

# REGIOPOLIS-NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Visit our website: [www.reginotredame.ca](http://www.reginotredame.ca)



## February 2020 Newsletter

*Newsletter is issued at the beginning of each month*

### Principal's Message

Welcome to the second half of the year. The semester two reboot is a time to start afresh, with renewed dedication and excitement. Report cards will soon be ready and, we hope, reflect the hard work put forth.

Students should now be settling into their second semester courses. Please note that the textbook room hours have been expanded (open before school, during period one, lunch, and after school). Senior students should remember to stay on top of any post-secondary application processes they have initiated and to maintain their academic efforts throughout the semester. Hard work will pay off, I promise.

We wish all of our sports teams and extracurricular clubs the best of luck as they finish off the winter season. Ten members of our DECA team, composed of are also heading to provincial level competition. Represent us well, DECA! To our Improv Team hosting Improv right here in our own cafeteria, break a leg, everybody wins.

Good luck and gratitude for the contributions of **Ms. Broekhoven, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Cunningham, Ms. MacIsaac and Mr. Ruffolo**. They will be truly missed. We welcome back **Ms. Downey, Ms. Whitley, Ms. Ross, Mr. Harren, Ms. Smith and Ms. O'Brien** as well as new to us **Mr. Atkinson**.

Parents, please attend to those Health Unit letters about immunization update (if your home received one); we don't want to exclude anyone from school. Students, here is looking forward to a great semi-formal. I know you will enjoy the night responsibly. We are even letting you bring guests this time; this is trust-building. Live up to this trust.

God bless, everyone.

*Terri Daniel*

### Pastoral Services

The Pope's monthly intention for **February** is: **Listen to the Migrants' Cries**: We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

**Black History Month** - We recognize the legacy of Black Canadians past and present. This year's theme is "Canadians of African Descent: Going forward, guided by the past." We hope to engage with our mentors from the African Caribbean Students Association at some events this month.

**Development and Peace Leadership Day** - students from SHSM Non-profit, FIAT and our Eco-Team are going to Belleville on Thurs. Feb. 6th to learn more about "Our Common Home: A future for the Amazon a future for all!"

Lent begins this month with **Ash Wednesday on February 26<sup>th</sup>** with an amended school day schedule and a mass at 12 in the CND gym with distribution of ashes. Ashes are sacramentals (not a sacrament) and therefore anyone can receive them as they are a sign of repentance and wanting to turn away from sin and towards God.

**FIAT School Twinning with Tanzania!** In lent we are generous to those in need. This year we are twinning with a school in Tanzania through "Chalice" in order to build relationships and assist them in purchasing new desks and chairs.

**Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada: Giant Floor Map!** The giant map will be here **February 18<sup>th</sup> to March 6<sup>th</sup>**. This is a chance to engage in conversations around the past, present and future of indigenous people. We hope to have self-identified students, allies and students from indigenous art, world religions and indigenous English classes join us in exploring this resource.

**Vocations - Gr 11 classes to the chapel** - Gr 11 classes will be invited to the chapel throughout the month to spend some time reflecting on what God is calling them to be and to spend some time with Jesus in the blessed sacrament.

**Bereavement Support** - As we continue to grieve the death of Maranda Mitchell, there will be a chance for grieving students to meet monthly to take a break from their busyness and support one another. The first gathering will be **Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>** in Period 4 in the chaplaincy office. Invitations will be sent to some, but others are welcome too.

### Student Services

#### College/University Applicants for Fall 2020 – Important Dates

**February 1<sup>st</sup>**; Deadline for Ontario College Applications ([www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca))

**February 7<sup>th</sup>**; Semester One final marks will be sent to OCAS.

**February 10<sup>th</sup>**; Semester One final marks will be sent to OUAC.

#### Guidance Appointments

Online booking for guidance appointments will be unavailable until **Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**.

During exams, guidance counsellors were available to all students in the Student Common or Student Services before and after morning exams.

#### Changes to Semester 2 Timetables

All students must remain in classes assigned on their timetable, even if the student thinks that there is a course on it that was not requested.

On **Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**, priority will be given to students with incomplete timetables:

- a) grade 9 to 11 students with fewer than 4 courses
- b) grade 12 students with fewer than 3 courses

Students with incomplete timetables for semester 2 should come to the Student Common during the blank period on their timetable. Students should NOT leave an assigned class to come to the Common. **It is imperative that students with incomplete timetables address these concerns.** A student who is aware that they are not eligible for a class because they do not have the correct pre-requisite should also come to Student Services ONLY during the period in question.

We will continue use of our official “Wait list” for any course that is full.

The deadline for semester 2 course changes is **Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

#### Grade 8 Students Heading to RND

Parents of Grade 8 students, who are interested in attending Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School for the 2020/2021 school year but missed Parent Night, can view the PowerPoint shared by Student Services with partner and non-partner school parents in January. It has been posted under Student Services on the Regi website. Additionally, registration packages are available in Student Services for incoming grade nines.

MyBlueprint online course selection for partner school students is complete. The deadline was **Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Registration packages from partner schools should have arrived in Student Services by **Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**.

The deadline for registration packages from non-partner school applicants was **Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Student Services.

#### Course Selection - 2020/2021 School Year

The course selection process will begin the week of **February 10<sup>th</sup>** for grades nine, ten, and eleven. Grade nine homerooms will visit Student Services in period 3 and grade ten homerooms will visit in period 4. Guidance counsellors will facilitate course selection over the month of February and into early March, using the myBlueprint pathway planner.

While the process for junior classes is underway, a counsellor will visit grade 11 homerooms to provide helpful hints as well as to field any questions students might have as they begin the process of making choices for next year. Once nines and tens have been seen, grade elevens will have an opportunity to visit Student Services to have a counsellor ensure they are on the proper pathway with their selections.

Grade 12 homerooms will also receive a visit from Student Services. Students will complete a Grade 12 Exit Survey in myBlueprint. This survey provides students the opportunity to share with the school their plan for next year – be it work, college, university, or returning to RND.

Students, who wish to return for a fifth year, will officially register for 2020/2021 in May. Student Services will share the necessary steps of this process at the Graduate Assembly in early May.

#### eLearning in Semester 2

By now the parents/guardians of students taking a course through eLearning should have received a welcome email from **Ms. Daniel**. Students will check in with Student Services on **Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** during the open period in their timetable (the eLearning timeslot). This will provide students the opportunity to discuss any technical difficulties experienced thus far and to be briefed on school expectations for eLearning students.

All eLearners will sign in daily in the Library, where they will work on their respective courses. These courses move quickly; therefore, it is easy to put credits at risk.

### Co-operative Education (Co-op)

All RND co-op students will be in class for the first two weeks of semester 2 before placements begin. They should report to Room 214 during their co-op periods.

### Mental Health Ambassadors

Thank you to all staff and students for their support of MHA's Beat Exam Blues week. Therapy dogs, Lifesaver treats, and KanJam served as reminders to be good to ourselves – especially during stressful times like our exam period.

### Vaping

As medical evidence grows connecting the use of electronic cigarettes and health concerns, particularly for youth, we at RND continue to address the issue as best we can, through education and consequences. Please be advised that students vaping or smoking on school property will face suspension as well as fines from the Public Health Unit. It is illegal for anyone to vape or smoke on school property. Students are well aware of these expectations and anyone in contravention of them is risking these consequences as well as their well-being. On a related note, students are not to be lounging in the washrooms, eating there, or hanging out in stalls with multiple people.

### Regi Reads

We are at the half way point in our journey through the, **The Forest of Reading Program**. This reading program offers high school-aged teens the opportunity to read the best of Canada's recent young adult fiction titles. The New titles have arrived and are on display on the circulation desk in the Library. This reading program runs from mid-December until the middle of April which gives students ample opportunity to read as many titles as they wish. Voting will be held during the month of April and all votes must be submitted online by **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. To be eligible to vote you must read a minimum of five books from the list. The winner of the White Pine Award will be announced at the Festival of Trees in Toronto on May. The White Pine selections can be found on the front circulation desk in front of the display. For more details see the staff in the library.

Winner of the White Pine Award 2019: ★*The Agony of Bun O'Keefe* ★ Written by Heather Smith.

### Books Nominated For The 2019 White Pine Award

*All Our Broken Pieces* Written by L.D. Crichton  
*Baggage* Written by Wendy Phillips  
*Beauty of the Moment* Written by Tanaz Bhathena  
*Comics Will Break Your Heart* Written by Faith Erin Hicks  
*Crown of Feathers* Written by Nicki Pau Preto  
*Field Guide to the North American Teenager* Written by Ben Philippe  
*The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali* Written by Sabina Khan  
*Sadie* Written by Courtney Summers  
*Synchro Boy* Written by Shannon McFerran  
*We Contain Multitudes* Written by Sarah Henstra

### IB News

IB students in grade 9, 10, 11 will meet with the **IB Coordinator, Mr. David**, [david@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:david@alcdsb.on.ca) during the month of **February** to go over their 4 Year Plan and course selections for next year.

The **IB May Exam** schedule is posted on the **RND IB D2L** page in the Content Browser under Exams. Please note that these dates are not changeable.

Grade 12 IB students **MUST** review the guidelines for the Submission of Work to IB by Students and the eCoursework Guide for Candidates found in the Content Browser on the Regi IB D2L. Grade 12 IB Students will upload the following components on **Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>** during Period 4 in the Library: TOK Essay and Form TK/PPF, Extended Essay and Form EE/RPPF, English Written Assignment, and French Written Assignment. Please meet in the Library at the start of Period 4 on **February 6<sup>th</sup>** to complete the submission of this work. All documents must be ready to upload at this time.

Grade 12 IB Students will complete major IB Assessments for English (Oral), French (Oral), Philosophy (Philosophical Analysis), Chemistry (Scientific Investigation), Math (Exploration) and Music (Performance, Composition, and Musical Links) early this semester. Please adhere to the due dates your subject teachers have established for all of these assessments.

Grades 11 and 12 students are reminded to update their CAS Portfolio on ManageBac regularly. Please meet with **Ms. Glancey** as needed.

### Student Council

Welcome back! We hope that everyone's exams went great and that you're starting the next semester with a positive attitude, looking forward to the spring! It seems like the first semester has passed by in a flash - it was full of lots of fun throughout spirit week with days like Cozy Day and Christmas sweater Day.

Santa loved taking pictures with all of you and skating at the Memorial Centre was so much fun!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our fundraising efforts for the Peter Carty Memorial and the Australian wildfires. We raised over \$1500.00 to support WIRES in Australia, and together with Holy Cross we raised over \$8000 at the Peter Carty Memorial – WAY TO GO PANTHERS!!

We have a lot planned for second semester, so if you would like to volunteer at an event, come see us and we would be happy to get you involved.

### Upcoming events and dates in February

**February 6<sup>th</sup> Blood Bus:** RND's Blood Bus is heading back to Canadian Blood Services to donate. If you're 17 and interested in giving blood and saving lives, see Mackinley!

**February 13<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker (Climate Change):** Two Queens University students (Zoe and Angus) who are members of Queens' Backing Action on Climate Change (QBACC) will be coming to our school during third period to talk about the climate crisis, large scale solutions, and community initiatives.

#### **February 21<sup>st</sup> Semi-Formal:**

- The theme is Casino Royale.
- Doors will open at 6:00pm and will close at 6:30pm. You must be on time to get in.
- All coats and bags must be left at coat check.
- Dinner and snacks will be provided throughout the night.
- Please use the side door on Russell Street near the stairs that go up to the field.
- You need to bring your tickets with you.
- If you are bringing a guest, make sure that they have their ticket and that you have handed in their signed permission form by **February 4<sup>th</sup>**. Your guest is your responsibility.
- The dance ends at 9:00pm so please make sure your rides are ready for you.
- If you would like to stay until 11:00 to help clean up and get volunteer hours, you must let Ms. Emmerson know ahead of time and have permission from a guardian.

**February 26<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday Mass:** We are looking forward to seeing everyone come out to mass and begin the journey of Lent together.

#### **February 28<sup>th</sup> Non-uniform Day**

### Driver's Education Course

The Omni-Lateral Driver Education Centre is offering their driver's education course, commencing on **February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. For complete details and contact information, please drop by RND's main office or call Madeline Bouvier at 613 545 1902 ext. 2200.

### Used Spring Uniforms

With spring only weeks away, you may want to start thinking about your child's spring uniform. Please keep in mind that the school has plenty of used shirts and shorts for those looking to purchase a used uniform. If you are interested in purchasing a used spring uniform, please see **Mrs. Bouvier** in the main office; 613 545-1902; ext. 2200. Please note: Students can wear spring uniforms, commencing **May 4<sup>th</sup>**.