In his Lenten Message, during this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has asked Catholics to recognize their own need for God’s mercy and the obligation to assist others by communicating God’s love and mercy through words and deeds. Our Holy Father adds, “The season of Lent in this Jubilee Year must be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy”.

At BSCH we will get set for the culmination of our Lenten preparations and for the glory of Easter by reflecting on the Pope’s message and by reaching out to those in need by holding a Food drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Society. As a school community we will gather for a Lenten mass on March 10th and express thanks and gratitude for the many blessings which have been poured out onto us.

Best wishes for a blessed Easter!

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**Key Dates For March**

- Parent Council meeting 5:30pm
- **“Preparing for Gr. 9” Parent Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.**
- March 2: Phys Ed. Ski Trip @ Calabogie Peaks
- March 2-9: Easter Food Drive
- March 3: Reach For the Top Team competition
- March 7-9: FSL cultural trip to St. Donat
- March 9: Parent-Teacher Interviews 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- March 10: Lenten Mass 9:40 am
- March 14-18: March Break
- March 25: Good Friday
- March 28: Easter Monday
- March 31: Grade 10 Literacy Test (OSSLT) across the province

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**Did You Know?**

**OSSLT**

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test will be written by all grade 10 students in the province on March 31, 2016. 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.

**Additional April Professional Activity Day**

Students and parents are asked to note April 8th on your calendars as an additional professional activity day. It has been added to meet Ministry of Education requirements. There will be no classes for pupils on April 8th. Please also note that April 22nd remains a professional activity day and therefore there are no classes for pupils on that day.