

Ursuline College Chatham

Catholic Secondary School

January - February Newsletter

Director: Deb Crawford
Principal: Ray Power

Superintendent: Scott Johnson Board Chair: J. Van Heck
Vice-Principals: Rick Baggio, Lisa Harnarine, MaryAnn McCrae

January—February 2021

Principal's Message

Happy Belated New Year!

We have entered 2021 blessed to have put 2020 behind us. At least in terms of the calendar year. I hope every family had the time to celebrate Christmas and the peace of Christ with their immediate family and or small bubble of loved ones.

Unfortunately, the global pandemic is still here. It's impact has been felt by moving all face to face learning to virtual learning until January 25th and possibly beyond. Regardless of our return to learn date, Covid 19 precautions still influences our school's actions of practicing enhanced safety protocols. We will continue the learning of quad two until Thursday, February 4th. **Friday, February 5th is a P.D. Day** and then semester 2, quad three starts on Monday, February 8th.

Traditionally at the turn of the semester, all of our grade 8 students and parents would have been invited to our UCC Open House. This year, we intentionally planned our Open House as a virtual presentation to help us make a connection to our feeder school students. The **2021 UCC Virtual Open House** will be held on **Thursday, February 4th, 2021 at 7 pm.** Please mark your calendars and invite your grade 8 peers and families. We welcome all those who are interested in seeing what UCC has to offer.

In the coming months, **students in grade 9 through 12 will need to start selecting courses for their 2021-2022 school year.** It is an important process as it helps determine which courses need to run in 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**, 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.

We have learned many things along our journey so far this year. I have been witness to our UCC community being very understanding, flexible and accommodating in our efforts to remain in face-to-face learning. Classrooms have been stripped down, extended to 300-minute days and no mixing of peers. Lunches have been void of cafeteria food, pizza places or the Hub. Instead, cohort conversations have been the new peer group and our partners in learning. Extra curricular life that dominated after hour time in our school has been reduced to virtual connections. There is a **different life and culture in our school. Nonetheless, our school community remains positive and hopeful in our outlook to the future.** The learning conversations, the insight gained from new ideas, and the staff and students living their faith are all are the essence of Catholic education at UCC. We have so much to be proud of and grateful for. **Every aspect of our success can be attributed to a dynamic staff, supportive families and outstanding students.**

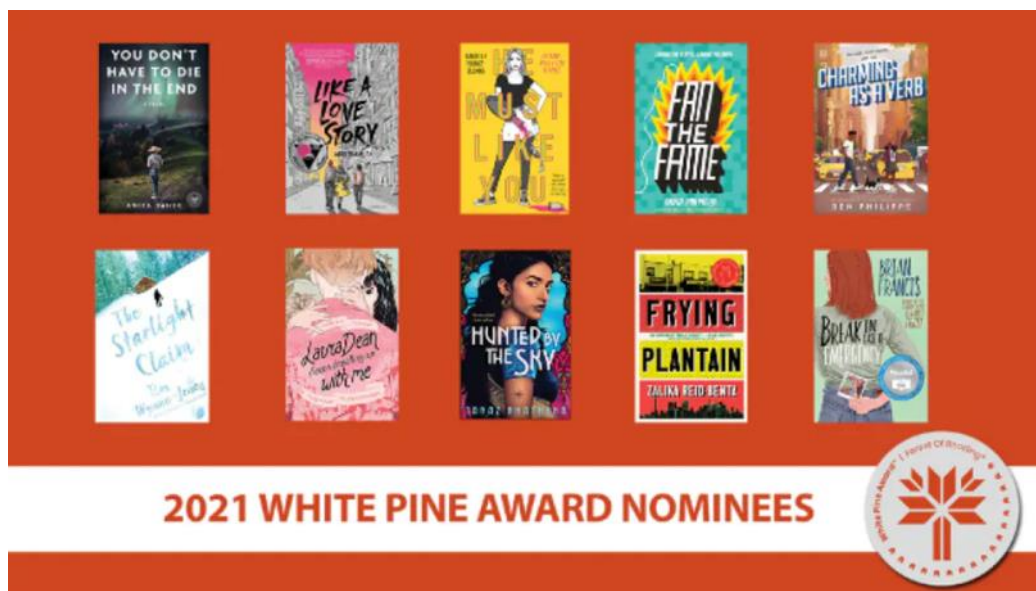
I am certain that you as parents and guardians still question what the learning will look like as the year progresses. Regardless of that outcome, I remain confident we can collectively remain a strong and vibrant school achieving high levels of academic success. I know I share your pride in how well your children represent themselves here at school and in the community during these very challenging times.

Welcome to 2021 and I wish you all a successful New Year!

Ray Power
Principal

Announcing the Nominees for the 2021 White Pine Award™ (Grades 9-12, fiction)

The White Pine Award™ reading program offers teens of all ages the opportunity to read the best of Canada's recent young adult fiction titles. This program promotes reading for enjoyment and familiarizes teenagers with great Canadian books. The students pick the winner! It is administered by the Ontario Library Association.



Also, have a look at UCC's new virtual library for January where there are many recent award winning books featured!

Here is the link [UCC January Virtual Library](#)



UCC Outreach Christmas Dinner

Dec 10, 2020

This pandemic won't stop UCC!

The light of Christmas and the Ursuline legacy upon which we stand shone brightly once again as we prepared and served over 150 meals (in a new record time) and in a VERY new way!

A take out window instead of a cafeteria...
Christmas chalk messages instead of a decorated room...
Masks and face shields rather than elf hats...

There was not a community gathered around tables eating together
but their stomachs were still filled...
Smiles may have been hidden under masks but eyes lit
in appreciation and in gratitude...

The long serving tables and different food stations did not exist
but bags were filled to the top with extra treats...

One ladies mask tonight stood out to me... it read... **FAITH, HOPE, CHARITY...** a gentle reminder once again of why we do what we do...

Many things may have been different, but the things remained the same were these...

Our **UCC family** coming together to help **serve others...** whether that be through donations of money and supplies, giving and offering of their time or sharing words of encouragement and support...
The laughter that was heard outside the window
that was coming from the kitchen...
The community building and the memory making...
The hustle and the bustle that felt so right and normal...
Thank you, Thank you!!!



Guidance Notes

Please contact Ms. L. Kosik to schedule an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor if you feel one is needed - call 519-351-2987 ext.25422 or email louise.kosik@sccdsb.net.

**During the virtual learning period, Guidance Counsellors will follow up with a phone call at your scheduled time.*

Gr.12 Reminders

- **OCAS (College) Application Deadline - February 1, 2021**
<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/>
- **OUAC (University) Application Deadline - January 15th, 2021**
<https://www.ouac.on.ca/>
<https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>

****Minimum 20 HOURS of volunteer service required for graduation. Completed tracking forms can be emailed to our records secretary Ms. Mandy Pegg (mandy.pegg@sccdsb.net).**

Ms. L. Kosik	louise.kosik@sccdsb.net	519-351-2987 Ext. 25422	Secretary
Ms. P. Bromley	Ext. 25413	Guidance Counsellor (A-F)	
Ms. L. Fisher	Ext. 25414	Guidance Counsellor (G-M)	
Mr. J. Matteis	Ext. 25415	Guidance Counsellor (N-Z)	

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

FIND YOUR PLACE AT UCC!

GRADE 8 OPEN HOUSE

Please join us for our grade 8
open house for a virtual
presentation on:
February 4th, 2021
at 7 p.m.

**ALL PARENTS & GR. 8
STUDENTS ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

**GRADE 9 OPTION
SHEETS DUE:**

FEBRUARY 26, 2021



85 Grand Ave. West
Chatham, ON N7L 1B6



This UCC transition program
provides a welcoming
community to incoming grade 9
students.

**GRADE 9 STUDENT
ORIENTATION:
THURSDAY, SEPT. 2, 2021**

Follow us on our website
for more information on
exciting events at UCC!

www.st-clair.net/ucc
(519) 351-2987



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

Note: Anyone who requires accommodation (assistive devices, lifts, sign language interpreters, etc.) should report these needs to Ray Power: 519.351.2987 Ext. 25406 or ray.power@sccdsb.net



UCC

Student Athletic Association

Would like to thank



Riverview Gaming Centre

for their continued support of the UCC SAA.

We look forward to our return to

UCC Athletics.



Your continued support of
Riverview Gaming Centre
is greatly appreciated!

ST CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SUPPORTS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SCHOOL/ SYSTEM LEADERS

School administrators such as the Director, Superintendents of Education, Principals, Vice Principals and System Leaders establish foundations for quality learning and wellbeing, adhere to consistent standards and protocols and work on the sustainability of positive school climates.

EDUCATORS

Mental health impacts students' availability for learning and engagement at school and in the classroom. As an educator, one can help promote positive mental health.

STUDENT SUPPORT AND WELLBEING TEAM

We work together to support student mental health. As a professional working within the system they can support students and their families through system navigation, counseling, crisis management, small group, and mental health education.

INCLUSIVE SCHOOL BOARD STAFF

Everyone who works or volunteers at a school has a role to play in supporting student mental health because the presence of caring adults makes a difference for children and youth.



For information on mental health supports in our school board contact the Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead, **Christine Preece**, at chris.preece@sccdsb.net

OUR VISION
Catholic Education + Future Ready

ST CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD INTRODUCES THE

STUDENT SUPPORT AND WELLBEING TEAM

The social workers and child and youth counsellors are here to support the needs of all students and their families with their emotional, social and mental wellbeing.



For information on mental health supports in our school board contact the Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead, **Christine Preece**, at chris.preece@sccdsb.net



RESOURCES

AVAILABLE TO YOU 24/7

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE

We all want our children to feel mentally well, be resilient, and learn how to navigate life's challenges, but it's not always easy to know what to do. We're here to help. Check out these resources to help learn what to do!

1

<https://hub.sccdsb.net/mental-health-wellbeing>

PARENT LEARNING HUB

For updates, news, tips and tricks head to the parent HUB!

2

www.smho-smso.ca



School
Mental Health
Ontario

Santé mentale
en milieu scolaire
Ontario

SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH ONTARIO

Head on over to the SMHO website for important information, tips and Q&A!

3

STAFF LEARNING HUB

For staff enquires and resources check out our staff learning HUB!

For information on mental health supports in our school board contact the Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead, **Christine Preece**, at chris.preece@sccdsb.net

OUR VISION

Catholic Education + Future Ready

We Are Here to Support

—— your child's wellbeing and learning needs

**EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON HOW WE ARE
SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR SCHOOL BOARD.**

WE ALL HAVE MENTAL HEALTH AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO OUR EVERYDAY LIVING.

Visit <https://hub.sccdsb.net/mental-health-wellbeing> for more information.

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LOOKING FOR MORE RESOURCES ON MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING?



School
Mental Health
Ontario

Santé mentale
en milieu scolaire
Ontario

Visit the School Mental Health Ontario website to answer your questions

WWW.SMHO-SMSO.CA



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