

Principal's Message

Another wonderful month has passed at Dovercourt with many exciting events.

Our grade 7/8 classes went to Stratford on October 20th to watch Macbeth LIVE. We had almost 100% attendance – a record! While it was a long day, as you will see later in this newsletter, it was a wonderful day for all. Thank you to Ms Brougham and the rest of the Intermediate team for making this happen.

Our QSP fundraiser concluded and we sold over \$7,000 worth of items. Thank you for all of your support. This money goes towards subsidizing our excursions as well as excursion bursaries for any student in need. **DON'T FORGET – COOKIE DOUGH must be PICKED UP ON THURS. NOV. 17th!**

Our Cross Country team did very well at the local, conference and city championships – not only did many meet their own personal goals, as a team, they supported each other and showed great positive spirit.

Please make sure you inform the school office if any of your contact information has changed. It is very important that we have the most up-to-date contact information.



REMINDER: As the weather gets cooler, we continue to go outside at least 3 times / day. All students should be prepared for the outdoors – EVERY DAY!

I encourage you to visit our school website:
<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/Dovercourt> to review our up-to-date calendar and the general TDSB website (tdsb.on.ca) for up-to-date information.



A BIG thank you to **Fiesta Farms / Fiesta Gardens** for the wonderful donation of 18 pumpkins. Each of our homeroom classes will be creating masterpieces for display on October 31, Hallowe'en.



HALLOWE'EN AT DOVERCOURT

Costume Parade –
Monday, Oct. 31 - 1:00 pm

Bake Sale – Immediately following parade – non-food items also available for purchase
(Volunteers - Bakers needed – contact events.dovercourtcouncil@gmail.com)

FRIENDLY REMINDER: We have many students in each class who have severe (anaphylactic) allergies to a variety types of food as well as other food restrictions. We ask that you continue to NOT send food to school to share with other students. Thank you for your understanding.

Costumes at school

- No weapons or toy weapons
- Masks to be worn ONLY during the parade.
- All costumes should take into consideration our guide for dressing for school found in the student agendas.



SAVE THE DATES

SAC (Parent Council)
Tues., Nov. 1 – 6:30 pm

Dovercourt Dance-a-thon
Fri., Nov. 25

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TRICK OR TREAT SAFETY

Here are some basic safety tips to consider:

- Children should NEVER eat any treats until parents/caregivers have had a chance to go through them and inspect them.
- NEVER go into a stranger's house.
- NEVER trick or treat with people you do not know.
- Children should always stay in groups if no parent/caregiver is present.
- Younger children should ALWAYS be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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- If you cannot accompany your child then know the route your child will take.
- Remind children to stay away from pets they do not know. Remind children of road safety rules. Cross only at corners. Do not criss-cross the road. Go up one side of the road and down the other side. Never cross between parked cars. Walk facing on-coming traffic if there is no sidewalk
- If adults are driving their children, drive slowly, with lights on and be cautious when pulling to the side of the road.
- Remind children that not everyone celebrates

Hallowe'en, and to avoid any homes that have no lights on.

- Also remind children not to run through neighbours yards or gardens.
- With older children, be sure to know what other events (such as parties) they plan on attending.
- Set time limits when children should return home.

Grade 7s and 8s at Stratford Festival!

Incredible Performance Brings Shakespeare's *Macbeth* to Life



By: Tegan Porter

On Thursday October 20th The grade 7s and 8s from Dovercourt went on a trip to the Festival Theatre in Stratford to see the play *Macbeth* written by Shakespeare.

We were all excited to see the play when we went to the theatre after lunch but we did not know what to expect, two hours and thirty two minutes of amazingness! We experienced moments of horror, sadness and humor all in one play.



Our seats were in the balcony and you could see everything from up there. I didn't see anything I didn't like. The acting was amazing, especially considering that it was Macbeth's understudy performing because he had injured himself in the final fight scene. I would not have known if it wasn't for our teachers telling us and the paper in the program explaining it.

During the prologue before the play, we got to see the set and the theatre before the show started. When the play began, I was so impressed with the lighting, the sound effects and all the other special effects.

Going to Stratford to see a professional play and one as incredible as *Macbeth*, was an experience I will never forget.

Shakespeare's *Macbeth* Review

By: Jeremy Jordan

Now, firstly, may I say that this play was magnificent in every way. The acting, the lighting, the sound design and the special effects really made this play shine like a torch on a dark night.

I'm sure you are aware of the plot behind Shakespeare's horrifying spectacle. If not, then I shall explain it to you as Shakespeare himself would explain it. You see, Macbeth and his loyal friend Banquo are moving through the forest without aid after a fierce battle in which Macbeth and his trusted companion defeat a traitor of the Norwegian forces. He succeeds in ending the countrywide bloodbath that is war. They come across three strange sisters that hold magical powers. The sisters tell Macbeth that he shall become

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king, and Banquo, the father of them. Of course, Macbeth is skeptical, but as the three sisters fade into the shadows, a messenger appears. He states that the captain of the guard was indeed a traitor and Macbeth is now the captain instead. This results in Macbeth going on a rampage of murderous insanity. He becomes the king as the sisters had predicted, but his madness continues on and he brings the kingdom into chaos.

The acting was a marvel! It was so well performed that I felt that I was watching a true story. You have to understand that the actor who played Macbeth was actually the understudy of the original actor. So he memorized the majority of the lines in the small time of two days! This makes his acting especially amazing. Not that any of the other actors weren't wonderful, they were! In short, the acting was perfect and I would not change a single bit of the performance.

You might not think that there is much to say about a few lightbulbs on the roof, but NO my wonderful audience, you are sadly mistaken. There is much more to theatre lighting than keeping a spotlight on an actor.

There are certain levels of lighting, making it seem like the sun or moon, firelight or lightning, or having shadows over the light that makes it seem like branches on a tree. Everything I mentioned and more was used and combined with the sound design, making it feel like a forest, or a castle or anything else they wanted to create.

What's next? Yes, the sound design. Now picture this, it's 2:00 am in a forest. What is in your mind? Is it silent? No, there's crickets wind and the coyote howling at the moon. That's what makes sound design so important. If you want to feel the presence of nocturnal critters, then you must hear them. It's not just animal noises though. There is thunder and lightning, cannons and trumpets, the knocking on an unseen door. The sound designers (and the lighting engineers) bring the setting to life. The play does this marvelously, magnificently and miraculously. I wouldn't have it any other way, but what do I know? I'm just a twelve year old kid with a passion for video games. Point is, everything I have reviewed so far, the acting, lighting and sound design, was absolutely flawless.

Finally, the special effects. I can only assume that you are wondering how special effects can be applied to a live performance, not like the effects we see in films. Well, there is a single scene that is overflowing with special effects to such a large extent, that I just had to mention it. Now before I describe this scene, I have to explain how the set changes happen between scenes. When a scene ends the theatre goes into blackness. During that time, behind the scenes experts quickly push in large props. A banquet table, a throne, a bed. It really looks like an entirely different area. I saw no mistakes, no missteps, and no mis-something-else. So the scene changes were spot on.

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Now, the scene that I mentioned above. Let me give you some atmosphere. Macbeth arrives at a cave he believes the three witches shelter in. He could hear a fire crackling, and the sisters chanting "Double, double, toil and trouble, fire burn and cauldron bubble..." over and over again. "Speak my fate, weird sisters!" Macbeth shouts over the noise. A dog suddenly rises from the cauldron, dead and decaying, then a baby rises crying and sobbing, and sinks back down and finally a young girl. Demons appear around Macbeth, as his dead friend smiles on, and the cauldron then sinks into the ground itself. All of the illusions, the smoke and the cauldron were some of the special effects that were fantastic!

In conclusion, the play of Macbeth, is amazing in all categories and is definitely worth the price of admission. The actors performed with perfection, the lighting and sound design brought atmosphere to no boundaries, and the special effects were awe inspiring. You should be unhappy if you missed it.

