



## Ursuline College Chatham April-June Newsletter 2023

### Principal's Message



We must be having fun since time is certainly flying by at UCC! It has been an extremely busy few weeks and the end of the school year will be here in no time.

We will be holding many important events in the coming weeks which celebrate the many talents of our students and staff. The Kaleidoscope of Arts was an opportunity to reveal a school project which honours our Ursuline traditions founded by the Ursuline Sisters. We will also celebrate our Athletic program at our banquet on June 13, as well as host many athletes for our Dr. Jack Parry awards night.

Formal classes end on Thursday, June 22nd. They are followed by exam days. I urge parents to review the newsletter and make note of exam days. These are mandatory requirements for course completion and students need to be in attendance. Your help to make sure your child is at school on each exam day is greatly appreciated. June 29th and 30th are in the calendar but there are no classes. Staff will use these as marking days, professional activity planning for school and department improvement etc.

Graduation will be held Wednesday, June 28th. Once again, we will gather at the Capitol Theatre in beautiful downtown Chatham. It is an incredible venue that is comfortable and climate controlled. Ideal for an evening performance of great importance! Graduates will be asked to assemble at 6:15 pm with an entrance into the theatre for 7:00 pm sharp. Since the seating is assigned to individuals, there is no need to arrive extra early to fight for the best seats. Your ticket will have a specific seat assignment. We are looking forward to seeing our graduates and their families at the 2022-2023 convocation. Tickets (x2 per family) will be provided to graduates soon.

So much has gone on at UCC that it is hard to catch every event. The senior students selected their valedictorian on their annual Grad Day on June 2nd and they celebrated prom together on Saturday,

June 9th. Student Council wraps up their incredible year supporting the school and promoting school spirit with their annual award recognition that will be presented during our year end mass.

This week we will notice a sense of quiet and calm as all of our school sports teams have wrapped up. Badminton, baseball, soccer, rugby, junior football and track & field have all ended successful seasons. There wasn't a night that would go by when coaches weren't coaching and students weren't practicing or participating over the last 6-7 weeks. Thanks to all student athletes, parent spectators (and drivers) and coaching staff for allowing athletics to be such a dynamic addition to this great school. Annual banquets are just nights away!

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board believes that it is in the best interest of our students to be full and active participants in the decisions which influence their education. We held student elections to select student candidates to represent UCC. Congratulations goes to Georgia Pitblado who was recently selected as our 2023-2034 student trustee. Georgia takes over for Samantha Lozon who had a very successful year and made UCC very proud.

As the year comes to a close we anxiously await our OSSLT results for the school and school board. Our hope is that we made gains in the overall achievement of the test. Individual student reports will come out in the fall.

In closing, I continue to be blessed as I am surrounded by so many great people who give so generously and freely of their talents. From parents to volunteers, staff to students. UCC has accomplished so very much. As Principal, I applaud everyone's fine work. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this amazing faith filled, and supportive school community.

Wishing each and every one of you a restful and fun filled summer holiday.



*Lisa Harnarine,  
Principal*

## Chaplaincy Department

We have had a full year. The retreats finished up on June 7th. The Easter /End of Year Liturgies were May 30th. During that day we acknowledged the celebrations and hardships we have known as individuals and we also prayed for the retirees and students who will graduate at the end of the year.

Our GRADE 12 retreat theme was CELEBRATE YOU. They created recipe cards to help them celebrate how they worked with their families, educators and parish personnel to become the kind Catholic school graduates they are.

Grad Day was June 2nd. The grads gathered that day to pray together as the UCC CLASS OF 2023 -THE CLASS OF KINDNESS. They had lunch together, voted in their valedictorian and went out to the field for a good old-fashioned field day. It was lovely to see them truly enjoy themselves and enjoy one another. This is the group whose grade 9 year found them suddenly at home all Spring when the pandemic began. They have proven to be very resilient and we pray for their success as they prepare to move beyond UCC.

I just wanted to reassure all of you that we pray for our families, parishes and communities regularly during morning prayer and we will continue to pray during the Summer. We ask you to pray for all our students and staff as well as our families. Doing this helps us all to experience the mystery of the communion of saints. The grace of this mystery is that we are strengthened by the prayers we offer for others and the people for whom we pray are also supported and blessed. So have a grace filled and fun break. We will see  $\frac{3}{4}$  of our current students in the Fall.

Sincerely,  
*Margaret Palmer, Chaplaincy Leader*



## Lancer Athletics

The Spring Sports season is currently wrapping up and with it, what is possibly the most successful sporting year Lancer Athletics has ever produced. This year UCC sent 10 athletic programs to OFSAA, won 12 LKSSAA and 4 SWOSSAA Championships!! Maybe even more impressive is the fact that over 500 student-athletes and 40+ teacher coaches represented UCC this year.

### Spring Athletics

Our Badminton teams got the spring season off to a great start with both the Junior and Senior Teams winning LKSSAA Championships. The Seniors went on to win SWOSSAA and sent 8 players to OFSAA (Alex Chickowski, Sam Lozon, Jack & Kurt Countryman, Nico & Seb Moreno, Reese Cryderman, and Andrew Goulet). Sam Lozon came home with a bronze medal and the Countryman boys won silver. Way to go!

Senior Girls and Senior Boys Soccer Teams both won LKSSAA championships. The senior girls won in style defeating both St. Pat's and Sarnia Northern on the road! The senior boys defeated St Pat's in a thrilling shootout to win LKSSAA. They followed up with another shootout win to defeat Villanova for a SWOSSAA Championship!! Best of luck at OFSAA in Windsor boys.

After a long break UCC returned to the Boys Rugby pitch. Although it has been a few years the boys worked hard to learn the game and compete with the best teams in Sarnia. The future looks bright for this new program. The Senior Girls Rugby Team dominated locally sweeping league play and winning the LKSSAA Championship over Petrolia 43-0. They advanced to OFSAA and played great coming home with a 2-1 record only losing to the number one seed.

UCC introduced a new sport in girls softball. The ladies finished first in LKSSAA south topping all the Chatham Kent teams. Unfortunately, they were eliminated by Sarnia Great Lakes in the LKSSAA crossover playoff round.

Track and Field was a huge success. With over 80 athletes UCC produced our biggest team in decades. Sixteen members qualified to OFSAA West. Grade 9 throwing sensation Emma Negri won discus & shot put; her winning discus throw at OFSAA West was 10m past the next competitor! CJ Roberts dominated the OFSAA West Novice division winning all three of his events (High, Long & Triple Jump). Jeremy Vandenboorn won Senior Shot Put and was second in Discus and Javelin. The 4x400M Relay Team of Ethan VanderMeersch, DJ Destang Phillips, Gavin Meriano, and David Brown broke a school record that stood for over 20 years. Emma, CJ & Jeremy will be joined in Ottawa at Provincials by Griffin Kalp who qualified for javelin.



**Congratulations to Sam Lozon and Ethan VanDerMeersch who will represent UCC as our Dr Parry Nominees. The annual Dr Parry Awards recognizes the top Student-Athletes in our community. The Dr Parry Award will be announced in the UCC theater Thursday, June 15th.**

**The UCC Athletic Banquet will be held Tuesday, June 13th in our theater starting at 7pm. Tickets for the BBQ prior are available via student cash online. No ticket is required for the awards ceremony.**

## Gymnasium Renovation Project



Each year, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board identifies priority capital projects to upgrade, renew and maintain school facilities. The Ministry of Education provides annual funding allocations to support these expenditures through a capital renewal program, which allows school boards to revitalize and renew aged building components that have exceeded, or will exceed, their life cycle. The UCC Gymnasium Renovation is one such project. Demolition began on May 1st and progress is well underway to create a beautiful, functional new triple gymnasium space that we are excited to reveal in the fall.

## Community Partnership

Our technology program got a boost this semester, thanks to the generosity of many community members who saw the impact they could have on our learners. Dan Van Moorsel and The Chatham-Kent Home Builders Association were gracious enough to organize several contractors in the local area to donate material to Mitch Dauphin's Grade 12 Bathroom Build Construction project. This project provides the opportunity for students to receive a genuine hands-on experience in several trades in preparation for their future careers or homeowner life skills. The project begins with a foundation all the way to finish flooring, painting, and trim. Compulsory trades like electrical,

plumbing and HVAC are also installed in this project. Thanks to our local contractors Ewald Homes, Owen Flooring, Chatham Kent Tubs And Taps, JRB Electrical, and Oldershaw's Building Supplies. Our grade 12 students greatly appreciate your help and are fully engaged and enjoying this project that gives them life skills they can take with them forever.



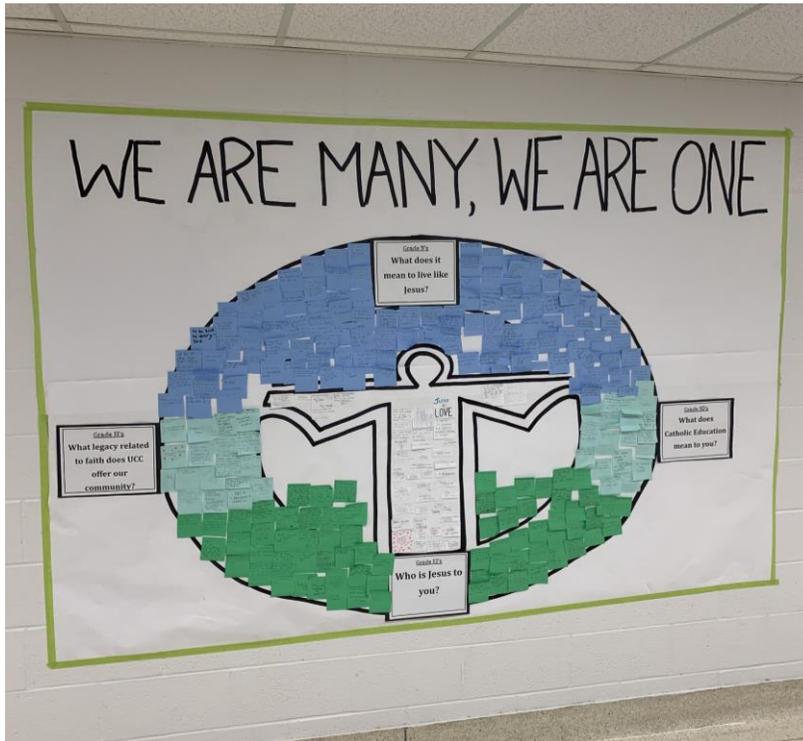
## Operation Good Neighbour

A longstanding tradition at UCC, Operation Good Neighbour is a program that helps demonstrate to our students how to be collaborative contributors to the betterment of our community. Our neighbours appreciate the responsible citizenship of our staff and students, whose efforts in keeping our community clean serve to demonstrate our commitment to living our faith.

## School Climate Survey

The completion of a School Climate Survey occurs every two years. It is important to provide students, staff and parents an opportunity to have their voices heard formally. The survey collects a variety of perspectives and differing viewpoints which contribute to building safe, respectful, caring, welcoming and inclusive schools within SCCDSB.

## Catholic Education Week



The theme for Catholic Education Week was **We are One, We are Many** and this year we set out to visualize how each of us makes up the Catholic Community that is Ursuline College. This year we had the hall decorated with **Saints and Symbols** to educate the students and visitors of UCC about the important pieces that make us Catholic. Each grade was given a statement to comment on. Grade 9's - **What does it mean to live**

**like Jesus?** Grade 10's - **What does Catholic Education mean to you?** Grade 11's - **What legacy related to faith does UCC offer to our community?** Grade 12's - **Who is Jesus to you?** We took their answers and put stickies on the design for the week to express our Catholicity. Each morning the staff were asked to run prayers in their classrooms with specific emphasis on the different subjects in the school. These prayers and opportunities for dialogue each morning about how Catholicism fits in every class was provided by the Grade 12 religion classes. Lastly, we had a fun event which was a scavenger hunt on Friday afternoon where students raced to various locations and had to take a group photo in front of different locations around the school that represent our faith. When they completed that task they had a word scramble which ended up being the word transubstantiation which is an integral part of our faith each week at mass. Congratulations to Mr. Rupert's 4th period class on winning the scavenger hunt!

## Multiculturalism Week

In honour of Canada's Multiculturalism Day (June 27), UCC United Alliance has planned a week of events to celebrate the diversity of our country, community and school, while emphasizing our commitment to equality, inclusion, and mutual respect. The group has put together visual displays, music, education, lunch time activities, announcements and prayers to foster inclusion and acceptance of all.

## Dr. Bryan Walls - Underground Railroad

This May, students from both the United Alliance Diversity Club and the Grade 12 history class traveled to the John Freeman Walls Underground Railroad Museum on Puce Road near Emeryville. Students received a warmhearted welcome from Dr Bryan Walls, the site's founder and Curator.

Dr. Walls, a local historian and member of the Order of Canada, had spoken to the student body during Black History Month. Students received a tour of the grounds, including the original house built by John Freeman Walls and a church where Rosa Parks prayed during her extended stays at the site.



As a thank you for the hospitality, students helped clean up the grounds and gardens of the museum.

## Bills' Place



In 2018, Bill Brokenshire left a trust to CK Pride to create a safe space for the LGBTQIA+ persons across Chatham-Kent. With support from their teacher, Nicole McEachran, Jorja Janssens, Logan Vink and Josh Huys created a mural for “Bill’s Place”, which serves as a hub for our community where CK Pride will host support, programming and other events. This is a wonderful testament to celebrating inclusivity.

## "Here I Am" - Virtual Art Gallery

"HERE I AM" Virtual Student Exhibition is a collection of works celebrating the curiosity, passion, technique, and talent of emerging young creators in grades 9 – 12 across Chatham-Kent. Explore the visual narratives young artists, designers, and makers use to capture their unique stories and impressions about their world through diverse mediums and creative processes.

UCC is represented by several outstanding and dedicated artists; Myla Furlan, Kennedy Gillet, Diego Rafael Funes and Katie Wilson. Please, take a moment to vote for your favourite!

## Volunteer Forum

UCC hosted a volunteer fair on Wednesday, May 17th. A total of 14 agencies from across Chatham-Kent were represented with plenty of familiar faces. This was a great opportunity for grade 10 students and volunteer agencies to make connections that will benefit both!



## La Francophonie a UCC

On Thursday May 18th, the French Immersion students and teachers hosted a day of "La Francophonie à UCC" with the grade 7/8 immersion elementary students from St. Anne in Blenheim and Monsignor Uyen Chatham. This experiential learning opportunity funded by the board, provided the high school students with a practical experience in organizing a cultural event using their French language and leadership skills for the future French Immersion Lancers. All students participated actively in improvisation games in the theatre where elementary students worked together with the high school students to perform skits using only French; they tested their French cultural knowledge in a French Jeopardy game; they put together puzzles of a few French attractions in Quebec City; and they learned a very popular French Canadian Folklore dance taught by the students who participated in the winter Carnaval trip to Quebec City. As with all cultural events, food is always a major hit and our French inspired lunch composed of croissants and beaver tails, did not disappoint! Students enjoyed eating together, speaking French and celebrating the gift of French culture. Vive la Francophonie à UCC!

## Giving Back - Ronald McDonald House



Adam McCabe and the Gr 12 Biology classes were the driving force behind the Ronald McDonald House fundraising event. They endeavoured to educate our school on the fact that the Ronald McDonald House provides a place for families to stay together, only steps away from their child in the hospital. They then went on to raise over \$2,000 to help financially support this service, and concluded with preparing, cooking, and serving dinner to the over 80 family members presently staying at the

house in London with positive energy, excellent manners and a caring heart. As we know, when families stay together, sick children get stronger!

A special thanks goes to the senior biology students who organized the week of recognition, collected the donations, helped Mr. McCabe with his new hair style and donated food items themselves for the dinner that was provided on May 15th. Finally, we would like to recognize the generosity of three local businesses who provided food to execute the meal: Fairview Acres, Maple City Bakery and Schinkels Gourmet Meats. As you can see, it truly takes a village. This act of service could not have been accomplished without the contribution of so many!

## Cookies

Here are some pictures of the UCC grade 11 foods class. They baked and decorated sugar cookies and then tagged them with an inspirational message. The students decided to donate these cookies to the Chatham Women's Shelter in hopes it would brighten someone's day.



## Legacy Mural and Kaleidoscope Event

The Ursuline Legacy Mural Unveiling and Kaleidoscope Evening on Thursday, June 1st was a beautiful celebration to commemorate a rich history, present, and future legacy of Ursuline College Chatham for many generations to come.

A series of 4 murals were commissioned from global social artist, Melanie Schambach to capture stories related to our school's inception, mission, growth, present, and hope for the future. Rooted in the Ursuline Sisters' heritage, the project included 30 interviews with 16 Ursulines Sisters and 14 Staff and Alumni. It also engaged another 65 Students, 35 Staff and Alumni, and 20 friends and family in the illustrations. As generations came together, the community celebrated with joy, grace and God. We continue to look to the future, equipping each new generation of students with the tools they need to soar to new heights.



The occasion was accompanied by various arts-based performances and installations by current UCC students. Visual art displays of a variety of mediums, musical performances ranging from solos to group ensembles, a fashion show, a theatrical performance, and interpretive dance.



We would like to recognize the contribution of The Glasshouse Nursery for loaning us trees and plants for the evening, Starbucks Coffee on St. Clair for their contribution to our hospitality tent, To Suit Your Fancy, and Meg Gray for sharing her photography talents. Further, [donations](#) will be accepted and contributed back to the Ursuline Legacy Fund used to support UCC student and school needs (tax receipts are available).

## Grad Day

On Friday June 2, UCC celebrated the graduating class of 2023 with our annual Grad Day. Grade 12's first celebrated by joining together in the theatre for prayer and reflection. The graduating class also heard from 7 nominees for valedictorian and voted for the grad that will speak at graduation. The valedictorian nominees were Mark Debevc, Anna DeMartinis, Samantha Lozon, Daniella Provenza, Chloe Powers, Klare Rumble and Elliot Vince. Following our reflective service in the theatre, a catered lunch was served by UCC teaching and administrative staff. After lunch, students were lead to the upper field to engage in a variety of games hosted by Mrs. Dunlop's Leadership Class. Competition on the field was friendly, fierce and fun as grads sported Lancer gear and donned face paint to mark the occasion. At the end of the day, grads beat the heat with a freezie and were given one last gift - a lawn sign that will display proudly to the community that they are UCC graduates. Before dismissal, Ms. Harnarine addressed the grads one last time and announced that Mark Debevc was voted as this year's valedictorian.

Congratulations to all of our graduates and thanks to all the staff and students involved in making grad day a success! A special thanks goes out to Mr. Poirier's hospitality class for making a delicious lunch and Mrs. Dunlop's leadership class for creating an exciting program on the field. We look forward to celebrating our grads one last time at graduation on June 28th!

## Prom

UCC is very proud to continue to host a senior Prom for our students. This year's prom theme was Under the Stars and over 300 students were in attendance. A huge thank you goes out to the Prom committee and the staff advisors for their work in putting together a beautiful event to celebrate our graduating students. Prom was held at the Everest Convention Centre, formally known as Club Lentinas. The evening consisted of a buffet dinner and a night of dancing with a local DJ as well as an opportunity to capture memories with a Photobooth. UCC is once again buzzing with excitement and our students are very grateful to be able to share in this milestone together.

## Reminder: Math, Science and English Help

As always, we would like to remind families of our various content-specific learning support for students. Students who are bussed in can sign up in the main office to ride one of our late buses home Monday through Thursday in order to benefit from these opportunities from 2:30 - 3:30. Math help is offered Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in room 303. Science help is available every Tuesday and Wednesday in the Nucleus (room 911). Literacy help is offered Monday through Thursday in room 202. All students are welcome.

## Exams

As we approach the end of the year, and another set of exams, we hope the same for all UCC students - that their preparation will bring them fantastic outcomes!

We have revised the exam schedule as follows:

- Wednesday June 21 - Morning Period 1, Common Lunch, Afternoon Period 2
- Thursday June 22 - Morning Period 4 (Grade 12 Exam), Common Lunch, Afternoon Period 3
- Friday, June 23 - Period 1 Exam
- Monday, June 26 - Period 2 Exam
- Tuesday, June 27 - Period 3 Exam
- Wednesday, June 28 - Period 4 exam (Grades 9-11)

## Gently Used Uniforms Needed

As a gentle reminder, UCC is always in need of gently used uniforms in medium, large, extra-large and 2XL sizes. These uniforms are available for students to borrow/have when they have a uniform malfunction while they are at school. Often the end of the school year is an opportune time to go through the pieces you have and assess what you may no longer need. If you find that you have donations to make, they can be dropped off to the Guidance Office (Grand Ave entrance), with our thanks.

## McCarthy's Fit Show

McCarthy will be onsite in the UCC Cafeteria on Tuesday, July 11th from 11 am - 7 pm for anyone who may need to try on various uniform pieces prior to placing an order for the new school year.

THE MCCARTHY FIT SHOW TEAM WILL  
BE VISITING YOUR SCHOOL ON



Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Returns and exchanges accepted until October 15, 2023.  
Free shipping to home

## Transportation

As we wrap up the 2022-2023 school year and plan ahead to 2023-2024, you may be interested in knowing when to expect information about bus stops and times for September. Please make note that courtesy seat applications are accepted after August 9th, and transportation details will be available after August 25th.

Go to [www.cklass.ca](http://www.cklass.ca) for all student transportation details...

- **Transportation details** available after August 25th
- **Courtesy seat applications** accepted starting August 9th @ 10am
- **Final Elementary seating assignments** available on the portal after September 1st

CLASS  
DIVIDED SCHOOL SERVICES