award
- P 11.....Encompass
- P 12-13.....Sports
- P 14..... AP Program
- P 15..... Link Crew
- P 16.....Learning Commons
- P 17.....Important Dates



# AVIVA



the Eagle's View

# Chaplain's Message

**Annabel MacDonald**



## *Party for Prayers for Jesus*



On Thursday Oct 11 St. Mary's HS celebrated our Thanksgiving liturgy in the gym. This year was extra special because a) the choir was fantastic and b) our school was blessed to receive the Pilgrimage cross as it was delivered to us from John Sweeney – and our students walked it to Monsignor Haller after the Liturgy.

Oct 11 was also the feast day for Saint Pope John XXIII; the humble and pastoral priest who was responsible for the Second Vatican council in the '60's as well as coining the phrase: "Throw open the windows of the church and let the fresh air of the spirit blow through".

John XXIII was also known for making any and everyone feel comfortable around him, despite being the leader of 1.2 billion Catholics.

For example, *in 1962, American Journalist Norman Cousins nervously delivered a message to Pope John XXIII. As Cousins sat in Pope John's study he recalls how the Pope, whom he had never met, went out of his way to put Cousins at ease: "We have very much to talk about," the Pope said. "Just remember, I am an ordinary man; I have two eyes, a nose — a very large nose. . . You must feel completely relaxed. We will talk man to man."*

# Chaplain's Message

**Annabel MacDonald**



Fr Toby Collins, CR presided over our Thanksgiving liturgy and he shared that the most impactful experience Saint John XXIII had on the council is *we are all equal in the eyes of God*. During the homily, Fr Invited up the Principal, Vice- Principal and students to stand in front of the stage, facing out. The priest then removed his Chasuble, his Alb and finally his collar and stood beside the row. He stated he is no more important in the eyes of God than anyone else in the gym.

The impact did not go unnoticed

Throughout the rest of that day and the next I had teachers and students comment on their positive impressions of the liturgy.

One specifically bears worth mentioning.

The day after the liturgy a grade 9 student asked if she could speak with me. Aya is not only new to the school; she is new to the country. Aya moved here recently from Dubai with her parents and she is Muslim.

Aya asked if she could share what she thought about the **Party for Prayers for Jesus**. I didn't understand so I asked her to explain. "you know, when we gathered in the gym yesterday..."

A **Party for Prayers for Jesus**. Now that is a metaphor I've never considered.

Aya had never been in contact with the Catholic faith and was very happy to announce she felt calm and at peace with the experience. She was so happy that she went home to share this with her parents. Her mother told her that Jesus was a good man and she was in a good place being at our school.

I couldn't have been more touched...but there was more. Aya asked what we called that song after the first reading. I explained it was the responsorial psalm. She remembered the repeated words and sang it back to me:

"Lord, I thank you for your faithfulness and love". Hearing those words made her feel safe.

And she thanked me.

...and that is one more reason why I love my ministry as chaplain of St. Mary's HS.

"Ours is a greeting, not of farewell which separates, but of friendship which remains,"

**Annabel MacDonald**

**Chaplain**

My peace I leave  
with you,  
my peace I give  
unto you,  
but not as the  
world gives it"





## From the Guidance Wing

### Counsellors by Alpha

Mrs. Regan	Students with last names A – C (ext. 5638)
Mr. Taranto	Students with last names D—F (+ International) (ext. 5635)
Ms. Collins	Students with last names G—I (ext. 5637)
Ms. Arruda	Students with last names J– M (ext. 5634)
Mrs. Borman	Students with last names N– R (ext. 5636)
Mr. Lehmann	Students with last names S— Z (ext. 5639)

### Youth Care Worker—Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Sterling

Available to all students through referrals from Guidance, Administration or Program Support

Here's a brief summary of some of the happenings in guidance over the last few months

#### Grade 9

- ♦ **Take Your Kid to Work Day** on November 14 was a great success.
- ♦ **Grade 9 Assembly**— Students were introduced to the role of guidance and guidance processes.
- ♦ Students have all been invited down with their classes to see the guidance office and meet their counsellor.

#### Grade 12

- ♦ **Post-Secondary Planning Session** took place on Sept. 19—students received information on how to apply to colleges and universities
- ♦ **PIN** codes for university applications are here, students have been notified through Google Classroom please see the Guidance Secretary— ID required
- ♦ **Scholarship Presentation** - was held for interested grade 12's on Sept. 27th (**still accepting student résumés for scholarships – visit St. Mary's website for In line résumé**)
- ♦ Both above presentations are available on the St. Mary's Web site plus current list of scholarship applications
- ♦ **College and University Liaison Visits** at St. Mary's are almost complete—we met with 18 colleges and universities and promoted information fairs in various locations. Students signed up for these through [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com)
- ♦ **Grade 12 are encouraged to visit post secondary campuses soon. Check for school open houses, but tours can be booked anytime online.**

#### All Grades

- ♦ Ongoing meetings with students and parents
- ♦ **Grade 8 Visits**—on November 14, we had a great time with the grade 8's from our feeder schools. Students had a warm welcome and they were exposed to the many elective courses that St. Mary's has to offer
- ♦ Guidance is supporting the **Link Crew** visits to all our elementary schools in mid-November

### WHAT'S COMING UP

#### Grade 8

- ♦ **Parent Night Open House**—November 29 - 6:30—8:30pm

#### Grade 9, 10 and 12

- ♦ **Course Selection Information Sessions** will take place in February
- ♦ Grade 10's who have an overall average of ZL
- ♦ 80% in Gr. 9 will be invited to a UCEP presentation in January

All students are encouraged to enter their 2018/19 course selections into *myblueprint*, right after their presentation. If your child needs help, please have them book a guidance appointment on line in December or early January





## From the Guidance Wing

### REMINDERS

#### **Grade 12**

- ♦ In order to graduate, Community Service hours must be completed and handed in by Tuesday, April 30.
- ♦ Please complete the Graduating Eagles Survey to help us continue to support your Pathway Planning at <http://goo.gl/bHvFkR>
- ♦ Ensure that you have the prerequisite courses for the post secondary program(s) you apply to. Make an appointment with Guidance soon in order to make necessary changes for second semester.
- ♦ College applications are due **February 1, 2019** for equal consideration. Apply at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca). Apply early to avoid disappointment.
- ♦ University applications are due **January 16, 2019** for equal consideration. Apply at [www.ouac.on.ca/101](http://www.ouac.on.ca/101). Applying before Christmas is strongly encouraged to avoid disappointment as the late Christmas holiday this year does not allow time for Guidance to assist students in the new year before the deadline.

### ALL STUDENTS

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS**

Students are encouraged to complete their 40 hours of community service in grades 9 and 10. Hours must be completed by April 30th of their graduating year. Forms to log community service hours are available in the guidance office.

- \* Any students looking for community service hours can check out: [www.volunteerwr.ca](http://www.volunteerwr.ca)

#### **COMMUNICATION**

- \* **Eagle Vision**—updated daily
- \* Students please sign up for Google Classroom for Grade level announcements

Grade 9 code— 5s7bvh  
Grade 10 code— 8bmi252  
Grade 11 code—ictx3lv  
Grade 12 code— 1gjo9

#### **EXAMS are January 25 to January 31**

#### **Parents**

Please do not plan holidays before or during exam week as it jeopardizes your child's course completion.

#### **SECOND SEMESTER Starts February 4, 2019**

Students will receive an updated copy of their semester 2 schedule before the end of semester 1. Courses will remain the same, though there may be a teacher or lunch change due to scheduling considerations.

#### **There will be NO COURSE CHANGES during the first week of second semester.**

Students who need to reconsider courses due to changes in pathway or post secondary plans, please book an appointment with your guidance counsellor before Christmas or early January.

**Important Reminder** Students must attend their classes even if they anticipate a change in courses. Guidance counselors will locate students at any time during the day. Be available or risk losing the opportunity to change courses.



# Graduation 2018-2019

## IMPORTANT DATES



<b>Grad Prices:</b> Ceremony \$85, Breakfast \$10, Retreat \$50 <i>Special:</i> Pay Ceremony fee by end of January to receive \$5 discount for Breakfast <b>Pay Online or if paying in person, CASH ONLY PLEASE</b>	
<b>Spirit Wear Prices:</b> T-shirt \$15, Long Sleeve \$20, Crew Cut Sweatshirt \$25, Hoodie \$30 <b>--- Last chance: Orders must be placed by April 30<sup>th</sup> ---</b>	
<b>Grad Spirit Wear</b>	<b>Pay online ANYTIME until April 30, 2019</b> Pick up room 301, Ms. Mandich
<b>Senior Graduation Portraits - Photos #1</b>	December 3-7 – listen for announcements early in December, book an appointment: PrestigePortraits.ca, NO sitting fee
<b>Grade 12 Grad Information Meeting period 1</b>	Thursday, Jan. 10 – Find out about Grad requirements, upcoming Grad events, fee collection and more!
<b>Fee Collection &amp; Additional Spirit Wear</b>	8:30-9:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 16, Thursday, January 17, Friday, January 18 + Thursday, January 17 both lunches
<b>Senior Graduation Portraits - Photos #2</b>	March 4-8 – listen for announcements early in February, book an appointment: PrestigePortraits.ca, NO sitting fee
<b>Community Service Hours Due</b>	Tuesday, April 30
<b>Special Award Applications Due</b>	Tuesday, April 30
<b>Distribute Grad Invites</b>	Week of May 6
<b>Last Day to Pay for Breakfast</b>	Friday, May 24
<b>Retreat – space is limited</b>	Thursday, <b>May 23</b> – Camp Kintail, Goderich, Pick up Time from St. Mary's: 8:15; Drop off Time at St. Mary's: 6:30
<b>Last Day to Pay to Guarantee a Spot at Graduation</b>	May 30 – Ensure fees are paid to receive a gown, cap and a spot to sit with the graduating class on stage at the Centre in the Square
<b>Breakfast and Liturgy</b>	Thursday, May 30
<b>PROM Hacienda Sarria</b>	Thursday, May 30 (tickets on sale Apr. 24-26 SAC office)
<b>Last Day to Receive Grad Refund</b>	Wednesday, May 29, No refunds will be permitted after this date for any reason
<b>Ticket Sales</b>	Begins June 4 - Purchase Additional \$5/ea
<b>Graduation Ceremony</b>	<b>Centre in the Square, Tuesday, June 25</b>
<b>Yearbook Pickup</b>	Available October 2019 – Pick up in the main office (check website for availability dates, <a href="http://stmary.wcdsb.ca/">http://stmary.wcdsb.ca/</a> )

# Grads It's Time for Spirit Wear!



**School Cash Online anytime until April 30  
or Boardroom\* January 16-18**

**\*In Person 8:30-9:00 only**



**T-Shirt \$15  
Long Sleeve \$20**

**Crew \$25  
Hoodie \$30**

**PICK UP ITEMS in RM 301**

**Ms. Mandich**



*the Eagle's View*



## Aviva Community Fund

Last year, the SMHS Legacy Committee was established with a mission of transforming the St Mary's campus into a hub of healthy living for both students and the wider community. Early opportunities for improvement included the beautification of gardens & planters, the creation of a community greenhouse, and the planned layout of a walking trail. Long term plans include the pursuit of an eight lane track, turf field, and a multi-use court.

Each year, Aviva Insurance provides community improvement grants of up to \$100 000 to projects around the country that seek to better the lives of individuals by bringing them together. St Mary's entered this year's competition, proposing the multi-use court as a place in which people of different ages, abilities, and interests could come together to engage in a healthy and active lifestyle. The court, replacing the dilapidated tennis facility, will feature cutting edge Matreflex technology that provides a sustainable surface for any number of activities from community gatherings to sports and games such as basketball, ball hockey, tennis, and pickleball. The long term goal would be to provide lights for extended play after dark and create a space for activity in a high-density neighbourhood.



The first round of the competition saw St Mary's come in first from 188 projects with over 21 000 community votes registered online. This placement secured an initial \$15 000 of funds and made the project eligible for the final stage in which a panel of judges reviewed two promotional videos and a series of written responses outlining the projected impact on the community. The judging panel has met and the three winners of \$100 000 grants will be announced on November 20.

St Mary's awaits the results with patient hope, looking forward to the opportunity to continue to make the school not just a place *in the community* but rather a place *for the community*.

Jonathan Wright

St. Mary's High School, WCDSB







## Specialist High Skills Major Students!

Get ready for another great year of certifications, training sessions and ways to explore and learn more about your future career. Students involved in SHSM have been busy planning a way to earn their Red Seals through course selection and attending trips to earn certifications.

We have a large number of students working towards earning their Red Seals – (over 300 grade 11 students are currently involved in the program).

Early in February Grade 10 students should plan and decide from 11 Majors available for course selection from the chart below. Once decided, fill out an SHSM sign up form (available at [www.highskills.ca](http://www.highskills.ca)) and submit to the main office.

Arts & Culture	Business	Construction
Energy	Health & Wellness	Hospitality & Tourism
Information & Communications Technology		Justice & Community Safety
Manufacturing	Sports	Transportation

## Did you know?

Universities and Colleges are starting to recognize the SHSM Red Seal (e.g. St. Jerome's University offers \$500 Entrance Scholarship)

Students can earn certifications on their own time: First Aid Training and CPR, WHMIS, Infection Control, Boating License – check the list of Trips and Training for the Major to see what choices are available.

Once a student completes 50% of both their courses and certifications, they can sign up to receive a **FREE SHSM T-SHIRT**. AT 100%, they can sign up to receive a **FREE SHSM SWEATSHIRT**.

Check your Progress Reports to see how far along you are to obtain your spirit wear!

Email Updates – SHSM updates and reminders will be sent to Parent/Guardian's of all SHSM students who have updated email information in the Main Office.

## Need more Information?

Contact: Ms. J. McCormick (Lead SHSM Teacher at St. Mary's), [joan.mccormick@wcdsb.ca](mailto:joan.mccormick@wcdsb.ca) or [SHSM@wcdsb.ca](mailto:SHSM@wcdsb.ca) for our board contact

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

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...:

1. Take the Courses needed to complete their Major  
*Arts, Business, Physical Education, Science, Math, Technology, and many more!*
2. Sign up for a 2 credit Co-op  
*Develop skills and experience in an area of interest*
3. Plan and attend Certifications  
*1st Aid, CPR-C, WHMIS, GPS Training, Safe Body Mechanics, Conflict Resolution, Culinary Techniques, Management Leadership, Counterfeit Detection, Safe Lifting & many more!*

SHSM students should be proud of their accomplishments related to this program. It shows they are a responsible student who has given great consideration to their future.



On Saturday, November 3rd, the students involved in DECA from Southwestern Ontario gathered at the Waterloo DECA Regionals. The Regionals were held at St. Mary's, which hosted for the second year in a row. DECA is a competition based club that focuses on business scenarios, where students come up with solutions to solve business related problems. A big congratulations to the students from St. Mary's who won awards. As well, we want to wish best of luck to all SMH DECA members who will now advance to the Provincial competition in Toronto in February.





# Academic Awards Night

We celebrated the achievements of our diverse group of learners.

This event provided an opportunity to recognize students who live our mission statement,

***Rooted in Faith · Learning in Love · Dedicated to Excellence.***

Two types of Academic Awards were presented to students who:

- earned the highest mark in their class for each subject discipline, or
- were either in the top five or ten percent of their grade level.

Thank you to the families and friends who attended and to the staff who helped to organize this celebration. Also thank you to our emcees, **Joseph Khoshaba & Ellah Thompson.**

Co-presidents of St. Mary's.

Special congratulations to all the recipients.

## enCOMPASS Parent Portal

The enCOMPASS PARENT Portal provides **24 hour online access** to your **child's**:

- class **schedule** – period, time, course code, teacher name, room #
- **attendance**
- mid-term & final **marks**
- # of **credits** earned
- **EQAO** (Math & Literacy) results
- # of **community hours**

**STAY INFORMED**

**Registration** enCOMPASS Parent Portal

1 Personal Info 2 Account Info 3 Confirmation

Email\*    
 this email address must be on record in the school's system as the email address to contact you. If you are unable to register, please contact the school to add your email address to the system.

First Name\*    
 Your first name (not your child's)

Last Name\*    
 Your last name (not your child's)

Information on your youngest child

Street number of the youngest child\*   
 (The house number corresponds to the address registered with the school.)   
   
 Street Number of your YOUNGEST child registered with a WCDSB school (even if the child does not attend St. Mary's HS)

Date of birth of the youngest child\*   
   
 Date of birth of your YOUNGEST child registered with a WCDSB school (even if the child does not attend St. Mary's HS) (MMDDYYYY)

\*Please note that the information you enter here must match what is in the school records in order to create an account. If you are unable to create an account check the following:

- Ensure that the web address that you entered is correct
- Ensure all fields are entered exactly as they are in the school records. You may have to contact the school to update your records. The support link cannot provide you with information or update the school record.

the Eagle's View



# *Sports Page*

## Fall Sports



The girl's field hockey team had an exceptional season this year. The St. Mary's Eagles were gold medalist at the AC tournament, gold medalist in D8, gold medalist in CWOSSA. This team was the first St. Mary's field hockey team in over 32 years to win a CWOSSA championship and get to represent our school at OFSSA. They represented D8 and CWOSSA well last week at OFSSA finishing first in their pool play, winning a shoot-out in quarter finals, advancing to the semi-finals, and then winning St. Mary's first ever field hockey OFSSA medal of antique bronze. To sum up their success this year on the field- they played 21 games with half of these against elite teams at CWOSSA and OFSSA. Our Eagles filled their opponents nets 52 times, and only allowed 6 goals to be scored on them the whole year. (In D8, CWOSSA and tournament play they only allow 2 goals in total, a remarkable stat on its own). Congratulations to the girl's field hockey team on becoming the best and most successful team ever to play at St. Mary's.







## Cross Country at SMH

The St. Mary's Cross- country team has had a very successful season with over fifty athletes training in the early mornings and racing through the leaf-covered trails of Bechtel Park and Shades Mills. Our senior boys team won District 8 and CWOSSA led by Foster Malleck who placed first in all of his races so far. Foster, Jason Lowrie, Ruairi Tiernan, Nathan Kemp and Adam Loffelmann competed at OFSSA in Ancaster on November 3, where the boys came in 4th in the Sr Boys division and Foster Malleck came in 4th overall for Sr. Boys. Congratulations!



Congratulations to all competitors! Our cross country athletes are a hard working, positive group of individuals who are great role models for our SMH community.



the Eagle's View



## Advanced Placement Program News



Congratulations to grade eleven AP English students Rivanna Laslavic and Mauheirah Seraphin. These two talented St. Mary's AP students were selected as youth participants for the recent Wild Writers Literary Festival (hosted by *The New Quarterly*) in Waterloo. The festival brought together both aspiring and accomplished Canadian writers to "create, learn, discover and share the art of groundbreaking writing".



St. Mary's students Rivanna Laslavic (left) and Mauheirah Seraphin (right) are pictured with Kitchener author Erin Bow







## Link Crew Goes on Tour



Over the last 10 years, the Link Crew at SMH has been an essential part of our transition plan ensuring a smooth step from grade 8. The job description for Link Crew is, and always will be, to make sure that every Grade 9 has a great first day, first week, first month and first year. Link Crew is comprised of over one hundred energetic, kind and welcoming Grade 11 and 12 students who want to make everyone feel welcome and make sure everyone knows that Saint Mary's is a place where "kindness matters" every day.



Our link crew met in the summer to prepare for the arrival of our new eagles. We welcome our new students with an assembly, 'Niner' Week, and our famous Grade 9 Dance. Over the next few months, we created events to touch base with grade 9's to make sure they feel secure at SMH.

Link Crew stays busy through November with visits to all twelve of our associate elementary schools where we connect with grade 8's and let them know what will be waiting for them next year. We also look to support Grade 8 Day on November 14<sup>th</sup>. On this day all grade 8's will come to SMH to learn about elective options for next year. Link Crew also will help the Guidance Department with Grade 8 Parent Information Night on November 29<sup>th</sup>.



## Use the St. Mary's Library Learning Commons 24/7!

The library building may be closed, but that doesn't mean your access to books and information stops. You have access to our collection of databases and e-books whenever you have access to the internet. Visit the St. Mary's Learning Commons webpage at [vlcguides.wcdsb.ca/stmary/home](http://vlcguides.wcdsb.ca/stmary/home) to find what you need



SORA is the new app students can use to access e-books on the OverDrive platform. You can download the app to your phone or tablet, or visit [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com) to read e-books in your computer's browser. Search Waterloo Catholic District School Board to find our collection. Your login is your computer login (e.g.54723TAD) and password is your birthday (MMDDYYYY).

The Gale Virtual Reference Library is a collection of e-books designed to help you with research for a variety of subjects. These e-books are just like the ones you would find on the shelves of the library. To use this collection please see Ms. VanderMeer in the library to get the password.



Did you know that when you find an image using Google, you may not have the rights to reuse that image in your project? Britannica ImageQuest provides students and teachers with access to millions of high-quality, rights-cleared images that can be used in projects and presentations. See Ms. VanderMeer for the login and password to use this database at home.

Don't forget to check out the research help tab on the homepage for some suggested databases for your research project.

Waterloo Catholic District School Board / VLC / St. Mary's / St. Mary's Learning Commons / Home

### St. Mary's Learning Commons: Home

Home Reliable Online Information Research Help Books & Reading Staff About

Welcome to St. Mary's Library Learning Commons



Welcome to St. Mary's Library Learning Commons!

For research and assignment help, see the red tabs above.





# Dates To Remember



## November 26

School Council  
Meeting—6:30-8:30pm

## November 29

Grade 8  
Parent Evening  
6:30-8:30m

## December 3-7

Grad Photos  
By Appointment Only  
Library Seminar Room

## December 6

Community Christmas  
Dinner—6:30

## December 7

PA Day—no classes

## December 11

Canadian National Math  
League—P.1/2 Cafeteria

## December 13

Co-op Career Fair  
8:30-11:30am

## December 21

Christmas Assembly  
Gym

## December 24—January 5

Christmas Break

## January 8

Canadian National  
Math League  
P.1/2—Cafeteria

## January 10

Grad Meeting  
P. 1 Cafeteria

## January 16,17,18

Grad Fee Collection  
8:30-9:00 am

## January 17-18

EQAO Math  
P.1 and 2 LSR

## January 23-25

Quiet Days

## Evaluation Schedule

### Friday, January 25

9:05-11:05 **Period 1**  
Evaluation

### Monday, January 28

9:05-11:05 **Period 2**  
Evaluation

### Tuesday, January 29

9:05-11:05 **Period 3/4**  
Evaluation

### Wednesday, Jan. 30

9:05-11:05 **Period 5**  
Evaluation

## January 31

Semi-Formal

## January 31

Assessment and Eval-  
uation  
Day-no classes

## February 1

PA Day—no classes

## February 4

Semester 2 begins

## February 12

Canadian National Math  
League—P.1/2-Cafeteria

## February 14

Semester 1 Final Report  
Card Distribution

## February 18

Family Day—No Classes

## March 6

Ash Wednesday

## March 4-8

Grad photos  
By Appointment Only  
Library Seminar Room

## March 11-15

March Break