



# CELTIC NEWS

**ST. DAVID CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

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

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



When it comes to mental health, now more than ever, every action counts.

Join in to help create positive change.

[bell.ca/letstalk](http://bell.ca/letstalk)

## A Message from our Leadership Team...

Welcome to 2021! We had definitely hoped for a different start to our year but we know that everyone is doing their part to stay safe and healthy while following the public health protocols. It has also been a very different start for St. David's new Vice-Principal, Jordan Figueiredo.

A LITTLE BIT **ABOUT** me...

*Hello Celtics,*

*My name is Jordan Figueiredo and I am a new vice-principal at St. David. I was most recently the Program Head of Health and Physical Education at Monsignor Doyle Catholic Secondary School in Cambridge, and I have also spent time as a teacher at St. Benedict CSS and St. Mary's High School. I am thrilled to return to life in Waterloo, as I have fond memories of my time here while studying at Wilfrid Laurier University, many years ago.*



*As an educator and now vice-principal, I believe that it is our responsibility to create conditions that instill hope and nurture the spirit of all students, to allow them to reach their God-given potential. Throughout my career in education I have always supported the various ways in which school communities can help develop the whole person. From athletics and school plays, to math contests and field trips, our schools provide an opportunity for students to thrive. Learning about all the wonderful activities that happen at St. David gets me excited to join the team! I plan to bring my full enthusiasm for Catholic Education to the St. David community.*

*In my spare time I love to hang out with my family. My wife Kayla and I, along with our children Charlotte and Eleanor, are filled with anticipation as we await the birth of our third child - set to join the world in March!*

*When I'm not hanging out with my family and before Covid-19 restrictions came into effect, I stayed active by participating in baseball and hockey leagues, travelling, reading books, and trying new activities.*

*Thanks for allowing me to share a little bit about myself. I can't wait to learn more about you. Hope to see you all soon. Until then - Stay Safe!*

*Sincerely,  
Mr. Figueiredo*

**VICE PRINCIPAL**

Best of luck to all of our students as they approach the end of the quadmester.

Be proud of all that you have accomplished during this time - we know that we are proud of all of our Celtics!

*Sincerely,  
Your Leadership team*

**SO PROUD** of you



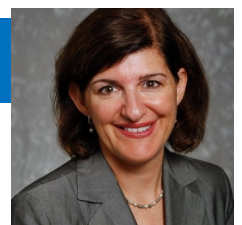
### In this issue...

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**Imagine**  
with all  
your mind.  
**Believe**  
with all  
your heart.  
**Achieve**  
with all  
your might.

## Director of Education Update

[Click Here](#) for an important update from the WCDSB Director of Education  
re: Extended School Closure Period





On January 28,  
join the  
conversation.

[bell.ca/letstalk](https://bell.ca/letstalk)

*Left to Right: Mr. Ambeau, Mrs. Leusink and Mr. Figueiredo support Bell Let's Talk Day and mental health.*

Bell Let's Talk Day is Thursday, January 28 and we're joining in to help drive progress in mental health.

COVID-19 has affected every aspect of our lives, including our mental health. According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, 38% of Canadians say their mental health has declined due to COVID-19, and people already struggling with their mental health were 2 times more likely to say their mental health has declined due to the pandemic.

Since 2010, Canadians and people around the globe have joined in the world's largest conversation around mental health on Bell Let's Talk Day. Together we have taken big steps to reduce the stigma around mental health issues and inspire one another to take action and help create a Canada where everyone can access the mental health support they need. In a recent survey conducted by Nielsen Consumer Insights, 83% of Canadians now say they are comfortable speaking with others about mental health, compared to only 42% in 2012. By joining in and taking action, we are all helping to make a real difference.

This year's Bell Let's Talk Day campaign shines a light on the actions that we can all take, because now more than ever, mental health matters. Whether you're staying virtually connected with a family member, working directly with patients in recovery, investing in access to care or even just taking care of your own mental health, every Canadian can play a part in their communities, workplaces, schools and at home.

That's why we're joining in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Bell Let's Talk Day to help create positive change.

**When it comes to mental health, now more than ever, every action counts.**

On Bell Let's Talk Day, Bell donates 5 cents to Canadian mental health programs for every applicable text, local or long distance call, tweet or TikTok video using #BellLetsTalk, every [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#), [Snapchat](#), [TikTok](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) view of the Bell Let's Talk Day video, and every use of the Bell Let's Talk Facebook frame or Snapchat filter. All at no cost to participants beyond what they would normally pay their service provider for online or phone access.

You can also find resources, learn more about some of the organizations providing meaningful mental health supports and services throughout Canada and download the [Bell Let's Talk toolkit](#) to begin your own conversation about mental health at home, school or in the workplace.

Please join us this Bell Let's Talk Day by showing your support for all those who live with mental illness and those taking action to help them.

# Final Evaluations



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
February 1	February 2	February 3	February 4
EXAMS 8:15am - 10:45am	EXAMS 8:15am - 10:45am	PD DAY Turnaround Day	QUAD 3 Begins

Students will be on line to complete their final evaluations in a remote synchronous session.

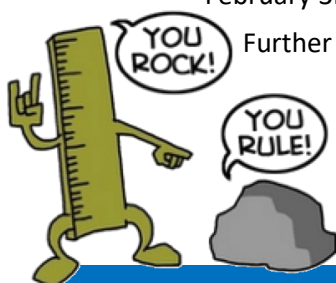
As outlined by the Ministry of Education, a final evaluation does not need to be an examination and is administered at or towards the end of the course to allow students an opportunity to demonstrate achievement of the overall expectations. Teachers can provide a broad range of culminating activities for the final evaluation to allow students to demonstrate their learning. Possible options may include a performance, an essay, a test, a debrief of the course, a presentation, individually scheduled exit interviews or another method of evaluation suitable to the course content.

The period 3 final evaluation for both cohort A and B will take place on February 1st at 8:15 am at home.

The period 4 final evaluation for both cohort A and B will take place on February 2nd at 8:15 am at home.

February 3rd is a turn around day and students do not attend school face to face or on line on this day.

Further details about the final evaluation for each course will be provided by the teacher to your student.



## Quad 3 begins remotely February 4th

(Quad 3 = Semester 2, Periods 1 & 2)

## Student Timetables

Please make sure you check your schedule. With the movement of students to St. Isidore, some of our Quad 3 classes were cancelled. Guidance has tried to minimize the impact on student schedules and have worked diligently to ensure all students have a balanced timetable.

### Accessing Login page:

The Aspen Student Portal can be accessed from your 'My Apps' page by clicking this icon → <https://wcdsb.myontarioedu.ca>



Aspen EDU

### Logging into Student Portal:

To login, click on the button circled in **GREEN**.

NOTE: If you are logging in from a WCDSB Board computer or Chromebook, you will not be prompted for your student WCDSB login and password. However, if prompted in a different window, enter your student WCDSB login and password.

### To find your schedule:

Click on the 'My Info' top tab > Click on the 'Current Schedule' side tab

If the schedule is not appearing in the same format as the picture below, click << List view and the 'List View' will appear. Click on the column heading 'Term' to sort courses by Quad.



### Quad 3 (Semester 2, Period 1 and Period 2)

Quad 3 begins remotely February 4th

CLASS	SYNCHRONOUS	ASYNCHRONOUS
Period 1 – Cohorts A and B	8:15am – 10:07am	10:07am - 10:45am
Period 2 – Cohorts A and B	11:30am - 1:22pm	1:22pm – 2:00pm

Course	Description	Term	Schedule	Credits
AWT101-02A	Visual Arts	Q1	1(1)	223
COC101-02A	Issues in Canadian Geography	Q1	2(1)	109
MPM101-01A	Principles of Mathematics	Q2	4(1)	205
SNK101-01A	Science	Q2	3(1)	210
FSF101-03A	Core French	Q3	1(1)	224

All students are expected to virtually attend both their Period 3 and Period 4 for the synchronous component every day.

Teachers will provide updated links for their virtual meeting space.

**Term = Quad #**  
**Schedule = Period #**



# Academic Support



- Visit the school website <https://stdavid.wcdsb.ca/>
- Click on St. David Student Supports link (image with the coloured doors):
- From there, students can create a booking with specific services, including Special Education/Student Success.
- When creating a booking, students must select the service, and then enter their name and school email address (\_\_\_\_@wcdsbcloud.ca).
- Once created, a notification will be sent to the student's email, as well as to the Support Teacher that the booking has been created.

**We encourage all students to use this support.**

# Mental Health & Wellbeing

Visit the [WCDSB Mental Health and Wellness](#) page. You can find resources here to grow your knowledge on mental health topics, learn a variety of daily wellness practices that can help you manage stress, get connected when additional supports are needed, and learn about how WCDSB is promoting wellness in our school communities.

On this page you can find a variety of links resources to promote wellness – both during the pandemic, and also more general resources that can be promote positive mental health in our school communities.



**School  
Mental Health  
Ontario**



@wcdsbwellness



@wcdsbsocialwork



@wcdsbhe



@wcdsbequity



@wcdsbfait



@wcdsbfnm

# Community Support Services

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868

Here 24/7 (Crisis Line): 1-844-437-3247

Front Door Access to Child and Youth Services: 519-749-2932

If you are feeling unsafe or are experiencing Family Violence:

Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region 24 hr crisis line: 519-742-5894

[Link: Contact Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region](#)

Families needing support with accessing food – Emergency Food Hamper Program:

519-742-0662 [Link: House of Friendship](#)

Community Outreach Workers are assigned to all neighborhoods in Waterloo Region and are an excellent resource to help kids and families with supports and resources in the community.

To find out who your Outreach worker is, call 519-742-8327 x 240 or email [info@familyoutreach.ca](mailto:info@familyoutreach.ca)

[Link: Family Outreach Program](#)



# Financial Supports

## Ontario "Support for Learners" Financial Assistance Program

The Ontario government launched the Support for Learners program. Through this program, the government is providing financial support to help parents and guardians with additional costs during the 2020-2021 school year, during the second wave of COVID-19.

Eligible parents or guardians will receive a one-time payment of:

\$200 for each child up to age 12

\$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 years with special needs

This is a new program, and all parents or guardians who are residents of Ontario with eligible children will need to submit a new application for each child.

Go to [Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners](https://Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners) for more information and to apply for the one-time financial support.

The deadline to apply is February 8, 2021.

Support for Learners funding is intended to directly support parents to provide children and youth with key educational resources like workbooks, school supplies, technology and developmental resources during these unprecedented times.



# LINK Crew

Our LINK crew continues to support our Grade 9 students as they complete their second quadmester in a virtual learning model. Be sure to check out our Grade 9 Class of 2024 Google classroom (Grade nine students can join using code 7np5b7v) for additional opportunities to stay connected with the St. David community.

Over the past several days, we have been inspired by the Amanda Gorman Poem, "The Hill We Climb". While the entire poem speaks to us as leaders, we wanted to share this excerpt from her work that feels especially relevant in these challenging days.

"That even as we grieved, we grew  
That even as we hurt, we hoped  
That even as we tired, we tried  
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious"

Celtics, we are growing, hoping, and trying together. Together we will persevere. Stay strong and united, Celtics!

## Future Celtics



### Grade 8 Transition Activities

This year we were sad to see our 'Day in the Life of a Celtic', put on hold for our Grade 8's due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In lieu of a visit to St. David, we have developed a website that will hopefully offer you a view of everything you have to look forward to as a future Celtic! From academics, sports, arts and culture, St. David has something to interest and engage every student. Please take a look through the website and please let us know if you have any questions! <https://stdavid.wcdsb.ca/grade-8-information/>

Another great resource that you will use frequently is the Entering Secondary Schools Booklet. It will also be found on the St. David Future Celtics website. [https://www.wcdsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2017/02/WCDSB\\_Entering\\_Sec\\_Sch\\_2021\\_Covid\\_web.pdf](https://www.wcdsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2017/02/WCDSB_Entering_Sec_Sch_2021_Covid_web.pdf)

### Regarding Grade 9 course selections:



Your child's teacher will be receiving a presentation to show the class about myBlueprint and course selections. Your child should already be very familiar with myBlueprint as it has been a part of the Grade 7 and 8 program for a number of years. It allows students to explore what they are interested in and what career fields their skills might lead them into. There is also a place for them to send you an invitation through the parent portal so that you can complete your own searches and see what activities they have completed.

Presentations will be delivered during the week of February 8th and the deadline for course selections will be February 26th, 2021. One thing that we strongly encourage is for you to work as partners with your child's teacher to ensure they are choosing the appropriate pathway for success.

### Pathways Night for Grade 8 Families:

Our usual Pathways night presentation will have to be cancelled this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, our Board level Pathways Officer, Judy Carley, has provided us with a PowerPoint that you will find on both our website and the Future Celtics webpage on February 8th, 2021.

# From your Celtic Guidance Team

## Timetable and Course Changes

Please be aware that several student timetables have been changed for the remainder of the year due to a variety of factors (requests to switch back to the schedule students had previously cannot be accommodated).

Guidance teachers will be available for course changes until Tuesday February 9th, 2021.

Please be aware that the priority for course changes are as follows:

- Students in grade 9, 10 or 11 who are missing a course
- Students who do not have the prerequisite for a course on their timetable
- Students in grade 12 & year 5 that don't have enough courses to reach 30 credits by the end of this year
- Level changes (example moving from academic to applied)

We cannot accommodate teacher requests or requests to be in classes with friends.

GUIDANCE DESIGNATION	
Ms. K. Dietrich ext. 5637	A - E
Ms. J. Nagy ext. 5638	F - O
Ms. K. Kueneman ext. 5634	P - Z & International Students

## 11 UP!

Classroom teachers will provide students with a Guidance presentation that will be available in February in order to provide information about course selections for grade 12. At this time, we will also offer drop-in sessions to discuss future pathway options as students look toward their senior year at St. David. Guidance teachers will also be available to meet with grade 11 students via our booking site, following Quadmester three to review their grade 12 course selections and discuss pathway planning. <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/WCDSBStDavid@wcdsbca.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

## Course Selection

myBlueprint is not currently live or up to date. Any changes you make or courses you select will not be saved at this time. myBlueprint will go live in early February and will be posted on our website.

Classroom teachers will provide students with a grade level presentation from the Guidance Department in early February to begin the course selection process. Guidance teachers are available to offer guidance and support in making their course selections through our [booking page](#).



Students are encouraged to dialogue with their parents, teachers and guidance teachers in order to make accurate and appropriate selections. Courses must be entered by February 26th, 2021. Visit myBlueprint in 'My Apps'. Remember that parents must sign off on course selections by Feb 26th, 2021.

## Summer School

Summer school information will be available beginning in March as it becomes available from our education partners. Information regarding summer school sign up will be communicated during morning announcements.



# Graduation Information

## Important Information for Grade 12 Students

# Celtic Graduation Information



In order to graduate you need the following:

- 30 credits-18 compulsory and 12 elective credits
- 20 hours of Community service

The Ontario Government has decided to waive the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) requirement for graduating students in the 2020-2021 school year.

### Resources for post-secondary planning

[www.tcu.gov.on.ca](http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca) and [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com) for apprenticeship information  
[www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) for college information [www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca) for university information and [www.indeed.ca](http://www.indeed.ca) for workplace opportunities

**College Applications** Students applying to college need to create an account at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)  
Applications are due **February 1, 2021**.

**University Applications** - PIN numbers Grade 12 students who wish to apply for university are reminded to please contact your guidance teacher and they will send it to you. Applications were due **January 15, 2021**.  
Schools that do not fill their programs will consider applications after this deadline.

### Community Service Hours

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, graduating students are only required to earn **20 hours** of community service to meet the graduation requirement. Please submit your hours directly to Ms. Kelly at [erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca](mailto:erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca) using the [Community Involvement Activity Record](#). It can be scanned and emailed.

Check with your guidance teacher if you're wondering what type of volunteer work is acceptable. We do not want students pursuing opportunities that put them in physical contact with others as per Covid-19 lockdown guidelines. Grade 12 students must complete these hours by April 30th, 2021 in order to be eligible to graduate.

**Scholarship and Bursary information** Students looking to pursue post secondary education are encouraged to research and apply to the many available scholarships and bursaries available. Websites which are helpful include:

- [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)
- [www.findmyscholarships.com](http://www.findmyscholarships.com)
- [www.scholartree.ca](http://www.scholartree.ca)
- [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com)

Students are also reminded to join the guidance google classroom ([4qogszg](#)) as guidance teachers will use this platform to share information on upcoming scholarship information and due dates.

# 2021

*Class of*



# International Certificate Program

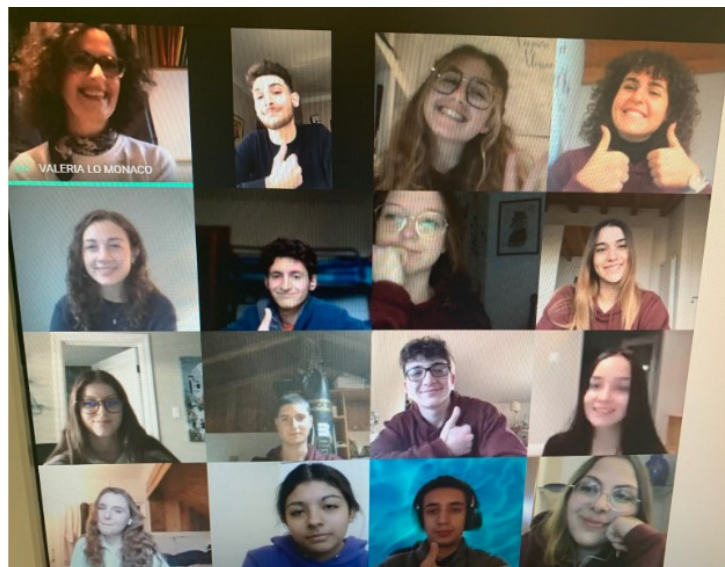
## St. David Students Go to Italy, Virtually!

This past December, members of the International Certificate Program and the International Diplomacy Course virtually connected with students from IIS G. Ferro Institute in Alcamo, Sicily. The cultural exchange allowed St. David students to learn how teenagers abroad are dealing with the pandemic, understand the culture and geographical region of Sicily, and share common interests. Our Celtic Ambassadors proudly showcased our region and school creating a foundation for future interactions with students in Italy. We are looking forward to future engagements with our new friends in Alcamo.

The pandemic has prevented us from physically interacting but it has provided us with the opportunity to use technology to develop our global relationships. St. David C.S.S. will be offering a new certificate program, in the Fall of 2021, for students interested in becoming Global Leaders.

Global Leaders: Ambassadors of the Future Certificate Program is offered to all Grade 12 students interested in using and developing their skills to positively impact our global community. Please ask your guidance teacher, or contact Ms. Masojc (Anne.Masojc@wdcsb.ca), if you have any questions about this new program or the International Certificate Program.

St. David is committed to promoting a culture of belonging and respect and these programs support this initiative as we invest in global learning and relationships with the world abroad.



St. David Students: Adrien Ratke, Lindsay Slessor, Mateja Bubas, Mia Cwirko-Nasierowska, Natalia Ochoa Ferrera, Michael Haas



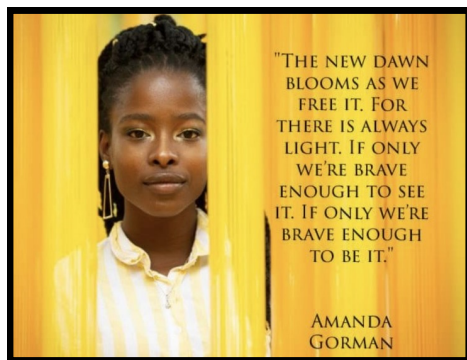
## Health & Physical Education

Students in Health and Physical Education courses have been learning about different impacts of food and nutrition and the effects it has on health and wellness. They have created some delicious recipes at home and presented them in a virtual pot luck!

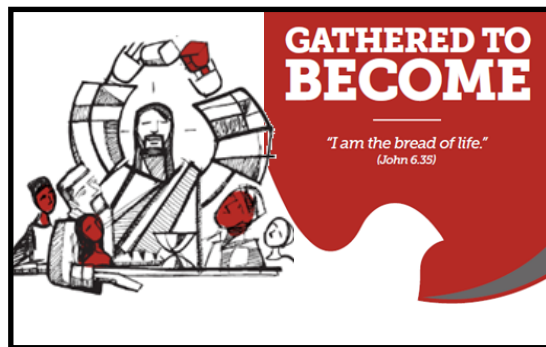
Stay warm with a [winter stew](#) or try out these amazing [Hot chocolate bombs](#).







**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.**  
*repeat after me.*  
*"I can do this."*



## Technology

Please check the WCDsb student [email account](#) frequently as that is where your key information will be sent.

[Click Here for useful links for students including instructions on how to login to your WCDsb email account.](#)

### Student Log In:

**Username:** LAST 5 digits of the student number + first 3 letters of their last name

**Password:** Birthdate (MMDDYYYY or DDMMYYYY)

(the students may be prompted to change their password)

### Checking Google and D2L

Students are expected to engage and participate in instruction and learning every day. In doing so, students will need to login daily into their Google Class or D2L accounts to participate in and complete a variety of learning tasks (synchronous and asynchronous) assigned by the classroom teacher.

#### How to Login to D2L and Google Classroom – Print Version

- Student Login Process – Arabic
- Student Login Process – English
- Student Login Process – Korean
- Student Login Process – Mandarin
- Student Login Process – Russian
- Student Login Process – Spanish
- Student Login Process – Vietnamese

#### Student Links



Change Password



My Applications



WCDsb Learn @ Home

**Student Helpdesk: 519-578-3677 ext. 2316 (Leave a Message)**

## Receiving email from the school

How do I mark a junked email as safe?

*Note: some email applications may have a slightly different process to mark emails as 'Safe'.*

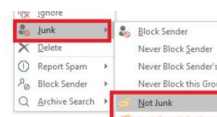
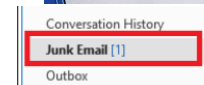
**Step 1:** Open your e mail application and click the Junk or Spam Email folder

**Step 2:** Find the email you wish to mark as safe (always receive in Inbox) and right-click on it.

**Step 3:** Select **Junk** and then click **Not Junk**

The email will be marked as "not junk" and returned to your Inbox. Future email like this will not be sent to your Junk Folder.

**\*\*If you do not find our emails in your spam/junk folder and are still not receiving email from the school, please email [Erin Kelly](mailto:erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca) at [erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca](mailto:erin.kelly@wcdsb.ca)**

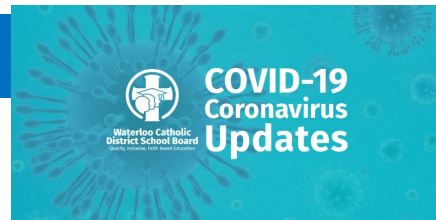


# COVID 19 Updates

We encourage you to stay up to date on news from our government regarding the return to in-person learning and the most current public health advice.

Visit [Ontario.ca/covidresponse](https://ontario.ca/covidresponse) to learn about public health measures in our community.

We also suggest checking out the [WCDSB website](https://www.wcdsb.ca) and [Region of Waterloo Public Health website](https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/public-health) as they contain helpful resources and supports.



## NewsWire

### Stay informed!

To receive news releases and updates via NewsWire, [click here](#)



## Contact Information

Phone: 519-885-1340

Attendance Phone Number: 519-885-4352

Website: <http://st.david.wcdsb.ca>

If you need to contact your son or daughter's teacher, please feel free to contact them via email below:

To email a staff member please use the following method: *firstname.lastname@wcdsb.ca*

[Link to Staff List](#)

If you need to contact your son's or daughter's guidance, student success and special education teachers or Administrator, please feel free to contact them via email below:

### Administrators:

A to I - [Jordan FIGUEIREDO](#)

J to S - [Michael AMBEAU](#)

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

### Student Success/Spec Ed.:

Community & Active Living Students = [Maureen O'GRADY](#)

A—Kowt = [Garry KRAEHLING](#)

Koy—Z = [Steve BEDIC](#)

### Guidance Teachers:

Last Name A to E - [Kristen DIETRICH](#)

Last Name F to O - [Jennifer NAGY](#)

Last Name P to Z - [Karen KUENEMAN](#)

and International Students

### ESL Monitors:

[Anne MASOJC](#) and

[Heather PIETROBON](#)

## St. David Communication Tools

Follow us on.... Twitter – [@StDavidCeltics](#) and Instagram at [stdavidcss](#) and sign up for **NewsWire**



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**NEWSWIRE**

To receive news releases and updates via NewsWire, [click here](#)

**NOTE:** You may withdraw your consent at any time by clicking on the link at the bottom of each email.

# COMING SOON



January 28th: Bell Let's Talk Day



Bell

Let's Talk

January 28

February 1st: Period 3 final evaluation for both cohort A and B at 8:15 am at home.

February 2nd: Period 4 final evaluation for both cohort A and B at 8:15 am at home.

February 3rd: PD/Turnaround day and students do not attend school face to face or on line.

February 4th: Quadmester 3 begins remotely (Quad 3 = Semester 2, Periods 1 & 2)





"I make time each day to go for a walk and get some exercise and fresh air."

"I started a virtual peer support program at my school."

"I'm volunteering online to support young people."

"I know the resources available at work."



"I treat mental health like any other health issue."

"Every week I call my grandma who lives alone."

Now more than ever, every action counts.

"I recognized my friend was struggling and connected them to online supports."

Join in to help create positive change.

Learn more at [bell.ca/letstalk](https://bell.ca/letstalk)

