



# Macdonald Collegiate

## ••Newsletter

September 2024

### Welcome Back Macdonald CI Community!

As I begin my third year as principal at Sir John A. Macdonald CI, I'm excited to continue working with our exceptional students, staff, and community.

This year, I'm pleased to introduce our dedicated administrative team, including our returning vice-principal, Clenton Morrison, and our new vice-principal, Ann Chlorakos. Together, we are committed to fostering both academic success and personal growth, with opportunities in sports, the arts, and community service.

At Macdonald, we strive to create a supportive, inclusive environment where every student is valued and empowered to achieve their full potential. I'm looking forward to another year of growth, learning, and collaboration.

Thank you for your continued support!  
Greg Foulidis  
Principal, Macdonald Collegiate CI



### Gr 9 Curriculum Night - Tuesday, October 1st

Hello parents/guardians of grade 9 students!

Please join us for our Grade 9 Curriculum Night on Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

This is what you can look forward to:

**6:30 - 7:20** Panel Discussion in the Auditorium

Curriculum Leaders discuss grade 9 course expectations and visit course elective classrooms.

**7:30 - 8:00** Information Session in the Auditorium

Ask questions of Administration, Leadership & Athletics, Guidance, Special Education and Student Success (SHSM)

### SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, October 21, 2024 - Post Secondary Fair @ Macdonald Collegiate CI (6:30 - 8:00pm)

### 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.**





## From the Student Activity Council (SAC)

As President of the Student Activity Council (SAC), I am excited to welcome those who are returning for another year at Macdonald and those who are joining our community for the first time. We are thrilled to have you here!



The year ahead will be filled with fun activities to engage our student body and promote school spirit. Our SAC team is committed to ensuring a memorable, exciting year, and has been working very diligently to create our spirit events.



Our first spirit event this year was directed towards our graduating seniors: Childhood Backpack Day! Students brought the very first backpacks they wore when they were in elementary school, honouring their educational career and bidding farewell to their childhood. From Barbie to Spider-man, to Paw Patrol, it was great seeing the different childhood backpacks students brought in! Our next spirit event is our very famous Color Contest on September 18th. Students and staff get to wear colours in respect to their grade: Grade 9s wear white, Grade 10s wear green, Grade 11s wear blue, Grade 12s wear red and teachers, administrators and support staff wear black.

On September 23rd, there will be a Grade 9 Representative assembly wherein candidates in grade 9 will present speeches in front of their grade 9 peers. Their peers will have an opportunity to vote for who they want to represent them on the SAC. The two top choices will be our Grade 9 Representatives for this school year.

On October 1st, the SAC will be handing out pink ribbons in honour of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We will be accepting donations in the main hall. On October 1st, the SAC, in and Heads of Councils/Committees and Clubs, will come together in the Spirit Assembly, where approximately 30 clubs, councils and committees will introduce themselves, explain what they do, and how students can join and participate.

On behalf of the SAC, we look forward to the following school year and we are thrilled to hold more spirit events for the student body to enjoy and participate in. To find out more about our council, future spirit events and recaps, make sure to follow us on Instagram, [@blackscotpride\\_tdsb](https://www.instagram.com/blackscotpride_tdsb).

## From the English Department

Welcome Back!

Here follows information on two new courses in our Department.

### ENL1W- English, Grade 9, De-Streamed (New)

This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills they need for reading, writing, oral and visual communication.

Throughout the course, students will continue to enhance their media literacy and critical literacy skills, and to develop and apply transferable skills, including digital literacy. Students will also make connections to their lived experiences and to society and increase their understanding of the importance of language and literacy across the curriculum.

### NBE3U/C- English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices

These courses explore the themes, forms, and stylistic elements of literary, informational, graphic, oral, cultural, and media text forms emerging from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures in Canada, and also looks at the perspectives and influences of texts that relate to those cultures.

Students will also create oral, written, and media texts to explore their own ideas and understanding, focusing on the development of literacy, communication, and critical and creative thinking skills necessary for success in academic and daily life.

- SAC President: Jatin Taploo



## Welcome to Guidance

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  
Ms Erin MacKay

Surnames A - I  
Surnames J - Q  
Surnames R - Z

Line.Brassard@tdsb.on.ca  
Bhanuja.Hardeo@tdsb.on.ca  
Erin.MacKay@tdsb.on.ca



## Guidance Google Classroom:

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

Grade 9 class code: ivhbfes

Grade 10 class code: iqd3cns

Grade 11 class code: nim6caw

Grade 12 class code: nqyiv7b

## TDSB Form for Opting Out of e-Learning Graduation Requirement

Students are required to earn two e-Learning credits to graduate from secondary school. Students and parents/guardians may choose to opt out of the eLearning requirement by filling out **this form**. If they change their decision later, they can opt back in!

## Community Hours Form

The purpose of this requirement is to encourage students to develop an understanding of civic responsibility and of the role they can play and the contributions they can make in supporting and strengthening their communities. Students will plan and select their community involvement activities in consultation with their parents/guardians. **Find the Form here!**

## A Guide for High School Students Applying to Ontario's Universities

This document contains links to promotional materials about applying to university that you can post for your Grade 12 students, and other important information, such as deadlines, university recruitment events and online resources like OUInfo. **Find the Guide here!**

## OUAC / OCAS

**Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF):** October 5-6, 9:30 am-5 pm, daily at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre This event is fair style with booths from Ontario universities and offers an opportunity to gather information and chat with representatives one on one.

**Virtual Information Sessions:** September 25 and November 21, both 5-7 pm (ET)

Each event is divided into 4 time slots, where students can learn about the universities of their choice and ask questions. Links will be in Google classroom.

## Special Education Department

**The ARC is open!** The Academic Resource Centre (room 132) is open. Students with IEPs may wish to come see us for academic support, an alternative space to complete work and evaluations, or to discuss their IEP, accommodations, assistive technology, or anything else.

## IEP Consultation

All IEPs will be developed/updated for the 2024/25 year by October 15th. IEP consultation letters are in the mail. Please return completed consultation forms to Mr. Pascaris at the ARC office in room 132.





## Department of Mathematics

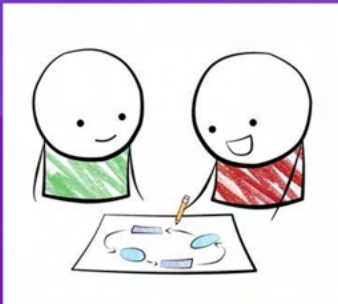
Math extra help is available from Mr. Hung to all math students on a first come first serve basis from Monday to Friday in room 225. Please see the schedule below:

Regular Day: 12:10 - 12:40

Late Start: 12:35 - 1:05

Assembly Day: 12:50 - 1:20

**Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use in Schools** – Beginning on September 1, 2024, the Ministry of Education has provided new direction around cell phone and mobile device use in all Ontario schools. By reducing the distraction of cell phones and mobile devices, together we can create more focused and engaging learning environments for students. Learn more at [www.tdsb.on.ca/mobiledeviceuse](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/mobiledeviceuse)



## Student Success

### Mac Pals Needed - Attention Senior Students!

Do you need volunteer hours? Do you need experiences to speak to for post-secondary applications? Do you like helping others? If this sounds like you, then you should become a Mac PAL! 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.

Please contact Ms. MacKay in the Guidance Office if you are interested.

## In School Supports Available

### Mac PALS

Mac PALS will be up and running shortly! 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 [erin.mackay@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:erin.mackay@tdsb.on.ca) so that she can connect your child/ward to a Mac PAL.

### FREE help in the Community/Online - Mathify (click here)

Need extra help with math homework? Mathify is free 1:1 Grade 4-12 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-Friday 9am to 9pm ET and 3:00pm to 9pm ET Saturday and Sunday.

### Toronto Public Library – Brainfuse (click here)

Online homework help for students in grades K-12 offered daily from 2:00p.m. – 11:00p.m. Also includes practice tests, writing assistance, skills building and more!

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## Athletics and Physical Education

### Terry Fox Walk



On Friday September 20th, our PLF leadership class and Mac In Action Club will be hosting our annual Terry Fox Walk to remember Terry's courageous Marathon of Hope and to raise funds for cancer research. Students are encouraged to bring a "Toonie for Terry" if able or donate online at the **Terry Fox Foundation website**.



### Teams

Welcome back all! Macdonald Athletics is excited to be back up and running for Fall Sports. Please follow along on our Instagram page for all Athletic and Intramural information, scores, pictures and highlights throughout the year.

IG Link: [@macdonaldathletics\\_tdsb](https://www.instagram.com/macdonaldathletics_tdsb)

### EMA

If you wish to try-out for any teams this year please create an account on TDSB Excursion Management Application. Once your account has been created please select the team you wish to try-out for and follow the on screen steps. If you have any questions please contact the Physical Education Department. Link to EMA: **EMA Parent Log In**

### 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 days a year. Get MAC Wear today and represent our school with pride! Online Store Link: **MAC WEAR**



### Intramurals and Mezz Club

We have a robust intramural program organized by our Athletic Council where students can sign up to participate in a variety of sports during the lunch hour to stay active.

We also have a Mezz Club supervised by teachers where students can use our fitness centre to help them achieve their fitness goals. Once a schedule is finalized, students will be allowed to sign up to receive their Mezz Pass.

Updates will be posted on our IG pages: [@macdonaldathletics\\_tdsb](https://www.instagram.com/macdonaldathletics_tdsb) and [@sjam\\_phe](https://www.instagram.com/sjam_phe).

Parents/Guardians must fill in the "Start of the School Year Forms" in order for your child/ward to participate in our intramural program or the Mezz Club. A link to the forms was emailed on August 29 from the Toronto District School Board.





## Welcome Back from the MAC Library Learning Commons! - M Katrivanos

The library is a central hub of the school that is a warm and welcoming environment for all. It is a favourite spot for many of our students.



### Hours of Operation:

Our library is open from 8:30 - 3:30. Students may come here to study or do homework during their spares. The library is open all through lunch but no food or drinks are allowed in the library.

### Book Sign out:

Students may borrow books with their student card or timetable. The loan period is 3 weeks for books and 1 week for graphic novels and manga.

### Computer Use:

Students may also sign out computer cards at the front desk to use our computers and/or print homework and assignments. We ask that computers be used for academic purposes only.



## TDSB VIRTUAL LIBRARY: NEW and REVAMPED FOR '24-25!

The TDSB Virtual Library has a new look for this school year. Students can use the VL to access databases containing online encyclopedias, journal articles, newspapers, e-books, as well as links to digital tools and other helpful resources.

See Ms. K in the library for more information and help navigating the **Virtual Library**.

## Business Department

It's that time of year that MAC gets back into the DECA action! We will be hosting our kickoff meeting on Thursday, September 19th after school in room 130.



DECA 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.

Together, we can prepare emerging leaders for university, college and careers.

## Technology Department

### The New TAS10 (Technology and the Skilled Trades) Course

As announced last year it is now mandatory for students to complete at least one Technological Education credit in grade 9 or 10.

The Technology and the Skilled Trades, Grade 9 course (TAS10) replaces the previous Grade 9 Exploring Technologies (TIJ10) course from 2009. It is a hands-on course designed to provide students with opportunities to further explore the engineering design process and develop technological knowledge and skills introduced in earlier grades. Students will also have an opportunity to explore the social, economic and environmental factors that drive technological advances.

## School Council Meeting Dates

Please take note of the following scheduled dates for School Council Meetings. September 24th, November 19th, February 18th and May 6th. All meetings start promptly at 7pm.





**Dear Fellow Alumni, Family/Friends of the MAC Community**

On Saturday September 21st the 25th Annual Macdonald Athletic Alumni & Cary Bowen Memorial fundraising golf tournament & dinner will take place at Lebovic Golf Club in Aurora.

The funds raised go towards 4 scholarships of graduating Macdonald students that are presented at the annual commencement ceremony. This past June, John An-donoff and Michelle Bowen proudly awarded bursaries with the funds raised from last year's event to 4 deserving recipients who were grateful to receive financial support towards their post-second-ary educational pursuits.

There are still some spots remaining for the golf portion otherwise all are welcome to attend the post event meal.

Please email [blackscotgolf@gmail.com](mailto:blackscotgolf@gmail.com) for additional details.



# September

	3 Day 1  First Day of School	4 Day 2	5 Day 1	6 Day 2
9 Day 1	10 Day 2	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 1
16 Day 2	17 Day 1  Expectations Assembly	18 Day 2  Late Start - 9:55 SAC Colour Contest	19 Day 1	20 Day 2  Terry Fox Walk
23 Day 1  SAC Gr 9 Rep Assembly	24 Day 2  School Council - 7pm	25 Day 1  Late Start - 9:55	26 Day 2	27 Day 1
30 Day 2  Orange Shirt Day	Oct 1 Day 1  SAC Pink Ribbon SAC Spirit Assembly	Oct 2 Day 2	Oct 3 Day 1  Photo Day	