



November 10, 2025

Hello St. Benedict Families!

It's hard to believe that we are already in November. I guess it's true what they say, "Time flies when you're having fun." October has been jam-packed with lots of fun. We are excited to see what November holds.

SafeArrival App

As was shared via email last week, we are excited to introduce SafeArrival, a new attendance management system being rolled out across OCSB schools.

SafeArrival is designed to make it easier, faster, and more convenient for families to report absences and late arrivals. Please see the [following letter](#) with details on how to report these absences and late arrivals.



Ravens Scare Hunger!

Our Ravens Scare Hunger campaign was a huge success! Between October 20 and October 30, the Grade 6 students led our St. Benedict school community and successfully raised almost 2000 non-perishable food items for the Barrhaven Food



Cupboard. We thank all who were able to demonstrate a spirit of generosity while celebrating the Gospel Value of Community through this very needed initiative. A huge thank you to our Grade 6 team for helping make this possible. We couldn't have done it without your support. The time, effort and enthusiasm you put into making this happen is so very appreciated.

Remembrance Day Liturgy

On Monday, November 11, we will honour those who fought and lost their lives for our rights and freedoms. At 10:45, all students in Grades 1-6 will gather in the gym for a liturgical ceremony. Students who are in cadets, guides, scouts, etc. are invited to wear their uniforms. Parents who have served, or are serving are invited to attend. Unfortunately, due to limited capacity we cannot invite all families. Thank you to the Grade 6 team for leading this event.



We also have sticker poppies that will be distributed to all students on Monday, as well as some in the office. You are invited to send in a small contribution (\$1-\$2) to be donated to the Royal Canadian Legion or make a donation via School Cash Online. The money raised from donations provides direct assistance for Veterans in financial distress, as well as funding for medical equipment, medical research, home services, long term care facilities and many other purposes.

Progress Reports and Parent-Teacher Interviews

Progress reports will be available on the [Parent Portal](#) on November 13. We will have formal in-person interviews on November 20. Parents will be given information on how to sign up for an interview on November 13. Interviews will run from 4:00 - 8:00 and will be in 10 minute increments. If you require more time please contact the teacher(s) directly to book a time outside of the interview evening. Please see the [Report Card Letter to Parents](#) for more information.



School Council


We also want to give a huge thank you to our council for hosting a very fun Halloween Movie Night and Halloween Dance. Thank you to all our families who were able to participate in such great community building events. Fundraisers such as this also help to pay for other events and items that directly impact our students. We are so blessed to



have such a supportive School Council. Our next council meeting will be **IN PERSON** on Tuesday, November 18 from 6:30-7:30. There will be no virtual component to this meeting. All are welcome to attend!

🎵 **St. Benedict Choir at Ottawa 67's Game Night** 🎵

We're excited to announce that our St. Benedict Choir will be singing "O Canada" at the Ottawa 67's game again this year! Tickets available for purchase on School Cash Online: **Deadline: Sunday, November 23rd – no last-minute sales!**

 **Date:** Friday, November 28

 **Time:** 7 PM

 **Ticket Price:** \$22



Special Offer:

Help Our Choir Get to the Game! In order for our St. Benedict School Choir members to receive complimentary tickets to attend an Ottawa 67's game, we need your support! By purchasing tickets, you'll not only enjoy the game but also help us meet the ticket sales requirement needed to secure free tickets for our choir members. Let's make this a memorable experience for the kids—thank you for your contribution

The first 80 families to purchase tickets will receive a complimentary ticket for one child (Child must be a St. Benedict School Choir member**). We encourage families to secure their spot early to take advantage of this offer. For those not among the first 80, regular ticket pricing will apply.** Don't miss out on this exciting night of music and hockey! Go 67's and Goooooooo..... St. Ben Choir! 🎤

Sacrament of Confirmation

If your child is in Grade 6 and interested in being Confirmed, there is one remaining Confirmation information session on November 13 at 7pm. The Information session will be held in St. Monica Parish (2080 Merivale Rd.). Please see the following [registration information](#).



Communicating Concerns Effectively

We value your partnership and want to ensure your concerns about your child's experience at school are addressed promptly and effectively. If an issue arises, we ask that you **begin by contacting your child's teacher directly**. The teacher is the person closest to the situation and can often resolve matters quickly. If, after speaking with the teacher, the issue remains

unresolved, the next step is to contact the school administration. Please remember that posting complaints or issues on social media platforms is not an effective way to communicate with us, as it circumvents the proper channels, prevents us from gathering necessary information, and does not allow the school to address the situation directly or confidentially. Utilizing the established communication structure ensures that we can listen, investigate, and work together toward a constructive solution.



Parking

With the cold, snowy weather upon us, it is important that we continue to abide by parking regulations. Parking in unsanctioned spots makes accessing the building nearly impossible for through traffic and for emergency vehicles. This is especially true when the snowbanks begin to form. The illegal three point/u-turns pose an added threat due to low visibility. A reminder that the bus loop is for bus and special transportation vehicles only. The staff parking lot will also have limited parking in the winter due to snow removal so it is even more crucial that you adhere to the posted signage. Again we realize that parking a block or two away is inconvenient, especially when it is cold, but these measures are put in place to keep everyone safe. Bundle up, it will only get colder! ❄️



Bussing Issues

OSTA (Ottawa Student Transportation Authority) is responsible for all bus transportation issues. If you have a driver concern, a route issue or questions about delays and cancellations, please contact them directly.

[Contact OSTA.](#)



Important Dates/Upcoming Events

November 10 - SafeArrival App Launch

November 11 - Remembrance Day Liturgy: 10:00 - 10:30 (KP) & 10:45 - 11:30 (Grs. 1-3)

November 13 - Progress Reports on Parent Portal. Interview booking open.

November 13 - Grade 6 Land Acknowledgement Presentation (pm)

November 14, 21 & 28 - Taekwondo Sessions



November 17 - 21 - Bully Prevention and Awareness Week
November 18 - Grade 3B & 3D Field Trip to the Museum of Science and Technology
November 18 - School Council Meeting at 8:30 in Learning Commons
November 20 - Parent-Teacher Interviews 4-8pm
November 23 - Last day to purchase 67 tickets
November 25 - Boys Volleyball Tournament at St. Benedict
November 26 - 3A and 3C Field Trip to the Museum of Science and Technology
November 26 - Grade 4 Field Trip to Museum of Nature
November 27 - Girls Volleyball Tournament at St. Benedict