



ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HIGHLIGHTS



THE MISSION OF ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL is to value learning and excellence through collaboration and innovation as a Catholic community.

A Publication for Parents of the St. Elizabeth Catholic High School Community

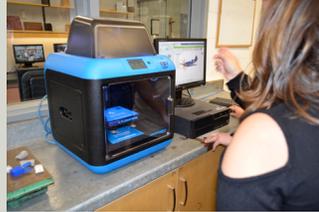
February 2019

A GREAT START

Mr. John Heinrich, Principal

Semester two began with two major events that marked the great work that goes on in this school. On **Sunday, February 10**, St. Elizabeth Catholic High School hosted our **Second Annual Valentine's Fundraising Gala** in support of **PROJECT FLOW**. We gathered at the Presidente Banquet Hall to enjoy an afternoon of repartee and joy, accompanied by the musical talents of (St. Elizabeth musical groups). ■ We were also fortunate to have a performance by **Christopher Dallo**, a St. Elizabeth Catholic High School graduate. Wonderful food, excellent company, and a silent auction adorned with a variety of gifts, the afternoon was a tribute to the good work that goes on in this school and the funds collected will go on to support the many initiatives that encompass **PROJECT FLOW**. ■ Following our Valentine's Gala, we also hosted a Tech Ed Day on **February 13**. Over 300 students from our elementary schools attended a day filled with opportunities to see and to participate in the many programs that are offered in our Technological Studies Department. **Trustee Jennifer Wigston** was also part of the day and was able to get a first-hand experience of the work that goes on in our school and to behold the many projects that are marking the transformation of our school as we continue to serve the needs of our students. ■ As always, the work of our school continues to inspire the work I do every day in my role as Principal. I am both blessed and honoured to be a part of it.





A Prayer for Families

God of life and hope,
renew in us your vision of a
community made new.

Where all children can experience
safety and guidance, nurture and
love.

Where families are strengthened
by community concern and support.
Where children are valued and no
child is left behind.
God give each of us the will to work
diligently.

Your wisdom to work effectively,
words to inspire and nourish,
and a spirit of cooperation for the
good of all children and all families,
in your name we pray. Amen

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Find us at: seh.ycdsb.ca



@StElizabeth2013



STEziMEDIA



@stezproductions

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students and parents are reminded that cell phones and electronic devices are not used during the school day. The policy at St. Elizabeth is that cell phones are to be off and invisible during the course of the day. Students who own phones with camera/video taping abilities are reminded that the taking of photographs of non-willing staff or students is strictly prohibited. Cell phones and electronic device (i.e., iPods) use in school can result in confiscation of this equipment. Parents are reminded that if they need to contact their child regarding family emergencies, they are asked to call the main office at 905.882.1460 and a message will be relayed to the student.

ANAPHYLACTIC ALERT

Protecting anaphylactic students from exposure to life threatening substances creates a major challenge to schools. When accidental exposure triggers an anaphylactic reaction, there is no time to waste. The usual procedure is:

- Administer the EpiPen
- Call 911 for ambulance
- Contact family members

INFORMATION / AWARENESS / RESPONSIBILITY

- Parents must alert the school to a child's anaphylactic allergies every year.
- Parents must provide the school with two up-to-date EpiPens and a signed Consent Form for school staff to administer medication.

LET'S TAKE GOOD CARE OF OUR TEXTS

Students and parents of our school system enjoy the privilege of being provided textbooks through School Board and Ministry of Education funding. As you can imagine, this is a costly venture, with many textbooks costing upwards of \$100 each. All students are given the responsibility of caring for the textbooks given to them and of returning them to the school at the end of a semester in as close to the same condition as they were received as possible. Since we are no longer able to collect and hold textbook deposits against possible losses, we urge you to take good care of the textbooks and other school materials loaned to you and to return them faithfully and in good order. If losses do occur, we know that you will work with the school to replace those losses as soon as possible so that other students are neither deprived nor delayed in the use of those materials. Thank you, students and parents, for your care and cooperation.

Winter WONDERLAND

Ms. C. Cappuccitti, Family Studies Department

On **December 6**, grade 11 students gathered at **The Venetian Banquet Hall** for a semi-formal dance. RAP and Peer Ministry student, **Sasha Kerr**, opened the evening with a prayer. Students enjoyed dancing, taking pictures, and getting to know each other outside of class as they shared dinner together. Vice Principals, **Ms. P. Marazzi**, and **Mr. D. Allan**, along with **Ms. M. Bonofiglio**, **Ms. C. Cappuccitti**, **Ms. S. Fabris**, **Ms. M. Guinci**, **Ms. K. Leone**, **Ms. L. Scodellaro** and **Ms. S. Montgomery** all had a hand in planning as well as supervising the event.



LOOK WHO'S COOK'N!

Ms. A. Pacitti, Special Education Department

The FLS and ES students participated in a cooking course at the Real Canadian Superstore on **January, 28**. With the help of **Ms. Fonseca**, **Ms. Garisto**, **Ms. Occhiuzzi** and **Ms. Pisani**, our chefs made lasagna, caesar salad, chocolate chip cookies and fruit smoothies. Everyone's day was fun-filled with good food!



Left: Audrey Punzalan (Gr. 11), Peter Gorecki (Gr.12), Dylina Garcia (Gr.12), and Isabella Bono (Gr. 9)

ST. E'S YOUTH BOCCE TEAM!

Ms. A. Pacitti, Special Education Department

The FLS/ES students were excited to compete in the annual Youth Canada Bocce Tournament, held at Maple Community Center. The students were eager and confident to demonstrate their skills, recognizing their potential to win the gold medal. On **January 30**, game day, the students faced great disappointment upon discovering that the majority of the players fell ill and were unable to participate. From two registered teams, with substitute players, the students were down to one team. Regardless of their unfortunate circumstance, the students pulled together, maintained a positive attitude, and played to the best of their abilities. With the leadership of coach, **Ms. Aguanno**, and motivators, **Ms. Coulis**, **Ms. Occhiuzzi**, and **Ms. Ortino**, the team came close to winning the gold. They played well and they played hard but most of all, they had fun! In the end, the team learned a valuable lesson, which is that playing games is not just about winning, but about camaraderie and supporting each other. In the end, they played like champions!

WHAT'S NEW IN THE MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT?



LE THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS ET CAFÉ CRÊPE

BY Elyssa Bush

On **November 29**, **Madame**

Bernabei's grade eleven

university French class took a trip downtown for a day of theatre, fun and crêpes.

Each year, a competition is held for French students across Ontario to submit short French plays. This year, the grade elevens had the incredible opportunity of



attending a performance of these great student written pieces.

Each short 15-minute play dealt with a new character, a new story and a new set of themes and messages. These pieces not only were fun and allowed the students to practice their French skills but they also covered important and relevant topic in our world today. Some of the pieces touched upon issues of growing up, the Me Too movement, mental health and politics. What made these performances even better was that after the show, the audience had the chance to ask the actors and the students who wrote the plays questions. It was very inspiring for the members of the class to hear how the writers came up with the ideas and how the actors worked to make the ideas come to life.

After a fun-filled morning of théâtre, the French students headed to Café Crêpe to enjoy some authentic French crêpes. As they ate away at their Nutella and strawberry crêpes, the students were able to have meaningful conversations about the show they just saw. *The show was breathtaking, I really enjoyed it!* said **Isabella**, one of the grade elevens. Others like **Deanna** discussed how important the themes and topics that were covered were. **Deanna** said, *In today's world, it is important to talk about these things and by using theatre you can appeal to new audiences.* Overall, the grade elevens were impressed and got back onto the bus feeling grateful to have gotten to see the show.

Whether some of us have been studying French for years or whether some of us learned later on, we can all agree on just how amazing the trip was. Each of us felt very lucky to have attended this trip. **Et comme on dit en français: c'était une journée remplie de bon théâtre, de bons amis et de délicieuses crêpes.**



GRADE 10 STUDENTS OFF TO THE AGO

By: **Lydia Khrystych and Michela Di Brigida Goncalves**

This year, **M. Dastoli's** grade 10 French class had the opportunity to visit the *Café Crêpe*, and the Art Gallery of Ontario. On this trip, we had the famous French dish, crêpes from a café located in downtown Toronto. *Delicieux!* Once we were done eating our superb dessert, we went to the AGO. We took a tour around the gallery and got to see different forms of French art. During this tour, we learned more about French history and culture. We made many connections to the art work with what we have recently learned about **Samuel de Champlain**, the famous explorer who founded Quebec City in 1608. These pieces of art had amazing detail and had fascinating history behind them. *Magnifique!* We are very glad that we had the chance to participate in this event since it was a great and interesting way to incorporate learning. If you ever have the chance to go on this trip, do not miss the opportunity.



BACK TO THE 80'S... A TOTALLY AWESOME MUSICAL

Ms. J. Coulis and Mr. J. Warda, Production Managers Work on this year's musical, **Back to the 80s**, is well underway. Students and staff are working very hard to bring you, what is sure to be, a spectacular show. Over 100 students and over a dozen staff are involved in this year's production. ■ We will be having our opening night gala on **Wednesday, March 27**,

2019 for families to celebrate this rad musical. This year's gala "**Totally Awesome Party**" will take place in the school cafeteria prior to the show starting at **5:30 pm**. Stay tuned for more on this special evening. Show performances are **March 27, 28, 29 and 30 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **YCDSB Centre for the Arts Theatre**. You will feel like you're walking on sunshine! Tickets will be going on sale soon at www.stezproductions.com. Be sure to follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook @ [stezproductions](https://www.facebook.com/stezproductions).

ST. ELIZABETH PANTHER ATHLETICS UPDATE

Ms. N. Filice, Department Head of Health and Physical Education

Many of St. Elizabeth's winter teams are finishing up their regular season and heading into the playoffs. Listed below are the teams and the teachers that have volunteered to coach.

WINTER PANTHER ATHLETIC TEAMS 2018 - 2019

Varsity Boys Hockey Team – Mr. Cugliari and Mr. Layne

Varsity Girls Volleyball – Ms. Filice

Varsity Boys Basketball – Mr. Odtuhan and Mr. Barbieri

Alpine Skiing & Snowboarding – Mr. Cheng, Mr. Layne and Ms. McKeough
Badminton team try outs begin in mid-February.

Junior Badminton – Mr. Sniatenchuk

Senior Badminton – Ms. Filice and Mr. Ho

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Health and Physical Education department has completed semester 1 and looking forward to Semester 2 and some warmer weather in the Spring to get outside for our outdoor units such as soccer, flag football, softball and ultimate frisbee. The grade 9 classes are looking forward to Basic First Aid and CPR certification as well as experiencing personal protection/self defense training. The grade 10 classes are looking forward to going to True North Climbing for their rock climbing field trip. The grade 11 and 12 Fitness focus courses are working out in the weight room and the girls are doing workouts such as step, boxercise, circuits, pilates, yoga, zumba and boot camp in the gym as well as workouts in the weight room. The grade 11 and 12 activity courses are looking forward to all the sports and activities. We look forward to focusing on healthy active living and allowing students to realize that keeping fit, eating healthy and having fun is an extremely important part of their lifestyle.



TRUSTEES' MESSAGE

Mrs. Jennifer Wigston and Mrs. Rose Cantisano

As we begin the second semester of the school year, we hope that all grade nine students found their Exam Survival Kits helpful as they prepared for their first high school exams. Since our election this past fall, it has been a pleasure to meet so many staff, students and parents in the St. Elizabeth community. It brings us great pride to see you shine at events such as the Christmas Concert at the Catholic Education Centre, the **PROJECT FLOW** fundraiser and most recently at Tech Day. We are blessed to be part of such a vibrant, active and devoted community with Christ at its centre. We look forward to growing together with you in fellowship over the next four years and if we can be of service, remember that we are only a phone call away.



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Jennifer Wigston

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Email: jennifer.wigston@ycdsb.ca

Twitter: @WigstonJennifer

Website: ycdsb.ca/trustee/jennifer-wigston



Maple Residents:

Rose Cantisano

Phone: 905-713-1211 ext. 17137

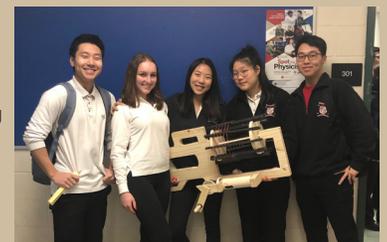
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PHYSICS PROJECTS RULE

Mr. L. Schincariol, Science Department

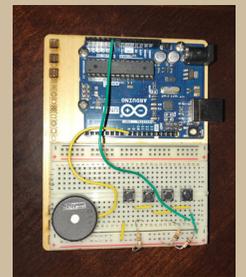
Mr. Schincariol's Physics class continues to create interesting projects demonstrating multiple laws of physics.



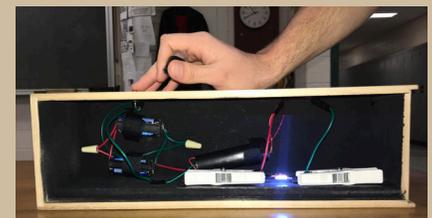
Elastic Band Launcher (left to right - top photo) **Ryan Kim, Julianna Larocque, Vivian Kim, Jane Yi, and Dongho Min**

Electric Telegraph
Joseph Arciero and Marc Arellano

Electric Spark Generator
Cristina Burca, Robert Faiella, Joseph Iacobelli, Victoria Moro, and Justin Zaccagnini



Other projects included a Trebuchet, Meglev Battery Train, and Wind Powered Car.





MODIFIED SCHOOL DAY and TRANSPORTATION

Students who are not writing the test will not attend school on **March 27, 2019**. These students are encouraged to use this day to review or complete coursework, prepare for upcoming assessments, engage in individual Pathways Planning, or complete community service hours. A supervised study hall in the school will be available for those students who prefer to work collaboratively with their peers. Modifying the school day in this way allows schools to maximize teacher supervision and support, availability of classroom space and access to technology. We wish every student success on the OSSLT and appreciate your ongoing support for student achievement and wellbeing.



ABSENCES: Parents must report their child's absence by **8:10 am** on a daily basis by calling the Main Office. If leaving a message, clearly state the student's name, grade and reason for absence. Upon return from the absence, students are also required to bring a note to the Homeroom Teacher explaining

the reason for absence duly signed and dated by a parent/guardian. The Homeroom Teacher will provide an "Admit to Class" slip for the subject teacher whose class the student had missed. **EARLY LEAVES:** Medical or personal business appointments should not be made during school time. If a student must leave early, a note duly signed and dated by a parent/guardian must be presented to the Main Office **before 8:10 am**, stating the reason for the early leave and the time of departure. Early leaves are not permitted without a telephone call. If a student is ill during the day, he/she must report to the Main Office. Failure to do so may be regarded as truancy and will result in disciplinary action from the Vice Principal. Permission to leave school early is granted by the Administration and is dependent on the school contacting a parent/guardian.



OSSLT: Preparations in Progress

Ms. P. Marazzi, Vice Principal
The Ontario Secondary Literacy Test, also known as the **OSSLT**, is fast approaching. The OSSLT is scheduled to be written on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019** by all Grade 10 students and those students who were previously unsuccessful.

Successful completion of the OSSLT is a graduation requirement for students working towards earning their diploma. In order to prepare students for the literacy test, the St. Elizabeth Literacy Committee implemented numerous strategies that focused on developing student literacy skills. Currently, students are working on in-class preparation sessions that focus on various areas of the test. Students wrote a **MOCK TEST** on **Monday, December 10, 2018**, during period 4. The Mock test allowed students to become familiar with the test and feel more comfortable on the actual test date. The schedule for this test will be made available shortly by synvoice to Grade 10 parents and will be posted on the school's website.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Mme R. Bernabei, Department Head of FSL and International Languages

March 8, 2019 marks the 108th anniversary of International Women's Day. On this commemorative day, women all over the world are honoured and recognized for their many contributions to society. As a token of appreciation, it is customary to present women with yellow mimosas; a flower that symbolizes vitality, joy, wisdom, and warmth. On **Friday, March 8**, the St. Elizabeth FSL and International Languages Department will thank all women for all that they do for this community. May they and their families be blessed.



GRADUATION 2019

Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 1:30 pm

PARAMOUNT CONFERENCE & EVENT CENTRE

222 Rowntree Dairy Road, Woodbridge

The Graduation Ceremony is an important event in the lives of our students. It represents for the students, both their attainment of the Secondary School Diploma and their completion of their high school experience. The students

will be fitted for their gowns. A **\$100** fee will be collected up until **February 28**. After this date, the fee will be increased to **\$125.00**. During the month of **April**, we will be selecting the class Valedictorians. A formal invitation will be sent home in **March** providing final details and information to the Parent(s)/Guardian(s). The invitation will specify that **1 family member (maximum)** will be able to participate in this celebration and share in the achievements and success of our students, your children. **ONLY ONE (1)**

ADDITIONAL TICKET MAY BE PURCHASED AT A \$10.00 FEE. PLEASE NOTE:

Tickets will be checked at the door. Please bring them with you.

VOICES REAFFIRMED

Mr. D. Paolini, Arts Department

A celebration of the excellence within the visual arts program during the first semester

On **February 13, 2019**, at 7 pm, in the foyer of the YCDSB Centre for the Arts Theatre, approximately 400 family and friends of the St. Elizabeth CHS visual arts community gathered to celebrate and recognize the achievements of the first semester visual arts program. Hosted by **Mr. Chetty** [Department Head of the Arts Program along with **Ms. Czeresyska**, **Ms. Estabillo**, and myself, with special guest, **Ms. Patrizia Marazzi** [Vice Principle responsible for the Arts program]. The evening was enjoyed with a feast of celebration and achievement. **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL** the award winners. Certificates of Distinction were awarded to the following students for their success and commitment.

Grade 9 RAP Visual Arts - Kaela Gurdon, Jake Santos, Olivia Condo, Jaslyn Dela Cruz

Grade 10 RAP Visual Arts - Bianca Scaccia, Grace Darakjian, Juliet Oladokun, Julia Tsaknis

Grade 11 University Photography - Kuembie Hwang, Cassandra Elia, Sydney Rhodd

Grade 11 RAP Visual Arts - Eleni Tsatsanis, Priscilla Wong, Sarah Young

Grade 12 University Photography - Michael Constantino, Collene Bagguatan

Grade 12 RAP Visual Arts - Emilia De Prisco

Grade 11 OPEN Photography - Alanna Bellisario, Alisa Trubyuk, Victoria Homem, Paige Stansfield

Grade 12 COMP Visual Arts - Dominique Buttino, Olivia Cannella, Julia Hulbig, Hua Tong, Collene Bagguatan

Grade 11 COMP Visual Arts - Colie Batalla, Tara Haghigh, Arina Polovnikkov, Sophia Rossi, Olivia Rucinskas

Grade 9 COMP Visual Arts - Isabella Fuda, Marcello Homem, Eledaine Miranda



FACE TO FACE

Mr. D. Paolini, Arts Department

As grade 12 comprehensive students move into their final year of high school art education, they are expected to create 'major work' from a personal and psychological perspective. Needless to say, this is a monumental task, which can be both exhilarating and overwhelming at the same time. Like all things worth doing well, there needs to be a period of preparation to formulate, ideas, concepts and techniques for this 'major work'. **FACE TO FACE** is that kind of assignment which allows students to ease back into a visual world allowing them to resume practices they are comfortable and confident with, such as, drawing and painting and a subject matter they are most familiar with, their own image, while they prepare themselves both mentally and emotionally to embark onto this 'major work'.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Mrs. Barbara Biggart, *Chair*

This past year, we have had quite a few opportunities to connect, offer some guidance and information to St. Elizabeth families. On **January 22**, Catholic School Council (CSC) hosted an evening presentation called, **MANAGING TEENAGE STRESS** with guest speaker **Ms. Stephanie Wilson**, our school Psychological Associate from YCDSB. She shared information with guests and parents on spotting signs of stress in our children during school and particularly leading up to exams. She also discussed stress management strategies and offered suggestions on how students can cope with stress in their lives.

On behalf of St. Elizabeth CSC, we would like to thank all the contributors who have donated so generously to our annual fundraising campaign. In the past year, your monies have helped support the school with the renovation of the library used by all students, called **Project Flow**. We hope to raise more for the school this year and further help students with additional resources. A letter has been sent to you in your child's report card. Alternatively, you can now donate online. Simply go to the school website at seh.ycdsb.ca and click the link called **Support our School**, then follow the prompts. For a donation of **\$25.00** or more, a tax receipt will be provided by the school board.

Members of Council are busy preparing our **GETTING PARENTS READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL** information night. It will be taking place on **Monday, March 4, 2019** for parents of incoming grade 8 students starting at St. Elizabeth CHS in September 2018. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Library**. We invite you to come and join us and look forward to seeing you! God Bless.

EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH

- Monday, March 4
- PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - "GETTING PARENTS READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL" in the Cafeteria at 7:00pm (6:30pm registration)

- Wednesday, March 6
- ASH WEDNESDAY

- Friday, March 8
- INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

- March 11 - 15
- MARCH BREAK

- Wednesday, March 27
- EQAO LITERACY TESTING FOR GRADE 10s

- Wednesday, March 27 to Saturday, March 30
- SCHOOL PRODUCTION 'BACK TO THE 80S'
- EVENING PERFORMANCES BEGIN at 7:00 pm

APRIL

- Friday, April 12
- REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

- Friday, April 19
- GOOD FRIDAY (no classes)

- Monday, April 22
- EASTER MONDAY (no classes)

- Thursday, April 25
- PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS @ 5:30 pm

MAY

- Wednesday, May 1
- LENTEN LITURGY

- Friday, May 3
- P.A. DAY (No Classes)

- Tuesday, May 7
- THE YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
- 4:30 pm Mass at St. David's Parish
- 6:00 pm Celebration at Terrace Banquet Centre

- Monday, May 20
- VICTORIA DAY (No Classes)

HIGHLIGHTS

is a newsletter that is published four times a year for Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of the St. Elizabeth Catholic High School community.

EDITOR

Ms. Amy Del Greco

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