

Dr. Norman Bethune C.I. Newsletter

April 2018

Principal S. Kaskens
Vice-Principals L. Pagnotta, C. Wilson



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Holiday - April 2
- ◆ EQAO Literacy Test
- ◆ Report Card Distribution
- ◆ Be Well Bethune Week



Michelle Ma & Nishkrit Desai

Principal's News

Dear Bethune Parents/Guardians,

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 16-20 is intended focus on wellness for our entire school community. This year's theme "It's ok to be me" will promote self-acceptance and self-respect. 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 *Sonder*, a play written and directed by our students that received a number of awards at the National Theatre.... (formerly Sear's Festival).

As well, I'd like to make you aware of several upcoming parent workshops available at Bethune.

No School - April 2

This is just a reminder that Monday, April 2 is a holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday, April 3.

Mrs. Pagnotta

Spring Sports

Our tryouts for spring sports are well underway and we are excited for the upcoming spring season. Stay tuned for

TDSB Skills Competition

On March 6th, students from Bethune competed in the annual TDSB Skills Competition. It was another very successful event for our students! In the Architecture category, **Sally Chiu** was awarded a **gold** medal in Architecture and **Michelle Ma** earned a **silver**. In Electronics, **Daniel Loveson** was awarded

Monday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m.: Boundaries and Bridges: When to Push and When to Support Your Teen (English)

Wednesday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.: Maximize your Child's Academic Potential: How Overall Well-Being Impacts Student Success (Mandarin and English)

Monday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m.: "You Just Don't Understand Me!": How to Build a Healthy Relationship with Your Teen (Mandarin)

All workshops are free and all parents are welcome to attend. Flyers will be emailed to parents with more information on each of these workshops. We also welcome parents from our feeder schools.

Finally, you can expect your son/daughter to bring home a report card on April 12.

Ms Kaskens

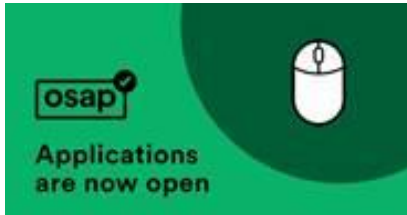


results from Track and Field, Ultimate Frisbee, Girls Soccer, Rugby, Floorball and Slo-Pitch. We can't wait to get outside!

Ms Aziz

a **silver** medal and **Steven Lin** earned **bronze**. And last but not least, in the Coding competition, **Nishkrit Desai** was awarded a **silver** medal. Congratulations to all, and good luck to Sally in the Provincial Skills competition in May!

Mr. Rao



Financial Help for Students Attending University

Is your child making plans to attend college or university next fall? Visit Ontario.ca/OSAP to see what financial aid is available to help pay for tuition and other expenses.

This year, about one-third of students attending college or university full-time are receiving free tuition from OSAP. Visit

Ontario.ca/OSAP and use the calculator to see what your child may be eligible to receive from OSAP.

Apply early and use the OSAP comparison tool to help your child make the best choice for their future.

Find out more and apply at ontario.ca/osap.

Ms Harrop

Ladies Who Lunch

On March 2nd, three grade 12 female students (Vicky Chen, Selina Lam, and Karen Tan) from Ms Le's Financial Securities class were invited to RBC Capital Markets' annual *Ladies who Lunch* event. *Ladies who Lunch* provides young women in grade 12 with a tour of the trading floor and the opportunity to have a one-on-one lunch with a female RBC Capital Markets employee.

The students learned about the various career opportunities available within finance and RBC specifically. Additionally, they learned how to apply for the RBC Capital Markets Diversity Scholarship, which is available to all students in their second year of undergraduate studies, as well as other RBC campus recruitment programs. This event further supported the students' decision to pursue a career in business.

Ms Le



Volleyball Intramurals

After four weeks of intense volleyball play, three teams came out victorious. A big congrats to this year's Volleyball Intramural Champs – our Girls: Team Sherdingdong, Jr. Boys: Team Colby Carry and Sr. Boys: Team 01234. Next up – Floorball and Dodgeball Intramurals. Let the Games Begin!

Ms Aziz



Fitness Field Trip

Our Grade 10, 11 and 12 female fitness classes made their yearly trip to the Etobicoke Field Studies Centre to learn about harvesting maple syrup and to practice their survival skills. We tapped a tree, emptied and boiled the sap and even did some maple syrup taste testing. Additionally, all the girls tried lighting a fire using bows and flint with much success. An added bonus was a cookout lunch of hot dogs over the fire and old fashioned S'mores. Lots of

bonding and giggles were had by all and we are already looking forward to next year!

Ms Aziz & Ms Fisher



Business SHSM Students Get Amazing Opportunity

On Thursday, March 22, our Business SHSM students spent the day learning about ICE - Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship from the founder of Flightunit, Christoff Kyere. Christoff led the students through key concepts needed to create a successful marketing plan for an event. Students eagerly worked together to come up with their marketing plans for a real-world event, and were

nervous and excited knowing they were going to present their plans to Natasha Borota, President and CEO @itfactorbiz Co-Founder of the Michael 'Pinball' Clemons Foundation.

It was an exciting and nerve racking day, but the students got first-hand experience in the business world. Great job SHSM students!

Mrs. Pagnotta



Be Well Bethune Week

Bethune’s annual well-being awareness and promotion week will commence on April 16th. This year’s theme, It’s OK to Be Me, encourages students to practice kindness and self-acceptance. Throughout the week, Healthy Schools, Bethune’s

TEDx, Chess Club, BEAT and Arts Council will run activities that promote overall well-being. Please see our calendar of events below and encourage your child to participate!

Ms Villamin-Arenas



Mon, April 16	Tues, April 17	Wed, April 18	Thurs, April 19	Fri, April 20	Mon, April 23
Mindful Monday	Talk Tuesday	Wellness Wednesday	Taking care Thursday	Friendship Friday	
Assembly Day Schedule Kindness Practice over the PA Key Note Speakers from UNITY Who am I? Student Activity at Lunch	Assembly Day Schedule Tedx Talk Period 2	Lunch Activities: Yoga in Weight Room Open Gym Walking/Running Group (staff) 6:30-8:00pm Well-Being information Night for Parents presented by Hong Fook	Lunch Activities: Stress Balls and Colouring Books Jenga Chess Nail Painting Art Therapy	Lunch Activities: Cafe in Commons Food snacks provided Food drive Cash donation &/or canned good to enter into the cafe (donations delivered to a local food bank) Water Bar Photo booth	Lunch Activities: Therapy Dogs in Commons

Young Women on the Move

The members of Young Women on the Move had another busy month of March this year. The REDress campaign was once again a success, bringing awareness of the more than 1,200 missing and murdered indigenous women across Canada.

On Wednesday March 7th, the day that the TDSB celebrates International Women's Day, four of the Young Women on the Move members attended the all-day conference "Unstoppable Me, Unstoppable You, Unstoppable Us", to celebrate the struggles and accomplishments of girls and women across the world. They

listened to the celebrated motivational speaker "Unstoppable Tracy", winner of the 2017 Robert W. Jackson award, the 2017 Ontario Premier Awards Nominee, the 2018 Women of Essence Global Award Nominee and the Paralympic Trialist. The theme of her talk was the issue of accessibility and the ability to overcome obstacles. The girls also participated in several activities and discussions throughout the day.

The members of YWM are already planning our next event for the month of April. Stay tuned for more information!

Ms Barrile



Arts Department News

Congratulations to all of the students who performed in our school play "**Sonder**". The play received rave reviews from the adjudicator at the National Theatre School Drama Festival. At the awards ceremony, which was held at the end of the festival, our play was honoured with three awards.

- *An Award of Excellence in Directing* was given to Jeffrey Zhu and Irene Yang
- *An Award of Excellence in Set Design and Construction* was awarded to the design team for their artistic vision
- Lucy Tang received an *Award of Merit* for her use of dance and storytelling

Students at Bethune were treated to a performance of "**Sonder**" on March 29. 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 senior visual arts students who are giving T-Wing and B-Wing a makeover! Murals are currently being painted on the lockers to freshen up the space and to showcase the incredible talent in our school. Grade 9 visual art students are working on clay sculptures and our grade

10s are experimenting with linoleum printmaking.

On March 23, the Music Department welcomed students from David Lewis P.S. and Kennedy P.S. for our annual *Mini Jazz Band Festival*. Our very own Jazz Choir, Jr. Jazz Band and Stage Band also performed at the event. John Pagnotta, former TDSB music teacher and professional musician, was our clinician for the event. He offered some excellent advice to all the students involved and we are happy to announce that we will be having him back to Bethune to run some improvisation workshops. Our Jazz Bands will perform on April 27th at the **Music Alive - York Region Festival**, at Cosmo Music in Richmond Hill.

Our Choirs are preparing for their upcoming April performances at the **University of Toronto High School Choral Festival** and the **Sounds of Toronto Concert** at Massey Hall.

Please join the music department for our upcoming **Spring Music Night** on Monday, May 28, 2018 at 7:00pm. All of our performing ensembles will be participating in this annual event at the beautiful Flato Markham Theatre.

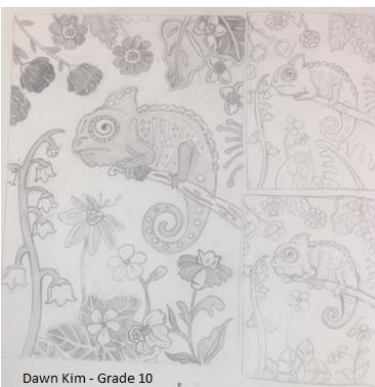
Ms Kilbride



Rachel Tang - Grade 10



Bella Huang - Grade 10



Dawn Kim - Grade 10



Grade 9 Clay Sculptures

