



BISHOP IN BRIEF

Bishop Smith Catholic High School Newsletter

October 2017

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Key Dates For October

- Sept 25- Oct. 3: "Thanks For Giving" Food Drive
- Oct. 5: College Information Session in a.m. @ Algonquin College (students must sign up at Student Services)
- Oct. 6: PA Day
- Oct. 12: Parent-Teacher Interviews (4:00-7:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 13: Picture Retake Day
- Oct. 23: University Info Session in a.m. @ FHS (students must sign up at Student Services)
- Oct. 24: Dress Purple Day (in support of FCS)
- Oct. 25: Gr. 8 REACH day @ Shaw Woods
- Oct. 27: Pass & Smash V-ball tournament @ BSCH
- Oct. 30: Parent Council meeting (5:30-7:00 p.m.)

A Message From the Admin Team: Thanks "living"

With the splendor of summer in the air and Thanksgiving fast approaching, it is often a time of year to pause and reflect on life's blessings. Without doubt, we have a great deal to be thankful for @ BSCH: wonderful students, a dedicated & caring staff, and supportive parents. Once again our EQAO scores will have us placed as one of the top-performing secondary schools in Renfrew County, but we are equally as proud of the fact that we are about more than just academics. At BSCH we educate the mind, but we also strive to provide opportunities to nurture the body & soul of each student.

The "Thanks For Giving" Food Drive is a good example of one of the projects we expose the students to and it highlights the tremendous generosity and social justice spirit of the BSCH community and the power of Thanks "living". All non-perishable food items, hygiene items or money donations can be dropped off from Sept. 25—Oct. 3 in student's period 1 classes. This food drive will be supporting St. Vincent de Paul Society Soup Kitchen.



"Together We Will Succeed"

Did You Know? Therapy Dogs @ BSCH

An exciting placement has arisen for one of grade 8 & high school classrooms where there is an opportunity to introduce certified therapy dogs, Blazer and Trax, to the classroom environment. The program started a few years ago in regards to supporting students who suffer from anxiety. The plan would be for Blazer or Trax to visit the class once a week and interact with the students. They would, however, be under the constant supervision of Mr. Peplinski & Mrs. Peplinski.

The BSCH community is fortunate that both staff members, and both dogs, are members of the Therapeutic Paws of Canada and that they are certified to be in a classroom setting with students. Over the last few years, their team has participated in a reading program at the Petawawa Public Library, and has also volunteered at the Pembroke Heritage Manor retirement residence. As well, their experience includes being involved in the St. Francis of Assisi school community in Petawawa, and our very own grade eight elementary group here at Bishop Smith.

Before we move forward with planning for this school year, we do want to provide you with the chance to voice any concerns and/or questions. This would also be an opportunity to tell us if your son/daughter is highly allergic to dogs, dog-phobic, anxious around dogs, etc.

For any enquiries, please contact me directly at Bishop by phone (735-5496 ext.232) or by email cyoung@rccdsb.edu.on.ca.

RCCDSB



Parent Council

2017-2018

Thanks to all parents who turned up for our opening meeting. Executive positions are as follows:

Chairperson:

Peter Lapointe

Secretary:

Chantel Carriere

Staff Reps:

Natalie Jalette

New parents are always welcome to attend! Meetings are usually the last Monday of the month from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

BreakFast Program

Each year the school receives funding from "Food For Learning" and "Breakfast For Learning" and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, in order to run a breakfast program and a snack program 3 days a week for students. We have 9 volunteers on staff who make this program possible and each day between 70 to 85 students benefit. All, however, are welcome!

Last year we were also given a free bushel of apples weekly from Food For Learning .

A Message From Student Services

Our Student Services Team looks forward to working closely with you as you journey along a new school year.

Stress builds and workload demands on students can be significant at times. We will guide you with healthy strategies to deal with stress.

For our Graduating Students:

Applications for college and university will begin during the first week in November. Students will be called down by class in order to set up their account with OUAC and OCAS. In the meantime, we highly recommend that students spend some time on MyBlueprint researching programs. The link is available from our school website under student services.

Important College & University visits to BSCHS are listed outside Student Services. (Sign up is required for all events)

Oct. 6 College Information Day at Algonquin Pembroke Campus 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (\$2 for bus)

Oct. 25 University Information Day at Fellowes HS 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. (\$2 for bus)

Interviews

Semester 1: Parent Teacher Interview Night is Thursday October 13th from 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. Student Services will be presenting an information session for parents of graduating students in the library on the topic of College and University application processes.

Semester 2: Parent Teacher Interview Night March 7th. A Graduating Student Parent Session that same evening will be on OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program).

Pictures

Grad Photo sittings are scheduled for the week of November 28-Dec. 1. Be ready with a white shirt / blouse. It is free but if you want more than one pose (used for the Yearbook and the Graduation Composite) the cost is \$25 and you receive the proofs.

The Dominican Republic Experience 2018

The Dominican Republic Experience Team for 2018 is busy planning and fundraising for our missions work in Yamasa, Dominican Republic. This year's trip will occur during the second week of February and once again involves a contingent from BSCH & St. Joe's HS (Renfrew).

This year's BSCH team includes: Morgan Campbell,

Bailey Davidson, Anna Gleason, Samantha Hill, Kate Hurley, Jacob Quilty, Owen Sinclair, Jaiden Smith, Sydney Ventress, Hanah Young, Mr. Beaupre, Mr. Conrad & Mrs. Watson.

How can you help our team?

We are looking for medical supplies, medicine and old eyeglasses which will be distributed at the clinic we

help support in Yamasa. As well financial donations for the purchase of "Friendship Food Kits" are greatly appreciated. These kits help provide food for those in need year-round in Yamasa and the surrounding area.

For more information please contact Mark Conrad.
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