

# The Pandemic Review

March 2021 - Mia Abate

Student life, both physical and virtual



## The (Lenten) Journey Continues

The month of March is a very special month for Catholics across the globe; it is particularly significant for the staff and students of St. Patrick's High School, however. This is because many special events occur during March such as Lent and International Women's Day. March also sees the feast day of the Fighting Irish's namesake, St. Patrick. The ever-resilient staff and students of St. Patrick's didn't let the pandemic crush their spirits, finding safe ways to celebrate the incredible women in their life and their Irish pride!

## International Women's Day

Monday, March 8th, 2021 marked International Women's Day, a day to celebrate women's great achievements in social, economic, cultural and political environments. It is also a day to recognize how gender inequality still affects all women to this day and that, while recognizing that there is an issue is the first step, we must all actively fight to end gender inequality. This year, to celebrate International Women's Day, Mr. Walicki, student council and a team of young men created banners and presented all of the female staff members with a flower. The team wanted to honour all the incredible women in their lives and who better than the amazing women who work at St. Patrick's! From all of the students, thank you to all of the incredible female staff members at St. Patrick's for being so wonderful and inspiring!



— A YEAR TO —  
**REMEMBER**

GET EXCITED. GET INSPIRED.  
GET READY FOR GRAD PORTRAITS.

Lifetouch will be here:  
Monday, March 1st  
til Wednesday, March 17th



*Prestige*

Go to ***prestigeportraits.ca*** search  
for your school by location  
and book your appointment today!


# Graduation Photos

Lifetouch graduation photos are being held at St. Patrick's from March 1st until March 17th. The photo sessions are made by appointment and are being held in the cafeteria. The opportunity is being offered to both physical and virtual students. This is a very special and exciting experience for the grade 12 graduates, these

photos capture the memory of their high school year; the end of this chapter of their life and the beginning of their next step. Say cheese, grade 12s!

# School Calendar

One of the biggest changes we have seen this year is the movement of March break to April for what is now being called "April Break". The school board has recently released their new, updated school year calendar that accommodates the change to March Break. The break will now occur the week of April 12th. The change to the schedule means that now, the week before the break, high school students will have the final 2 days of their period 1 class, 2 days of their period 2 class before the break and the final 2 days of their period 2 class after the break. On Wednesday, April 21st there will be a turnaround day and then quadmester 4 will begin on Thursday, April 22nd.

2020-2021 Secondary School Year Calendar				Catholic Education + Future Ready									
St. Clair Catholic District School Board				Learning together today, transforming tomorrow									
420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4 Phone: 519-627-6762 or 866-936-6139 Fax: 519-627-8230 www.st-clair.net facebook.com/SCCDSB													
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b>		<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>		<b>NOVEMBER 2020</b>		<b>DECEMBER 2020</b>							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN						
	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	H												
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
27	28	29	30										
<b>JANUARY 2021</b>		<b>FEBRUARY 2021</b>		<b>MARCH 2021</b>		<b>APRIL 2021</b>							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN						
							1	2	3	4	5		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
<b>MAY 2021</b>		<b>JUNE 2021</b>		<b>JULY 2021</b>		<b>AUGUST 2021</b>							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN						
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
30	31												

H = Holiday  
P = Professional Activity Day  
T = Secondary Turnaround Day\*  
\*Secondary students do not attend  
Revised February 17, 2021

Quad 1 - Period 1 Period 2  
Quad 2 - Period 3 Period 4  
Quad 3 - Period 1 Period 2  
Quad 4 - Period 3 Period 4

First Day of Classes: September 14, 2020  
Christmas Break: Dec 23/20 - Jan 3/21  
April Break: April 12-16, 2021  
Last Day of Secondary Classes: June 25, 2021

John Van Heck  
Chair of the Board  
Deb Crawford  
Director of Education



# St. Patrick's Day

The Fighting Irish take St. Patrick's Day very seriously, it is the feast day of their beloved St. Patrick, after all! The Fighting Irish had no intentions of letting Covid-19 get their spirits down. The day kicked off with a special St. Patrick's Day prayer (the Our Father in Gaelic) from the school chaplain, Mrs. Clarke. The students were

allowed to dress in school colours or wear spirit wear and even received a special visit from Mrs. Crawford! The St. Patrick's student council made sure to make this St. Patrick's day special, planning a variety of activities that students could safely participate in. The events started with a door decorating contest and, though there was a lot of strong competition, the contest was ultimately won by Mr. Chaulk's music class Mr. Petrucci's religion class and the special education class. Next, there was a school-wide Irish slang Kahoot where the winning student from each class received a small prize from the office. Finally, there was the scavenger hunt! 5 leprechauns were hidden outside on the St. Patrick's property and students were encouraged to look for the leprechauns on their daily walk. Students who found, named and took photos with the leprechauns had their names entered into a draw to win one of 4 \$10 Dairy Queen gift cards which were won by Meghan Koolen, Carter Robbins, Cole Trepanier and Ruby LeRoy. Happy St. Patrick's Day from the Fighting Irish family!

## New News

In other news, student midterm report cards were published on Monday, March 22nd. The midterm reports can be found on student's Edsby accounts. Additionally, the graduation requirements have recently been altered for the class of 2020-2021 with necessary volunteer hours being lowered to 20 and the Literacy requirement having been waived. In the virtual school, many classes have been assigned a CYW to support students with programming centred around mental wellness. Building on this, students of St. Patrick's and the virtual school are being given the opportunity to attend a virtual presentation by public speaker, Dan Edwards on resiliency and wellness. Finally, Cyclone Aid kicked off on Friday, March 19th with a dress-down jersey day.



# Closing Thoughts

During the month of March, we observe Lent, a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Throughout Lent, we prepare ourselves for the journey to the cross. It is a time for us to grow and strengthen our faith in God and his plan for us. With the new lockdown that currently faces Sarnia-Lambton, it can seem at times like that this

pandemic will never be over and that perhaps we will be stuck in our houses forever. As we watch the vulnerable in our community suffer at the hands of Covid-19, it can feel like God has abandoned us but we must remember that, just like Jesus in the desert, God is with us and loves us. We must place our faith and hope in the Lord and know that he will lift us up. In times of struggle and hardship, recall the words of Isaiah 40:31: “But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint”.