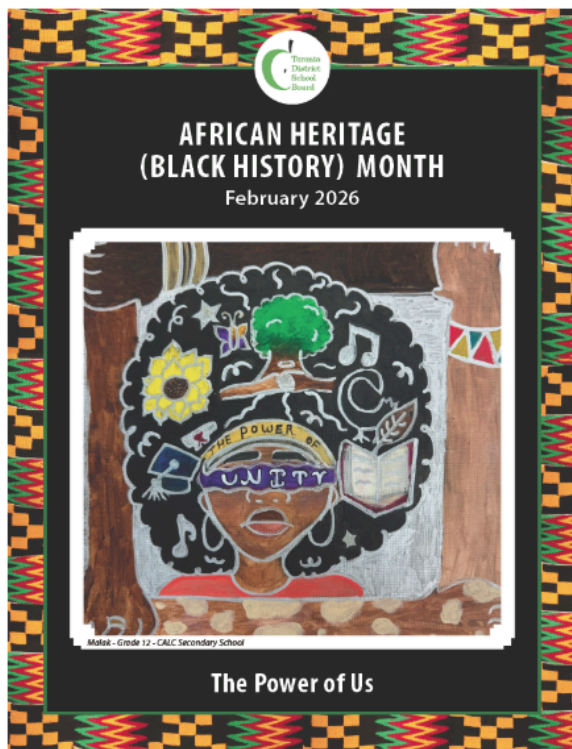


Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

February, 9th, 2026



February at our school is more than just a busy month on the calendar; it is a period of learning, unlearning and reflection. As we transition into Semester 2, we do so with a commitment to honoring the diverse stories that define our community.

Black History Month/African Heritage Month serves as a vital reminder that Black history is not a separate chapter, it is the very fabric of Canadian and global history. This month, our classrooms will move beyond historical facts to engage with the concepts of Black identity, joy, and resilience.

We are particularly proud of our student-led initiatives:

- **February 11 - Black Love Day:** A student-led conference designed to provide a safe, affirming space for Black



students to share their lived experiences and celebrate their authentic selves.

- **February 24 - Black History Month Assembly:** Our African Caribbean Descent Club will take the stage during Periods 2 and 3 to showcase "Black Joy, Brilliance, and Resistance."

Simultaneously, we celebrate **Chinese Heritage Month**. As we welcome the **Year of the Horse** and its theme of *Play, Progress, Prosper*, we encourage our students to explore the depth of Chinese culture while remaining mindful of the work still needed to combat anti-Asian racism.

Indigenous Word of the Month:

This month's Indigenous word is **winter**. Here are those words in the language of the groups recognized in the TDSB Land Acknowledgement:

Anishinaabe: **biboon** (courtesy of the [The Ojibwe People's Dictionary](#); includes pronunciation)

Haudenosaunee: **akohsera'kén:ne** (courtesy of [Mohawk Language in the Workplace](#) pg. 16)

Wendat: **ohcha'** (winter, wintertime; courtesy of [English-Wendat Dictionary](#))

Additionally, here's a short video from the CBC: "[Ask an Elder: What do you call the winter months in the Mi'kmaw language?](#)"

School Council (Parent Council):

The next Council meeting is **Tuesday, February 17th @ 7pm**. The meeting will be virtual. The link for the meeting is below:

School (Parent) Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 17 · 7:00 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/Toronto

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/cpx-dvjh-rek>

Or dial: (US) +1 386-456-4596 PIN: 988 115 270#

In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about School Councils, click here:

<https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/csww/school-council?authuser=0>

OR our Parent/Caregiver Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1A9ZNPmeQe/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

OR reach out to us at our soon to be operational email:

SC.centraltechnicalschool@tdsb.on.ca

Links to “Fund our Schools” townhalls:

<https://www.fundourschools.ca/news/feb-11-virtual-town-hall>

<https://www.fundourschools.ca/news/feb-18-fos-town-hall>

Support our School: Donations NEEDED!

As you know, activities and programs at Central Technical School require funding to ensure that all students have access to enriching experiences. To help subsidize these costs, we rely on the generosity of our community through donations, fundraising efforts, and activity fees.

If you would like to support CTS students with a monetary donation, we invite you to follow these simple steps:

1. Click here to donate: [Donate: School Cash Online](#)
2. Select Central Technical School from the list.
3. In the "Message to School Board" box, please indicate “Prom 2026”, “Football” or specify the initiative or club you would like to support.
4. A tax receipt will be automatically generated for your contribution.

Your support makes a significant difference in the lives of our students, enabling us to provide the programs and activities that enrich their educational experience. Every donation, large or small, is greatly appreciated, and you will receive a note of thanks and a tax receipt for your generosity.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute to our school community!

Holiday Market and Fashion Show:

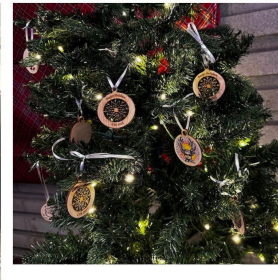
Our Holiday Market & Fashion Show was a vibrant celebration of student creativity and community. The art building was transformed into a festive marketplace with live drawing, a photo booth, baked goods, and student-made items like ornaments,

keychains, cards, ceramics, tote bags, pencil cases, and T-shirts.

The evening featured a fashion show highlighting original student designs, and beautiful live music performances. Thank you to all the students, staff, and families who helped make this event such a memorable success.

Winter Concert

Our Winter Concert on December 11 was a huge success! We kicked off the day with a high-energy morning performance for our local feeder schools before putting on two more shows in the afternoon and the evening. The stage was overflowing with student talent, featuring performances from our Band, Guitar, Keyboard, and Steel Pan classes as well as our Jazz and Rock Bands. The Theatre Club also joined in on the fun, making its debut performance with great dramatic flair. It was an inspiring day of music and performance at Central Tech, showcasing the talent and the dedication of our students. We would like to thank all of our friends and family for your ongoing support of the Arts, and we hope to see you at the Spring Concert on May 21.



Lumiere



Grade 11/12 Photography students and Camera Club students combined their efforts in January to put on Central Technical School's first photography festival. The Lumière de Bleu Photography Festival featured artwork from 33 different Central Tech students through grades 9-12. The event was hosted by students Ryan Batada, Nai Bobyk and Orly Kaye. Special thanks goes to Ms. Leckie and the Culinary

Department for creating such amazing appetizers for the event.

The students at Central Technical School are extremely determined and creative. They held themselves to a high standard in creating this photography exhibit. Stay tuned for May when the arts department will be hosting another photo exhibit for the Contact Photography Festival.



Grade 11 Biology

Grade 11 students in Ms. Spizzirri's biology class bundled up and traveled to Tommy Thompson park for an exploration led by a TRCA guide. The day started with

information about the history of the park. Then, students together with Ms. Spizzirri, Lab Technician Rajah and Teacher Candidate Mr. To-Dang, strapped on helmets and cycled through the park via quad cycles. The day ended with a silent hike, birding and a challenge that our guide presented.

Students have been working in class to come up with creative solutions to the presented challenge and will share them with the TRCA in January



Guidance

Course Selection Information

Deadline: **DUE** - March 6

- Visit: www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb to enter courses for next year
- Course Selection Instructions will be sent via email, also posted in our guidance google classrooms and on the CTS [website](#).

Scholarship Information

- ★ Our next scholarship meeting: Tuesday, Feb 17, 12:00pm, room 214
- ★ Check out the February Scholarship Report:

[The Scholarship Report - February](#)

If you need a code to enter **SEPTSCHOLAR25**

Upcoming Scholarships:

- **Schulich Builders - Scholarships for Skilled Trades**
 - [SchulichBuildersScholarship](#)
 - (Get name and information to michael.cormier@tdsb.on.ca by May)
- **The Merit Award** - \$500 - \$2000. All grade 11 & 12 students can apply!
 - <https://www.meritaward.ca/>
 - Deadline - **March 26, 2026** for reference request
- **The Horatio Alger Scholarship** for grade 11 students, \$10,000 - \$20,000
 - [The Horatio Alger Scholarship](#)
 - Deadline - **March 31, 2026**
- **The Bridges EDU Scholarship**
 - [BridgesEDU Scholarship](#)
 - Deadline - **June 30, 2026** (not grades-based)
- **Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program (IIODS)**
 - [IIOD Scholarship](#)
 - Deadline - **March 20, 2026**
- **ONE City Scholarship**

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- [One City Scholarship](#)
 - Deadline - **March 23, 2026**

★ **Virtual Scholarship Application Workshop for Black Students:**

- Thursday, February 12, 2026. 6:30 - 8:30pm.
- Register by Wednesday February 11, 12:00pm.
 - Registration Link: [Scholarship Workshop Registration](#)

Night School - Sem 2:

- ★ Night School registration is closed.
- ★ Semester 2 Night School classes begin the week of **February 9**, and classes will appear on the Brightspace platform.

Summer School:

Summer school information should be available *after March Break*.

Summer School options include:

- **New Credit - Full Day**
- **Credit Recovery - Half Day**
- **eLearning**

Commencement:

- ★ For students graduating in this 2025-2026 school year, the commencement ceremony will be held on **Thursday, June 25, 2026**. More information to follow.

Guidance Google Classroom links

- Grade 9/10 <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzUwNzA1MTc0MjM2?cjc=6hdk43k>
- Grade 11/12 <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzcxNDIzMjQ2OTcy?cjc=rzzv44l>

Volunteer Opportunities

- Join the CTS Guidance google classroom to receive information about the latest volunteer opportunities advertised by the guidance office.
- Grade 9 and 10 classroom code: **6hdk43k**
- Grade 11 and 12 classroom code: **rzzv44l**

Job Opportunities

Help and Distress Lines

- [Kids Help Line](#)
- [What's Up Walk In](#)
- [Mental Health TO](#)
- [Black Youth Helpline](#)
- [LGBT Youthline](#)

- [Naseeha](#) - Mental health hotline, resources, workshops, web therapy and more for Muslim and non-Muslim youth and individuals.
- [Indigenous Youth Help Line](#)
- 911

Free Math Help - Grade 6 - 12

- <https://www.tvomathify.com/students>

Important Upcoming Dates:

February 11th: Black Love Day

February 13th: PD Day (OSSTF and self-directed learning)

February 16th: Family Day

February 17th: School Council (Parent Council) @ 7 pm

February 24th: BHM Assembly (Grade 9s and 11s period 2, Grades 10 and 12 period 3)

March 6th week: Spirit Week and TDSB Skills Competition

March 13th: Level Up Day

March 16-20th: March Break

March 23rd: Grad Photo Retakes

Late Start Schedule:

February 18, 2026	February 25, 2026	<p>Schedule on these days:</p> <p>P. 1: 9:55 am - 10: 55 am P2: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:05 pm P3: 1:05 pm - 2:10 pm P4: 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm</p> <p>*** We ask that your student does not come to school until 9:45 am.</p>
March 11, 2026	March 25, 2026	
April 22, 2026	April 29, 2026	
May 20, 2026	May 27, 2026	