



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
*Lighting the Way – Rejoicing in Our Journey*

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# Ursuline College Chatham

Catholic Secondary School



## February/March Newsletter

Director: Deb Crawford  
Principal: Ray Power

Superintendent: Scott Johnson Board Chair: J. Van Heck  
Vice-Principals: Rick Baggio, Ed Freeburn

February 2018 / March 2018

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

With January exams just behind us, we now are immersed in Semester 2. Report cards will be sent home this week.

Soon students in grade 9 through 12 will need to start selecting courses for their 2018-2019 school year. It is an important process as it helps determine which courses need to run next year. I ask parents to take the time to sit and discuss plans with their child. Discussing future goals, pathway plans required to reach those goals and course options hopefully takes some of the anxiety out of making important decisions. Please consult [myblueprint.com](http://myblueprint.com), an online web based tool, with your child to help future planning. All students will be expected to select course of study using this online tool.

During this month, extensive work is underway with our grade 10 students in preparation for the OSSLT test. Daily class visits by Karen Dudics, our Student Achievement Teacher, started last week and will be ongoing until March Break. The goal of Karen's work is to reinforce skills that the students require for the test and to identify where students need to focus some of their energies. In addition, afterschool tutoring is also available to students who require some skill remediation.

The year continues to provide rich examples of student achievement, accomplishment and opportunity. As I reviewed report cards I was impressed with the success of so many. I am also acutely aware that there are students that are still in need of supports to meet with greater academic success. I visit classrooms and see students engaged in learning and actively participating with their peers and teachers. The extra-curricular events that I have had the opportunity to attend have been exciting and entertaining. Wrestling, volleyball, football, basketball, cheerleading, We Scare Hunger, school dances, the Christmas in Muskoka play, and recently our Open House all showcase the many talents of our students and staff who support them.

I am certain that you as parents and guardians could not be prouder of the academic and extracurricular success of your child. I share that pride as I witness how your children represent themselves here at school and in the community.

I want to share news of two positive phone calls I received recently. Both were from families that would like to leave scholarship / bursary opportunities for our graduating students. Both families shared positive experiences that UCC had on their families during their time at UCC. On behalf of all our graduates, I am grateful for the chance to have students apply for post-secondary financial support.

The season of Lent starts this week. UCC will hold Ash Wednesday services for each grade during period 2, 3 and 4. I would like to extend an invitation to parents and guardians to join us if you are available.

Lent is a time to re-examine our faith journey. Over the next forty days, I challenge you to find ways to proclaim our Catholic faith and explore ways to renew your spiritual self. As we prepare for Lent, I am reminded of the need to participate in an examination of conscience. I ask you to share this message with your child at home, as I also challenge our staff to share this message in all our classes. To examine ourselves and seek ways for us to live more faithfully - being kinder, more compassionate, gentler, be quick to forgive and become less self-centered. We challenge our students to examine their conscience where they can identify opportunities to change.

This Lent we will ask our students to participate in the Lent campaign - fundraising for those in need. Collectively we will try to be creative with our classes and share in the practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Let our faith continue to shine in our call to serve this Easter season.

Celebrate the Peace of Christ.

*Ray Power*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Before the semester ended, we were fortunate to have visitors from local Parishes and religious communities present in the morning during the exam days. Our guests handed out breakfast foods, as well as words of encouragement. The food was given to us through the Ontario Nutrition Student Program, and was graciously accepted during one of our most busiest and stressful times of the year.

We appropriately transition our prayers and reflections from patience to love and generosity as we move through our liturgical year. These virtues are a great reminder of our call to transform our mind and heart to Christ and others during Lent. We will be holding three prayer services with the distribution of Ashes on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The service will be held in the School Theater during Periods 2,3, and 4. In addition to our Lenten season, we will have a prayerful reflection and performance on the Stations of the Cross, March 28<sup>th</sup>, in the Theatre, during Periods 2, 3, and 4.

Grace be with you!

Thomas Dula



The online process for choosing next year's courses begins at the end of February. Counsellors will be visiting classrooms to present information on pathway planning through MyBlueprint.

Students should consider their course selections seriously to ensure they are meeting post-secondary programs and pathways goals.

The image is a screenshot of the myBlueprint website. At the top left is the myBlueprint logo. To its right are links for 'Products', 'Support', and 'About'. On the far right are 'Sign Up' and 'Log In' buttons. The main content area has a dark blue background. On the left, it says 'We believe in student success' in white, followed by 'Simple student portfolios and career education resources' and a green 'Learn More' button. On the right, there is a laptop displaying the myBlueprint user interface, which includes a 'Home' dashboard with various charts and data points.

## FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT



Don't forget to Show Your Sheets! Any number of volunteer hours can be submitted at any time to Ms. Buchanan in Guidance.

Attention Graduates - The Graduation Ceremony will be Wednesday, June 27th, 2018 beginning at 7pm at the Capitol Theatre. Completed 40 hours of Community Service are required in order to receive Grad tickets.

### Remind App!!

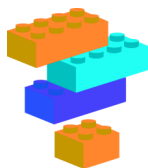
Students may choose to receive messages on their personal device from the **Guidance Department** through the '**Remind**' app. This app allows counsellors to text or email students with information regarding upcoming presentations, college/university information, graduation, volunteer opportunities and much more!

With **Remind**, all personal information remains completely confidential and it is free to register. Students may sign-up by texting to 519-800-5670, then typing the message:

Grade 9: @ucc2021  
Grade 10: @ucc2020  
Grade 11: @ucc2019  
Grade 12: @ucc2018



For more information visit [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com)



The Math Department is asking for any donations of Lego that may be sitting idle in your house.

Donations can be dropped off at the main office or math office.

**Literacy Skills Workshop Schedule**  
**Winter 2018**

Every Tuesday and Thursday

2:30-3:30 PM

Rm. 108

Completely FREE

Snacks provided

<b>Literacy Skills Workshop Schedule – Winter 2018</b>			
<b>Semester 2</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Workshop Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Workshop Title</b>
<b>Tuesday February 13</b>	Summarizing: Finding the Main Idea and Supporting Details	<b>Thursday February 15</b>	Reading Strategies and Multiple Choice Questions
<b>Tuesday February 20</b>	Inferencing: Finding Implicit Meaning in a Text	<b>Thursday February 22</b>	Summarizing: Finding the Main Idea and Supporting Details
<b>Tuesday February 27</b>	Reading Strategies and Multiple Choice Questions	<b>Thursday March 1</b>	Inferencing: Finding Implicit Meaning in a Text
<b>Tuesday March 6</b>	Writing a News Report	<b>Thursday March 8</b>	Essay Writing: Introduction
<b>Tuesday March 22</b>	Essay Writing: Introduction	<b>Thursday March 24</b>	Writing a News Report
<b>Tuesday March 27</b>	Essay Writing: Advanced (You must bring a previously written essay to participate)	<b>Thursday March 29</b>	Essay Writing: Advanced (You must bring a previously written essay to participate)
<b>Tuesday April 3</b>	Last Chance Test Overview	<b>Thursday April 5</b>	Last Chance Test Overview
<b>April 10, 2018</b>			
<b>OSSLT DAY</b>			

\*Workshops subject to change/cancellation due to weather or chronic low attendance

## Helping our children to critically think about social media



As parents, we can take some simple steps to learn more about the impact that social media has on children's mental wellbeing. We play a critical role in ensuring that our children are given opportunities to critically think about how social media affects them and to counteract the negative effects that social media may have on their overall health.

Remember: If we want to parent them, teach them to work with them – we need to understand who they are and why they behave in the ways that they do.

Here are some proactive suggestions for parents to counteract the affects of social media:

1. **Start with yourself.** Your children will watch and learn from what they see you do. Are you spending a lot of time on technology? We need to be emotionally available parents all of the time for our children. Children want and need our attention.
2. **Know where your children are and what they are doing.** Have conversations with your children to understand their social media habits and help them to critically think about the use of social media. Try to understand what media your child is using and why they are attracted to it.
3. **Clearly define limits and boundaries.** Children and youth *crave* boundaries and limits however, it may not feel like that to you as a parent. Setting limits about cell phone use, computer use and other use of technology is healthy for everyone. For example, phone and computer are off bounds after 8 pm is a good way to start. There is a healthy balance between technology use and non use. What is active use (school work) and passive use (browsing on social media)? Remember it is okay to say no to passive use of media some of the time.
4. **Give your child responsibility.** Responsibilities increase their self worth. For example, you might say, "Please set the table so we all can eat".
5. **Balance nutrition and sleep.** These healthy lifestyle factors play a huge role in helping your child feel mentally well. If a child is up all night on their phone, it will influence their mood and ability to focus the next day, as will eating sugary foods on a regular basis. Unlimited screen time and unhealthy foods are not positive for any child development.
6. **Encourage them to connect with nature.** All children need a connection to nature- this is fundamental to their healthy growth and development. Provide your child with a "disconnection time" and then ask them questions about how they felt when they played outside. You may be surprised at their answer.

For more information, contact Chris Preece at [chris.preece@sccdsb.net](mailto:chris.preece@sccdsb.net)

**The iGen generation were born after 1995. They have grown up with cell phones, have Instagram platforms and do not remember a time before the Internet. They are one in four Canadians. They are a new generation not like before. Let's try to connect with them.**

***It's Never Too Late To Get Involved!***

Enhance your high school experience.  
Get involved in an extracurricular activity!

The following are just some of the clubs / teams that are welcoming new members:

- Art Club: Ms. McEachran, Tuesday, rm 920
- Lancers For Life (pro-life club), Mr. Gutteridge, Tuesday, rm 608
- Me To We club, Mrs. Kearns, Wednesdays, rm 106
- Enviro club: Mrs. Lucarelli, Thursday, rm 913
- Jr & Sr Badminton Teams, Mr. Halinaty and Mr. Evans, TBD
- Debate Team, Mr. Broadbent, Monday, rm 605
- Reach For The Top Team, Mr. Broadbent, Thursday, rm 605
- Rainbow Alliance, Mr. Dula
- Games Club, Wednesday, rm 103
- Media Club, Mr. Girard, Thursday, rm 108
- Yearbook, Mrs. Hashim
- Girls Rugby, Mr. Phaneuf & Mr. Morkin
- Boys Rugby, Mr. Denomy

**Supporting Student Enhancements**

Each year at the time of registration, UCC request parents pay an activity fee. The monies collected are used to support enhancements at the school that are not funded by the Ministry of Education or the School Board. The fees are School Managed Funds and are used for a variety of items throughout the school year. Here is a partial list of items that the activity fee has supported during semester one:

***Catholic Student Award, motivational guest speaker, Sir Isaac Newton Competition Fees, Lancer Award plaques, Gr. 9 Parent Night, Lancer Link Orientation activities, Debate Team, Christmas Wreaths, Robotics Team, Figure Skating Team, Academic Assembly, Blood Donor Clinic, and Religion Retreats for every student.***

All of the above provide students a richer educational experience. Without the support activity fees from our UCC families, many of these opportunities wouldn't be possible.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Ontario Drama Festival (formerly known as Sears) runs February 26-28 @ Chatham Capitol Theatre —> UCC presents 'The Shape of a Girl' ; date/time TBD

**Annie** tickets go on sale March 1st; tickets are \$20 cash, cheque or debit  
Box office open noon - 5

# Specialist High Skills Major

Through the Student Success initiative, Ontario secondary schools are offering expanded programs to help meet students' individual learning styles and interests. These programs allow students to customize their high school experience through a variety of new and enhanced learning options. These options include Dual Credits, Specialist High Skills Majors and Cooperative Education.

These programs help to meet the needs, interests and strengths of all students, engaging them in learning and better preparing them for graduation and beyond.

## What is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

An SHSM is a ministry-approved specialized program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements to graduate from secondary school. It also assists in their transition after graduation to apprenticeship training, college, university or the workplace.

At UCC, SHSMs are available in the following sectors:

- Arts and Culture
- Environment
- Health and Wellness
- Non-Profit
- Manufacturing

## Key Benefits of a Specialist High Skills Major

Pursuing an SHSM helps students to:

- Customize their secondary school education to suit their interests and talents.
- Develop specialized knowledge and skills.
- Earn credits that postsecondary educational institutions and the sector recognize.
- Gain sector-recognized certification and career-relevant training.
- Develop essential skills and work habits documented through the Ontario Skills Passport.
- Identify, explore and refine career goals and make informed decisions about their future.
- Remain flexible, with the option to shift between pathways, should their goals and plans change.

## How is a Specialist High Skills Major recognized?

Students who successfully complete an SHSM receive:

- an Ontario Secondary School Diploma with an embossed SHSM seal
- an SHSM Record documenting his/her achievement
- formal recognition on his/her Ontario Student Transcript.

## What does a SHSM program look like?

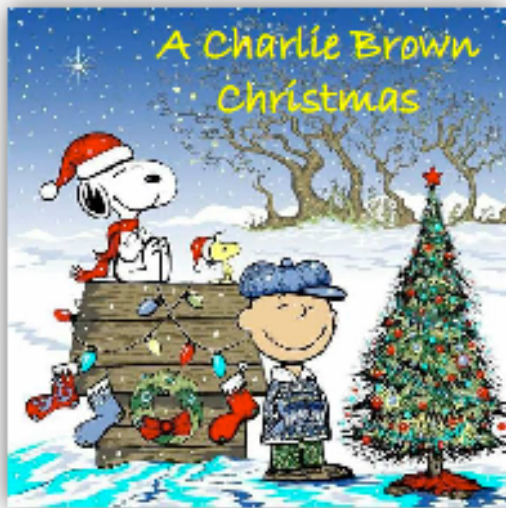
Students will complete a total of nine components while completing their Secondary School diploma.

- a bundle of 4 major subject courses
- one other course from Business/Science/Arts or History or Social Science
- Math and English at the grade 11 or 12 level
- 2 period coop course
- industry required certifications
- one reach ahead field trip
- one experiential learning field trip
- community sector partner creativity challenge

Students gain real world experience and industry certifications while in high school.

## Where are Specialist High Skills Majors offered? How do I find out more?

SHSM programs are available in all school boards across the province. For more information about what is available, please contact your Guidance department or the Student Success Leader at your school. More detailed information about SHSMs and how they work can be found at [ontario.ca/studentsuccess](http://ontario.ca/studentsuccess).



Thank You  
 \$106,000  
 Raised for Christmas  
 in Muskoka 2017

From Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. St Clair Catholic District School Board, Armoury Four Diamond Catering, TekSavvy Solutions Inc. and PostMedia once again partnered to create an amazing Christmas event for our entire community of Chatham-Kent to come out and enjoy.

This exciting fundraiser could not be possible without the support of our many community sponsors and the Catholic School Principals & Vice Principals. Funds will support 460 Grade 7 students and UCC student leaders throughout Chatham-Kent who will be attending the Muskoka Woods Leadership Camp in May.

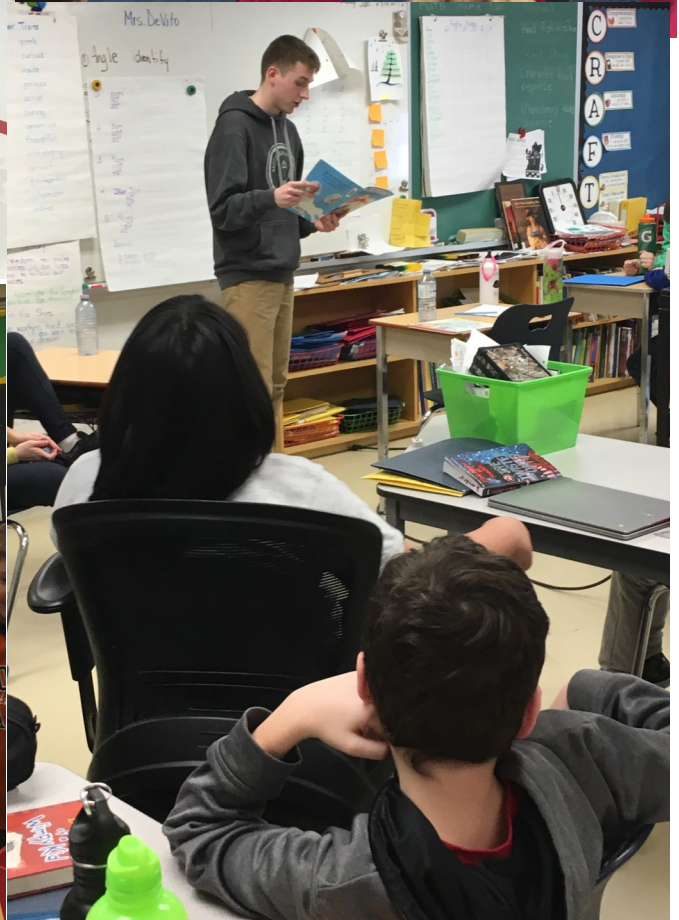
Christmas in Muskoka returns to the historic Chatham Armoury, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018



Preferred Building Products, Anjema Eye Institute, Chatham Police Association, Waddick Fuels, Gagner Chiropractic Health Centre, ZimmerSign Works, Rural Roots, Pet and Animal Rescue, St Clair Catholic DSB Trustees, Diocese of London Youth Ministries, J & R Stevens, Matteis and Gordon Mortgages, Muskoka Woods, OECA and the Rotary Clubs of Chatham-Kent.



# Lance & Owen Visit St. Elizabeth On Literacy Day!



URSULINE COLLEGE CHATHAM PRESENTS

# Annie

THE MUSICAL

APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 P.M.

UCC THEATRE

85 GRAND AVE. W. CHATHAM, ON  
BOX OFFICE OPENS MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018 - TICKETS \$20

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Annie is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)