

Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

December 3rd, 2024



*** Self-Portraits displayed at our Open House, created by our talented students in the Visual Arts Specialized Classes.

Central Technical School Open House: A Celebration of Creativity and Innovation!

On November 13th, Central Technical School (CTS) proudly hosted its annual Open House, inviting students in grades 7 and 8 from across Toronto to discover our diverse and dynamic programs. Attendees explored a wide array of offerings, including:

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- Academics
 - Architecture
 - Automotive
 - Carpentry
 - Communications Tech
 - Special Education Programming
 - Phys-ed and Athletics
 - Plumbing
 - Robotics
 - Visual Arts
 - Design Tech
 - Drama
 - Electrical
 - Hairstyling and Aesthetics
 - Hospitality
 - Music
 - ESL and Leap programming
 - Fashion

Families and students were truly impressed by our dedicated teaching and support staff, our enthusiastic students, and our state-of-the-art facilities. Visitors witnessed firsthand the incredible work happening in our classrooms—students engaged in math challenges, culinary creations, hair styling, fashion design, and hands-on projects in robotics and electrical work. From painting and sculpting to engine repairs and cookie decorating, the creativity and skill on display were nothing short of inspiring. A heartfelt thank you to all our staff and students who contributed to making this event a resounding success. We invite you to explore our website to view a video featuring our talented students and to access our brochure, which highlights why CTS is truly the Right Place at the Right Time. Visit our [website](#) to learn more! Together, we are shaping the future of education at Central Technical School!

Indigenous Word of the Month:

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

Anishinaabe: **Minwendam** (click [here](#) to listen to a pronunciation)

Haudenosaunee: **Tshennón:ni, Tonhnháhere** (courtesy of Mohawk Language Learning Resources)

Wendat: **Ayakwahstih** (I'm happy; I'm doing well; courtesy of English-Wendat Dictionary)

School Council (Parent Council):

The next Council meeting is December 10, 2024 at 6pm. The meeting will be virtual. The link for the meeting is below:

School Council/Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 10 · 6:00 – 7:00pm
Time zone: America/Toronto
Google Meet joining info
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/saw-cqwt-znj>
Or dial: (US) +1 720-500-3601 PIN: 961 153 103#

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 reach out to us at our soon to be operational email:
SC.centraltechnicalschool@tdsb.on.ca

We look forward to a great year ahead!

Co-Chairs: Tanya Becker & Crystal Stewart

Calling all Parents/Caregivers and Guardians of Black and Indigenous Children:

Last year, we hosted our first ever Parents of Black Children night. It was a resounding success. We would like to host another one in January/February, and one for parents/caregivers and guardians of Indigenous Children as well.

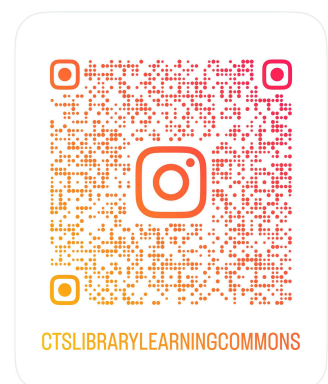
If you are a parent/caregiver or guardian of Black and/or Indigenous children and would like to hear more about the planned evenings, or would like to help organize, please fill [in this form.](#)

Graduation Photos:

The booking site is open for Grad photos December 6th -11th, 2024. Students and families can now book their graduation photo appointment here: <https://booking.edgeimaging.ca/portal/book/XCT>

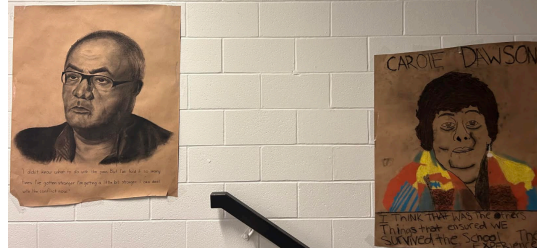
News from the Library Learning Commons:

The CTS Library Learning Commons is on Instagram! Scan the QR code to follow all the latest events and happenings.





Mr. Waldie's Grade 9 Canadian Geography class explored something new by utilizing the Learning Commons for a guided meditation session led by Teacher Candidate Ms. Jones. The experience focused on mindfulness and reflecting on our connection to the environment. It offered students a chance to pause, centre themselves, and consider their role in fostering sustainability. The session aimed to inspire a deeper connection with nature and a commitment to sustainability.



Student art is being showcased in the LLC! Left: This display brings together bronze, ceramic, and plaster sculptures created by our students in recent years. Each piece explores form, texture, and material in unique ways, from the permanence of bronze to the earthy warmth of clay and the softness of plaster. Together, these sculptures reveal the students' evolving skill and creative vision in shaping new materials into works of art. Right: Some pieces from Ms. Fleming's Grade 11/12 Drawing and Painting students have been moved to the LLC. Each student selected a residential school survivor to research and created a portrait to honour their resilience and strength.





The Toronto Public Library held a series of workshops at the LLC over the course of three days. Teachers had the opportunity to sign up their classes to learn more about research strategies, academic integrity and citation, among other topics. The button maker machine was also a big hit with students.

The LLC is ecstatic to announce that it has purchased a LEGO Wall. They are a great way to encourage students to use their imagination, thus allowing them to activate new ideas, collaborate with classmates, and create something new. It is also a great mindfulness activity. The wall is scheduled to arrive early in the new year.

The Forest of Reading Book Club is up and running again. Students can choose from a diverse collection of authors. Please see Mr. Druery or Ms. Bloom in the LLC to check out this year's selection.



Grade 9 NAC10, 11/12 Drawing and Painting and 11/12 Photography Field Trip

This month, our Visual Arts students embarked on a trip to the Art Gallery of Ontario, where they explored professional artwork and made meaningful connections between art and society.



- Grade 9 NAC10 students delved into the Indigenous Collection, gaining a deeper appreciation for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures.
- Grade 11/12 Drawing and Painting students were captivated by Pacita Abad's exhibit, featuring quilted paintings and powerful messages of social justice.

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- All students enjoyed a guided tour of Sonia Boyce's *Feeling Her Way* installation, an inspiring exploration of emotion and expression through art.

This enriching experience sparked creativity and will directly inspire our Grade 11/12 students as they work on their community quilt projects.

We are so proud of the ways our students are learning to connect art, and culture.



Grade 9 NAC10 Field Trip

Our Grade 9 NAC10 and Grade 9 Visual Art classes took their learning outdoors this month with a visit to Étienne Brûlé Park and the Humber River Recreation Trail. This hands-on excursion allowed students to explore the natural world and deepen their understanding of Indigenous culture.

- Students learned about local plants and their medicines, fostering connections to the land and Indigenous ways of knowing.
- The NAC10 class gathered natural materials to create insect sculptures and mark-making abstract drawings, blending art and nature.

This immersive experience helped students appreciate the importance of the land in art and culture, sparking curiosity, creativity, and a deeper connection to Indigenous perspectives.

Ethel Raicus Watercolour Award

The Arts Department is thrilled to announce that Sarah Khan has won the prestigious Ethel Raicus Watercolour Award from the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour for her stunning piece, "Serenity's Extremity". In her artist statement, Sarah reflects, "I think swans symbolize the meaning of serenity; the state of peace, calm, and untroubled, and pollution ends that peacefulness, or at least impacts it, symbolizing extremity." She created it last year in NAC10 (Expressions of Indigenous Culture). The award ceremony and opening for the "Open Water" Exhibition will be held at the Helson Gallery (9 Church Street,



Georgetown) on November 16 from 1–3 pm. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Sarah’s incredible achievement!



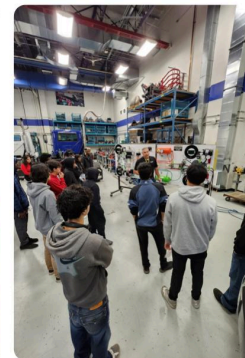
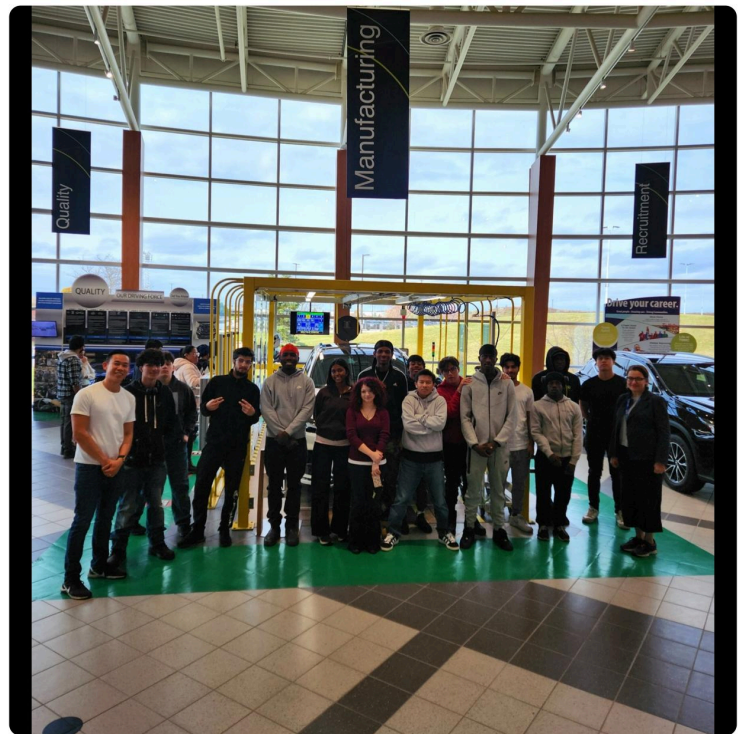
Hospitality

The grade 11/12 culinary students are learning the art of de-boning a whole chicken, then using all the different components for different applications. Which is cost effective, resourceful and reinforces meal planning.

Transportation

Our Grade 11 and 12 senior automotive students recently had an exciting field trip to the Toyota/Lexus assembly plant. Students had the opportunity to witness firsthand the manufacturing process, gaining valuable insights into the cutting-edge technology and precision involved in producing vehicles.

On a separate field trip, students visited Centennial College, where they participated in a hands-on automotive electrical lesson led by one of the college's professors. They also toured the college’s automotive labs and classrooms, exploring the state-of-the-art facilities that prepare students for careers in the automotive industry. It was a great experience, giving our students a glimpse into the next steps of their educational and career journeys in the automotive field.



Grade 10 Science

Grade 10 Science students worked with teacher candidate Ms. Beaulieu to create models of plant and animal cells using cake! Students chose different candies to represent the organelles and decorated their cakes. The results were tasty!



Canada VS Suriname!

On November 19th, 25 students got the exciting opportunity to go watch Team Canada play Suriname in the Nations League quarterfinals thanks to Emmanuel



Papathanasakis from the TDSB's caring and safe schools initiative funded by donations from various organizations. Driven by a strong performance from Jonathan David and Jacob Shaffelburg, team Canada emerged the winners of a 3-0 match, one that was certainly helped by the 2 dozen CTS students screaming and stomping their feet despite the cold winds and driving rain that pelted the field and our faces.

The students, who took diligent notes throughout, are hoping to take their learnings and apply them on the pitch as they start indoor soccer season this winter.

Bullying Awareness Month

In November, Central Tech recognizes Bullying Awareness Month. It is an opportunity to remember the impact that bullying can have on our school community and to talk about the ways we can report, support, and prevent bullying at CTS.

As a system, we focus on prevention efforts and creating a welcoming school community – both in-person and online. Supporting a positive school climate is an important way that we support students' well-being. Central Tech is committed to working to strengthen relationships between students and adults and improving our overall school climate to create inviting and engaging learning spaces where students want to be.

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Post-Secondary Pathways Gathering:



FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS MAWIOMI (GATHERING)

**Wednesday,
December 4th, 2024
9:00am - 3:00pm**

Urban Indigenous Education Centre (TDSB)

16 Phin Avenue, Toronto
Entrance #5

The Urban Indigenous Education Centre is honoured to host a Post-Secondary & Trades Fair for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students across the Toronto District School Board.

Indigenous students will have the opportunity to:

- Meet university, college and trades program representatives face-to-face, and engage with Indigenous representatives, mentors and alumni;
- Inquire about valuable information on programs, admissions, scholarships/bursaries, and support services;
- Learn how to access multiple options for post-secondary pathways;
- Find out about employment opportunities for summer and beyond.

For more information, please contact

emerelle.sliwa-julian@tdsb.on.ca

REGISTER



Important Upcoming Dates:

December 12th : Winter Concert

December 12th: OYAP Information Night (room 208)

December 20th: Last Day before the holidays

Starting as early as January 6th, classes will start their Final Evaluations in their different classes. **Attendance is super important** as this is the **final opportunity** for students to provide evidence of their knowledge and skills of the overall expectations of the different courses. As well, the Final Evaluation is made up of different components worth 30% of the grade. Please ensure your student understands the timelines and the expectations each of their teachers have of them.

January 6th - 21st: In-class final evaluations - **ATTENDANCE VERY IMPORTANT**

January 16th - 21st: moratorium - no field trips, inter-school activities, no tests/projects of new content

Formal Final Evaluation Period:

Please note, students only come into school if they have a scheduled formal final evaluation on these dates. Formal final evaluations will only occur in the AM. Individual students will also be contacted if they need an opportunity for credit rescue to come in during this time.

January 22nd - Day 1, Period 1 (AM)

January 23rd - Day 1, Period 2 (AM)

January 24th - Day 1, Period 3 (AM)

January 27th - Day 1, Period 4 (AM)

January 28th - Inclement weather day, and make-up day for students.

January 29th - Exam Review Day (AM)

*** Not all courses are using these days for the Final Evaluations, but instead credit rescue opportunities.

Credit Rescue:

Please note, that on January 22nd - 28th, if students are in-risk of not earning their credit, teachers will be contacting students and families with dates and times they can come in to engage in work to support them earning their credit.

Guidance

Counsellor Contact Information:

- Eleonora Ferrari (A – F) (416) 393 – 0070 ext 20042
eleonora.ferrari@tdsb.on.ca

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- Ryan Rasmussen (G - N) (416) 393-0070 ext 20043
ryan.rasmussen@tdsb.on.ca
 - Mike Cormier (O – Z) (416) 393 – 0070 ext 20046
michael.cormier@tsb.on.ca

Stay Informed:

Google Classroom Codes:

Grade 9/10: <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzUwNzA1MTc0MjM2?cjc=6hdk43k>

Grade 11/12: <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzcxNDIzMjQ2OTcy?cjc=rzzv44I>

University Application Deadline: January 15, 2025

- NO PIN (Personal Identification Numbers) required
- Websites – www.ouac.on.ca & <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca>

College Application Deadline: February 1, 2025

- PIN is NOT necessary
- OCAS website: www.ontariocolleges.ca

Need help applying to College or University?

- We would be glad to help
- Set up an appointment with your guidance counsellor and we will walk you through the process

Scholarship Info

- **Scholarship Workshop for Black Students - December 6, 7 - 9pm online. Register here: [BFCNScholarshipWorkshop](#)**
- **Scholarship Meeting – December 12 @ 12pm, room 214**
- Links to Scholarship & Awards sites:
 - <https://www.universitystudy.ca/plan-for-university/scholarships-grants-and-bursaries-for-canadian-students/>
 - <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>
 - <https://scholartree.ca/find-scholarships>
 - <https://yconic.com/>
 - <https://www.educanada.ca/scholarships-bourses/index.aspx?lang=eng>
 - <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>
 - [CTS Scholarship Chart](#)

Night School:

- Registration for **Semester 2 Night School** classes opens **December 3 @ 10am.**

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- For information:
[Night School Semester 2](#)

Dual Credit registration is now open for semester two.

- You could earn an **EXTRA** credit!
- Dual (2) means that a student takes a course that allows them to earn **BOTH** a secondary high school credit AND a college credit
- Students are able to take a college level course in a huge variety of areas to experience something they are considering as a possible career path
- Check out the Dual Credit website: [TDSB Dual Credit Information](#)
- See your guidance counsellor for more information 😊

SWAC (School Within A College) registration is now open for semester two.

- Are you in grade 12, and behind on credits?
- Are you interested in studying at a college, and earning up to 8 credits in semester two?
- Check out this video presentation for more information: [Open House Video Presentation for Staff and Students](#)
- Check in with your guidance counsellor to see if you are eligible 😊

Timetable Changes

Semester 2 timetable changes begin **December 1** and end **January 24**. Students are encouraged to set up appointments with their counsellors to review and or change their courses for semester 2.

OYAP Open House

We will host an OYAP Open House on **December 12th** in room 208 from **6:00pm-8:00pm**. If you are a grade 11 or 12 student and are interested in the trades, come out to find more information.

Course Selections

Grade 9 Course Selections

Course selections for grade 9 students begin in January with a course selection assembly on January 9 during period 2.

Counsellors will visit grade 9 classes from January 10 to January 21 to help students with their selections.

Course selection information will be sent to families and caregivers in the new year.

Grade 9 course selections will be due on January 30.

Grade 10 - 12 Course Selections

Course Selections for Grade 10 to 12 students will begin at the beginning of February. More information will be shared in the January newsletter.

LATE START SCHEDULE

December 11th, 2024	December 18th, 2024	Schedule on these days: 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 *** We ask that your student does not come to school until 9:45 am.
January 8th, 2025	January 15th, 2025	
February 19th, 2025	February 26th, 2025	
March 19th, 2025	March 26th, 2025	
April 23rd, 2025	April 30th, 2025	
May 21st, 2025	May 28th, 2025	