February 2023 Edition

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PREFACE

On Monday, February 6, staff and students returned to St. Patrick's for the start of a new semester. Students have a new found confidence and state of relaxation after finishing what was the first exam season for the majority of students. The start of new classes is always an exciting time for everyone as students learn new routes around the school to get to class, adjust to learning new content, and start to make new friends. These first three weeks back have been certainly busy between field trips, sporting events, a school musical, and many other activities. Of course, everyone was looking forward to the Family Day weekend for some much needed downtime with loved ones.

OPEN HOUSE



On the evening of Wednesday, February 8, St. Patrick's opened itself to the community for the Grade Eight Open House. This event was a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to demonstrate the many incredible things our school has to offer such as a large variety of extracurricular activities and clubs, beautiful classroom facilities, science labs, a strong music and arts program, mental health and wellness supports, student success supports, and a wonderful environment and community. Some highlights



of the evening were the concert band performing to highlight the music program, the cast of the school production of Grease performing to highlight the drama program, labs and demonstrations in our science classrooms, and the many school clubs and team booths.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



St. Patrick's has been celebrating Black
History Month this February through
featuring videos on significant Black
Canadians from Historica Canada and
through morning reflections on significant
Black figures in the Church. Additionally,
the French department has created a lovely
display and bulletin board about significant
Black French Canadians. Teachers have also

been discussing the importance of Black History Month in their classes and students are excited to learn more as the month continues.

VALENTINES DAY

On February 14th, the school hosted a pink, red, and white themed jean day for students to celebrate.



SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB FIELD TRIP

On Wednesday, February 15, the St. Patrick's Social Justice Club went on an after-school service field trip. The club went to St. Vincent de Paul to help sort and



organize items for their food bank. This was an excellent opportunity for the club members to give



back to the greater community and was also the first field trip of many more to come for our Social Justice Club.



STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTION

On Wednesday, February 22, St. Patrick's will be hosting an election for our 2023-2024 Student Trustee. For the past week, students entering senior grades next year, have been invited to complete an application form and submit it before the election. We would like to wish best of luck to all students who put their name forward for this wonderful role.



COURSE SELECTION AND GRADUATION PREPARATION

Throughout this month, the guidance department has been very busy hosting presentations and helping students with their course selections for next year. Additionally, there have been numerous presentations for grade twelve students to help them prepare for graduation.



ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY



On Wednesday, February 22, Mrs. Clarke and the St. Patrick's Social Justice Club hosted the school's first in-person Ash Wednesday liturgy since the pandemic. This liturgy served as an excellent way



for students and staff to reflect and connect with God and to start the Lenten season.



GREASE SHOW WEEK





From Wednesday, February 22, to Saturday, February 25, the St. Patrick's drama department performed numerous showings of their production of Grease at the Imperial Theatre. The production was a wonderful way to connect

and showcase St. Patrick's to the greater Sarnia community. The production was an excellent opportunity for students across the school to showcase their talents, such as the beautiful Grease Lightning car produced from a golf cart by our manufacturing classes, the many props and costumes made by our art classes, the volunteer students assisting



with technology behind the scenes, and of course, the

talented students singing, dancing, and acting in the musical. A huge thank you also goes to Ms. Austin and Mrs. Chaulk for directing the musical and band and leading the students through a successful performance.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Within St. Patrick's, the following extracurricular activities are starting this month:

- Cyclone Aid
- Rugby
- Senior Girls and Boys Soccer



The boy's curling team finished the

regular season in first place and the girl's team finished in second place. Both teams progressed to the LKSSAA finals on Tuesday, February 21 where the boys

won the LKSSAA Championship and the girls placed second overall. Both teams will progress to SWOSSAA







in early March. Additionally, the Reach for the Top teams had a tournament on February 15 with St. Pat's One now tied with Northern for first place in the senior league.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Outdoors Club Dog Sledding Trip
- March Break
- ❖ SWOSSAA Wrestling and Curling Tournaments
- International Women's Day