



# CELTIC NEWS

**ST. DAVID CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**4 High St., Waterloo, Ontario N2L3X5**

**Tel: (519)885-1340 Fax (519)885-1345**

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## A Message from our Leadership Team...

We hope that you and your families are keeping well and remaining safe as we all follow the public health recommendations. Thank you, once again, to all of you who are frontline, emergency, or essential service workers. You are each performing heroic measures and we are all better off for it! May God continue to bless you and keep you safe while you are delivering service to our community.

We have now been away from school six full weeks counting March Break and have just heard that we will remain away until at least May 31st. We miss our students! We hope they are finding the learning they are taking part in at home worthwhile. We recognize that some of you may be experiencing some challenges with learning at home for various reasons and we invite you to reach out to teachers, guidance counsellors or an administrator to support or answer any of your questions.

For our Grade 12 students, at an appropriate time in the future, the staff of SDCSS look forward to celebrating your achievements while still prioritizing the health and safety of all. The class of 2020 will be remembered as the graduates who showed grit and perseverance in a time of uncertainty. We hope to celebrate with you and your families when safe to appreciate the gifts that you have and your accomplishments in this milestone year.

We are grateful to our amazing teachers who have stepped up and provided creative and engaging opportunities to have the learning continue. We are very thankful to our support staff for the behind the scenes work that sometimes gets forgotten. This is just a gentle reminder to ensure that your child is logging into each of their classes on a regular basis during the school week. The Ministry of Education has outlined that your child should be spending 3 hours per course per week. If your child has not engaged in their remote learning please email your child's classroom teacher for more information.

We recognize that there continue to be times of uncertainty that can be frustrating at times - thank you for your patience. This has been an ever-changing landscape and we want to ensure that our community is kept abreast along the way. Our Director, Loretta Notten and our Chair of Trustees, Bill Conway provided an update in a letter to the community which was sent out by Newswire last Thursday but is [attached here](#) for you. We thank them for their leadership in this time of uncertainty.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to pray for resolution to this ongoing COVID crisis.

Peace be with each of you,  
Mr. Hinsperger, Mr. Ambeau, Mrs. Leusink

## School Closure Extended

The Minister of Education has announced that the school closure has been extended until **May 31, 2020**. [Read the Ministry of Education News Release](#)

## Midterm Marks for Grade 12 Students

If your child is in grade 12, they will be issued midterm marks on April 28th. Please check in with them to ask how they are doing. For graduating students, these marks will be uploaded to the OUAC and OCAS websites for post-secondary opportunities. The date of full disclosure is May 6th. After this date, all course marks will appear on a student's transcript even if a course is dropped. Please connect with your child's classroom teacher or guidance counsellor for further clarification if needed.

## Supporting Students' Questions

Recently our Board's student trustees Rori Schaefer and Meghan Cymbron gathered questions from students and asked our Board's director and the WCDSB Chair to answer them. Check out this video where they try to address some of students' most pressing concerns.



## WCDSB Learning Tools

Visit the WCDSB Learn at Home Website with important [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) section and Pray at Home resources for the most up to date information regarding learning plans and other essential information.

[WCDSB D2L Platform](#)\*

[Google Classroom](#)\*

[OneNote Classroom](#)\*

\* Students should use their GAFE logins and passwords to enter these sites



## Take-Home Device Support

Please call the device support number below for issues such as connecting to the internet or hardware issues with WCDSB-owned devices.

Hours of support are 8AM to 4PM, Monday to Friday.

519-578-3677 Ext: 2316



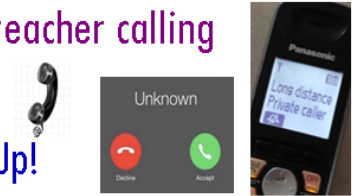
# Having trouble making contact?

## Unknown Caller? Please pick up!

As we navigate through the reality of self-isolation and learning (and teaching) from home, communication may sometimes be a challenge. Here are several tips to make sure that the lines of communication are kept open between parents, students, and teachers:

## Don't know the caller?

It may be a teacher calling to check in.  
Please Pick Up!



1. **Pick it up:** Teachers are using different tools to make calls home, and will not always be calling from a known number. When you see Unknown Number or Private Caller, pick up to see if it may be your son's or daughter's teacher
2. **Check your junk email:** Teachers often send emails to many people at once, which may trigger your spam filter. Check to see if any teacher emails have gone there.
3. **Students, check your GAFE email:** All students in the WCDSB have a Gmail account and email address that is of a common format; most teachers will email them to that email address. If your son or daughter doesn't get notification for this email account to their phone, they should check there frequently for emails from teachers.
4. **Email teachers for an update:** all of our staff email addresses can be found on the school website by going to About Us > [Staff List](#)

# School Support Contacts

Parents, if you need to contact your son's or daughter's Guidance Counsellor, Student Success and Special Education teachers or Administrator please contact them via email below:

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

## Guidance Counsellors:

A to F - [Kristen DIETRICH](#)

G to O - [Jennifer NAGY](#)

P to Z - [Karen KUENEMAN](#)

Int'l Students - [Will KNAPP](#)

## Student Success Teachers:

A to L - [Garry KRAEHLING](#)

M to Z - [Steve BEDIC](#)

## Special Education Teachers:

Gr. 10, 12 & Com. Living Prog. Student IEP's - [Larry SCANLON](#)

Gr. 9, 11 & Active Prog. Student IEP's - [Maureen O'GRADY](#)

## ESL Monitors:

[Anne MASOJC](#) and [Heather PIETROBON](#)

## Administrators:

A to I - [Kevin HINSBERGER](#)

J to S - [Michael AMBEAU](#)

T to Z (+ International) - [Glenda LEUSINK](#)

# A Message from our Guidance Team...

Please follow us for guidance-related information, upcoming events and important dates. Visit [stdavid.wcdsb.ca](http://stdavid.wcdsb.ca) and sign up for Newswire to stay current on school news <https://stdavid.wcdsb.ca/newswire-please-subscribe-to-receive-updates/>

## Graduation - From Director Loretta Notten

We know that graduation is a significant event in the life of a student and his/her family. For this reason, this has been a difficult decision. Our secondary schools have no option but to postpone graduation ceremonies as a result of venues not being available to us. As you can appreciate secondary graduations are often large events and so they are not easily accommodated in alternate settings. We have made the decision that all of our secondary schools will hold their graduations in the fall. This will in no way impact a student's ability to actually graduate from high school should they have met the requirements.

## Community Service Hours

Due to current circumstances, any student who will be earning their OSSD as of June 30, 2020, will not be required to complete the remainder of their 40 hours of community service should they not have them complete at this point

## Summer School

Keep checking the St. Louis Continuing Education website for course offerings. If you decide to register for a summer school course, please email your Guidance Counsellor with information on what course you would like to take and what course you will add to your timetable next year.

<https://stlouis.wcdsb.ca/summer-programs/summer-credit/>

## Important Information for Grade 12s

Join the Google classroom for regular updates (**code vzzhsxp**) and information about awards, scholarships and bursaries.

University Applicants: <https://www.ouac.on.ca/guide/101-dates/>

- \* Students are reminded to check the status of their applications online at the college and university application websites. All communication between the student and the post-secondary institution will be delivered through these websites and emails.
- \* University acceptances continue to be issued until the end of May.
- \* June 1 is the deadline to accept your offer from the university you plan to attend.
- \* In mid-June, the universities will post all their programs that still have space.

College Applicants: <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en>

- \* Students who have not yet applied to college may be able to do so at this time. This will depend on the availability of the course to which you want to apply.
- \* Please visit the ontariocolleges.ca website to determine if your desired program is still accepting applications.
- \* May 1 is the deadline to accept your offer from the college you plan to attend.

OSAP: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program>

## Guidance Counsellors

At St. David we offer our students the ability to "meet" with their Guidance Counsellor to ask questions about their courses and to assist them on their academic journey. Students/families can reach out to their Guidance Counsellor via email with any questions for follow up.

Last Name A to F - Kristen DIETRICH [kristen.dietrich@wcdsb.ca](mailto:kristen.dietrich@wcdsb.ca)

Last Name G to O - Jennifer NAGY [jennifer.nagy@wcdsb.ca](mailto:jennifer.nagy@wcdsb.ca)

Last Name P to Z - Karen KUENEMAN [karen.kueneman@wcdsb.ca](mailto:karen.kueneman@wcdsb.ca)

International Students - Will KNAPP [will.knapp@wcdsb.ca](mailto:will.knapp@wcdsb.ca)

Guidance Administrative Assistant - Erin Kelly [erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca](mailto:erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca)

# Student Success Remote Learning Tips

- \* **Get up** at the same time each day to start your learning. Having a routine will help you manage your workload
- \* **Try** to find a comfortable, quiet space in your home where you can work effectively and successfully
- \* **Check** each of your Class sites for new work and instructions
- \* **Read** all instructions
- \* **Create** a plan for each Class for the week
- \* **Check** your Google/school email address daily. Email addresses are the last five digits of their Student Number and the first three letters of their last name @wcdsbcloud.ca
- \* **Do your best** to meet timelines, commitments and due dates
- \* **Communicate** with your teacher(s) if you cannot meet deadlines or require additional support
- \* **Get Help!** Mr. Bedic and Mr Kraehling are available daily online to help you work through some of your academic challenges. View this video on how to book a Student Success appointment: [How to book a Student Success appointment](#)

**KEEP IN MIND**, while remote learning brings some challenge, the environment provides you with the opportunity to continue learning new concepts and skills without the fear of falling below the mark attained March 13th.

As you continue to adapt to remote learning, please know that there are many supports available to you. Just reach out! We have the opportunity to learn and achieve together. Stay safe Celtics!

## WCDSB COVID-19 Updates

Be sure to check the WCDSB's ['COVID-19 Coronavirus Updates'](#) page for more information and updates.



# A closing message from our chaplain

## Jesus Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the Gospel reading for this past Sunday we heard how the disciples were walking on the road and Jesus came and walked with them but “they were kept from recognizing him.” We heard how they spent the whole day with Jesus and still didn’t recognize him until he broke bread with them...until he did something that was familiar.

We may feel kind of like that during this time with regard to school and our learning. Things may seem very different, almost unrecognizable. But then, we may get a note from our teacher...supporting us, encouraging us; in that old familiar way and we realize...WE ARE AT SCHOOL! :)

If you feel like things are TOO different or TOO unrecognizable; reach out to a friend, your teacher, your Administrator, your Guidance Counsellor, or to me...your Chaplain. We are here and are ready and willing to help.

On our school board website, you will find a link called [WCDSBPray@home](#) where you will find many resources to continue your spiritual journey. Next week, May 3-6, we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. This year’s theme is, “Igniting Hope.” There will be many hope-filled messages, reflections and activities that can be completed at home. The week will end with the highlight of an on-line Mass celebrated by Bishop Crosby in celebration of all the good things and good works of the Catholic Education system in the Province of Ontario.

I am praying for each and every one of you; students, families, and school staff. I pray that we can come back together before the end of this school year. I pray that you all stay healthy and happy.

St. David, pray for us.  
God bless, Deacon Ed