

Cooperative Education Department News



We are extremely appreciative of local employers who are our partners in education. They foster our students in opportunities that provide a rich learning experience that are anchored in the Ontario curriculum. This semester students are engaged in workplace experiential learning at:

Active Green + Ross; Albright Electric; Altona Forest P.S.; Amberlea Dental; Apex Physiotherapy & Chiropractic; Blaisdale Montessori; Bessada Kia; Boyer Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd.; Carriage Auto; Deluxe Stairs & Railings; Doria's Garage; Father Fenelon; Fish TV; Graymatter Marketing Solutions; Oluyemisi Abrahams Law Office; PC Mechanical Services; Pickering Auto Lab; Pickering Chrysler; Pickering Honda; Pickering Public Library; Pickering Town Centre Administrative Office; Pickering Toyota; PORT; Renaissance Printing; Signarama; Somcan/Logowerkz; St. Elizabeth Seton; St. Isaac Jogues C.S.; St. Monica C.S.; Volkswagen Group Canada Inc.

If you are a business owner or work locally and are interested in exploring an experiential learning partnership with St. Mary with your company, we would LOVE to hear from you!

Ms. B. Hunter x.56032
Beth.Hunter@dcdsb.ca

Ms. M. Wilson-Clark x.56033
Melissa.WilsonClark@dcdsb.ca

Science Department News

**Science clinic runs every Wednesday afternoon from
3:00 – 4:00 pm in room 265.**

**This is an excellent opportunity for students to make up
missed labs or classwork.**

Many students also come to ask questions or to do homework.



St. Mary Newsletter

Vol: #3
April, 2018
St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Community Update stmary.dcdsb.ca

News From The Principal

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it.

Source: "New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book"

As we continue in the spirit of our Easter celebrations, may we be blessed with the love Jesus showed for us, and through his resurrection be forever guided by hope. Please remember to pray, love, and serve those who are in need.

St. Mary was very busy in February. We had grade level assemblies, course option assemblies, and we celebrated Black History month. On February 15th we had a very successful "taste of the Caribbean" during the lunches. The food was delicious and reasonably priced. We had announcements and displays recognizing achievements and contributions to Canadian society by Black Canadians. Our BHM assembly included student prayer, speeches, poetry and student video. Our special guest performer, Sacha Visagie, entertained us while sharing her struggles and successes as a young woman. Luke Stocking, from Development and Peace, kicked off our Lenten season with a presentation on positive peace built by women. This campaign invites Canadians to learn more about the vital role women play in conflict prevention and peace building.

As we close out our winter sports season we congratulate our junior and senior boys hockey team on a great season. Both teams earned LOSSA silver medals in highly competitive leagues. Our reach team won their local competition and move on to compete for the regional championship.

Our Arts Department opened the semester with the annual Visual Arts and Photography Exhibit, installed throughout the month of February at Pickering Civic Centre. The Senior Media Arts and the Communication Technology students held their annual student Film Fest at Landmark Theatre. The theatre was sold out as guests were treated to short films, commercials and animation. Prior to the Easter break the school community came together in an Easter Liturgy marked by a passion play performed by our grade 11 drama students and accompanied by the singing of our choir: gospel witness statements were read by our retreat leaders.

In March our Eco team celebrated water awareness week by raising awareness of the effects water bottle usage has on our planet. From polluted waterways to garbage build up the committee promoted reusable water bottles as a means of reducing pollution. The team created videos, prayers, homeroom challenge, kahoot and a giant bake sale. Proceeds from the bake sale will be used to install a water bottle filling station on the second floor of the west wing.

We are coming close to the half way mark of second semester. Mid-term report cards are being distributed, and warmer weather will soon be upon us. We remind students that they must be diligent with their school work to the end of June and to continue an effective work ethic. This is an exciting and stressful time for our grade twelve students. Nearing the end of their high school career, they will participate in prom, CGE celebration, grad breakfast, semester exams, graduation, and the realization of post-secondary dreams. If you have not completed your mandatory forty hours of community service please see a guidance counselor right away.

Amare et Servire.
Yours in Catholic Education,
Mr. Michael J. O'Brien

NEWSLETTER DESIGNED BY: Mr. Joel Pisani

NEWSLETTER EDITED BY: Ms. Cathie McDavid

NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY: The Business SHSM Team

Fine Arts Department News

Second semester has launched and the Arts department has a full spring season of events and performances scheduled!

Visual Arts/Media/Photographic Arts

Congratulations to the 1st semester grade 12 visual arts students who have 10 works that were curated to be included in the Oshawa McGlaughlen Gallery board wide student show ARTiculate, and to the gr 12 media arts students who have 2 display boards of work in the show as well. We are very proud of the exceptional talent of our student visual and media artists! The opening of the show was March 22nd at 7:30 pm and runs to April 8th.

Photography

Congratulations goes out to Grade 12 Photography student Rachel Francis whose photography won a spot in the Applied Arts Magazine's High School Photography competition two years in a row! Also best of luck to Patrick Elo as he represents St. Mary in the Skills Ontario Photography competition to be held May 8th 2018 in Toronto.

Drama Club

The Arts Department is pleased to announce DRAMA CLUB 2018! Student actors have been excitedly preparing their comedic pieces for auditions and workshops after school. All applicants will also participate in a group audition, where they will explore character and gesture work and be introduced to physical and environmental theatre. Casting will be announced soon, and we look forward to performing selected brief- but- intensely- fun scenes during ARTS FEST in June!

Junior Drama

Our energetic young thespians have completed their "Improvisation and Imagination" unit and have started to grapple with published works (from the likes of Dr. Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, Craig Kielburger and Elie Wiesel) in the "Ensemble and the PreText" unit. Students are challenged to work in small ensembles to create "dynamic" rolling 3D-tableaux performances which will be performed before the Easter Break!

Senior Drama

The grade 12 drama students are developing a collective creation based on the theme of identity. As a class, they have discussed at length the ways in which race, social status, and technology influence the ways in which we see ourselves and others. The performance will take place in Studio 168 on May 24th and 25th. The grade 11 drama students opened their semester rehearsing their passion play for our Easter celebration. Students are also planning their children's story theatre presentations, to be performed for the elementary students at the end of April, early May.

Dance

The dance students are already developing the choreography for their Showcase happening May 31st! In addition, our dance teams are off to Strive Dance Competitions March 28th and April 11th to compete against 15 other schools in the Durham Region.

Vocal Music

The Vocal Department is running on all cylinders with so many performances this second semester. Our biggest undertaking of course is our spring Concert entitled "Rhythm of Love". The concert will take place in the Caf on Thursday May 17th and is not to be missed. With exciting choreography provided by Mikayla Scornaienchi and Ashanthi Francis, the choir is getting their costumes organized and polishing their moves as well as their voices. Be sure to come and let the St. Mary Singers, Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Blues and Junior and Senior Vocal Classes wow you with their beautiful voices. The choir surprised the student body with a Flash Mob over the lunches during Anti-Bullying week. Performing "The Power of One", the singers popped up all over the Caf in solidarity and declared that one person can make a huge difference and encouraged all students to be the change they want to see. The St. Mary Singers have once again been asked by the Board to sing at The Catholic Graduate Celebration held this year at the beautiful Embassy Church in Oshawa. In addition, the vocal department will perform for Catholic Education Week, Grad Mass, Final All school Mass, Graduation and our yearly outing to Canada's Wonderland on May 29, where they will be adjudicated by a professional choir conductor.

Extended French Department News

As we are at the midterm of second semester, I would like to take a moment to provide you with some information pertaining to activities and courses in the Extended French department. Firstly, I am happy to welcome Madame Navarro to our department. She has taught Core French, as well as Phys Ed and English with our board for a few years now. Mme Navarro is teaching Grade 11 World Religions and the grade 9 Geography classes. Madame Zeenaeme is back with our department. She is once again teaching the grade 9 and grade 10 Religion classes. I would also like to welcome Monsieur Lamont. He is helping me with my classes while I recover from my head injury. M. Lamont was a Core French teacher last semester and has been an integral part of the department working with me.

It's a busy semester for our Extended French students! I am happy to announce that our trip to Ottawa is still happening. It will take place on May 24-26, 2018. This trip is open to all grades, and spots are still available for anyone interested. Please contact Mlle Oster with any questions.

Mlle Mallen has brought the Canadian War Museum to St. Mary. Her grade 10 history class had the opportunity to view real WWI artefacts on loan from the Canadian War Museum. Students were able to view items such as uniforms and personal gear, medical equipment, communications equipment, land transportation models, archival documents and photographs, trench art and newspapers, and toys and models from WWI.

With Mme Zeenaeme's help, we also had the opportunity to send our grade 9 and 10 Extended French students to the CineFranco film festival where they viewed a French film alongside our Core French classes. We will have guest speakers coming this semester to talk about the ISE Exchange programme, as well as summer employment opportunities for our students. This year is the second year our grade 12 students will be attempting the DELF exam. We are very proud of our students and I am excited to see their results! St Mary Extended French department is growing and this semester should be our best yet!

Please see below for a list of several useful French websites for activities, homework help, and experiential learning opportunities:

Canadian Parents for French - www.cpf.ca

Podcast – Français facile – www.podcastfrancaisfacile.com (for listening activities)

TV5 Monde – www.tv5monde.com (French-language activities, and listening activities)

TFO - www.tfo.org (French videos, shows, and music)

French Street – www.frenchstreet.ca (exchanges and programs)

Explore – www.myexplore.ca (Gr. 11-12 students, 5-week French summer course)

YMCA Summer French Employment Program – www.emplois-ete.com

International Student Exchange – www.iseontario.on.ca

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Mlle Oster
Curriculum Chair

Guidance News

RECENT/UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

- **End of April** - Proof of 40 hours of Community Service must be submitted by this date to guidance for students expecting to graduate in June 2018. Students are reminded of the April OUAC/OCAS transmission. Check your application files for accuracy. Report any errors and/or omissions to Guidance immediately.
- **May 1st** – the date by which graduating students must confirm their acceptance to an Ontario college. Students must remember to sign into their account on OCAS and officially accept their desired offer!
- **May 1st** – College Panel and May 15th – University Panel: Grade 11 students will have the opportunity to attend post-secondary planning workshops. Several liaison officers from Ontario colleges and universities will be at St. Mary to discuss post-secondary options with our students.
- **June 1st** – the earliest date by which Ontario universities require a response to an offer of admission. Students must remember to sign into their account on OUAC and officially accept their desired offer!

GRADUATION

- The potential graduation list has been posted outside guidance. Students who are in a position to graduate in June are asked to check this list for accuracy. If a student has not checked this list by now, it is essential that they do so and report any errors or omissions to guidance by May 1st.
- Graduating students who have submitted a Graduation Bursary Form will be considered for various in-school awards by our Grad Awards Committee. Forms can be found on our website at stmary.dcdsb.ca.
- Graduation gowns will be available for pick-up after the grad mass and breakfast in June.

SUMMER SCHOOL INFORMATION

- Registration information will be available in mid to late April for students who were not successful in one or more courses in the first semester. Parents will receive a phone call from their child’s individual teachers the last week of June if their child was unsuccessful in their courses for second semester.
- Students who would like to take a new course can also register for Summer School. They may also have the opportunity to take new courses through eLearning. Information can be obtained through a guidance counsellor.

OTHER SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

- Students from all grade levels are invited to investigate enrichment opportunities offered during the summer and throughout the school year. These include taking credit courses in Canada or internationally. As well, there are many programs offered at universities for the academically strong high school students.

St. Mary C.S.S. Prom 2018

Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility, Ajax

June 28th, 2018

6:00 pm to 11:30 pm

Purchase tickets (\$95) through Cash Online until April 27th or May 2nd and 3rd at Lunch.

Fine Arts Department News Continued

Instrumental Music

The Instrumental Music Department, like always is very busy this semester. On April 19th, 53 students in grades 10-12 will be travelling to Whistler, British Columbia to compete at the Con Brio Music Festival. This incredibly exciting three-day festival, which takes over Whistler Village along with 1200 other fine musicians from across Canada and the United States will see our students compete as a band and also be combined into a massed band. They will be participating in clinics with professional musicians on their own instrument, and on the final day of the festival, perform together under the direction of some world acclaimed conductors. We will finish up the trip with some sightseeing in Vancouver before returning home on April 24th. Our Spring Band Concert, “Something Sweet” will be held on Thursday, May 10th at 7pm in the café featuring all four of the bands. As always, this culminating evening of music is the peak of our semester, but this year it is also a preview of our performance at Nationals. Tickets will be available starting Monday, April 30th from Ms. Clarridge and Ms. Puccia at a cost of \$5 each. On Monday May 14th, both our Intermediate and Senior Bands will be competing against approximately 125 of the best bands in the country at MusicFest Canada. This year’s festival is being held at the University of Toronto faculty of music and is open to the public to attend the performances. The Intermediate Band will perform at 2pm and the Senior Band at 7pm .We hope that many of you come to cheer on the students.



Arts Fest

Plans are under way for our annual celebration of the Arts in our Awards Night known as “ARTS FEST”. Arts Fest brings together students of all the Arts disciplines and recognizes outstanding student contributions in the various arts courses and performances. This year we are planning a dinner theatre format at which will be featured selected student works in film, art, photo, drama,dance and music throughout the awards ceremony. (Think Academy/Genie/Emmy/Juno/Grammy/Screen/Awards all in one!) Arts Fest takes place in June and tickets will go on sale end of May! Stay tuned...it is always a sold out event!!

Arts and Culture SHSM

On March 21st, Arts and Culture SHSM students participated in a beat box and theatrical event at the Panasonic Theatre in Toronto. Students had a workshop and Q&A with a world renown Beat Boxer ,then attended the Mirvish production of the British show “Gobsmacked”. The SHSM program paid for 75% of the cost of the trip! Students who enjoy courses in the Arts—whether dance/drama/musical theatre/visual/media/photographic/Instrumental or Vocal Music—are encouraged to drop by room 161 and speak to Ms. McDavid about being a part of SHSM. Come and collect a registration form to become an Arts and Culture SHSM student! Achieving a SHSM seal on your diploma identifies the student as having a focus and commitment to that sector. Colleges and Universities view SHSM students favorably when considering admission to programs. Register in grade 10 or 11—SHSM perks include free certifications (CPR, etc.) and opportunities to attend arts sector excursions at a reduced/subsidized rate.

Ms. McDavid
Curriculum Chair

Canadian & World Studies & Social Sciences Department News

Grade nine geography classes have been exploring their mapping skills and demonstrated these skills through a theme park mapping assignment. Not only are the placement of theme park rides and attractions are important but also allow student's creativity and visions of spatial design to come alive through their assignment.

The grade ten food classes have just finished creating 3D cookie cutters. They will use their designs to shape their cookies and then finish their creations by panting or decorating their final products. All level food classes have just finished their first unit on sanitation, safety, measuring, kitchen prep. and are excited to start cooking in the kitchens.

The grade ten Civics students are working hard on their Civics Big Ideas presentations. The Civics Big Ideas activity ask students to think of a Big Idea that focuses on a topic he/she is passionate about. Students then research and prepare a presentation about how their idea could make a difference to another person, their community or even the world. Civics students will have the opportunity to further their research Big Idea and enhance their presentation skills with our after-school St. Mary CSS TED Ed Club.

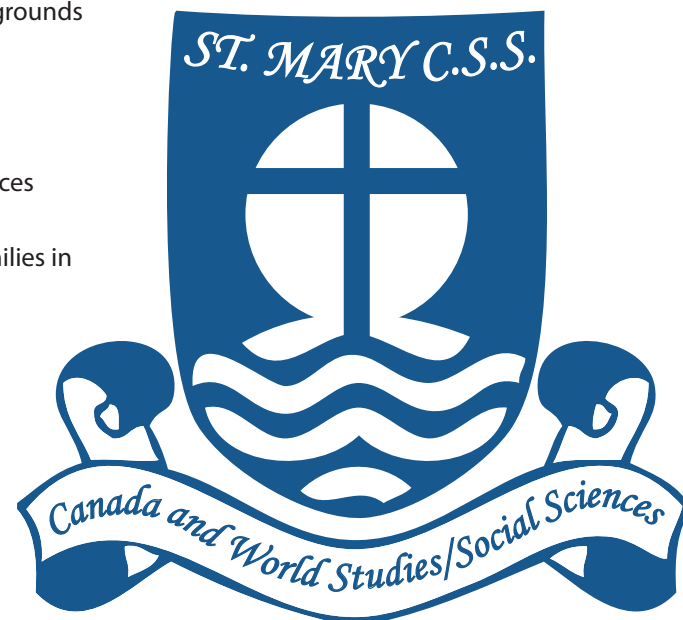
Our grade ten Canadian history classes learned about what our soldiers faced during the First World War. Students learned about the extreme living conditions that soldiers experienced in the trenches, as well as the challenges that they faced as a result of dramatically changing technology. Students will be examining and demonstrating their talents learning about the 1920s and 1930s. Grade ten History students will have an opportunity to hear Holocaust Survivor and business entrepreneur Elly Gotz on Tuesday, May 22nd, Period 1, in the cafeteria. We are welcoming Elly back, and consider him a part of the St. Mary community after having addressed hundreds of our students over the last six years. We are honored to have him share his story of surviving the Holocaust and his message of forgiveness is powerful. His poignant recollections of life in a concentration camp exemplifies the will of the human spirit, and one of hope. When Elly addresses our students, he will have more new experiences, as he does every term! We sincerely look forward to Elly's visit, and are grateful for his friendship with St. Mary.

Students in my Grade 11 Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology course will partake in a guided tour at the Toronto Zoo to explore the field of Primatology. Guest speakers from The Covenant House recently came in to discuss Human Trafficking and enlighten us preventative measures students should take within our community.

The law classes at St. Mary have been busy studying the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. We have looked at some fascinating cases and are visiting the Superior Courts to watch the law in action on April 16 and 17th, 2018. Furthermore, St Mary's Law Club is excited about several upcoming events that include their participation in the annual Kelly Cup competition. In April, students will also be preparing for their crime scene enactments where they stage and investigate crime scenes to gather evidence and determine who is at fault. Opportunities to explore career pathways with a variety of guest speakers from legal backgrounds are also upcoming including a representative from the Canadian Red Cross, law enforcement from the DRPS, a probation and parole officer, and a criminal lawyer.

The department of Canada and World Studies/Social Sciences look forward to the second half of semester two. We wish continued blessings to our students and their families in the St. Mary community.

Mr. Stanesic
Curriculum Chair



Black History Month 2018 at St. Mary C.S.S.

Almost 30 student leaders joined the Black History Student Committee (BHSC) for the 2017/2018 school year. The BHSC's theme this year is "Educating is Advocating" and were supervised by staff members including Mr. Chadee, Ms. Flynn and Mr. Moriah. Here are the following activities and events that the BHSC organized and participated in for Black History Month:

- *Special guest speakers at BHSC meetings*
- *Black History Morning Announcements*
- *Black History Music in the Cafeteria*
- *Black History Month Poster*
- *Black History Month Glass Display Case (in front hallway)*
- *Black History Month Grade Level Assemblies*
- *The Taste of Black Culture*
- *Field Trip to see Marvel film, Black Panther*



Our Black History Month culminated with our Black History Month Assemblies. This event included micro-aggression speeches, prayers, poetry, a student video and special guest country music singer– Sacha. Sacha and her band played her great music which included original songs such as Stix N Stones and On My Way, and a cover of Ed Sheeran's hit song Castle on the Hill. During the assemblies, Sacha used a few personal stories showing how she overcame challenges at a young age. Sacha's thoughtful words of wisdom were certainly inspiring to our students.

Thanks,
Mr. Stanesic

News From Health & Physical Education Department

SPORTS!!!! What's Happening? Spring Sports (2017-2018)

- **Varsity Boys Baseball** - Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Partlow, Mr. Montgomery
- **Golf** - Mr. Ellsworth
- **Varsity Girls Lacrosse** - Ms. Reynolds-McMullen
- **Varsity Boys Rugby** - Mr. Klemensowicz, Mr. O'Meara
- **Varsity Girls Rugby** - Ms. Smith, Ms. Hunter
- **Junior Girls Soccer** - Mr. McCann, Mr. Antonucci
- **Senior Girls Soccer** - Mr. McDavid
- **Track & Field** - Mr. Antonucci, Ms. Gallagher, Mr. Milan
- **Coed Volleyball** - Ms. Teasdale, Ms. Millare

Transfer Students to St. Mary

If a student has attended another secondary school other than St. Mary in the previous 12 months, to participate in St. Mary LOSSA Athletics, students MUST complete a LOSSA TRANSFER PART A & PART B.

• LOSSA Transfer Form (2017/18) Part A

• LOSSA Transfer Form (2017/18) Part B

1. Print off a copy of the TRANSFER FORM, and COMPLETE IT IN FULL.
 2. Submit ASAP to Teacher-Coach.
 3. Paper work must be submitted by Teacher-Coach to Ms. Teasdale (Curriculum Chair of Health & Physical Education) to LOSSA in order to receive a transfer number to participate in LOSSA teams.
- FYI: Not all applications are granted a transfer number and may require a student to sit out of sport for 12 months.

Ms. Teasdale
Curriculum Chair

Business & Technology Department News

News from the Autoshop

The autoshop students had a busy start to the first semester. Early February started with a trip to the Canadian International Autoshow. The students enjoyed touring the displays both old and new and the large display of electric vehicles. Late March had the auto shop classes tour the Toyota Assembly plant in Cambridge. Students had a plant tour after a lunch stop at McDonalds. We had a chance to see cars in various stages of assembly and finishing. Various job opportunities were demonstrated from assembly worker to industrial mechanics, electricians and even doctors.

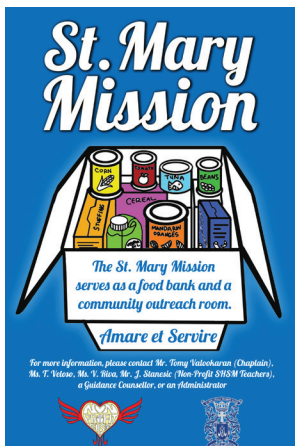
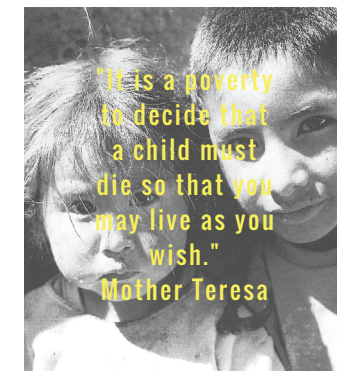


Mr. Belmonte
Curriculum Chair

St. Mary Non-profit SHSM

St. Mary's new Non-Profit Faith Leadership Specialist High School Major (SHSM) is accepting applications from grade 10 and in some cases grade 11 students until the end of April. This particular leadership SHSM are for students who want to make a difference. Whether in the fields of art, culture, education, the environment, education, healthcare, social development, numerous career paths are available to students who share the same vision in being a difference maker in their community. Students are encouraged to sign up early as space is limited.

Non-Profit SHSM students will have an opportunity to experience a couple more Reach Ahead and Experiential opportunities such as our Canadian Food For Children (CFC) program and TEDxStMaryCSSchool event on April 25th. Donations for Canadian Food For Children are still being accepted and food donations are welcome for our community outreach room – the St. Mary Mission. We are closing in on 1,000,000 pounds of donations to CFC. Not long ago, we donated a beautiful wedding dress and we were recently told that it was used in over a dozen weddings in the country that the wedding dress was delivered to.



We want to thank our Non-Profit SHSM students and the Non-Profit SHSM teacher team for all their tremendous work and we look forward to completing the second half of the school year.

Mr. Valookaran & Mr. Stanesic

TED^xStMaryCSSchool
x = independently organized TED event

FLASHPOINT

Wednesday, April 25, 2018
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Embassy Church
416 Taunton Road West
Oshawa L1H 7K4

dcdsb.ca Follow Us On Twitter @TEDxStMary

DURHAM CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Catholic Education: Learning and Living in Faith

Math Department News

“But in the new (math) approach, the important thing is to understand what you’re doing, rather than to get the right answer.” Tom Lehrer

Math as a Cumulative Discipline

Math know-how is cumulative, which means it works much like a stack of building blocks. Not only do we need a base, but a solid and concrete foundation in order to ‘build upon’.

Generally, our first mathematical build blocks are for the foundation as students learn rules for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The next building blocks are for the framework of knowledge as students learn formulae and operations.

No matter where you are in your math studies, you can excel if you backtrack far enough to reinforce your foundation. You must fill the gaps with a deep understanding of the basic concepts you encountered at previous grade(s), not just through memorization, as a means to succeed in nearly any field.

Congratulation to the Math Contestants

For Pascal, Cayley and Fermat Contests, every student scoring in the **top 25%** of all competitors receives a Certificate of Distinction. The mathematics department would like to congratulate the following students who have earned a **Certificate of Distinction**.

Grade 9 Pascal Math Contest

1st Place: Cassandra Koitsopoulos (Certificate of Distinction with Medal)

2nd Place: Sean Ajufo

3rd Place: Jessica Alves & Charlene Rocha

5th Place: Lucas Violi

Grade 11 Fermat Math Contest

1st Place: Aidan Malesich (Certificate of Distinction with Medal)

2nd Place: Brandon Tapp



Grade 12 Math League Contest: Students who scored the top 5 in the Contest

1st Place: Kayleigh Melcher & Mark Traya

3rd Place: Samuel Menendez-Garcia & Leeam Ng Tang Fui & Andrew Zeitler

Important Information from Mathematics Department

> Math Department Website

> www.stmarycss.ca

> Click on ‘Departments’ and select ‘Mathematics’ to look for several helpful resources, such as free online tutoring services and the online interactive mathematical lessons, etc.

> Mathematics Teachers’ Websites

> Most of the mathematics teachers have their websites set up which displays all students’ progress in class, daily homework, and other important information. Please take a moment to check your children’s academic progress.

The Mathematics Challenge Contests are coming up!

There are many different contests designed for specific grade.

- **Fryer Contest (April 12, 2018) - (Grade 9)**

- **Galois Contest (April 12, 2018) - (Grade 10)**

- **Hypatia Contest (April 12, 2018) - (Grade 11)**

- **Euclid Contest (April 11, 2018) - (Grade 12)**

The Contest will be written in the Learning Commons (Library). More information about the contest, such as the old contests with solutions can be found on the following website www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca.

Ms. Chang

Curriculum Chair

English and Modern Languages Department News

This semester has brought about a lot of change in the English and Modern Languages Department. We congratulate Mr. Longo who has accepted a position at our school as Interim Vice Principal and Mrs. Sprung who has accepted the position as Interim Curriculum Chair of the department. We welcome Ms. Lajoie, who has taken over Mr. Longo’s classes and Mr. Labriola, who we are happy to see back with us again.

We thank Ms. Carnovale, Ms. Walton and Ms. M. O’Reilly for their tireless work in preparation and execution of the OSSLT, which was held on April 10. Mr. Ellsworth and Mr. Lamont helped to run the after school prep sessions which were well attended. We plan to run these again next year for all Grade 10 students who are interested in attending.

In March, Grade 9 French students went to Cinéfranco, a French language film festival. They had a great time watching “La Deuxième étoile” and going out for lunch in Toronto.

In May, twelve Grade 12 Core French students will be participating in the Diplôme d’études en langue française (DELF) Proficiency Exam. The exam is an internationally recognized assessment of French proficiency, measuring how students use French in everyday life. We wish these students luck with their exam. Bonne Chance!

Grade 11 University English students can look forward to seeing the newest version of Macbeth on the big screen in May.

AP Grade 12 English students are reminded of their practice exam on May 3 and their formal exam on May 16.

Parents and students are reminded that the last day for Accelerated Reader testing is June 8. Hopefully all students have been able to take a test at this time and will continue to read and visit the Learning Commons to achieve the points required for their course.

We wish our students well for the remainder of the semester!

Ms. Sprung

Interim Curriculum Chair of English and Modern Languages

Program Support Department News

The new semester is off to a great start for the Program Support, ESL and Library Department. In Life skills class, students continue to enjoy creative activities led by Ms. Allore. Students made delicious Easter treats and crafts in preparation for the Catholic celebration. Students also participated in decorating the school’s display cabinet to highlight and support World Down Syndrome Day and Autism Awareness day.

The White Pine Reading Program is up and running again this semester and features a variety of works by Canadian authors. Interested students can see Ms. Fryszacki in the Learning Commons for more details. The “Battle of the Books” is another exciting event happening in May in the Learning Commons.

Program Support is available daily to students requiring assistance with their studies. Contact Ms. Hooftman (x56012) or Program Support (Room 130) for more information.

Ms. Hooftman

Curriculum Chair

