



Macdonald Collegiate

••Newsletter

October, 2023

A Message from Student Success

Letters of Concern

Effective communication between school and home is an important support for student success. If a teacher has identified academic and/or social concerns about individual students, they will send home a Letter of Concern on **October 20th** via email.

The letter will explain the concern, as well as indicate actions, supports or recommendations for improvement. If you have further questions after having received a Letter of Concern, please contact your child's teacher. Parent-Teacher Interviews will also be held on **Thursday October 26th**.

GPP301 - Leadership and Peer Support

Last month, students in Ms. Hardeo's GPP301 class spent the day at Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre. Students had fun engaged in activities promoting cooperation, communication and leadership skills.



SHSM Excursion

New at MAC this year is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) in Health and Wellness.

Students in the SHSM program will be spending the day at YMCA Cedar Glen Outdoor Centre this month. During their time, students will earn a leadership skills certificate.

This will be the first of 7 required certifications as they work towards program completion and the attainment of a special red seal on their diploma at graduation.

More details will be available in the coming months for students interested in participating in this grade 11 and 12 program.

Upcoming Dates

October 20th: Letters of Concern

October 26th: Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

November 14th: Electronic Report Card Distribution



Guidance Update (October 2023)

Students are assigned a counselor when they arrive at Macdonald Collegiate based on the first letter of their last name. Counselors are available to support students with interpersonal conflicts, educational planning and career exploration.

Ms. Line Brassard

Ms. Bhanuja Hardeo

Mr. Matthew Sheehan

Surnames A - I, Z

Surnames J - Ra

Surnames Rb - Y

line.brassard@tdsb.on.ca

bhanuja.hardeo@tdsb.on.ca

matthew.sheehan@tdsb.on.ca

Booking a Guidance appointment

To book a guidance appointment, students are asked to complete the following form:

Booking an Appointment.

Guidance Google Classroom:

We ask that all students please join their grade appropriate Guidance Google classroom.

Grade 9 class code: iqd3cns Grade 10 class code: nim6caw

Grade 11 class code: nqyiv7b Grade 12 class code: wb7dazz

Continuing Education - Night School - Key Dates classes for full credit and credit recovery program will begin October 16 and/or October 17. 6:30-9:30PM

NEW: Take Your Kids To Work: grade 9's only. Wednesday, November 1st.

See Guidance google classroom for more information.

Please fill out the form and return it to the Guidance office.

NEW: Online e-Learning Graduation Requirement.

Students are required to earn two e-Learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year.

However, parents/guardians may choose at any time to opt their child out of the mandatory eLearning courses required for graduation.

No explanation or reason is needed to opt out/withdraw.

If you have decided now to withdraw from the graduation requirement, please complete the **TDSB Opt Out/Withdrawal Form** and return it to the guidance office.

NEW: OUAC/OCAS Important Dates

E.Y.I...	COLLEGE OCAS	UNIVERSITY OUAC
COST	\$125 5 program choices	\$156 3 program choices \$50 each additional
ACCESS TO APPLICATION	Ontario Education Number	Ontario Education Number
APPLICATION OPEN	NOW	NOW
EQUAL CONSIDERATION -OR- APPLICATION CLOSES	FEBRUARY 1, 2024	JANUARY 15, 2024
TRANSMISSION #1	NOVEMBER 17 2023 DEMOGRAPHIC INFO GRADE 11/12 FINAL & 12 MIDTERM MARKS	NOVEMBER 17, 2023 DEMOGRAPHIC INFO & GRADE 11/12 FINAL MARKS and/or MIDTERM
TRANSMISSION #2	FEBRUARY 16, 2024	FEBRUARY 17, 2024
TRANSMISSION #3	APRIL 26, 2024	APRIL 25, 2024
CONFIRMATION OF ACCEPTANCE	MAY 1, 2024	JUNE 3, 2024

NEW: GTA Colleges at MAC for a panel discussion and fair.

This includes Sheridan, Seneca, Centennial, George Brown, Humber and Georgian.

The panel discussion will be held in the auditorium from 10:30 - 11:30 on Monday, October 16 and fair in the foyer.

NEW: Get on the Bus - Ontario College Fair at the Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto October 18-19, 2023.

We will be bringing students to meet various colleges and they will have an opportunity to speak with representatives.

NEW: Ontario University Fair - Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building. You must **REGISTER** for the event taking place October 21-22.

NEW: Guidance will be meeting with all grade 12 students on Thursday, October 12 and Friday October 13 to discuss the application process for both College and University. We will also discuss gap year, apprenticeship programs and work.

Business Department Update (October 2023)

DECA is back at MAC and in full gear this October.

We are right around the corner from our first in-person Regional Competitions set to take place November 12th, 2023 at Seneca College. We have over 40 new team members and are still looking for others to join our DECA fundraising team as well!

DECA testing will also take place after school on October 30th, 2023 in your designated classrooms.

Still not sure what DECA is?

It is a competition-based club that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in the fields of Marketing, Finance, Hospitality and Management.

Choose from a variety of events that best fits your career interest and skills.

New and returning members are welcome, no prior experience is required.

We meet every Wednesday at lunch in the rooms below to prepare for cases and future events.

Rm 212 - Business Management and Hospitality

Rm 215 - Finance

Rm 216 - Entrepreneurship and Marketing

Here are a few suggestions for those interested in competitions:

Take a picture of your photo ID in case you lose it. It clearly has to show your face.

Arrive at least 30 minutes before your assigned time at the Ian Beddis Gym; stand by your event signage

ALL Individual Events are scheduled in the morning and ALL Principle and Team Events are scheduled in the afternoon



Area 4 Regional @Seneca College
November 12th, 2023
1750 Finch Avenue East, Toronto

Student Activity Council (S.A.C.)

Hey Blackscots, it's great to be back!

With school finally up and running, MAC's Student Activity Council is bringing back spirit events, both old and new.

Spirit Events

Launching into the beginning of the school year, SAC had its first spirit day, Hat Day, on September 11th. MAC showed off their school spirit on this day by wearing glamorous hats in all shapes and colours. In fact, staff and students were spotted wearing bucket hats, baseball hats, and straw hats.

It was amazing to see Macdonald's vibrant community.

Moving into October, we'll be having Halloween-themed events.

On October 12th, we hosted a Candy Jar Guessing Game.

Students entered a ballot to try and correctly guess the amount of candy that was in a jar.

If they guessed correctly, they won the entire jar.

Additionally, on October 31st, we will have our annual Halloween Costume Contest, where students can win a prize for either having the most creative, scary or eco-friendly costume.

Costume submissions must be sent to **@blackscotspride**.

Spirit Assembly

At Macdonald this year, there are more than 30 clubs and councils.

The Spirit Assembly, on October 3rd, aims to help students explore their options and see what interests them. In the assembly, the respective clubs at MAC will give a presentation and summarize what they do and how students can join. Some clubs that will be participating in the assembly include the athletic council, health council and GSA.

Socials

To stay updated on SAC's future events, follow our Instagram page @blackscotspride and check out SAC's Display Case across the auditorium.

We hope you have enjoyed your first few weeks at MAC and we look forward to continuing to bring school spirit!

Anthony Truong (President)

From the English Department

September 30 was:

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and **Orange Shirt Day**.

At Macdonald CI, we recognize the legacy of Canada's Residential School system and continue to learn the many truths of these institutions, as we work towards Reconciliation.



Library News (Oct.2023)

Did you know that students can get help from their school library even when they're not at school and even if the library is closed? The TDSB **Virtual Library** has carefully selected digital resources, to support student learning, that can be accessed online anytime, anywhere.

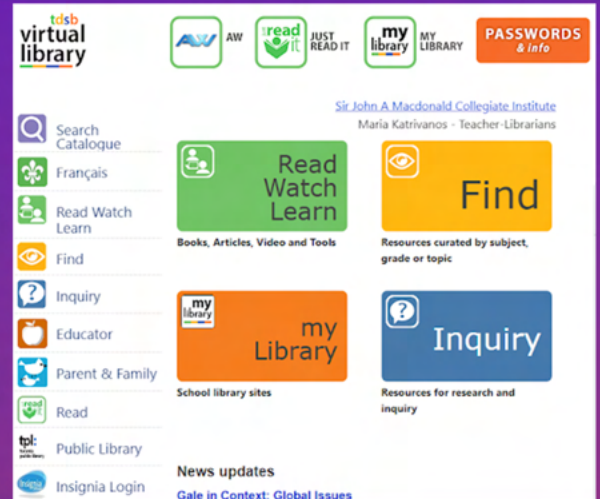
The Virtual Library is designed to help students find: Curriculum relevant online resources/tools to help with projects, homework, and to encourage reading and viewing in a variety of formats for K to 12 learners - eBooks, database articles, streamed media, and online tools (see Read Watch Learn and Find)

Subject links to help with math practice, games, homework (see Find)

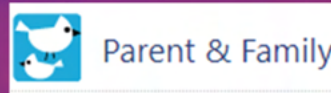
Resources for starting an inquiry or research project (see Inquiry)

Reading suggestions and student book reviews (see Read and Just Read It)

Find the Virtual Library at: **Macdonald Collegiate Institute > Virtual Library**



For more information about how to use the Virtual Library with students at home, **there is a section on the site just for you!**



Look for the Parent button on the left toolbar.

Passwords: Students will need to use passwords to access the resources from home.

The passwords can be found in the orange tab "Passwords & info" in the top right hand corner.



October is Islamic Heritage Month

We have a wide array of books on display for Islamic Heritage month so students can learn more.

October 10th is World Mental Health day.

We have lots of fiction and non-fiction books on display so students can learn more.

See you at the library!

-Ms. Katrivanos

Mathematics Update, October, 2023

Upcoming Math Contest

Canadian Senior and Intermediate Mathematics Contests (CSMC/CIMC) will take place on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. The cost per participant is \$14.00 (CAD). If you are interested in participating, please connect with Mr. Hung in room 225 by no later than Friday October 20th.

In School Supports Available

Math extra help is available. Please reach out to your math teacher for more details. Math extra help is available to all math students from Mr. Hung from Monday to Friday from 8:25 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. in Room 225.



Math Update Continued

Math Peer Tutoring:

If you are interested in becoming a math peer tutor or being tutored please join the Math Peer Tutoring **Google Classroom**.

There is a google form to fill out and a meeting will be held within 1 to 1.5 weeks to match up tutors and tutees. If you signed up from before, you need to sign up again so we know you are still interested. If you have any questions please see Ms. Lasenby in room 230 or Ms. Peza in room 232.

Mac PALS is up and running!

Mac PALS (Peer Assisted Leadership Support) are a group of senior students that work one on one with students to support them in their classes.

If a student identifies as needing a peer tutor they will be connected to a **Mac PAL** and together they will establish a schedule to meet in person or virtually. If you believe your child/ward would benefit from a peer tutor, please reach out to matthew.sheehan@tdsb.on.ca so that he can connect your child/ward to a **Mac PAL**.



HPE & Athletics Update

Concussion Education

As students engage in physical activity in our classes, intramurals and sport teams, it is important for students and parents/guardians to familiarize themselves with the signs and symptoms of a concussion, and the TDSB protocol for Return to Play and Return to Learn. Please click **HERE** for an informational video detailing the TDSB concussion policy and procedures.



MAC Wear Clothing

If you wish to purchase any Macdonald apparel please click on the link below. We have a wide variety of options available and our site is open 24/7 365. Get MAC Wear today and represent our school with pride!
Online Store Link: **MAC WEAR**

Mac Sports

