



Runnymede Collegiate Institute

Newsletter – April 2012

Message from the Principal – Paul Edwards

Our mission at Runnymede CI continues to be the creation of a forward thinking, vibrant, inclusive school community that has high expectations for all, where our focus on a daily basis is student success.

Our students have been very successful during the first half of the second semester. Approximately twenty percent of our students have achieved Honor Roll status on the Mid-Term Report Cards. Our potential Graduates are on track to having an exceptional year and are gaining admissions to Universities and Colleges of choice, while others are on a very successful career path. We have high expectations for you and your future. All students and staff are reminded that this is just the mid-term point of the assessment and evaluation of all courses. The TDSB's Evaluation Policy emphasizes that the student's mark in each subject must be "most recent and most consistent". This means that the second term of the semester must weigh more heavily than the first term in all courses. Please also note that the Final Exams should be 30% of the Final Mark.

Therefore, should all students work harder and apply themselves to a greater degree we will expect that the final mark in June will be substantially greater than the Mid-Term mark. Let's do it!

Our students have taken on leadership roles in fundraising for various charities, social justice causes, and environmental initiatives as well as volunteering. Our FIRST Robotics Team has distinguished itself at two competitions. Many of our Athletic Teams reached the play-offs, including our Girls and Boys Basketball teams having represented us very well at OFSSAA games. Congratulations to all of our teams.

On Thursday May 3, we will be celebrating our First Multicultural Arts Night at Runnymede CI. This showcase begins at 5:30 pm with a BBQ and Visual Arts Gallery. Beginning at 6:30pm on Center Stage a special and unique collaboration by our Performing Arts students and professionals from our community will occur. All of our families are invited. You will not want to miss this! Our program planning for the next school year continues to include:

For our Masters' students: a pre-Advanced Placement content for qualified new Grade 9 students; an optional Grade 12 Master's year.

A Grade 12 Robotics Credit course open to all senior students. Four week transition program in July for our new Grade Nines. This will include Literacy, Numeracy, Multimedia skills and Fit for Life Activities. We are also seeking approximately 20 senior students who will be trained as mentors to our new Grade nines in July and beyond.

ESL Program.

New Grade 10 Guitar Credit course.

An after school Literacy, Numeracy and Homework help for all Runnymede's students beginning in October 2012. More information will be available later.

In closing I encourage you to visit our new and improved website, www.runnymedecollegiate.com for information about all the challenging and wonderful activities at Runnymede. We continue to anticipate great achievements by our students every day.

Student Services

In February, students went through the course selection process where they chose their classes for next year. During "Walkabout", students were encouraged to speak with teachers about courses to ensure that they were making the right choices on their course selection sheet. For the first

www.myblueprint.ca to electronically submit their course requests for the 2012/2013 year. The myblueprint website has many functions other than course selection, including goal-setting, post-secondary planning, resume writing, occupation planning, etc. – students are encouraged to check out the different features of this website.

Summer school forms are available in Guidance. Remedial courses in core subjects are available to students whose final marks are between 35%-49%. A limited number of full credit Grade 11 and 12 classes are available to students who have earned the prerequisite and who have at least 16 credits. As well, summer e-learning courses are available in the months of July and August.

Graduating students who applied to university or college for September 2012 should be hearing soon about offers of acceptance if they have not heard already. Graduating students with IPRC designations who are planning on attending university or college are reminded that, to access support throughout post-secondary, they must approach the office for students with disabilities of their chosen university or college – IPRC/IEP information from high school does not directly transfer to college or university - students must bring that information to their post-secondary institute themselves if they wish to receive accommodations.

"Work Connections" was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on April 19. This was an opportunity for students to make connections with companies looking for full-time employees. Mr. Murray took a small group of Grade 12's to this event.

Runnymede Robotics 2011-12 Season

We want to extend a big thank you to all that came out to support our team in Waterloo and at the Hershey Centre. Our team worked very hard over the two weekends and managed to make it all the way to the semifinals at the GTR losing out to the former world champions. Runnymede went further than any other TDSB team. Those of you that were there saw that it was a nail biter all the way to the end. Runnymede Robotics was awarded the "Innovation in Control Systems" award showing that Runnymede is at the forefront of robotic technology. Way to go team!

We are very proud of all team members and especially our field and pit crew (Lisa, Braden, Michael, Brock, Bill, Jack, Natalia, Kyle, Mumtasim and Abdulmajeed) for their gracious professionalism and for continuing to keep their heads up



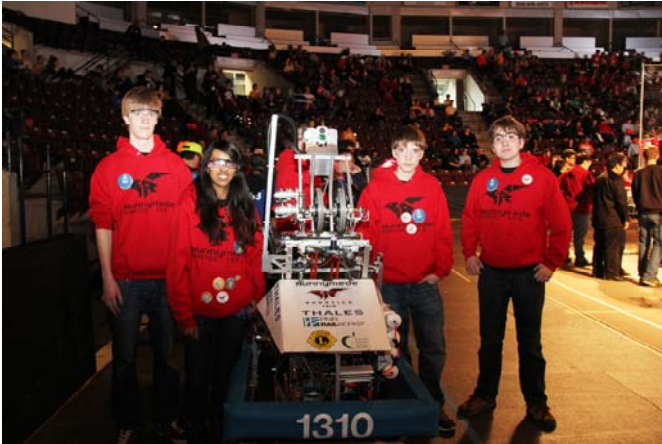
high throughout the entire event. Our robot worked flawlessly and when parts did break, they were replaced with the speed and accuracy of a NASCAR pit crew. It was quite apparent in the stands and in the pit

area that Runnymede has definitely earned a great reputation among the robotics community.

The team would like to thank all students involved this season, whether they were scouting, working in the pits, driving the robot or cheering in the stands. A special thanks to the mentors; Mr. Edwards, Mr. Watling, Mr. Poldon, Mr. Ramraj, Mr. Jeffery, and to our teachers; Mr. Graham, Ms. Thackary, Ms. Fife, Mr. Buffone, Mr. Enns, Ms. Sabetti, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Pinero. These people not only invested countless hours of their time but also drove the team back and forth to the events.

Last but not least, thank you to the folks behind the scenes as well, whose cooperation has made it possible for our team to work smoothly throughout the build season. Thank you to our very supportive administration, secretaries, caretakers and Runnymede parents.

Way to go Runnymede Robotics!



THE ARTS

African Drumming Workshop

Back in February, a group of 15 students had the opportunity to participate in an African drumming workshop with master drummer Alpha. Each student learned how to play the *djembe* drum as well as other larger drums such as the *doundoumba* and the *tamani*. Students agree that it was a wonderful way to celebrate Black History Month.



Multicultural Arts Night

May 3rd 2012

This year Runnymede CI is hosting a Multicultural Arts Night extravaganza. This evening is an opportunity to meet and mingle with other Runnymede families and community members, while celebrating the unique and distinctive cultures found at Runnymede.

The evening begins at 5:30pm where everyone is invited to a community BBQ held in the courtyard. Halal hotdogs, samosas, spring rolls and water will be sold. Desserts and coffee are available for free.

At the same time the Art students at Runnymede will be displaying their outstanding works in the Art Gallery. The exhibit is entitled "Juxtapose". Displayed will be 2D and 3D works of art by visual arts students. A silent auction will also be held.

At 6:30pm join us in the auditorium for the Multicultural Arts performance show. Accompanying our Runnymede students will be guest performers such as the Classical Chinese Music Orchestra, Asian folk and ballroom dancers as well as an electric dance performance featuring Runnymede's own award winning 1310 Robot.

So come out to support Runnymede CI for an evening of food, art and fun

Tickets on sale RIGHT NOW!!!

They can be purchased in the main office or the Geography office (Rm 126). **\$3 in advance, \$5 at the door.**

Multicultural Arts Night - Thurs. May 3rd @ 6:30pm

**Join us for a BBQ
@ 5:30
In the Courtyard!**

- Halal Hotdogs
- Samosas
- Spring rolls

- Free coffee and dessert

1012 ART ETOBICOKE STUDENT ART SHOW

A number of visual art students at Runnymede will be showcasing their artwork at the annual "Student Art Show" at Sherway Gardens Shopping Centre, organized by *Arts Etobicoke*. Show will run from April 21st to April 28th.

A SPECIAL DANCE FUSION

Including our Robot #1310 and students on centre stage. Robot #1310 Dunked Hoops @ Waterloo and Hersey Centre now back @ it's Ravens' Home.....will bust-a-move on centre stage.



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