

Dr. Norman Bethune C.I. Newsletter



Principal: S. Kaskens
Vice-Principals: L. Houghton, C. Wilson
April 2019

Upcoming Events

- ◆ School Holiday - April 19 & 22
- ◆ Report Card Distribution April 11th
- ◆ Be Well Bethune Week April 8-12
- ◆ April 8-12
9am school start!

Principal's News

This month we are looking forward to our annual, "Be Well Bethune Week". We know that the end of the school year creates additional pressure for students to complete summative projects and prepare for their final exams. The week of April 8-12 is intended focus on wellness for our entire school community. This year's theme "Small Steps; Big Results" will promote the idea that we can all make small shifts in our behaviours, attitudes or routines that could have a significant impact on our overall well-being. We are looking forward to the highly anticipated Bethune TEDx Talks, as well as a variety of activities and guests (including a therapy dog).

I'd also like to take this opportunity to commend the grade 11 and 12 Drama students for their production of "Unseen", a play written and directed by our students that received a number of awards at the National Theatre School of Canada Drama Festival (formerly The Sears Festival).

In addition, Bethune was represented by two performances at TDSB Creates.

"Look Up", a Spoken Word performance, and "Breaking the Silence" a Dance performance, were both selected for the final TDSB showcase on April 25.

A group of students will be conducting a traffic study in front of Bethune and David Lewis from April 1 – April 12. During the first week, they will collect data on traffic congestion and safety. During the second week, we will alter the start/end time of school (with a start time of 9:00am) and students will establish whether there is a significant impact on traffic congestion and safety with a 9:00 start time. We will share the results with the entire Bethune community and use the research to determine whether we should alter the start time for the 2019/20 school year.

Finally, you can expect your son/daughter to bring home a report card on April 11th. There is not a scheduled parent-teacher interview following this report card, however, parents are encouraged to call or email teachers if they have questions or concerns regarding their son's/daughter's progress.

Ms Kaskens

No School - Friday April 19 & Monday April 22

This is just a reminder that Friday April 19th and Monday, April 22 are both school holidays.

April 8th-12th - 9 am Start!

Don't forget Bethune, our daily schedule is changed for the week of April 8-12 only. Our school day will start at 9am and end at 3:15pm, with lunch shortened to one hour. This schedule change is only for one week!

Provincial Wrestling Success!



The Bethune wrestling team's season started with pre-season practices at the beginning of November and ended more than four months later at the OFSAA championships in Ottawa the first week of March. During this time the team worked hard in practice and competed in many tournaments against some of the best wrestlers in the country. All wrestlers deserve congratulations for their hard work and commitment.

Eight Bear wrestlers qualified for the City Championships February 27th at West Humber C.I. and did extremely well. Akram Nadeem, Laurien Wang and Mohib Siddiqui all won bronze medals in their respective weight classes while Rayyan

Rahman came away with a silver and Sabrina Wu took home the gold medal. As a result of their performances at the city championships, Rayyan and Sabrina qualified to represent the TDSB at the OFSAA championships at TD Place Arena in Ottawa.

It was the first OFSAA tournament for Rayyan and Sabrina, and competing in such a large, competitive event can be very intimidating. Despite this, they were able to control their nerves and put in outstanding performances. Both Rayyan and Sabrina won 2 of their 4 matches and finished among the top 15 wrestlers in the province in their weight classes. Congratulations!!!

Mr. Eisenberg



Bethune at the Toronto International Film Festival



Once again this year, on March 5 and 7, grade 11 English students travelled downtown Toronto to TIFF to participate in a filmmaking workshop, and learn about visual storytelling and filming techniques.

Once the stories were conceived and the scripts were written, the students assumed various roles within the filmmaking team. A director and an assistant director were in charge of the whole process and determined how their team wanted to shoot the film, taking into account elements such as light and camera movement in the decision-making process. The films will be edited by the TIFF professionals but post-production effects, such as sound adjustments and colour correction were completed by the end of the day.

In a couple of weeks, TIFF will forward us the links to all the films that the students will be happy to share on the Bethune *Twitter* account. Throughout the day-long

workshop, our students were guided by knowledgeable and enthusiastic TIFF instructors under the supervision of our own Bethune teachers.

It was a super busy day, activity and fun packed, highly cooperative and interactive, informative and interesting. Excellent job, Bethune moviemakers!

Ms. Focseneau



Dodgeball 2019 Intramural Champs

The ABC hosted its annual Dodgeball tournament the Thursday before March Break, and in true Bethune fashion, it was a competitive one!! We had 13 teams have a go at each other, and after 2.5 hours, we had it whittled down to one.

Congratulations to #OneLastDance for taking it in the finals and winning the NEON t-shirts!!! Woo hoo!! Stay tuned for our final intramurals of the school year...anyone fancy some soccer??

Ms. Aziz



Student Reflection - National Theatre School Drama Festival 2019

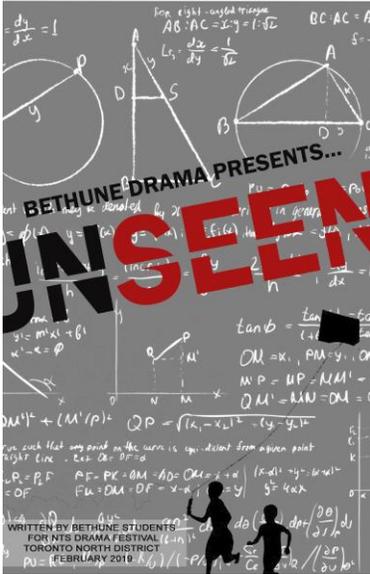
My senior drama class wrote and performed a play for the National Theatre School of Canada Drama Festival. We started the playwriting process in November, by writing monologues, and then we wove those monologues together into one play. Creating and performing the play took many months of hard work and dedication from everyone in the class. Once we went into production mode, BCAC and Art Club helped us bring the play to life by painting the set. Digital Art students created our posters. That was another awesome part of this experience; seeing all of the arts students work together was a fulfilling thing to witness. The cast and crew of the play itself were phenomenal as well and without them, our performance would not have gone smoothly on stage.

In addition to performing at Bethune, we performed the play in front of a live audience and adjudicator at Sir Oliver Mowat C.I. on February 26, 2019. It was incredibly nerve-wracking at first, but then we replaced those nerves with passion and confidence. It was our best performance and we are proud of it. The adjudicator gave us a lot of positive feedback. She awarded us the Award of Excellence for Collaborative Playwriting, which was a great honour. As a grade 12 student who has taken drama for all four years of high school, I can say that performing at the NTS Drama Festival was a highlight of my high school career and a memory I will cherish forever.

*Lucas Montano-Dong
Grade 12 Drama Student*



The Arts Update



Congratulations to all of the drama students who performed in the play "Unseen". The play received rave reviews from the adjudicator at the National Theatre School Drama Festival. Students at Bethune were treated to a performance of "Unseen" on February 25. Special Thanks to all students involved, Bethune Creative Arts Council, Ms. Rzezniczek, Ms. Rappos and Mr. Chard for all of their commitment to this wonderful production.

Our Choirs are preparing for their upcoming April performances at the Sounds of Toronto Concert at Roy Thomson Hall on April 4th and at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Music High School Choral Festival on April 8th. We also have 12 instrumentalists participating in the Sounds of Toronto

Concert as members of the Combined Band and a Small Ensemble. Tickets are \$10 and are available through our music teachers.

Please join us for our upcoming Spring Music Night on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 7:00pm. All of our performing ensembles will be participating in this annual event at the beautiful Flato Markham Theatre. We will also be hosting a raffle with fantastic prizes such as Bethune Music shirts, Gift Cards, Yunique Makeup, and more. Concert tickets will be available from our music students.

Our Stage Band will perform on April 25th at the Music Alive - York Region Festival, at Cosmo Music in Richmond Hill.

Andria Kilbride, ACL The Arts

Bethune C.I. Arts Department
Presents.....

Spring Music Night

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
7:00pm

Flato Markham Theatre, 171 Town Centre Boulevard, Markham
\$12.50 per ticket
General Admission

Tickets are available on School Cash Online or from a music teacher

Happy Spring!