



BISHOP IN BRIEF

Bishop Smith Catholic High School Newsletter

February 2017

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362 Carmody Street,
Pembroke, ON K8A 4G2

- Tel: 613-735-5496
- Fax:- 613-735-9272
- bsch.rccdsb.edu.on.ca

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Key Dates For February

- Feb 6: Semester 2 begins
- Feb. 4-11: DRE Mission Trip
- Feb. 8: Girls Hockey-Arnrior
- Feb. 8: Boys Hockey - Petawawa
- Feb. 15: Grade 7 to 8 Open House 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Feb. 16: HS Reports Home with students
- Feb. 17: Auto Club trip-Toronto
- Feb. 23: Gr. 8 boys basketball tournament @ FHS
- Feb. 23: Gr. 12 Retreat @ Algonquin College
- Feb. 24: Grade 8 Reports Home with students
- Feb. 27: School Council 5:30-7:00
- Feb. 28: Gr. 8 girls basketball tournament at BSCH
- March 1: Grade 8 to 9 Parent Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.

A Message From the Admin Team

For our secondary students and staff a new semester is almost upon us and it's always a time for new beginnings and an opportunity for a fresh start. The mid-point of a school year also provides us with an opportunity to reflect on where we've been since Sept. 6th as we also focus on the finish line of June 29th. For many high school students it is a quick turnaround from the stress of January's final assessments to new courses with new teachers.

To aid with the transition our Student Services department will still be making a few course changes for students with conflicts in their timetables. We also ask all teachers to make the

marked Semester One final assessments available to their Semester One students so that they have the opportunity to look over their culminating activities and exams in hopes of learning from any mistakes.

After Feb. 10th all of the Semester One final assessments are stored in the main office and students (and parents) still have access to them if needed. On Feb. 16th the Semester One report cards will be going home with the secondary students and the grade 8 reports will follow a week later.

DON'T BE AFRAID
OF CHANGE,
IT IS LEADING
YOU TO A
NEW BEGINNING.

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Did You Know? Course Selection Process

Course Selections for the 2017-2018 school year will begin on Thursday, February 16th and finish on Monday, March 6th.

The process involves the following:

- One of the guidance counselors will meet with your child's class and have each student log into their individual account on myblueprint. Myblueprint is an online program that allows students to not only select courses but also to set goals and plan their post-secondary options.
- Once your child has selected his/her courses, you can then review their choices at home by logging into their account; any changes to their selected courses can still be done at this time.
- When the final changes are done, press Submit and Print. Your child then returns the signed form to their teacher by Friday, March 24th. If you do not have a printer at home, you can still submit and have the form printed in Student Services.
- The grade 8's will have a slightly different format with an explanatory note and a list of recommended courses going home on Feb. 24 and the forms are due by March 4th.

RCCDSB



OSSLT

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test will be written by all grade 10 students in the province on March 30, 2017. Successful completion of the test (a mark of 75% or above) is a graduation requirement. At BSCH grade 10 students will soon be prepping in their English classes and a similar process happened last semester. Students identified as needing an extra “boost” before the test will spend some time with a RCCDSB literacy specialist.

Parent Meeting

The annual meeting for parents and students who will be entering Grade 9 in Sept. will be held on Wed. March 1st from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Robert Tate Library. We will discuss course selections, graduation requirements, and why we think that BSCH is the best option for students.

Attention All Graduates!!

Yes, only one more semester to go for our grade 12 students as we get closer to the 2017 Graduation ceremony on June 29th at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Community Service Hours:

There are still quite a few Grade 12 students who do not have their 40 hours complete and/or handed in and many potential opportunities are listed each week in the Student Services area. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. McEwen at Student Services (735-5496 ext. 244).

Grade 12 Retreat(s):

We are pleased to announce that the BSCH 2017 Grade 12 Retreat will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at the beautiful Waterfront Pembroke Campus of Algonquin College. The day will include some full group activities and three different break out sessions (focused on mental health/wellness, spiritual wellness, and digital footprint awareness). The retreat is mandatory and lunch will be provided as will some live music for entertainment. Due to parking restrictions, students will be bused from the front doors of BSCH to Algonquin College & back.

The annual “Bishop & Beyond” half- day retreat to get students ready for life “beyond” BSCH will still occur in the Spring.

Some Important Information!!

- “Welcome Back” to Mrs. Katie Scott who will be joining us in second semester to teach math. Katie is a BSCH grad (Class of 2003) and she taught here for a few years before moving onto St. Francis of Assisi. We are very pleased to be having Katie re-join the

BSCH family once her MAT leave is done on March 20.

- Please mark the following dates on your calendars:

March 1: Ash Wednesday

March 2-3: Gr 8 Course Selections

March 6-8: FSL trip to

St. Donat

March 8: Parent-Teacher Interviews 4:00-7:00 p.m.

March 10: Holiday

March 13-17: March Break

March 27: School Council Meeting

March 30: Gr. 10 Literacy Test (OSSLT)