

# Central Technical School

## NEWSLETTER

June 28th, 2023



### Principal's Message

Another school year has come to an end and it has been an amazing year with many successes for our students. I would like to thank you all for your continued support for our staff and Central Technical School.

Some of our achievements school-wide include an increase in credit accumulation across all grades, and an increase in engagement in school wide events and extracurricular programming. We have been successful in our co-curricular programs with students winning at the regional and provincial competitions for Ontario Skills, our Visual Art students were showcased across the city, our athletes brought home lots of medals at Regional finals, and some athletes even moved on to compete at OFSAA. Students in our LAWS program have successfully completed internships at various law firms, and finally, our Re-Imagining Learning Group constructed our new Vision and Mission (See below for a link to the document).

Congratulations to our graduates, the class of 2023, on your achievements. The staff at CTS wishes you all the best as you continue your journey in your chosen pathway. We look

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forward to seeing you at commencement in October. We know that you will always be part of the CTS family and look forward to you visiting in the years to come.

For the students returning to Central Tech in September the first day of school is September 5th, 2023. At the end of this email you will find the school calendar for next year and important dates. Please look out for emails mid to late August outlining first week procedures, addressing timetable concerns and other important information.

I wish you a safe and happy summer and that you all come back rested and rejuvenated and ready for a successful 2023-2024 school year. See you in September!

## **Freedom Fest:**



The event featured performances by students from CTS and BCI, as well as students from Harbord CI, Central Toronto Academy, and Victoria Park CI.

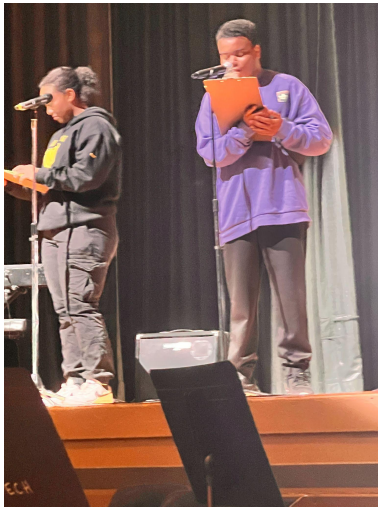
Also featured was Dr. Lillian Allen, a dub and spoken word activist and professor and newest Poet Laureate. Billy Newton Davis also joined our program, accompanying students from Harbord CI. Mr. Davis is a four-time, Juno-winning jazz and R&B vocalist.

The event also featured an array of Afro-Caribbean foods for students to sample and even a pop-up barber shop! This wonderful afternoon of celebration ended with an outdoor dance with DJ.

The organizers of this event would like to thank the following:

- Mr. Savo, Mr. McNaughton and the Bloor sound crew;
- student MCs, student performers and artists;
- Ms. Leckie and Ms. Kalerante for sourcing, ordering and setting up the food;





- teachers from all participating schools who helped set up, supervise, serve food, clean up, and who helped in all kinds of ways;
- George Gouvis and the caretaking staff for their hard work and support;
- students River Smiley (Harbord CI) and Genelynn Grey (Bloor CI) for their beautiful promotional posters;
- The Center of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, Peace Builders Canada, Central Toronto Youth Services, Black CAP, and Black Mental Health Canada for joining us with information tables;
- Valentine and her crew of barbers;
- DJ Sheldon Dixon (aka Regal Redemption);

- Elaine from Blackhurst Community Center for starting off the dance and keeping up the momentum;
- Shand Licorish and Jason Brissett from The Center of Excellence for Black Student Achievement for their key role in connecting us with the guest barbers, DJ, and food vendors
- The following vendors for the amazing food: The Benue Restaurant, Tropical Joe's, Blessed Love, and Ali's West Indian Roti Shop;
- Principal Anne Chirakal (and her admin team), for her unwavering support of these initiatives;
- Principal Janice Gladstone and her staff for helping the event run smoothly.
- Finally, a huge shout out to Leela Acharya (organizer) from Bloor CI, whose vision made the event possible. As well as our very own Litsa Tsouluhas, who's energy and enthusiasm and love for her students helped us get it done!

Thank you, all!

## Expo 23 at the Arts Showcase:



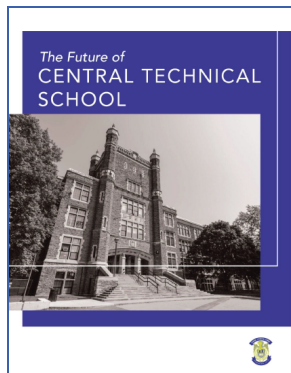
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Our 2023 Spring Arts Showcase was a tremendous success!

Expo 23 at The Art Centre: A vibrant celebration of art by Central Technical School's students. Ceramic pottery, figurative sculpture, photography, drawing, painting, wearable fashion art, and captivating non-traditional pieces. Congratulations on an awe-inspiring showcase of creativity! Central Tech music students put on an impressive display of musical talent for our school community during the concert. They were met with cheers and applause by a gracious audience throughout the evening. We could be more proud of their accomplishment. Bravo!

## Re-Imagining Learning at CTS:

On May 31st, the students from the Re-imagine Learning group presented to CTS staff in the morning, and in the afternoon to a group of Principals and Superintendents from LN21 and LN 22. The students shared why they were a part of the group, the process they engaged in and the final document, [linked here](#). I would like to thank Nogah Kornberg and Margaryta



Ignatenko from I-Think for their incredible work with the students. As well I would like to give a special shout out to the students who were part of the project - I was constantly inspired when I worked with them. They have shown me that school can be different and that our students can lead the way. Congratulations to Gabrielle Addison, Maya Al-Arami, Xavier Baldwin, Rashea Cunningham, Raven Dam, Helen Felming, Sara Osman, Christina Salfarlie, Joey Schaeffner, Selam Spencer, Niveayah Wynter and Mar Zubacs.

## Grade 10 History Classes Visited the Native Canadian Cultural Centre

Ms Lam's and Mr. Druery's grade 10 history classes visited the Native Canadian Cultural Centre where they toured the building with guides, Kyle and Vicky. The tour included some traditional teachings and meeting some of the participants who attend programming at the Centre.

Students had the opportunity to understand some of the impacts of colonialism on First Nations, Metis and



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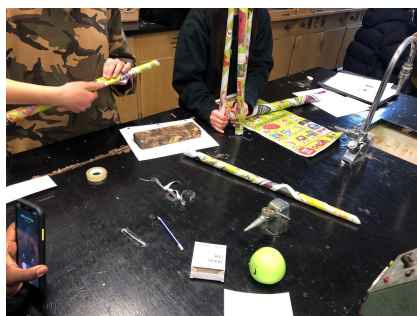
Inuit peoples in Canada. One of the most important lessons learned during the visit was how many Indigenous youth are now reclaiming their culture, language and identity. One of our guides shared that he is currently working with an elder who is teaching him what it means to be Anishnaabe and how to bridge the past with his future.

## **Grade 9 Science:**

In grade 9 Science, students developed their skills to work with each other to build the tallest tower. Their problem solving, collaboration and communication skills were put to work as they worked through this challenge.

Students visited the construction shop to wire a single switch pole with 2-14 gauge wire, 2 junction boxes and a lamp. Students learned about the different size wires (AWG), switches, receptacles, and the colour of the wires (Hot & neutral) and screws.

Chemistry in action! Students ventured to the family studies lab to connect chemistry with everyday tasks, such as cooking. The students LOVED it. Students discussed physical and chemical properties, physical and chemical changes, elements, compounds, mixtures and elements.



# KEY DATES - SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2023-2024

The official school year calendar for the Toronto District School Board runs from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, inclusive.

Professional Activity Days	October	November	December	January	February	April	June
Elementary Schools	6	17	8	19	16	19	7
Secondary Schools	6	17			1, 16	19	27, 28

Designation of Professional Activity Days	
Elementary	Secondary
1. October 6, 2023 – Professional Development 2. November 17, 2023 – Parent Teacher Conferences 3. December 8, 2023 – Assessment 4. January 19, 2024 – Assessment and Reporting 5. February 16, 2024 – Parent Teacher Conferences 6. April 19, 2024 - Professional Development 7. June 7, 2024 – Assessment and Reporting	1. October 6, 2023 – Professional Development 2. November 17, 2023 - Professional Development 3. February 1, 2024 - Professional Development 4. February 16, 2024 - Professional Development 5. April 19, 2024 - Professional Development 6. June 27, 2024 - Professional Development 7. June 28, 2024 - Professional Development

**EQAO:** - The following dates have been established:

**Gr. 9 Math:** TBD  
**Gr. 9 Math:** TBD

**OSSLT:** TBD  
**Primary/Junior EQAO:** TBD

Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education)	
Labour Day:	September 4, 2023
Thanksgiving:	October 9, 2023
Winter Break:	December 25, 2023 – January 5, 2024
Family Day:	February 19, 2024
Mid-Winter Break:	March 11 - 15, 2024
Good Friday:	March 29, 2024
Easter Monday:	April 1, 2024
Victoria Day:	May 20, 2024





Ministry of Education

## School Year Calendar 2023 - 2024

**Legend** ▶ **H** - Statutory Holiday **X** - Non-Instructional Day  
**E** - Scheduled Examination Day **P** - Professional Activity Day **B** - Board Designated Holiday Half Day

**Semestered**

Grey Shade: PLC Dates

Green Shade: Staff Meeting Dates

Yellow Shade: End of Term Date

Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Activity Days	Number of Scheduled Examination Days	1 <sup>st</sup> Week					2 <sup>nd</sup> Week					3 <sup>rd</sup> Week					4 <sup>th</sup> Week					5 <sup>th</sup> Week				
				M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August 2023					1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
September 2023	19							1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
October 2023	20	1		2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
November 2023	21	1				1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
December 2023	16							1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
January 2024	13		5	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
February 2024	18	2				1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29		
March 2024	15						1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	
April 2024	20	1		1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
May 2024	22					1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31
June 2024	13	2	5	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28					
July 2024				1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Note:</b> The 2023-2024 calendar provides for 194 possible school days between September 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days																								

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# Happy Summer!