

# Central Technical School

## NEWSLETTER

March 3, 2026



As we mark the close of Black History Month, I want to take a moment to reflect on the energy that has filled our school throughout February. Our students have engaged in meaningful opportunities to learn about and celebrate the leadership, resilience, and excellence of Black Canadians and the global Black community.

As we conclude the month, we do so with a firm affirmation: Black history is Canadian history. It cannot be confined to a single month. Instead, it must be centered, honored, and woven into our learning all year long as part of our ongoing commitment to equity, dignity, and justice.

I am incredibly proud of our student leaders who took the initiative to organize **Black Love Day**. This event was a beautiful



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exploration of identity and community. Students led and participated in workshops that focused on self-affirmation and culture, covering topics such as:

- Loving your hair
- Loving your skin
- Loving the way you talk
- Loving your culture
- Loving your food
- Love within the household
- Universal power of LOVE.



The culmination of months of planning, writing, and rehearsing was our **Black History Month Assembly**, themed *Black Glory*. It was a spectacular showcase of talent and brilliance. Our students treated us to:

- Dance performances and singing
- Slam poetry
- Funny and informative interludes
- A live "podcast" session discussing intergenerational wealth and the "Each One, Teach One" philosophy



Seeing our students take ownership of these narratives with such creativity and presence was the highlight of the month. Thank you to the staff and families who supported these initiatives, and a massive well done to our students for their leadership.



## Indigenous Word of the Month:

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

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

Haudenosaunee: **kenkwi'té:ne** (courtesy of [Mohawk Language in the Workplace](#) pg. 20)

Wendat: **yayenra'** (courtesy of the [English-Wendat Dictionary](#); includes pronunciation)



## Library Learning Commons:

We celebrated Black History Month and Chinese Heritage Month with this display at the main entrance of the Learning Commons. To learn more about CTS grad Sam Richardson, click [here](#), or scan the following QR code. Richardson competed at the 1936 Berlin Olympics where he befriended US Olympian Jesse Owens and competed in front of Adolf Hitler.

Ms. Filip's Grade 9 Science students learned about Indigenous peoples' contributions to science and Indigenous peoples' views about ecology, astronomy, and chemistry. Students then demonstrated their learning in a variety of ways by creating "promos" about a topic from their chosen episode of *Coyote's Crazy Smart Science Show*. It was a joy collaborating with Ms. Filip on this project.

Ramadan Mubarak! The holy month began for a number of our students as they began observing Ramadan, engaging in fasting and celebrations. To listen to Ramadan greetings in different languages, click [here](#).

The CTS Library Learning Commons joined the thousands of school and public libraries across Canada in celebrating Freedom to Read



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Week, which ran from Feb. 22 to 28. The purpose of the campaign is to highlight the importance of freedom of expression, challenges censorship and encourages open access to diverse ideas and perspectives. A shout out to Rowan Huitema for creating our “Banned Books” display. Rowan is with us as they complete a Library and Information Technician placement through Seneca College. To learn more about Freedom to Read Week, click [here](#).

Shout out to Ms. Conrod for bringing the Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada back to the CTS Library Learning Commons. Students learned about treaties, territories, languages, and history by interacting with the massive map. The map was explored by various classes and students using the space during their spare.



### **TIFF Lightbox Screening:**

The Tech Department visited TIFF Lightbox recently to watch a screening of the film 'When Morning Comes.' A story about a young boy struggling with his mother's decision to relocate the family from Jamaica to Canada. A Q+A was held after the screening with the writer and director Kelly Fyffe-Marshall where students asked the director questions about screenwriting and film production. Shout out to Tech Department Head Rachel Rosen for organizing this amazing field trip!



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## Grade 11 LAWS:

Grade 11 LAWS students were fortunate to have the opportunity to visit City Hall where they received a guided tour. This brought their learning about government and civic engagement to life. They explored the building's history, learned about how municipal decisions are made, and gained insight into the roles of city councillors and mayor Olivia Chow.

We were able to meet the city councillor of Central Tech's riding of University-Rosedale Dianne Saxe who explained her role and answered student questions. Students were able to make a powerful, real-world connection to the democratic process and inspired thoughtful questions about Toronto's leadership and their own civic responsibility.



## OYAP/SHSM Plumbing:

Central Tech's OYAP/SHSM plumbing students had the great opportunity to learn from an industry professional from Ridgid Tools on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. Ridgid Tools have been doing presentations for the last 20 years, demonstrating new and exciting tools used in the plumbing industry. Students were given the opportunity to practice using the tools, gaining invaluable hands-on experience. It was a great day for all.



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## Senior Ceramics:

TDSB x Gardiner - Senior ceramics students have begun making art responding to Linda Rotua Sormin's installation *Uncertain Ground*, currently at the Gardiner Museum until April 12 (go see it!) Three of our students' work will be shown in an exhibition at the Gardiner from March 14-29, with a public opening reception on Friday March 13.



## Transportation:

The field trip to the Toronto Autoshow gave students the chance to experience the latest in automotive technology. As electric vehicles evolve, the show provided insights into the innovations in modern cars. Students had the opportunity to explore the vehicles up close, sit inside them, and talk with manufacturer representatives. This experience allowed students to gain a deeper understanding of electric vehicle technology.

## CTS Winter Sports:

While many of us were, understandably, immersed in this year's Winter Olympics, a highly successful season of winter sports was reaching its conclusion at CTS. Many of our teams qualified for their post-seasons with a significant number of them making it their regional semi-finals.

A wave of young basketball talent led to CTS putting 3 boys teams on the court this year, including a Grade 9 novice team for the first time in a number of years. Our Junior and Senior teams both made it to the semi-final rounds in a very competitive region while our novice team battled hard to make it to the playoffs. Big thanks to coaches Quantay, Emmanuel, Higgs, and Bader-Shamai.

Similarly, with over 40 girls trying out for our junior volleyball team, a novice team was created for our Grade 9s in order to accommodate the level of enthusiasm for the sport. All three teams were highly motivated and capable all season long. There is definitely a bright future for CTS volleyball as our young players mature and develop their skills. Thanks to coaches Bryant, Estick, Donaldson, Chau, and Spizzirri for their efforts this season.

Boys Indoor soccer also had highly successful seasons in a competitive league. Both the junior and senior teams made it to the semi-finals in their respective divisions, with

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the Junior recently exiting the season with a tough 2-1 loss to powerhouse East York. Coaches Sidhu, Salera, and Waldie are to be commended for the great work they put into the season.

A small swim put forth their best this season, highlighted by Mila Eylon qualifying for the City Championships for the second year in a row. Thank you for representing the school so well, Mila, and thanks to coach De La Cruz for her commitment.

Finally, The CTS Wrestling team, after proudly hosting the Regional Championships, qualified 3 wrestlers for the City Championships. Big congrats to Juda Delpesche for an impressive 4th place finish, and a huge shout out to Bea Abad for qualifying for OFSAA for the 3rd year in a row. Good luck in Peterborough next week! Thanks to coaches Druery and Wilson for another great season.

## Guidance

### COURSE SELECTION INFORMATION

Deadline: **DUE** - March 6

- Visit: [www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb](http://www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb) to enter courses for next year
- Course Selection Instructions in our guidance google classrooms or on the [website](#).

### Scholarship Information

Our next scholarship meeting: Wednesday, March 19, 12:00pm, room 214

Check out the February Scholarship Report:

[TheScholarshipReport](#)

If you need a code to enter ***scholar678***

Upcoming Scholarships:

- 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](mailto: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 23, 2026** for reference request
- **The Horatio Alger Scholarship** for grade 11 students, \$10,000 - \$20,000

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- [The Horatio Alger Scholarship](#)
  - Deadline - **March 31, 2026**
  - **The Bridges EDU Scholarhip**
    - [BridgesEDU Scholarhip](#)
    - Deadline - **June 30, 2026** (not grades-based)
  - **Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program (IIODS)**
    - [IIOD Scholarship](#)
    - Deadline - **March 20, 2026**
  - **ONE City Scholarship**
    - [One City Scholarship](#)
    - Deadline - **March 23, 2026**

### **Summer School:**

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

**Summer School options include:**

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

### **Tutoring:**

- We are looking for Volunteer Peer Tutors for all subject areas. **Earn volunteer hours!**  
If you are interested, please complete this Google form:  
[I would like to be a peer tutor!](#)
- **Free Math Help - Grade 6 - 12:** <https://www.tvomathify.com/students>
- **Extra Help @ CTS:** Check out this extra help schedule: [CTS Homework Clubs](#)

### **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**
- Upcoming events that you can sign up for on Guidance Google Classroom. Get connected and sign up when these events advertise
  - Parent teacher interview afternoon and evening
  - Grade 7 Day

- Help with Commencement

**Jobs**

- Toronto Parks and Rec are still hiring for summer jobs. You can apply online at [www.toronto.ca/recjobs](http://www.toronto.ca/recjobs)

**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:**

**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:**

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