



Macdonald Collegiate

••Newsletter

March, 2024

Student Activity Council (SAC)

February was a month filled with fun, excitement, and positivity! Our school was buzzing as we kicked off the month with Jersey Day, showcasing our team spirit and unity. On Valentine's Day love filled the air as students exchanged heartfelt cards, spreading messages of kindness and appreciation.

Our SAC also held a Karaoke where students showcased their vocal talents, creating an atmosphere of music, laughter, and unforgettable performances!

Finally, February 28th marked Pink Shirt Day, where our school stood united against bullying by wearing pink shirts and spreading awareness about the importance of kindness and respect.

It was inspiring to see the entire school come together in solidarity to support this meaningful cause.

Upcoming Events:

Already in March? • we have an exciting lineup of spirit events planned for the student body.

From The Teacher / Student Switcheroo where students dress like teachers and teachers relive their youth and dress like students to Twin Day, a fun opportunity to strengthen friendships.

There's always something for everyone to enjoy!

To wrap up the month, we'll once again gather for Karaoke in the Cafeteria to sing our hearts out in excitement for April. As always, we're eager for another month brimming with joy, unity, and participation from our exceptional student body!

Make sure to follow [@blackscotpride_tdsb](#) on Instagram, and listen to the morning announcements for more updates on upcoming events in April!



To Rome with Love

Macdonald Students gather at Pearson International to embark on a journey to Athens and Rome! Itinerary includes sightseeing tours on Athens, a visit to the Acropolis, Greek dancing lessons, a tour of the Delphi Museum, the Vatican and the Colosseum in Italy!



About Us

"Prudentia et Scientia" (Vision & Knowledge) reflects our commitment to excellence in education.

Our diverse student population has multiple opportunities to excel in a full range of academic programs and co-curricular activities. Through our values of encouragement, self-discipline, cooperation and fairness, we strive to develop our students into life-long learners that positively contribute to our society.

Please visit our Website Here.



Guidance Update

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:

Book 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

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.

Library Update

The Spring session of the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) is fast approaching. Successful completion of the Literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

The test will take place on **Thursday April 11th and Friday April 12th.**

Grade 10 students will write the test as well as students in grade 11 and 12 who have not yet participated or who are retaking the test.

Students will use their own TDSB issued chromebooks to complete the test.

The Library is gearing up to offer information sessions to all students who will be writing the test.

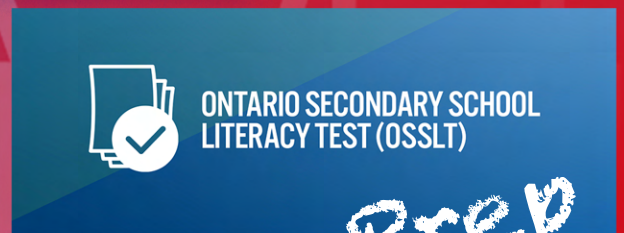
These will take place starting on Wednesday **March 19th through to April 4th.**

Extra help sessions will also be offered in the library after school in the two weeks leading up to the test.

In preparation for the OSSLT, students are encouraged to join the MAC Literacy google classroom, **class code: luzmv57.**

Students are also encouraged to visit the EQAO website

to become familiar with the online practice test and its platform: **www.eqao.com**



prep

Desjardins Insurance Grant:

When people say hard work pays off, they are not wrong!

A few of our dedicated students, Ms. Hardeo and I worked together preparing for a contest that a former graduate and friend, Dina Constantinou informed me about from Desjardins Insurance Agent.

With the influx of newcomers to our school and community, we thought it would be a great way to make sure they feel integrated into society.



Our goal at MAC is to help not just our English speaking students, but those who have come here to learn English and to have a better life.

Thank you to Dina and to the Desjardins Foundation for enjoying our video and our initiative.

Thank you for choosing MAC. The grant will definitely give our newcomers an opportunity to excel and feel confident about their abilities in Canada. Thank you to the help of our amazing and talented students Sheilia Deng, Sheilae Siagian and Leona Gao for all their hardwork in assisting us with the

video, motivated by their own personal experiences as newcomers to Canada.

Click here to see the video! *Way to go MAC! - Ms. Georgiou and Ms. Hardeo*

Business and Computer Studies

This past month, DECA showcased its talents at the Provincial competition, with MAC students delivering outstanding performances. A special congratulations to Xavier Truc for placing in the top 20 for both his oral exams as well as overall standing. Another congratulations to Panteleimon Paschalidis and Konstantina Paschalidis for placing in the top 15 for their written exams. A big thank you to all our dedicated members who competed at Provincials, your hard work and determination did not go unnoticed. We are incredibly proud of everyone's achievements this year and are excited to continue this momentum into the next year.

Let's make DECA even bigger and better in the upcoming year!



Congratulations Mac Music!

The Macdonald Strings and Band students had a terrific year at The Kiwanis Music Festival this year.

The String Orchestra received a Platinum award and were invited to the Provincial Finals.

The Symphony Orchestra also received a Platinum award and the Concert Band received a Silver award.

Congratulations to all of our Macdonald Mac musicians! Thank you for all your hard work!



Department of Mathematics

Upcoming Math Contest

Euclid (Grade 12) (University of Waterloo) Math Contests will take place on Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in room 225. The cost per participant is \$18.00 (CAD).

If you are interested in participating, please connect with Mr. Hung in person in room 225 by no later than Monday March 4th at 12pm (noon).

Math Extra Help

Math extra help is available from your math teacher.

Please reach out to your math teacher for more details

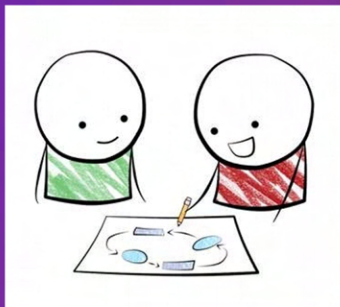
Math Homework Club:

Extra help is available to all math students on a FCFS basis Monday to Friday from 8:25 to 8:55am in Rm 225.



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 Rm 230 or Ms. Peza in Rm 232.



Mac Pals:

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.

At Home Supports Available

FREE, Unlimited Online Tutoring:

The TDSB is continuing to support students with unfinished learning. Through the Ministry's funding for Tutoring programs, we are pleased to announce that TDSB students will now have access to free, unlimited, online tutoring, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We will be working with **Paper** and **Brainfuse**. Parents/Guardians/Caregivers and/or Students (18 years or older) who wish to participate in one of these free online tutoring services should contact the company directly to learn more about their services and the registration process.

FREE help in the Community/Online Mathify:

Need extra help with math homework? Mathify is free 1:1 Grade 6-12 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers! Build your math skills and confidence with a personalized math coach.

To support learning at home, tutors are available online Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET and 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET Saturday and Sunday. Please visit **TVO Mathify** for more information.

SHSM Update

SHSM students earned their Standard First Aid and CPR-C certifications this past month, and are ready to respond in an emergency situation! They're no dummies...



Our next adventure will be to the Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre in April to earn a stress management techniques certification through the Centre's Treelaxation program. Wondering what that is? So are we! It's new to us, but we're sure it's rooted in mindfulness practices and we're ready to branch out to new experiences. We won't leaf you hanging though - catch our update in May's newsletter.



March

				1 Day 1 Semester 2 Begins	
4 Day 2	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 1	8 Day 2 International Women's Day	
11 Day 1 March Break →	12 Day 2	13 Day 1	14 Day 2	15 Day 1	
18 Day 2	19 Day 1	20 Day 2 Late Start - 9:55am	21 Day 1	22 Day 2	
25 Day 1	26 Day 2	27 Day 1 Late Start - 9:55am	28 Day 2	29 Day 1 Good Friday	