

FENELON FALLS SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009



PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Another great school year is well under way here in the "best school in the Board." Academics and extra-curricular activities are in full swing as many students pursue their varied passions. Students, you represent Fenelon Falls Secondary with the utmost of "Falcon Pride."

Board indicators of success from last year include another 1% gain in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) to 84% and an improvement in our EQAO Grade 9 math results to lead the Board. Our Applied level success increase rose to 60%, up from 56% last year, and an Academic level success increase to 83%, up from 80% the previous year as well. Congratulations students and staff for your hard work and commitment to the tasks at hand. We will continue to try and embed Literacy and Numeracy strategies in all classes, not just Grade 9 and 10 where they are measured to evaluate our students' and school's success.

Our athletic teams and extra-curricular activities continue to vie for supremacy at any venue they participate. Keep up the determined efforts for any passion you have students, be they academic or extra-curricular goals. Never let chance take away from the choice you have to make your goals a reality.

All the best for Semester One – term 2, and the remainder of this school year. Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 887-2018.

One of our very own falcons, Jack Prins, will be running proudly through Lindsay on the morning of Wednesday, December 16, as he participates as a torch bearer in the Olympic Torch Relay. An incredible honor; we're proud of you, Jack!

Upcoming Events	
Parent Council Mtg. 7 pm - Library	Nov. 16th
Interim Reports Home	Nov. 23rd
Flu Clinic	Dec. 3rd
Christmas Break	Dec. 21st-Jan. 3rd
Parent Council Mtg.	Jan. 18th
Exams	Jan. 27th-Feb. 2nd
P.D. Day	Feb. 3rd
Semester 2 begins	Feb. 4th
School Council Mtg—3rd Monday of every second month at 7 pm in library	Mar. 22nd May 17th

PRINCIPAL'S LIST

The Principal's List for Academic Excellence recognizes the ten students (including ties) who attain the highest academic average at the end of each reporting period. We congratulate the following students:

Devon Jackson
Vanessa Oliver
Taylor Stevens
Tahne Buren
Shawna Buren
Kamie Strong
Cailin Burmaster
Montana Savage
Cassandra Gorrill
Jordan McAlpine

STUDENTS TO CELEBRATE

Each month F.F.S.S. looks for "Students to Celebrate" among the many outstanding students of the school. Students can be nominated by any staff member and can be nominated for a variety of reasons such as : attitude, academic achievement, athletics, extra-curricular involvement, community involvement and character. A male and female student from each grade are selected from the nominees and their pictures are displayed in the "Celebrate" showcase for the month.

The September winners are:

Grade 9	Nadine Hill, Brant Peel	Grade 10	Adelle Staples, William Ubdegrove
Grade 11	Josh Bradley	Grade 12	Zoya Farooqi, Allen Stephen

The October winners are:

Grade 9	Jacob Weiler, Kristin Cole	Grade 10	Taylor Wickens, Nick Harris
Grade 11	Brad Rea, Mel Boldt	Grade 12	Dusty Short, Montana Savage

All students that were nominated were acknowledged with a congratulatory note. Congratulations to all nominees and winners.



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SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Special Education Department has been a busy this fall with a number of projects on-going. Trips to Caza Berry Farm, the Lindsay Mall and to L.C.V.I. for a Halloween Dance have been enjoyed by all P.A.L.S. students. Our P.A.L.S. students continue to play an active role in the school by running the school-wide recycling program, collecting weekly for Foster Parents and baking goods to donate to the Breakfast Club.

Individual Education Plans (IEP) were sent home in October of this year. Please contact Laura Edmonstone if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's IEP. Annual reviews for students who are formally identified will occur throughout the winter and spring months.

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

The new hospitality and tourism class is up and running. Students are learning about food preparation and presentation as well as evaluating facilities, controlling inventory, and marketing.

A main focus of the course is for students to get hands on experience in the food service industry. Mr. McMorrow's students have been busy preparing food for various events in the school, including the Academic Awards Assembly and the LINK Crew Lunch. They are looking forward to prepping the vegetables for the new Salad Bar in the cafeteria.



This week they will be preparing and serving 'Fenelon Fries' --- Healthy alternatives to deep fried french fries --- plus delicious dips to go with them. Selected classes will be taste testing their creations on Friday November 27th!

CAREER STUDIES

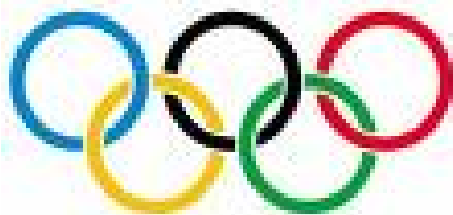
In this first half of the semester Career Studies students participated in a number of workshops and hosted wonderful speakers on Friday's in the ever popular Guest Speaker series. The term began with a special Personality Dimensions workshop with Linda Meisner from Krossroads Consulting. Our own Ms. Oke provided students with information about Coop programs and Apprenticeship opportunities in our region. Ms. Browne conducted an online workshop called My-Blueprint which allows students to explore and create high school plans that enables them to find out about particular post-secondary programs and prerequisites. As well, several parents kindly volunteered their time to talk about their personal career paths and experiences.

A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Carolyn Jones, Mr. Rick Staples and Mrs. Jen Switzer for their participation in our Guest Speaker series. If you are interested in participating in our Guest Speaker series, please contact the school, as we are always looking for new speakers.

ART DEPARTMENT

The Fine Arts Department will be hosting an entertaining evening as they present their annual **Showcase of Fine Arts (S.O.F.A.)** on **Tuesday, December 8th**, from 7:00—9:00 pm in Gyms 1 & 2. Admission is \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 family. Come and enjoy a collective and creative showcase of amazing talent presented by Drama, Music and Visual Arts students.

On **Friday, January 15th at 7:00 pm** or **Saturday, January 16th at 2:00 pm** to see **Gone With the Breeze**, a hilarious satire, based on the comedy of Carroll Burnett, presented by F.F.S.S. grade 9-12 music and drama students. Admission is \$5.00.



The Fine Arts Department is also proud to recognize the accomplishment of a group of visual arts students who participated in the creation of two life-size Olympic sculptures (a figure skater and a curler) that are currently on display at the Lindsay Town Office and will be a part of the Stage Show on Wednesday, December 16 as the Olympic Torch Relay makes its way through Lindsay. Those artists include: Shenley Boyd, Michelle Mortson, Brittany Prozenko, Lindsay Rea, Sam Robertson, Dawna Hawkins, Hayden Lane, Carly Tinkler, Mandi Orr and Mariah Aubertin. Go on-line at the following website to read more about this venture as written by a Vancouver news writer!:

<http://www.vancouver2010.com/en/news/feature-stories/-/82606/32574/708npm/celebrating-the-olympic-torch.html>

FENELON FALLS SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

F.F.S.S. Globe Trotters are excited to report that last's year's excursion to London, Paris, and Rome was a huge success. This April, students voted, and we are off to CHINA!!! Some of our activities include visiting the following sites: The Great Wall, The Terra Cotta Warriors, Beijing Panda Zoo, Acrobatic Show, Li River Cruise, Guilin, Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an, The Forbidden City, The Sacred Road, The Temple of Heaven, The Water Cube, The Bird's Nest, Step Plantations and The Greater Wild Good Pagoda. For a complete list, see the school website and click on International Travel Opportunities and then School Travel Opportunities. Questions and Registration: Julie Rocheleau julie.rocheleau@tldsb.on.ca

FFSS will be home to the **SANTA DAY EXPO**. Join us on November 28th from 9 am to 5 pm for a fun-filled day with activities for the entire family! There will be free movies and a jumping castle as well as a free lunch for the first thousand visitors. We will also have a craft and trade show. The parade starts at 5 pm and passes in front of our school, so why not spend some time at the Expo before hand? If you have any questions or wish to be part of the craft/trade show, contact Julie Rocheleau. julie.rocheleau@tldsb.on.ca

This semester's Grade 10 Academic level classes will be travelling to Hart House Theatre, located on the University of Toronto campus, on November 9th to view a live performance of "Romeo and Juliet."

Ms. Stroh and Ms. Chiasson invite any interested students to join them in July 2010 on a wonderful trip to beautiful Italy. During this nine day excursion, students will visit three amazing and very important cities: Venice, Florence, and Rome. Ms. Stroh and Ms. Chiasson are working with EF Tours (Education First) to offer this exciting opportunity to Fenelon Falls Secondary students. Please call 887-2018 or email pamela.stroh@tldsb.on.ca for more information about the application process.

Media classes are going to the 3D IMAX Colossus Theatre to view a screening of "A Christmas Carol." Following that, they will head to MuchMusic to attend a live airing of Much on Demand, where the students will make up the studio audience for the program.

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LIBRARY

With the help of staff members who are kindly volunteering their time, the library will be open most Wednesdays after school this semester. Students are asked to listen to the announcements for exact dates.

Next time you are in the library during block A, thank co-op student Alan Craig for his hard work this semester. Alan has taken on the task of reshelving all the returned books and helping to keep the fiction books in order.

Looking for the buried treasure? Stop by the library & "check out" the latest editions.

GUIDANCE

University application PIN numbers are now available in guidance. These are required for students to apply online at www.ouac.on.ca. We encourage students to apply before the holidays to avoid any last minute application problems. The deadline for applying to university is January 13th. The college application website, www.ontariocolleges.ca is up and running and several students have already applied. The college application deadline is February 1st. Please remember that your college or university application will not be processed without payment and this must be received before the application deadline. If you are paying by mail, it should be sent to the application centre 3 to 4 weeks prior to the application deadline.

Students should be actively researching scholarships. There are many websites which assist in this process. Some of these sites can be accessed through the Student Services page on the school's website. Also, many of the colleges and universities have organized Open Houses for students to visit and tour campuses. Check out college and university websites for dates and times. If you missed one, you can call the Liaison Office at the campus and they can arrange a tour for you.

The Health Symposium at Ross Memorial Hospital has been rescheduled for January 8th. Students who handed in permission forms will be given first chance to sign up for the new date. Permission forms will be available after Dec. 01 and must be returned by Dec. 09. After that, spaces will be open to those on the waiting list.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to Christine Craig, Emily Lindsay, and Lidia Song as they were the 2009 winners of the High School Business Plan Competition for the City of Kawartha Lakes. The girls' business plan was then submitted to compete against all of the winners in the Eastern Region of Ontario and the students from F.F.S.S. finished 3rd! Congratulations to these students on their outstanding achievement. All students are able to compete in the Business Plan Competition and can see Ms. McLaughlin in room 145 for more information. The business plan competition takes place during second semester with the judging in May.

FENELON FALLS SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HEALTH & PHYS. ED. DEPARTMENT

A strong Health and Physical Education curriculum provides a solid foundation for learning within a healthy school environment. We understand that a good curriculum is just one piece that contributes to our learners becoming healthy and active for life. It is a first step. Together with high quality instruction and resources, a healthy environment, and family, school and community support, we have the opportunity to truly make a difference in the lives of our students. We offer many inclusive activities that encourage participation and make our curriculum enjoyable for all involved. We believe that our programs offer students the choices they need to be physically active long after they leave our school.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

At the halfway point of the semester the Science department has been very busy. Here are just a few of the highlights:

The Grade 9 and 10 classes recently attended a field trip to the Metro Toronto Zoo in order to enhance their knowledge of science and, specifically, ecology using a hands-on, inquiry-based approach to science and technology. A great day was had by all and it was a fun way to further explore concepts that they have learned in the science classroom.

The Grade 9 Academic Science class went to the "Quantum to Cosmos" festival in Waterloo on Oct., 20th. Students tried out a gyroscope used to train astronauts (and demonstrate space-time relativity); watched a 3-D movie on the origins and nature of the universe as narrated by Stephen Hawking; viewed a super-cool super conducting magnetic train track; saw a life-size model of the new Mars Rover, "Curiosity", that is slated to set off for the red planet in 2011; and much, much more. Who knows, the world's next great scientist may have gotten their inspiration that day!

LIVSMART COMMITTEE UPDATE

Exciting news! As a request from students in our school and area schools, FFSS has been chosen to be the first school in the board to implement a salad bar. It will be installed in the cafeteria and should be up and running in December. Students can purchase fresh vegetables and homemade salads. Thanks to Mr. McMorrows' Hospitality class, as they will be working with Aramark to help with the start up of this new initiative.

This Friday November 27th is 'Fenelon Fry-Day!' For more details see the write up on the Hospitality Program. Students can see a basic recipe, on the computer wallpaper as they log in. Ask them about it and try them at home!

Coming soon: A Water Bottle Refilling Station in the cafeteria! Stay tuned for more updates from the Live Smart Committee.

RESPECT ED

The F.F.S.S. Respect Ed. committee recently received a generous \$600 donation from the Fenelon Falls Community Policing Committee to support the anti-bullying work undertaken by members here at F.F.S.S. and in our elementary feeder schools. A logo contest is being held to promote the concepts of respect, anti-bullying and leadership in our school. The winner will receive \$50 and his or her logo will be used for the our new Respect Ed. t-shirts. Respect Ed. workshops are due to begin at F.F.S.S. in November.

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

The **FFSS Gay Straight Alliance** is now meeting for its sixth year. This growing group of energetic and positive students is meeting in an effort to promote a more inclusive and a less discriminating school atmosphere around issues of sexual orientation. Activities planned this include a Dare to be Different Day, Rainbow bake sale, and our annual Day of Silence.

YEARBOOK

Yearbooks for the 2009-2010 school year are on sale. Yearbooks will not be on sale second semester so order your yearbook now! All students who had purchased a yearbook by the end of September were entered in a draw for a personalized yearbook and the winner was Ashley Murray. The October draw will be for a pizza from Godfathers and at the end of November we will draw for Subway gift cards – so purchase your yearbook now to be entered to win! Yearbooks are \$45 and are sold in room 145.

ECOSCHOOLS

F.F.S.S. was certified a silver Ontario EcoSchools school for 2008-2009. Already students have begun initiatives to help F.F.S.S. work towards earning gold level status for this school year – and the community can help! A battery collection program has been set up at F.F.S.S. for students and staff to bring in their dead batteries and they will be properly recycled. The battery collection center is located in the guidance office. Batteries are considered hazardous waste and should not be tossed into the regular trash. As well, Ms Graham's grade 11 environmental science class participated in the TD Canada Trust Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup on September 24th and cleaned up litter at Garnet Graham Park. Finally, with Christmas around the corner, the Eco Club asks for you to make this year a "Green" Christmas by using fabric bags for wrapping gifts to reduce waste, consider gifts with less packaging, and shopping at local businesses. More "Green" Christmas tips to come as the holiday season approaches!

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CURLING

The F.F.S.S. Curlers took to the ice for their first practice on November 2nd. We're excited to have a good crew of new and returning curlers with a wide range of experience. We are looking forward to some exhibition games with local schools this year and bonspiels will start after the winter break. See Ms. Franzen or Ms. Edmonstone for more information.

JUNIOR BOYS VOLLEYBALL

The Junior Boys Volleyball team had a great season! Members of the team were Devin Jordan (captain), Jake Shea, Taylor Ryall, Brandon Chynoweth, Victor Knox, Sammy Dickie, Tanner Pearson, Angus Short, Jesse Coulton, and Zach Cellini. The players finished strong throughout the regular season but were unable to put up a win at the qualifying tournament. All players showed great sportsmanship and dedication even through all of the sickness. Well done Falcons!

FALCON SKATING TEAM

The **F.F.S.S. Falcon Skating** team is starting up again with Monday practices continuing on sporadically through till the Trillium Lakelands District High School Figure Skating Invitational on March 30th, 2009. The day long competition is held at the recreation centre in Lindsay and spectators are welcome!

The Trillium Invitational is comprised of approximately 20 high school teams ranging from Durham, Durham Separate, Kawartha Pine Ridge District, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland, Clarington Separate, York Region and Trillium Lakelands District.

The competition is similar to an interclub, where points are accrued based on successful participation in events. We are looking forward to a positive and fun year and are pleased to welcome a new advisor, Angela Bulmer and several new team members!

Any skater interested in participating, please contact Ms. Carruth asap. Parents who desire information are encouraged to call as well. Ms.Carruth's extension is 32611.

SAC

SAC has been very busy since the start of the year! Our first dance was on September 18th and it was a huge success; we thank all of those involved, especially the staff and chaperones. We have also been organizing spirit days throughout the semester. Some of these days include Falcon Day for the football game, spirited with things such as face painting, dressing up, and cheering on our team. Another spirit day that took place was our Hallowe'en costume day and karaoke. F.F.S.S. recently had a very special guest speaker, Andy Thibodeau, come to the school on October 21st. He performed two assemblies to the classes in the morning, themed "Share Your Care!" (Show Up! Participate! Listen!). This was followed by a FUNshop in the afternoon for 150 nominated students. At the start of November, three SAC students participated in the three-day Ottawa Experience with Barry Devolin MP, learning a lot about the parliamentary system, and collaborating with student leaders from around Ontario. In addition, several Student Council members attended the National Character Education Conference in Huntsville in early November. The students spent the day at a workshop led by David Suzuki. It was an inspiring day and we learned a lot of ways to be better global citizens. One upcoming event is the annual Fenelon Falls Santa Claus Parade on November 28th. The SAC will be putting a group of students in the parade to represent the school. Also, the next dance will be taking place on November 27th (7:30 to 11 pm). All students are encouraged to come out and enjoy the night! Thank you to everyone who has purchased their activity fee for participation in sports and clubs at school. If you still need to purchase one, or need to upgrade, please go to the Math Office. One final reminder is that SAC is selling clothes again this year. "Falcon Wear" ranges from sweaters, to t-shirts, to sports bags, to toques. Anyone interested can see a SAC member or see Ms. Alton in the math office at school.

Me to We focuses on community involvement and making a difference locally and internationally. It is a global organization that promotes "kids helping kids" through social awareness. Last year students attended national "We Day" and upon hearing the inspirational speakers the students created the FFSS branch of *Me to We*. Last May, our "Walk for Water" fundraiser was a huge success so we're planning another one for the spring. The Walk raised awareness about the conditions of water around the world and also raised money to help improve these conditions. The students determined a route that symbolically passed by the water tower in Fenelon. Once again this year, our Me to We club went to We Day! and we were further inspired and motivated to work together to make a difference in our world. We came back and started to publicize a national campaign called "Halloween for Hunger". Students throughout the school brought in non-perishable food items to donate to the food bank. Some students also went door-to-door in the community on Hallowe'en night for donations to the food bank. We have much more planned for the rest of the year so if you're interested in "being the change you want to see in the world." please go to the Friday lunch meetings in room 221.

FENELON FALLS SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE

F.F.S.S. sent a group of seven environmentally-minded students to the National Character Education Conference (NCEC) on November 2nd to participate in workshops with David Suzuki and listen to his keynote address. The students had to prepare a presentation for David Suzuki about environmental issues and how the government can make a difference. The students included Lisa Finnie, Madison Frank, Devon Jackson, Caitlin Macnab, Jack Prins, Orion Rendon, and Ellie Wright. It was an excellent opportunity to share ideas and learn from Dr Suzuki about what youth today can do to help the environment and preserve our world for future generations.

FLU UPDATE

Flu Clinic for students of FFSS will be held at the school on Thursday, December 3rd, starting at 8:30 am.

As you know, the occurrence of flu is increasing as health units warned it would. During this time, we would ask that you be vigilant in keeping sick children at home, and modeling safe and healthy behaviours such as hand-washing and coughing into your sleeve or a tissue. Your child's school is sharing this direction, and watching all students for signs of flu and calling you for immediate pick-up if your child is ill.

Signs of the flu include:
 respiratory symptoms
 fever
 cough
 sore throat
 muscle aches
 joint pain or weakness.

In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present and fever may not be prominent.

For more information, please visit the Board website, www.tlidsb.on.ca, for links to the Health Unit resources.



TLAC 2010-STUDENT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

What is TLAC? TLAC is an arts camp for Grade 7 through 12 students that will take place for 1 week in May 2010! TLAC camp has been in operation since 2003. It offers specialized instruction for Music, Drama, Music Theatre, Dance, and Visual Art within an exciting camp experience. The arts camp is set up as a typical high school day with 4 periods.

Students attending have proficient skills in either instrumental music, music theatre, dance, or visual arts. There are nightly evening concerts featuring performances from major artists, a presentation from a local visual artist and art display. The enriched arts experience is enhanced by the summer camp atmosphere.

Check with your school office for an application package. See the board website, www.tlidsb.on.ca for more information or contact Sandra Corry at s.corry@tlidsb.on.ca. Applications are accepted on a first come completed, first served basis. A waiting list will be kept for any forms received over and above our maximum capacity. Applications that are not complete will be returned, so take your time and complete all sections accurately! This year's program is looking even more energized than last year!



SNOW DAY CANCELLATION

It's that time of year again! With the forecast for today, I thought this would be a good time to send out information regarding School Bus Cancellations.

This information is for complete service cancellation only, not for individual route cancellations. For those, the operator contacts the radio stations themselves. Every attempt will be made to have the decision made by 6:15 a.m.

In the event of school bus service cancellation, the following notifications are sent out and parents can access any of these for the information: For TLDSB schools: www.tlidsb.on.ca/index.cfm

BOB FM - 91.9 FM
Country 105 - 105.1 FM
The Wolf - 101.5 FM

CBC - 98.7 FM
EZ Rock - 105.9 FM

