

Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

January 9th, 2025



December was a vibrant month filled with energy and enthusiasm from both our staff and students. A heartfelt congratulations to all our talented CTS music students for their outstanding performances at this year's Winter Concert—what an impressive showcase of musical skill! Additionally, CTS students organized a delightful winter market, bake sales, holiday movie buyouts, and hot chocolate sales, all contributing to a festive atmosphere throughout the school. The spirit of the holidays was truly alive at CTS!

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](#))

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?](#)"

Course Selections (for Grade 9 students) - Super Important Information!

Grade 10 Course Selections (for current grade 9 students) BEGIN January 10, 2025

This year we will begin course selections for current grade 9 students, early. The guidance counsellors will host a course selection presentation during period 2 on January 9th. Student will:

- use www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb to enter courses requests
- Students can begin choosing courses on January 10
- Students will attend a course fair during period 2
- Guidance counsellors will visit grade 9 classes from January 13 to January 21 and assist students with their choices
- Course selections are due January 21
- A separate email will be sent to students/caregivers with instructions and guides

We will be hosting virtual drop in course selection sessions for caregivers on February 20 & 26 at 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm - 8:00pm. Links will be emailed with the instructions for course selections and available on our website.

Course selections for current grade 10, 11 and 12 students

- Course Selections will begin in February
- More information will be published in February's newsletter

School Council (Parent Council):

The next Council meeting is **Tuesday, February 11th @ 6pm**. The meeting will be virtual. The link for the meeting is below:

SCHOOL (Parent) Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 11 · 6:00 – 7:00pm
Time zone: America/Toronto

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xmc-uvff-dwd>

Or dial: (US) +1 857-309-5178 PIN: 630 761 949#

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

News from the Library Learning Commons:

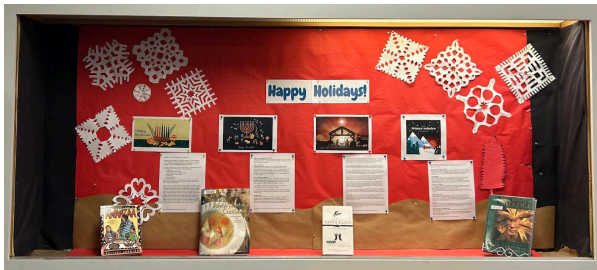
The CTS Library Learning Commons had the privilege of hosting the TDSB ESL/ELD Secondary Speech Competition Finals on Dec. 13. The event was emceed by CTS students Kaleab Arrefaine (left) and Jose Dominguez and attended by over 60 students and educators from the following schools: City Adult Learning Centre, David and Mary Thompson CI, Emery Edvance SS, Greenwood SS, Kipling CI, Martingrove CI, Northern SS, Northview Heights SS, Westview Centennial SS, and York Mills CI.



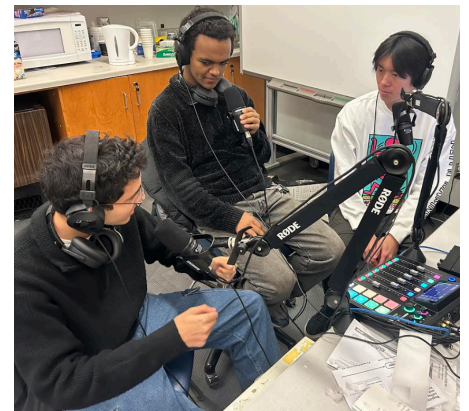
The AC-DC (African Caribbean Descent Club) has been busy planning a pair of big events upcoming in the new year. “Black Love Day” will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 11 with various events around the school. A “Bringing Back Black” assembly will happen on Tuesday, Feb. 25 in the auditorium.



Shout out to Ms. Bloom for creating this display recognizing the busy holiday season. The Library Learning Commons honoured Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Christmas.



Houssam Kadri (from left), Rhama Nibret, and Tyler Lin test out some of the new audio equipment that arrived this month in preparation for the construction of a podcast studio in the Library Learning Commons. We're hopeful that the studio will be ready for student use during semester two. Keep an eye on this space for updates.



Canadian and World Studies Department:

Central Tech and the Canadian and World Studies department celebrated the holidays in December. With such a diverse population, students and staff observed Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, the Winter Solstice, and the Chinese New Year and look forward to a 2025 filled with peace and happiness.



Grade 9 and 10 GLE

On December 3, 2024, students in GLE10 and GLE20 visited Evergreen Brickworks to participate in the Indigenous Land Connections program. In the final unit of the course, students are exploring the concept of community and the importance of individual contributions to strengthen community. Through this exploration, students are identifying, assessing, and demonstrating interpersonal and teamwork skills, as they are enhanced by respect. On the trip to Evergreen Brickworks, students walked through Toronto's Don Valley ravine system and learned about how respect for nature, self, and others is a critical component of building a healthy community.

Students were invited to reflect on their experience:

"Something that I learned about respect is that a way that you can show respect is looking at the speaker and not talking. One thing that I have learned about community in an Indigenous culture is that there are a lot of ways that you can participate in some activities."

"Something I learned is that when we were at the fire [our guide] was talking about the feather. When it's the inside facing down, it means that you need to speak up."

"Something I learned yesterday is that Indigenous people like sage on their face and body as a tradition to burn and to keep your soul safe. It smelled good."

"I liked the fire because of the talking and also the silence. The flames were awesome."

Grade 11 Biology

In grade 11 Biology class, students grew bean plants for four weeks. Each group chose to investigate the effect of a different variable on plant growth. Groups looked at the effect of simulated herbivory, competition, mycorrhizae, acid rain, or road salt.



Senior Girls Volleyball

The Sr Girls Volleyball team has had an amazing start to their season with an impressive 3-0 record with some very close games. They carried the momentum into a

strong tournament at Danforth CI and won their division in a hard-fought, comeback win against RH King. We hope to keep this through the winter break and into the latter half of our season. With 5 games remaining, we are looking to sharpen our strengths and finish our season as strong as we started! Go Blues!

CTS Ice Hockey!

After a long hiatus ICE HOCKEY, CTS is proud to announce we are officially back! Many different moving parts had to align in order for this to happen so we are very thankful for this and are hoping this can lead to a growing hockey program! The CTS hockey community would like to thank Bloor Collegiate for their collaboration in order to create a true school team! Go (Ice) Blues!



Important Upcoming Dates:

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. For those celebrating Lunar New Year, we will also have the opportunity at the end of the day on January 31st (First day of Semester 2) to review Final Evaluations.

January 30th - PA Day

January 31st - **First Day of Semester 2!**

Schedule for 31st:

Period 1:	9:00am-10:00am
Period 2:	10:05am- 11:05am
Lunch:	11:05 am-12:05pm
Period 3:	12:05pm-1:05pm
Period 4:	1:10pm-2:10pm
Exam Review:	2:15pm- 3:15pm

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.

February 11th: Black Love Day

February 13th: Cupid's Ball (Semi Formal - all students are welcome)

February 25th: "Bringing Black Back" Assembly

Guidance

Counsellor Contact Information:

- Eleonora Ferrari (A – F) (416) 393 – 0070 ext 20042
eleonora.ferrari@tdsb.on.ca
- Ryan Rasmussen (G - N) (416) 393-0070 ext 20043
ryan.rasmussen@tdsb.on.ca

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- 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>

Ontario University Application Deadline -

- The Ontario Application deadline is January 15, 2024.
- Link to application - <https://www.ouac.on.ca>

College Application Deadline

- Applications for equal consideration are due February 1, 2025
- Link to application - <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca>

Scholarship Info

- 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/>
 - [Scholarship Chart](#)

Semester 2 Timetable Changes End January 24, 2025

Semester 2 is around the corner. Contact your counsellor to set up an appointment to review and make any changes before the semester begins.

Night School:

- Registration for **Semester 2 Night School** classes is OPEN! **Registration closes on Friday January 31 @ 10:00am.**
- For information:
[Night School Semester 2](#)

Free Math Help - Grade 6 - 11

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

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 Credits](#)
- 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 😊

LATE START SCHEDULE

January 8th, 2025	January 15th, 2025	<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>
February 19th, 2025	February 26th, 2025	
March 19th, 2025	March 26th, 2025	
April 23rd, 2025	April 30th, 2025	
May 21st, 2025	May 28th, 2025	