

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



St. Clair Catholic
District School Board



Catholic
Education
Future
Ready



Ursuline College Chatham October/November Newsletter 2021

Principal Message

The gradual changing of the weather and shorter days are sure indicators that fall is upon us. With Thanksgiving weekend just past, it amazes me how fast the time is going. Each day of face-to-face learning has been exciting yet equally quick to pass.

It seems like yesterday that our **Lancer Link staff** and student leaders welcomed 330 new grade 9 students. **Guidance** was busy adjusting timetables and teachers were welcoming new students to their classes. The halls welcomed excited and eager students ready to start their year. **Student Council** were planning activities to build our school culture and the school adjusted to new expectations with safety protocols part of our daily routine.

In reality, the time has passed quickly because the life of the school is returning to normal. Two classes a day means students get a chance to interact with more staff and peers. The opportunity for students to leave at lunch means our campus has life outside of the classroom. With the addition of **extra curricular activities**, students have the chance to participate and get involved again. All of these gains from a year ago makes it feel good to be back at UCC.

Although our routines still lack large group gatherings or the use of the cafeteria, the theatre and four courses a day, we still find a way to build community. Last week we celebrated opening **virtual prayer services**. We have conducted virtual annual conduct assemblies, fire drills and are planning sessions for grade 10 and 11 students to participate in literacy tasks in preparation for this year's **OSSLT**. September 27th we hosted our first **School Advisory Council** meeting and have scheduled five more meetings throughout the year. We welcome any parent to attend our next 6:00 pm virtual meeting on **October 26th**.

Information
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Principal
Mr. Ray Power
Director
Mr. Scott Johnson

Board Chair
Mr. John Van Heck
Superintendent
Mr. Chris Kehoe
Trustee
Mr. Matt Roop

This week we will host another outstanding event, our **Terry Fox Community Walk**. Our school will walk the UCC track to raise funds for this national fundraiser. With the staff four weeks into their curriculum, we will be preparing **progress reports** for students this coming week. Please expect to see this report in Edsby by **October 18th**. A **virtual Academic Assembly** will follow this up on **Thursday October 28th**.

In the time we have been back at school I have really been impressed with students and staff commitment and acceptance to make the most of our time together. The outstanding work of staff and students academically, with following protocols, starting extra-curricular activities and sharing in school spirit are inspiring. I am extremely proud of this wonderful school community. With Thanksgiving just past, I appreciate everything I have experienced to date, and it reminds me to be thankful.

November will bring a meaningful Remembrance Day service (Nov 11), report cards (Nov 15), and a School Advisory Council meeting (Nov 30). So as we journey deeper into the school year, I know I will witness staff, students and parents working together which convinces me we will succeed in making UCC and our school community a better place than it was when we started this year. For that reason alone, I know I am blessed.

Mr. Ray Power

Principal

Fair Notice Communication Regarding Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

To Parents, Guardians and Caregivers of students in the St. Clair Catholic District School Board

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes and make better choices in the future.

In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone.

The VTRA protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening incidents including but not limited to: possession of a weapon or replica weapon, bomb threat or plan, verbal or written (including electronic) threats to harm oneself or others, other threats of violence, and fire setting.

The initial response team is likely to include the Principal / Vice Principal, police and board staff. Should conditions warrant, a Community Threat Assessment Team will be convened. This community team includes representatives of community agencies who work with schools and boards to keep our students and staff safe, such as local police and children's mental health organizations.

Parents and guardians will be notified if their child will be discussed through the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

As always, student safety is our first priority. This notification is being provided via avenues such as school newsletters and school and board web sites as fair notice to parents and guardians of the existence of the VTRA Protocol and its application in situations warrant. If you have any questions regarding the St. Clair Catholic District School Board Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol, please contact your school principal as the first step.

Consent for Release of Student Information

Under the Board's Social Media and Electronic Communications policy, signed parental consent is required for release of student photographs, videos, classroom work, etc. for various publications, including Board websites or social media sites, newspapers, television and radio newscasts.

Once consent is obtained, it remains in effect for the student's entire school career. However, if at any time for any reason parents/guardians wish to revoke consent, you are asked to please contact the school.

The full policy can be found on the Board website at <http://www.st-clair.net/policies.aspx>
Go to Section B – Administration.

Peanut Butter Substitutes

It is the practice of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board not to permit peanut butter substitutes in schools, where students are known to have peanut butter allergies. This is a position which has been reviewed with the Medical Officers of Health for Lambton County and Chatham-Kent, and which they support. The Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) also supports the Board's position.

The difficulty is this. Although the product itself is perfectly safe, it mimics another product which is deadly for students who are anaphylactic to peanuts. The substitute looks, smells, spreads and tastes like peanut butter. It's packaged like peanut butter; and, it's sold on grocery store shelves in the peanut butter aisle. Once it's out of the jar, you can't tell the real thing from the substitute and that's what makes it so dangerous for students with nut allergies.

Therefore, St. Clair Catholic will err on the side of caution. In school communities where anaphylaxis to peanut products is an issue, parents are advised that the substitutes are not acceptable food items and an alternative should be sought. Parents are also advised that if the product is sent to school, the child will be provided with a healthy alternative or asked to eat in a location that will ensure there will be no contact with students who are allergic.

In our Catholic school communities, it is the responsibility of each of us to safeguard the well-being of all of us. We look out for each other. A danger to even one child is a threat that we must all take seriously. Sometimes that means sacrificing what we may perceive as our right in order to meet the needs of another. In instances where a child's life may be at risk, the choice is simple.

School Cash Online - Update

School Cash Online no longer offers parents the opportunity to pay for a fee by using MYWALLET. If parents have funds sitting in their MYWALLET, they will have until October 31st, 2021 to use the remaining balance. After November 1st, 2021, the remaining balance will be refunded to the parents.

If parents would like to request a refund they need to:

1. Login to School Cash Online
2. Click 'refund' under the 'myWallet tab on the top navigation bar
3. Enter the amount to be refunded in the 'Amount to Refund' field
4. Click 'Confirm'

Responsible Use of Technology

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board's policy addressing expectations for the acceptable use of technology applies to all trustees, administrators, academic and support staff, students, parents, volunteers, visitors and other persons in relation to Board computer equipment, networks as well as personal devices while on Board property or in relation to Board business or Board-related activities. To review the policy and procedures document go to <http://www.st-clair.net/policies.aspx> and click on *Responsible Use of Technology* under Administration.

Scent Awareness

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board, in collaboration with our Joint Health & Safety Committee, has developed a Scent Awareness Procedural Guideline, to guide staff, students and volunteers in this important area of wellbeing.

Fragrance can have a strong impact on the health and productivity of some individuals. Exposure to strong scents and fragrances in the environment can cause a range of effects, from mild discomfort to triggering an asthma attack, which directly impacts the health of those individuals. The purpose of the new procedural guideline is to promote an environment which supports teaching and learning for all staff, students, volunteers and visitors to our buildings. To that end, the guideline directs individuals to refrain from wearing or using scented products on Board premises and during Board-sanctioned activities.

Scented products include but are not limited to:


- Personal hygiene products (e.g., shampoo, conditioner, hairsprays, deodorants, colognes, after-shaves, fragrances, perfumes, lotions, soaps, cosmetics and creams);
- Industrial and household chemicals and cleaners;
- Air fresheners (e.g., deodorizers, potpourri, oils and candles)

The Board has worked with the public health units in the development of these new procedural guidelines, which have in recent years become common in public spaces. Signage is posted in all St. Clair Catholic buildings.

As always, thank you for your support and cooperation, as together we work to keep as a top priority the health and wellbeing of our staff, students and visitors to our buildings.

College / University Info Night





URSULINE COLLEGE PRESENTS



**VIRTUAL
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY INFO NIGHT
TUESDAY OCTOBER 19TH, 2021
@ 7PM**

JOIN HERE:
[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/SOX-KHHP-YBG?HS=122&AUTHUSER=0](https://meet.google.com/sox-khhp-ybg?hs=122&authuser=0)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<p>7:00-7:05 PM</p> 	<p>INTRODUCTIONS:</p> <p>UCC GUIDANCE Mr. Jordan Matteis</p>
<p>7:05-7:45 PM</p> 	<p>FANSHAWE COLLEGE: KACEY GERMAN</p> 
<p>7:45-8:25 PM</p> 	<p>UNIVERSITY of WINDSOR: SHERI LOWRIE</p> 
<p>8:25 PM</p>	<p>Q & A</p>

For more information please contact: patty.bromley@sccdsb.net

Women in Skilled Trades - Virtual Presentation



Have you ever wondered what it is like to work in a skilled trade as a woman?

Join our engaging female panelists on October 26th, 2021 as they discuss their path to the skilled trades and share the valuable tips they learned along the way, followed by an interactive Q&A!

Panelists:

Nikki Noble, Welder
Cyndie Caudle, Electrician
Elke Kleihauer-Ward, Tool and Die Maker
Nicole Spencer, CECO Apprentice
Whitney Litchfield, Electrician
Leah McIntyre, Boilermaker



WOMEN in SKILLED TRADES

WHAT:

Event hosted by Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board

Six female panelists representing a variety of skilled trades will talk about their path to the skilled trades and give valuable tips they learned along the way.

Question & Answer period will follow.

WHEN:

VIRTUALLY - www.slwdb.org

Thursday, October 26 from

6:00 - 7:30 PM

Gently Used Uniforms Needed

UCC is 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 or food spill, etc. while they are at school. Due to COVID these past 18 months, our current stock has been depleted and we are in need of both girls and boys uniform pieces. If you have any donations they can be dropped off to the Guidance Office (Grand Ave entrance).

Lancer Athletics

We are very happy to have the Lancer athletes back in action this fall. Although competition is only local, it is great to be back in action and see the smiling faces again. In our first week over 250 students scanned the QR codes looking to participate.

The **boys' golf team** won UCC's first LKSSAA championship of the year, defending their seven-year reign on the LKSSAA plaque. Marcus Jones lead the way with a par 72 while teammates Adam Vsetula, JP Lemak and Ayden & Bobby McKinlay all contributing to the win. Two grade 9 ladies had awesome starts to their Lancer careers with Hannah Butzer finishing 2nd overall and Isabella Bechard playing well.

Junior and Senior Girls Basketball Teams have started league play. Both teams lost tough games to Northern and beat CKSS in the first week of action. League play will consist of games within LKSSAA against AAA rivals Northern, St Pat's & CKSS as well as one cross over with the AA schools McGregor, Great Lakes, Wallaceburg and LCCVI. LKSSAA playoffs will take place in November but teams will not advance to SWOSSAA.

Junior and Senior Boys Volleyball begin league action October 13th at Northern. They will play a home and away schedule with Northern, St Pat's and CKSS before AAA LKSSAA playoffs in November.

At this time, spectators are not allowed indoors but we are doing our best to tape games and share with parents on the Lancer Athletics YouTube channel.

Baseball is off to a 1-1 start with an early win over CKSS and a close loss to Great Lakes. Highlight of the year so far was the mammoth home run by Kurt Countryman that we think might still be airborne.

UCC Student Athletic Association



UCC SAA would like to thank
Riverview Gaming Centre
for their continued support.

We are so excited to have our student athletes
back in the gym and on the field!
Live bingo sessions beginning in November!
Visit [RiverviewBingo](#) for more info.

