

FEBRUARY

Important Dates

February 1

First day of classes, Semester 2

February 2

Grade 10 ALP Meeting

February 3

Semester 1 Final Reports Distributed

February 3

Grade 9 ALP Meeting

February 7

School Wide Program Assemblies / Workshops

February 8

Photo Day (for new students and any students who haven't had their photo taken)

February 14-18

On Line Course Selection

February 21

Family Day—no classes

March 4

Letters of Concern Mailed for Semestered & Desemestered Courses

March 14-18

Spring Break—No Classes

March 31

OSSLT

April 11

Semester 2 Mid-Term Report Cards for Desemestered Courses Distributed

April 13

Term 1 Ends (Semester 2)

April 14

Terms 2 Begins (Semester 2)

April 21

Parent/Teacher Interviews

April 22

Good Friday—no classes

April 25

Easter Monday—no classes

April 26

Full Disclosure



White Oaks Secondary School



South Campus
1330 Montclair Drive
Oakville, Ontario L6H 1Z5
Phone: 905-845-5200
Fax: 905-845-9136

Principal: John Stieva
Vice-Principal: Claire Ailey
Vice-Principal: Jeffrey Carey
Vice-Principal: Kathleen DeMan
Vice-Principal: Michael Gallant

Website: www.wossweb.com
E-mail: surnameinitial@hdsb.ca
(eg. stievaj@hdsb.ca)

North Campus:
1055 McCraney Street East
Oakville, Ontario L6H 1H9
Phone: 905-845-5200
Fax: 905-845-5124

Superintendent: Stuart Miller
Phone: 905-335-3665, ext. 3385

School Council Chair: Sherry Kirkham
E-mail: wossCouncil@gmail.com

School Trustee: Kelly Amos
E-mail: amosk@hdsb.ca

Students in the Futures Program Visit Queens Park



Students in the Futures program are the proud recipients of the Ontario provincial flag given to them by Oakville MPP Kevin Flynn as well as a quick lesson on the flag's history and symbols.

For Futures students, Queen's Park is not just a name or a building. After visiting the Legislature last December and observing question period, they are learning how their government works and that each one of them has a voice. During Question Period, Oakville MPP Kevin Flynn acknowledged the presence of the White Oaks Futures Program students from his community of Oakville.

The students had an opportunity to meet Kevin Flynn again when he came to their class along with Constituency Assistant Ellen Kuschnik and guest speaker Steven Muir, a former student of General Wolfe High School. Steven engaged the students with his heartfelt stories about living independently, bullying, inclusion and finding a job. Back in high school, Steven stated that he could never have imagined working in an office. Today he works part time as an office assistant in Kevin Flynn's office. He is responsible for filing, assembling Grade 5 education kits and mailers, answering the phone, taking messages and helping people with intellectual disabilities advocate for themselves. The students are looking forward to hearing more from Steven when discussions will focus on "Goals and Dreams" and "The Importance of Public Speaking".



Steven Muir (second from left) role plays with students Brenden Brodhurst, Christie Planques and Alyssa Feher and leads a lively discussion on bullying.



Queens Park



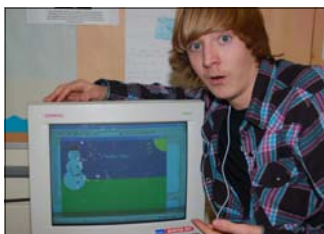


IN THE CLASSROOM

Computer Science Art!

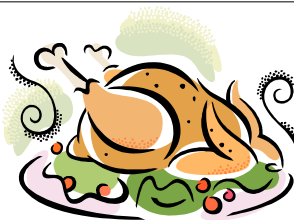


The Grade 11 Computer Science Classes, ICS3U & ICS3C, ran an Impromptu Art Show for their classmates on December 6. The students have been learning how to solve problems on the computer by writing their own computer programs. Recently the class was shown how to draw simple shapes. Students are beginning to animate their drawings & are on their way to creating their own computer games. This Art Show was a way for students to show off their work, share ideas & to prepare themselves for making their own games. For the first time at White Oaks, the students are learning a computer language called Python & discovering that it is easy to use and a very powerful programming language. It is used by organizations such as Google and NASA. Students interested in Computer Science are welcome to talk to Mr. Ching or Mr. Van Rooyen and they are encouraged to take either the grade 10 or grade 11 computer science courses: IC-S2O, ICS3U or ICS3C (no prerequisites are required).



OYAP, SHSM & Halton Homes Applications

Students interested in regional programs such as OYAP, SHSM or Halton Homes need to get applications in as soon as possible. Interviews are taking place on an ongoing basis. Apply early to avoid disappointment.



Hospitality

The SHSM students enrolled in the Hospitality program have continued to receive positive feedback from catering services they have actively provided to local community groups during semester 1. They have prepared and served close to 450 hot Turkey meals prior to the Christmas break processing around 400 lbs. of turkey. The full meal included roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, roasted root vegetable & cranberry sauce. They have also produced numerous sandwiches and lasagnas. Being able to service local events with our catering helps to raise public awareness as to what is happening at WOSS and offers students valuable real life experiences when interacting with clients.

Moving ahead SHSM students will be representing the school at "The High School Cook Off" culinary competition hosted by Niagara College on February 28th. There will be teams competing in both the Culinary (Wes Hopkins & Chris Goosens) and Bakery (Elizabeth Cericola & Autumn Parkes) categories. On returning they will have a short break before competing in the Halton Skills competition on April 7th.

The North Campus Food school wishes all competitors luck in their efforts.

Co-operative Education at WOSS

The WOSS Co-op program saw great success semester one with students getting rave reviews and recommendations from their employers. We had students working in journalism for the Bronte Villager, in finance for BMO, in marketing for Life Photography, in teaching for many of our local elementary schools, in retail at various stores as well as in dramatic arts for West End Studio. Along with the 2 co-op credits these students earned for their afternoon placements, they also learned a plethora of new skills and knowledge.

The co-op department is now gearing up for a very exciting second semester with a multitude of placements in the Oakville / Burlington community. We have many students applying to OTMH hoping to work in cardiology, surgery, nuclear medicine, pharmacy and many other areas. Other students are applying to TV Cogeco for television production and broadcasting. We also have students doing placements in law, hair design, veterinary care, fashion design, computer repair, social work and many other areas. Please contact your co-op department or guidance counsellor for more information on how you can register for a co-op position customized to your specific career choice.





Hairstyling & Aesthetic Program



The Hairstyling class is looking forward to their in-school Skills Competition. The winner of this competition will go on to compete in the Halton Skills Competition which will be hosted at White Oaks on April 7, 2011. This competition will encompass all schools in Halton from both the Catholic and the Public school boards. The winners advance to compete provincially and nationally if they are successful. It's a very exciting time for our students.

Our new OYAP classes start February 2, 2011. We encourage students interested in becoming a Hairstylist to contact us ASAP to participate in the February 2012 program (go to the Halton School to Careers website and OnSorts.ca for more information). We would also like to invite our student body, staff and the public to come in to enjoy our hairstyling services and excellent prices at our school salon during our Customer Service days, every Thursday and Friday. To book your appointment please call 905-845-5200 ext 268.

Our Dual Credit Aesthetic Program which is twinned with Sheridan College is inviting students to take part second semester. Upon successful completion of this course and a 65% final mark, students will receive one credit with WOSS and 3 Aesthetic credits with Sheridan College. It is an excellent program, if you are thinking of an Aesthetic career.

We wish you a Happy New Year from all the staff and students of the Hairstyling and Aesthetics programs.



Technological Education

The staff at White Oaks would like to congratulate the OYAP Motive Power students who have been signed to their apprenticeships over the last few months.

We have recently entered into a Dual Credit partnership with Mohawk College in the Motive Power sector. We welcome Angelo Cosco from Mohawk College as teaching partner in this program. Mr. Cosco is at White Oaks two days a week working with our students and recently hosted a tour of Mohawk for our students in the OYAP program.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following employers from Oakville and the surrounding area for allowing our graduates to make the next step in their careers as Motive Power Technicians:

International Landscaping
Oakville Hyundai
Boatman Nautical Services
Canadian Tire Milton
Auto Evolution
White Oak Ford Lincoln
Grant Haulage
Iroquois Shore Tire
Carstar of Oakville
Hyundai of Burlington



Oakville Dodge
Acura of Oakville
A-OK Tire and Auto
Oakville Honda
MTC Tire
Budd's BMW
Lexus of Oakville
Oakland Ford
Budd's Subaru

Halton Skills Competition

White Oaks Secondary School will be hosting the Halton Skills Competition on April 7th, 2011.



Approximately 700+ students from across Halton will be competing in a variety of technical areas from carpentry to robotics at both the elementary and secondary levels. Winners will go on to compete at the Provincial and possibly the National level.

White Oaks has had several Gold medal winners over the years and we plan to put on a good show here at our own school. The event is open to the public, so if you have the chance come on by and see our students in action. It plans to be a very exciting day.



Valuables

If you have to bring valuables to school, please keep them within your sight at all times and never, never, never leave them in a gym change room or assume that they are safe with someone else.





Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Update

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is a mandatory test and a requirement for high school graduation. It is designed to assess the reading and writing skills a student should have after completing grade 9. All grade 10 students are eligible for the test.



The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is responsible for setting the test. This year the test takes place on **Thursday March 31st** during periods 1 and 2. Since there are no retake days provided, please reschedule any travel plans or appointments that conflict with the test day.

Test Information

- The test is 2.5 hours in length.
- There are two test booklets. Students will have 75 minutes to complete each booklet.
- There is a break between booklets.
- Students will read five selections and answer multiple choice and short-answer questions.
- Students will complete two longer writing pieces (an opinion piece and a news report).
- Students will also write two short "open-response" writing tasks.
- Students will also read short passages and complete multiple choice questions focusing on spelling, grammar and punctuation.

What is White Oaks doing to prepare students for the test?

Literacy Coaching

White Oaks has a Literacy Coach who is working with grade 10 teachers to help them present literacy lessons in their classes.

Literacy Tuesdays

During the months of February and March, all grade 10 students will spend one period a week getting literacy instruction and practicing literacy activities.

Practice Literacy Test

During the second week in February, all grade 10 students will write a practice literacy test. This practice test will provide students with an opportunity to experience what the literacy test questions are like. The results of the test will also be used to determine who needs additional literacy support before the real test.

In school support

Students who have been identified as needing additional literacy support will be able to attend special literacy sessions in February and March. These will be held during period 5. With consent from parents/guardians, students will be excused from their regularly scheduled class to attend these sessions.

After school support

In addition to in school support, we are also offering after school literacy classes. Students who require extra help will be expected to attend two classes per week (parental consent required). After school literacy support will start mid February.

What can you do to ensure that your student is prepared?

Encourage him/her to take all practice sessions and the practice test seriously. The more students practice the literacy exercises, the better they will do on the test.

If you receive a letter or phone call indicating that your son/daughter would benefit from additional support (in school or after school), please encourage him/her to attend.

In addition, here is a list of suggestions that can help develop literacy skills:

- Encourage your son or daughter to read at home as well as at school
- Set an example by reading yourself; share what you are reading
- If possible, provide a wide variety of reading materials: books, magazines, brochures, pamphlets and the Internet
- Check if he/she is using effective reading strategies such as skimming, highlighting and looking at context to uncover word meaning
- Discuss with your son or daughter to write often: diaries, journals and letters
- Ask your son or daughter to assist in filling out forms
- Ask your son or daughter to share their writing with you and then offer constructive feedback

For more information contact White Oaks Literacy Coach, Ron Marsh (marshr@hdsb.ca or 905-845-5200 ext. 241) or Jackie Morris (morrisj@hdsb.ca or 905-845-5200 ext. 257). You can also visit the Literacy Test (EQAO) website: eqao.com for additional tips and practice material.



Green Cart Organic Program at White Oaks

The GreenCart organics program will begin on Monday, February 7, 2011 on the South Campus and Monday, February 21, 2011 on the North campus.

The GreenCart program is provided by Halton Region, which has been actively working with publicly-funded schools to increase their waste minimization efforts. There are currently 100 schools participating in the GreenCart program. Our school is very excited to be joining the program.

A GreenCart will be placed in the cafeteria and certain classrooms, like the Family Studies kitchen. Food waste such as pizza crusts, fruit peels and cores, sandwich crusts, French fries and cookies will be placed in the GreenCart by students for composting, as will paper beverage cups, paper food service containers and paper napkins. The GreenCart program will help the school reduce the amount of garbage it sends to the landfill.

As part of the introduction of the Green Carts into the school, students from the school's environmental club will be monitoring the cafeteria GreenCarts for acceptable materials, while also educating their peers on how to properly sort waste at school and at home.



For more information on Halton Region's GreenCart program visit www.halton.ca/waste.



Student Services Update

2011 is off to a busy start and Student Services would like to update families on what's happening from our perspective.

Course Selection for 2011/12: During the month of February course selection for next year will be a priority. To kick the process off the Student Services team will be conducting assemblies by grade. We will provide information and emphasize the importance of reviewing their chosen Pathway and ensuring that student course selection is aligned with it. We encourage parents to review the materials with their children and take an active role in supporting this critical process. Parents will be able to review the choices made by logging into the web portal. Details on this will come home with the course selection package.

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Pathways Planning: The Student Services team strives to give parents and students as much information as we can about the different destinations that are available to students at White Oaks and other schools in Halton. We want to make sure that students at White Oaks get the information necessary to make an informed decision about their career pathway, whether it is Apprenticeship, College, University or direct entry to the workplace.

White Oaks is home to the widest range of Pathways Programs. Take the time to consider if the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), Accelerated Learning Program (ALP), Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) or a Specialty School to Career Program is right for you. All of these programs have unique application deadlines and processes. Find out more at www.schooltocareer.ca.

By now, potential graduates should have made their application to college and/or university. If not, please see your counselor to discuss options. Also, remember that there are opportunities to modify your application.

Whether you are interested in college or university, upcoming PD days are a great opportunity to visit campuses and explore. Check the notice board for Spring Open House Schedules.

Scholarships: There is a definite buzz in the air as students are exploring financing options for post-secondary education. Scholarships are a great way to be recognized for your achievements both academic and co-curricular and also help defray your expenses. Be sure you have completed the "Application for a School Award or Bursary" form in order to be considered for school-based awards. Do your research (websites are a great search tool) and see us in Student Services if you still have questions.

Community Service: Our students continue to make significant contributions in our community. We encourage all students to complete the graduation requirement of 40 hours in a timely fashion, **potential graduates should aim to complete the requirements by the end of March and submit a letter from the organization that recognizes their service.** Remember, exceeding the minimum of 40 hours is a great way to demonstrate community spirit and differentiate yourself on a post-secondary application.

If you have any questions, please contact the school and ask to speak to a member of the Student Services Team.

**Remember, planning for the future is important, but be sure you are committed to being successful in what you are doing today.

Exciting Travel/Learning Opportunity April 2012 – The Great Escape

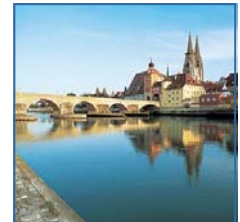
Next spring, White Oaks will be travelling to Europe to celebrate the 95th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge. This 14 day trip is open to all White Oaks students and parents. We depart April 7th and return April 20th. We will be attending the special ceremonies set for this momentous occasion. In addition, we will be travelling to other cities/sites relevant to World War I and II. (See itinerary below.) This is an incredible, once in a lifetime opportunity. Come to an information meeting Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:00 pm in A119 or contact Fonda Loft ext. 281, lofft@hdsb.ca or Rick Olma ext 240, olmar@hdsb.ca for more information.

- Day 1 Fly overnight to France
- Day 2 Paris, The Louvre
- Day 3 Paris, Vimy Ridge 95th Anniversary Ceremonies
- Day 4 Vimy Region , Amsterdam
- Day 5 Amsterdam, Berlin
- Day 6 Berlin, Checkpoint Charlie Museum



- Day 7 Berlin, Zagan, Dresden, Prisoner of War Camp
- Day 8 Dresden, Theresienstadt, Prague, Zwinger Palace, Ghetto Museum
- Day 9 Prague, St. Vitus Cathedral, Golden Lane

- Day 10 Prague, Krakow, Krakow, tour of Kazimierz
- Day 11 Krakow, Wawel Cathedral, Auschwitz/Birkenau
- Day 12 Krakow, Budapest
- Day 13 Budapest, Matthais Church, Budapest Basilica, Danube, Evening Cruise
- Day 14 Depart for home



White Oaks Preschool



White Oaks Preschool is still accepting registrations for this school year

A Dynamic Program for children aged 2 1/2 to 5 with the support and guidance of our high school students

To register your child please contact Debbie Rodgers at: rodgersd@hdsb.ca or call 905-845-5200 ext. 260



Oakville Santa Claus Parade Highlights



On Saturday, November 20th the streets of Oakville were lined with kids of all ages enjoying the many floats and bands in the Oakville Santa Claus Parade. This year's theme was "A Reel Christmas at the Movies".

WOSS students and staff worked really hard on the school float "Welcome to WOSSville" as well as the marching band performance. This was evident in that WOSS tied for "Best School Float" as well as being voted "People's Favourite Band" award. Well done WOSS! We are all look forward to next year's parade!



Free the Children Update



Written by: Carey Roach

As 2011 begins, the WOSS Free the Children Committee has a whole new list of goals and a growing list of accomplishments. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated towards our Adopt a Village Campaign. Because of the generosity of White Oaks, the village of Emori Joi in Kenya will have a new schoolhouse which will help countless children. Emori Joi is a village in rural Kenya near the Kenyan and Tanzanian border. Although the standard of living in there has improved immensely since Free the Children began working there, the area still struggles with issues such as gender inequality, poverty and drought. We are committed to helping our village as much as we can! Through our Project Goat Campaign we have received donations for 36 goats, 6 chickens and 3 pigs. We have even raised \$1310 to put towards a well in our village. 2010 was a huge success and we hope to make 2011 an even better year.

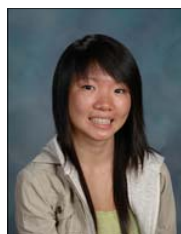
There is still so much more that we can do for Emori Joi; teachers need to be trained, classrooms need to be filled and lunches need to be provided. We will be hosting another Art Auction and Dinner this year on May 17. The committee is still looking for more art donations so if anyone you know has pieces of art that they no longer want or if you are an artist please donate! The night will be lots of fun as we will be having some wonderful entertainment from some talented White Oaks students.

If you love baked goods, and really who doesn't, the WOSS Free the Children Committee is holding a Valentine's Bake Sale on February 14th.

We are always looking for new members, so if you have a passion for change and helping others please come to the North Cafeteria on Wednesdays at 3:00. You can also contact Mrs. Toohy in the north office for more information.

White Oaks DECA

Written by: Dian Xiang



DECA is an association of high school students interested in the fields of marketing, finance, hospitality and management. DECA gives the students the tools needed to become professionals in the business world.

On November 9, 2010 White Oaks DECA gathered and headed down to the Hamilton Convention Center for their Regional Competition. This year, White Oaks DECA had a phenomenal turn out at this competition with a record breaking 48 out of 53 students qualifying for provincials. Students participated in a written and oral component at the competition, which allowed them to demonstrate their knowledge in their chosen business field as well as their presentation skills.

White Oaks DECA is now working hard preparing for the provincial competition taking place February 13-15, 2011 at the Sheraton in Toronto. It will be a two day competition that brings together some of the best young professionals in Ontario. White Oaks DECA would like to give special thanks to the WOSS DECA Student Executive, Ms. Houston, Ms. Dagg and Mr. Bhatthal for making this happen. The WOSS DECA team is hoping for a successful turn out at the provincial competition. Stay tuned and please help support DECA!



WOSS Drama News

The drama department has had an incredible start to the year! White Oaks' Fall Show was a modern adaptation of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* and was directed by Ms. Kate Rodgers. It was a huge success and consisted of incredible acting, a two-person bicycle and Beatles music! It was a fantastic experience for all involved.

Play-in-a-Day is a White Oaks Drama tradition and an eagerly anticipated event for those starting to develop an interest for theatre as well as FOR seasoned actors. It is an event that consists of writing, directing and performing a play...all in one day! This year, the event was a huge success and after a long rewarding 14 hour day, students from all grades and levels of experience, had the opportunity to perform their work on the main stage to an enthusiastic audience.

Most plays take longer than a day to create and the focus is now on White Oaks' entries in the Sears Festival, which will be performed at the end of February here at WOSS and in the first week of March at Holy Trinity. Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, directed by Ms. Wilford, will be one of WOSS's 2011 Sears Festival entries. A second Sears entry will be submitted by an ensemble of grade twelve students. The Sears Festival is an opportunity for schools across Ontario to present their shows to a professional adjudicator, while meeting other schools from their district and engaging in friendly competition. In past years, White Oaks has often received awards for acting, stage management and outstanding production. The Sears Festival is an exciting event and all are encouraged to show support for their school and come see our plays! Tickets will be available through the student box office, online through the cashless system, or at the door!

Another exciting Festival is White Oaks' own Fringe Festival which is held annually in May. It is an entirely student-run festival consisting of One-Act plays, all student-directed and sometimes student-written. Auditions will be held in early March, shortly after the final Sears Festival performance.

All of these events and productions are made possible through our fundraisers and support from White Oaks families. Sweat pants were a success and Drama Council made enough funds to invest in new equipment that can be used by future productions and drama classes. MacMillan's was another great fundraiser and allowed for some delicious holiday baking... if you missed out this year, then keep your eyes and ears open for order forms next year!

Come to our weekly Drama Council meetings every Friday after school in room T106 and join the WOSS DRAMA COUNCIL Facebook group for any updates on upcoming shows, clothing orders or general inquiries about the program.



Written by:

*Katharine Dos Santos
and Ben Altman*



Music Department

There will be plenty of activity in the Music department over the next few months. All of the concert bands from grade 9 through grade 12 are participating in the Musicfest Regional Festival on March 5th in Collingwood. Students in the bands should have brought a permission form home for this event.

April is Showcase month and once again White Oaks will be well represented. Our concert band will be performing as well as our brass quintet and many students will also be participating in the regional groups, the Halton Sr. Winds and the Halton District choir. We are pleased that Frana Barry will be one of the co-conductors for the district choir.

In May of this year the Concert band will be travelling to Vancouver to participate in the Musicfest National competition. Information has already been sent home but more will be forthcoming.

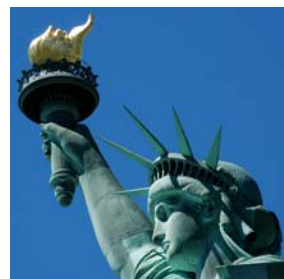
On February 4th the White Oaks Concert band will be performing with Q107's Michael White and his Led Zeppelin tribute band. The concert will be held at White Oaks Secondary School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Michael White has been performing with his Led Zeppelin tribute band for many years and has done hundreds of concerts with community and school groups to raise needed funds for

Arts programs. Tickets are \$30.00 for adults and \$19.00 for students and are available from Mr. Gassic (gassic@hdsb.ca), or through our cashless system. We hope everyone can make it out to what promises to be an outstanding evening of Classic Rock with Q107's Michael White and the White Oaks Concert Band.



Do You Want to go to New York City?

On May 11-14 (returning on the 15th) the Art and Drama Departments are going to New York! A few of the highlights are a visit to the Statue of Liberty, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park, NBC Studios, The Apollo Theatre, two Broadway shows (plus more)! Trip price is \$925 and includes accommodations, activities, three dinners and breakfasts and insurance. If you want to experience all of this, please see Ms. Lumsden in T118 or Mr. Coleman in T108 for a trip package as soon as possible.



Parent Information Portal

You can check your child's attendance, credit summary and timetable through the Halton District School Board website (if the student is under the age of 18).

- Log onto www.hdsb.ca.
- Click on Parent Info
- Click on Online Student Information System under Quick Links
- Enter your child's 9 digit Halton Student Number (found on your child's report card) and date of birth





WOSS ATHLETICS

Varsity Boys Hockey



The Varsity Boys Hockey team participated in the 27th Annual Bur Bear Hockey Tournament. The team put together five great games going 4-1, where they eventually took home the gold. "The heart that this team has is unlike anything I have ever seen", says coach Avramidis. The team is looking forward to the second part of the season where they hope to carry on the success from the tournament. Special thanks to Mr. Carey, Mrs. Caron, Mr. Stieva and Mr. Routhier. Go Wildcats Go!



Inside Ride

White Oaks Secondary School is proud to be hosting our fourth annual *Inside Ride* team cycling event on Thursday, April 14, 2011. This event is a fundraiser to support the National Kids Cancer Ride that will raise funds for children with cancer. Our own White Oaks student, Andy Brooks was one of the 50 National Riders who rode from Vancouver on a 19-day cycling trek across Canada to Halifax in 2008. He was the only student rider under the age of 18. This is Andy's graduating year and he will be here for one last ride.



The WOSS *Inside Ride* event will be comprised of 60 teams of students and staff members who will mount stationary racing bikes to ride for 10-intervals for a total of one hour. In the past two years the response to this event has been electric: in less than three days, we filled all 60 bikes, for a total of 360 riders. More than 200 people have been volunteers to help organize and run the event. This has truly become a school-wide phenomenon!

A full 100% of funds raised by our riders and other fundraising initiatives will go directly towards children with cancer, for pediatric oncology research, through summer camp programs and activities provided during cancer treatment.

On the day of the event we have a silent auction/raffle and bake sale to increase our fundraising. Again, one hundred percent of proceeds will go directly towards supporting our goal to raise a minimum of \$16,000. Our goal is to surpass this amount by a mile! Last year we raised \$23,000 and three years ago, when Andy rode, we raised over \$26,000.

Last year we dedicated our *Inside Ride* to Marisa Solta. Andy met Marisa through going to camps for kids with cancer. Ms. Loft flew her in from Winnipeg so Andy could take her to prom last year. She was in remission and we didn't know if she would make it to her own prom. Sadly, Marisa passed away March 23rd, 2010. So, for all the kids like Andy and Marisa, we ride, we ride, we ride!!!

Wrestling

The Wrestling Team is off to an outstanding start amongst some extremely tough competition. The team has competed in several tournaments competing against some of the best wrestlers in the province. White Oaks rookie wrestlers have achieved amazing results in their first year of wrestling. Scarlett Delgado and Jacob Macdonald have won medals in multiple meets including winning medals in their very first meet. Choo Tsen Yao also won a medal in his rookie season. Caroline Fell, Robbie Gould, Nathan Black, Cody Gayowski and Blake Noonan have all won several matches in their rookie season. Our veterans have also performed well with last year's Halton Champion Daniel Alhaj winning medals in multiple meets. Tyler Medeiros and Nathan Benton have also won medals. Mr. Brakewell and Ms. Charteris are very proud of the team's accomplishments and are looking forward to helping the team capture more medals at the Halton Championships in February.



Junior Girls Volleyball

After winning silver at the Robert Bateman Tournament back in November, the Junior Girls Volleyball Team was in a strong spot to start off their regular season. Following a number of close matches and tough fought battles on the court, the girls are currently in 6th place in the AAAA division. With a focus this season on commitment & quick transitioning, the Junior Girls have been digging deep within themselves and within each other for the chance to earn their spots on the court & put points on the scoreboard. The remainder of the season will have everyone on the edge of their seats as we witness the Junior Girls push through to win a spot in the playoffs.

Coach Bower & Coach St. Onge



Safe Schools

Safe Schools Action Team

Jeff Carey, Vice Principal	Nadia Bhabha, Teacher
Kelly Amos, Trustee	Jen Burgie, Teacher
Jenn Westlake, Teacher	Stephanie Birtles, Student
Katie Kemp, Student	Mary Binko, Student
Robbie Kazi, Student	Scott Williamson, Dept Head
Krista Caron, Dept Head	Liz Willis, Teacher
Cate Mistruzzi, Guidance Counsellor	Donna Beaudin, Teacher
Anita Lorne, Educational Assistant	Mike Foster, Halton Police
Kathy Charteris, Social Worker	

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is a form of repeated, persistent, aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual/s that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, distress, and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Student Intervention Strategies

What can I do if I feel unsafe at school?

1. ACT PROMPTLY if you are being bullied, harassed, or discriminated against, or are a WITNESS to any of these behaviours, even though you may be upset.
2. CONFIDE IN AN ADULT (a parent, another adult that you are comfortable talking to, or any staff member of the school).
3. CALL KIDS HELP PHONE at 1 800 668 6868 (anonymous and confidential). You can also post a question at www.kidshelpphone.ca.
4. CALL CRIMESTOPPERS at 1 800 222 TIPS (8477) (anonymous and confidential) if you suspect the behaviour is criminal (involving thefts, vandalism, violence, weapons, threats, extortion, or alcohol or drug abuse). You can also contact Crime Stoppers online at www.haltoncrimestoppers.com (anonymous and confidential). You can also text TIP201 plus message to CRIMES (274637) (anonymous and confidential).

Two options you can use to resolve the matter without taking it any further:

1. Tell the person who is bothering you that the behaviour is unwelcome and must stop.
2. Write to the person explaining the details of the unwanted behaviour including the time and date of the incident(s).

Formal Report

Report the incident to a staff member, or directly to the office.

If you are making someone feel unsafe at school

If you are asked by a staff member or another student to stop behaviour which could be considered offensive:

1. You **MUST** stop the behaviour immediately.
2. You **MUST** assess your behaviour seriously. Even if you did not mean to offend, the behaviour has been perceived as offensive.
3. You may choose to make an apology.

Current School Action 2010/2011

- Beyond the Hurt Training for students: October 2010-June 2011.
- Partners in Bullying Prevention: November 2010-April 2011

Bullying Awareness Websites

www.ontario.ca/safeschools	www.bullying.org
www.hdsb.ca	www.bullyingcanda.ca
www.prevnet.ca	www.wossweb.com

The WOSS Pyramid of Progressive Prevention Strategies

Providing a safe, caring, inclusive school environment: ensuring a positive school climate for all members of the school community to maximize student learning

few students	H.O.P.E.S. Program Alternate Programs (Score, Excel, Step, Self-Reliant, Props, Salep, Arc) Suspension/Expulsion	District
	<p>Implementation of corrective, supportive practices and early/ongoing intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressive Discipline & School Safety: review of code of conduct, warning letter, apology, parental involvement, V.P. call, principal call, separate work station, office detention, removal from school/activity/team/event, community services, therapeutic withdrawal, teacher update • Caring Adult, counselling, mentoring 	Office
all students	<p>Implementation of proactive positive practices, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Success Programs and Strategies: • Bullying Prevention and Intervention: • Cultural Proficiency/Diversity Initiatives: • Character Development: • Citizenship Development: • School-Wide Initiatives: CAT Crew, Colour Houses, • Student Leadership: • Program Accommodation/Modification: • Safety and Behaviour Management Plans: • Healthy Life Styles: <p>B.A.T. Team, Peer Helping, Case Conference, School Team, School Resource Team, S.E.R.T., Department Meetings, Individual Education Plans, Parenting Seminars, Outside Agency (Public Health, Psychiatric Liaison, Police), Newsletters, Code of Conduct, Principal's Message, Plaqued Posters, Social Worker, Parent Involvement, Announcements, Principal's Breakfast, Principal's Advisory Council, Student Recognition Assemblies, Assemblies, Spirit Days, School-Wide Fund-raising for Charities, Community Clean-up, Eco-Schools, Student Councils (Student, Athletic, Drama, Music, DECA, Robotics, etc.) School Teams and Clubs, Yearbook, Caring Adult, Student Success (Credit Recovery, Credit Rescue), Mentoring, Pathways, Intramurals, Diversity, CHATT</p>	School Level



all students





Cashless Schools is a convenient 24/7 method for parents to pay for Athletic Fees, Course Fees, Field Trips, Fundraisers, Lunches in the Cafeteria, etc. Cashless Schools offers parents an easy to use account, email alerts & purchase history reporting.

REGISTERING WITH CASHLESS SCHOOLS

- Log onto the website at: <https://halton.cashlesschools.com>
- Click: Register your account now! to begin
- Click the radio button to the left of your school's name
- Click "Next"
- Enter the account holder name in "Your Name" and complete the remaining fields
- Click "Next"
- Click "Finish Registration"
- Activate your new account by verifying your email address
- Click on the activation link in the response email sent to the account supplied
- Can't find the email? Check your spam folder. A reminder message lets you know that you have not activated your account by confirming your email address



SET UP YOUR CASHLESS SCHOOLS ACCOUNT



- Log onto the parent payment centre by launching the following website: <https://halton.cashlesschools.com>
- Click the "Deposit" link. Read the Cashless Account Deposit information and click "Add a Bank Account" link to setup an account
- Click the "Add a Bank Account"
- Click the "Print Authorization Form"
- Complete the form and attach a void cheque or debit authorization form from your bank
- Fax (1-888-729-3331) or email (support@cashlesschools.com) to complete the account setup process. Choose "Back to your Saved Bank Accounts" screen.

STEP 1—DEPOSIT FUNDS INTO YOUR CASHLESS SCHOOLS ACCOUNT

To avoid paying any added fees from the banks we recommend the following steps:

- Log on to your Cashless Schools Account
- Click the "Deposit" Link
- Enter the minimum deposit to avoid bank fees



STEP 2—PAY FOR ON-LINE FEES

Once you have successfully set up your account you are now ready to purchase on-line fees at the school.



- Log on to your Cashless Schools Account
- Click "Pay for Online Fees"
- Select your student and Click "see available fees"
- Select the applicable fee and click "next"
- Click "Save to Shopping Cart"
- Click "Check Out Shopping Cart"
- Choose the shopping cart checkout payment method of your choice/Cashless Account/Bank Account/Interac OnLine
- Receipts are available upon completion of a transaction

ON-CAMPUS WALLET

- Log onto the parent payment centre by launching: <https://halton.cashlesschools.com>
- Select "On-Campus Wallet" link under Fees
- Select the student you wish to set up the wallet for
- Select "See On-Campus Wallet"
- Complete the required fields
- Select "Save Wallet"
- Enter the amount you wish to deposit to the wallet
- Choose "Add Funds to Wallet"
- Choose "Checkout Shopping Cart"
- Pay from a Cashless Account to incur no payment fee (choose the method of payment)



PHONE SUPPORT: 1-866-231-3322



Important IB Dates

February 2

Grade 10 ALP Parent/Student Meeting
for IB Course Selection
7:00 pm South Cafeteria

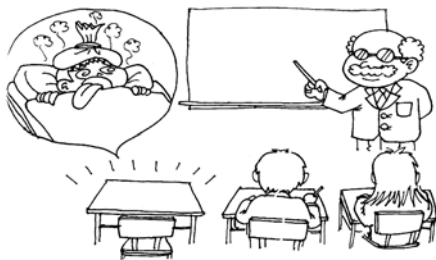
February 3

Grade 9 ALP Parent/Student Meeting
for Grade 10 ALP Course Selection
7:00 pm South Cafeteria

February 10

Second ALP/IB Open House
7:00 pm South Cafeteria

Student Absences



Recording Student Absences

Parents can record their child's absence by calling the White Oaks Absence Line at 905-845-5200 and pressing 400 anytime during the automated attended message. Please speak clearly and spell the surname of the child and indicate the reason for the absence as well as the duration of the absence.

Students Signing In and Out at the Office

Students under age 18 must have parent's permission to sign in and out at the office for appointments or illnesses. Parents can accompany their child to the office or send their child to school with a note to be handed in at the office.

Student Absences of Adult Students

Students 18 years of age or over can record their absences on the White Oaks Absence Line as indicated above and indicate their age. Adult students should also sign in and out at the office for appointments and illnesses.

Crosswalk Safety

Staff and students are reminded to press the button to activate the overhead crosswalk indicators when using the crosswalk between the north and south campus. Let's keep everyone safe and warn the motorists when we are crossing McCraney Street East.



Futures Program Students Debut on Stage at the Living Arts Centre



Thursday November 18, 2010 will be a day remembered for a long time for 16 students in the Futures Program (formerly known as Life Skills) at White Oaks. Adrian Nandlal, Heather Grant, Karina Scali, Sofia Dershko, Mathushea ChandraLogan, Jenna Hagenow, Adam Plant, Evan Williams, Ryan Works, Gurtej Phull, Dylan Hansen, Michael Marchetti, Brittany Hicks, Anna Sevadjan and Brenden Brodhurst performed on a professional stage in the Halton District School Board's presentation *Creating A Scene: A Celebration of the Arts in Halton* held at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga. These students worked diligently on choreography and rehearsed until they were ready for the big day.

The day began with the students having their hair styled by the talented students in the hairdressing program of Mrs. Susan Thornborrow and Ms. Julie Syer on the North Campus. Curling irons, hair gel and even glitter hairspray were added to the hairstyles to make them ready for their performance. We traveled by bus to Mississauga. Upon arrival, we made our way to the "green room", checked in with our great runners from other Halton High Schools and then headed to the theatre for dress rehearsal. It was such an amazing experience performing on a real stage, with cool background lighting that coordinated with our music. We were treated like real stars. We waited in the "green room" where we were able to stretch out on comfy couches, watch what was happening out in the theatre on a video feed and took part in a great pizza dinner provided by the Halton Board. The best part of the day was, of course, the actual performance!!! We were a real hit. We danced to the song "Cowboy Casanova" performed by Carrie Underwood. Our cowboy hats waving, line-dancing, do-si-dos and kick line brought the audience to their feet, dancing and clapping right along with us. Our performance was greeted with a standing ovation.

For Dallas Dasilva, this was a bittersweet performance. She will graduate in June and we will miss her great spirit and wonderful leadership. We wish her well in all of her future endeavours and who knows, we may see many of our graduates on the stage at Famous People Players some time in the future.

Fonda Loft
Futures Drama Club - Director





Halton's Our Kids Network presents



"Get out of my life, but first drive me to the mall "
A New Kind of Parenting: Raising Kids ages 10 to 16

A Free Parent Information Forum
by Dr. Jean Clinton, Clinical Professor
Dept of Psychiatry & Behavioural Neuroscience
at McMaster University

Tuesday, February 8, 2011
6:30 pm Registration

7:00 - 9:00 pm Presentation

Location: Operating Engineers Conference Centre
2245 Speers Road, Oakville L6L 6X8

For more information go to:
<http://www.ourkidsnetwork.ca/about/parents.shtml>

Are You Moving?

If you are moving please remember to let the school know. You can call Student Services:

North Campus: 905-845-5200
Mrs. Walker X259

South Campus: 905-845-5200
Mrs. Dougan X230



Student Excellence 2011 *Ally Mushka*

On Thursday, May 5, 2011 the Halton District School Board will honour representatives of the excellence within our student population at the 27th annual *A Celebration of Student Excellence* which will be hosted by M.M. Robinson High School. Students will be accompanied by parents/guardians, school principals, as well as one other staff member from each school. Trustees and superintendents will also be in attendance.

Each elementary and secondary school is asked to select a student who best represents the qualities of excellence as defined by the school. Ally Mushka has been selected to represent White Oaks Secondary School.

Ally was selected because of her excellent academic record, as well as her involvement and leadership in co-curriculars such as Drama Council, drama productions and Free Thinkers Society to name a few.

For all her experiences we would like to congratulate Ally Mushka as the 2011 Student of Excellence representing White Oaks Secondary School!



Message from the Principal

John Stieva



It is hard to believe that semester 1 is over and that as I write this semester 2 is about to start and it will be a new beginning for students as they start new courses and resolve to continue the excellence they demonstrated in semester one.

Report cards will be mailed out on Thursday, February 3rd assuming that the winter storm predicted for February 2nd does not impact our school and cause a school closure. In which case they will be mailed on February 4th. Please review the marks and comments with your son/daughter and if you have concerns or questions contact the semester one teacher or one of the administrators.

The semester certainly ended on a high with many of the sport teams going into the break with winning records and eagerly looking forward to resuming their season and a run to the playoffs. Congratulations to the boys hockey team for their success in the Bur Bear Tournament and winning a gold in their division. Well done.

We have also received word that four of our math teams received honourable mention in the McMaster Mathematics Competition held in December. Thank you to Mr. Ching, Mrs. Lemaire and Mr. Van Rooyen for their coaching and support of the teams. Congratulations to all members of the teams for their achievement.

Grade 8 parents night was a success and I want to thank all the parents who took time to attend and learn about WOSS and allowed us to demonstrate what excellence in all areas looks like in a high school.

That being said, student services counselors will be working with your child during the week of February 7th to select courses for the 2011/2012 academic year. Please feel free to contact a counselor if you have any questions concerning your child's course selection.

During the next five months we will also be hosting a number of significant school wide events. Our major fundraiser in support of National Kids Cancer ride is the Inside Ride and will be held on April 14th. If you would like to see school spirit in action please stop by and visit that day. The second event is our hosting the Halton Skills Competition on April 7th. We certainly welcome our community to come that day and observe students demonstrating their skills in a variety of areas.

On March 31st students in grade 10 will be writing the literacy test and as last year we will be using a special schedule that day. Though the test is at the end of March, the preparation begins much sooner, so we can achieve our school goal of 100% success rate in literacy. Further details will be posted on our website as we get closer to the date.

I would also on behalf of students and staff like to congratulate Ally Mushka on being selected as our school recipient for the Halton District School Board award of excellence. This award is in recognition of academic excellence, involvement in other aspects of the school and community involvement. We wish Ally all the best and thank her for her many contributions to WOSS.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions so we can assist your child in achieving academic excellence.