



BISHOP IN BRIEF

Bishop Smith Catholic High School Newsletter

March 2017

Volume 3, Issue 7

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Key Dates For March

- March 1: Ash Wednesday
- March 1: "Preparing for Gr. 9"
Parent Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- March 2: Boys Hockey "Frozen
Four" Playoffs in Arnprior
- March 6-8: FSL cultural trip to St.
Donat
- March 8: Reach For the Top
Team competition
- March 8: Parent-Teacher
Interviews 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- March 9: Staff vs Students hockey
game in p.m.
- March 10: School Holiday
- March 13-17: March Break
- March 23: Concert & Senior
Bands @ Kiwanis Music
- March 27: School Council
meeting @ 5:30 p.m.
- March 30: Gr. 10 Literacy Test
(OSSLT) across the province

A Message From the Admin Team: Lent @ BSCH

We're traditionally taught that Lent mirrors the 40 days that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness before starting His ministry and that during this time we must commit to fasting or giving up certain foods, habits or luxuries so as to model His experience in the desert. For many of us, going into the desert may very well mean giving up dessert! But for what purpose? In a resource called *The Word Among Us*, the author suggests:

"The desert takes us away from the ordinary rhythms of life so we can examine ourselves. Its hardships and difficulties challenge us to look deeper into our soul so that we can ask how deeply we are willing to trust God. Temptations to grumble against God move us to seek his strength and encouragement lest we fall. Alone in the desert, we are brought face to face with one central question: Am I living the way God wants me to live?"



At BSCH the simple cross of Ash Wednesday is more than just a symbol on our foreheads, as it serves as a visual reminder to use the time of Lent to reflect and to prepare. Lent also allows us an opportunity to focus on the importance of an "attitude of gratitude" and the need to quietly express "thanks" to both Jesus, for the blessings poured out onto us, and to our loved ones for their continued support & care. "Together We Will Succeed".

Did You Know?

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.

2017-2018 Course Selections

The course selection process for the 2017-2018 school year is in full swing and by the end of March all registered students will have had an opportunity to select courses for next school year. In April & May our Guidance & Admin teams will then begin to finalize what courses we will be able to offer and then we create a school timetable (by grade) and assign staff to the various sections. It is our hope that students will be able to leave in June with a tentative copy of their 2017-2018 timetable.