

# Irish Report

St. Patrick's Catholic High School



## Month at a Glance

Aug. 29th - Grade Nine Orientation Day

Sept. 10th - Picture Day

Sept. 11th - Grade Nine Representative Elections

Sept. 13th - Student Council Retreat

Sept. 24th - School Mass

## And so we Begin...

St. Patrick's reopened its doors on September 3rd to new and returning students for this 2019-2020 school year. For our Grade Nines, this was a day of newness, starting a new chapter in their education. For the Grade Twelves, the beginning of the end, a year that is sure to fly by in a flurry of preparation to move on to other things. Another school year has begun, sure to bring with it challenges, change, and (hopefully) a whole lot of Irish fun!

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## Sports Segment

Although we are only a few weeks into the school year, sports and activities are in full swing. The Fighting Irish football team started training in summer to prepare for their fall season. Tryouts and practices have begun for Jr. boys soccer, Jr. boys volleyball, Sr. girls basketball, cross country, tennis, and golf.

Many activities are already meeting on a weekly basis. Some examples include Dungeons and Dragons Club and Anime Club. The well known St. Patrick's Concert Band has also begun rehearsals to start preparing for various performances and competitions.

## Council Corner

### "Passion is Greater than Fear"

Student Council is proud to present our 2019-2020 Grade Nine Representatives, Noah Leonard and Jillian Fraser. Their role on council is to bring forward the voices and opinions of the new students in our school.

To prepare and plan events for this school year, all nine council members as well as our three teacher advisors attended a full day retreat in downtown Sarnia. Also in attendance were representatives from our Tech. Department, LINK Crew, and Health and Wellness Team. The whole premise of the retreat, through our speakers and activities, was to determine as a group exactly what presence we want to have within the school this year. What impact do we as a group want to have through all of the events that we run?



### Dare To Be Different: #Be a Saint

St. Patrick's Chaplaincy team held their first meeting Sept. 12, to discuss major events throughout the year. Our main focus: preparing for the reveal of our Chaplaincy theme for the year. Mrs. Clarke, our chaplain, revealed what was inspired by the Diocese of London, "**Dare to Be Different!**" with the tagline, "**#Be a Saint.**" Our goal for the year through this theme is to transform "faith" language into "our" language. We hope to emphasize through our projects and morning reflections the challenge to live out this theme every single day. Another item discussed was our daily morning reflections through our live video announcements. Mrs. Clarke does morning reflections every Monday and Friday. We have two teachers that reflect on Tuesday's and Thursday's. On Wednesdays, Chaplaincy Team members write and present their own reflections to the student body. A team of four students was put together as a regular reflection team, but any student who is interested may step forward.



### Coffee Cart Rolling Again

A favourite with both staff and students, the coffee cart is up and running once again. Every morning, students from the Community Pathways program venture throughout the school selling coffee, tea, and snacks to wake people up in the morning. The cart is run independently and helps students learn valuable working world skills, while having a ton of fun.

## LINK is a Link for Grade Nines

August 29th brought a wave of grade nines at St. Patrick's ready to prepare for a new stage of their lives. 68 senior students spent days training as our LINK team to make this day a special one for our new students. LINK Crew leaders teamed up with groups of Irish hopefuls to tour the school and discuss their high school experiences.

Many of our LINK leaders are also involved in Mrs. Benaquista's leadership class who ran a mini activities fair for the grade nines during their lunch on September 6th. Senior students presented posters to advertise for various popular Irish sports and activities.



## Irish Take on *Mamma Mia!*

St. Patrick's hosts so many talented people in our school - both staff and students. Theatre Sarnia is presenting its production of *Mamma Mia!*, with 12 shows from September 20 - October 5. Although this is not a St-Patrick's Art Department production, I'm choosing to highlight it as the show features the talents of 3 St. Patrick's staff and approximately a dozen students from grades 10 through 12. We also have staff and students from various other schools in our board working together to make this the very best. Featuring the music direction of one of our beloved music teachers, Mr. Sonier, this show is sure to be a hit!

