

MAC NEWSLETTER



Principal: H. Vokas

Vice Principals: C. Morrison, L. Pagnotta

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Admin Team News

Happily, we enter the month of June with in-person events to look forward to such as the Mac in Action BBQ, the Athletic Banquet, Prom, and Commencement. A heartfelt thank you to all our staff who continue to offer our students opportunities to succeed in their academics and engage in fun experiences outside the classroom. In planning for next year, we are looking forward to a semester model with students carrying four courses per semester. The school calendar can be found on our website and additional information can be found on the TDSB website. Please continue to check your emails for updates concerning report cards and student timetables for September. As always, we appreciate you taking the time to read our newsletters and we want to wish all the members of our Macdonald community a relaxing, restful, and safe summer!

Pen Pal Project

After learning about the importance of early literacy, Ms. Whetter's grade 11 Raising Healthy Children class has partnered with a grade 2/3 class at Fairglen Junior Public School. We are calling it our Pen Pal Project. Grade 11 students have created little booklets about themselves and another blank booklet for the elementary students to fill out. We are all eagerly awaiting mail from our new little friends.

Ms. M. Whetter



End of Semester Credit Rescue Days

Credit rescue days at the end of a semester are an opportunity to help those who are in jeopardy of failing a course. Credit Rescue days will be on June 24th, 27th and 28th according to the schedule below.

	June 24	June 27	June 28
10:00am - 12:00pm	Day 1 Period 3	Day 1 Period 1	By appointment
12:00pm - 12:45pm	Lunch		
12:45pm - 2:45pm	Day 1 Period 4	Day 1 Period 2	By appointment

National Indigenous History Month

June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21st is National Indigenous Peoples Day, a time to celebrate and learn from First Nations, Métis and Inuit people about the diverse cultures, histories, experiences, creations, perspectives, and achievements. The TDSB recognizes National Indigenous Peoples Day, which is celebrated on Tuesday, June 21. This is a day of significance for many Indigenous Peoples in the country we call Canada today. It marks the day when the Sun is closest to the Earth. It is the longest day of the year and the shortest night. Many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples celebrate the Summer Solstice. It is a time that reminds us to remain grounded, humble and appreciative. It is usually celebrated by coming together with family and community for a feast. Traditional foods are an important aspect of the feast as they signify connection to the land and animals.

Mrs. Pagnotta

AHEN-TBEN Black Student Award Winners

The 10th annual African Heritage Educators' Network - Toronto Black Educators' Network (AHEN-TBEN) Black Student Awards took place live at Earl Haig Secondary School on Thursday, May 26, 2022. Students in grades 4-12 were recognized for outstanding achievements in one of the following six categories: Academic; Arts; Aspiration; Athletics; School; and Community Involvement; and STEM.

We are proud of our three students who were recognized for their outstanding achievements: David Ajeboye, Todd Ash-Duah, and Alexiss Turnquest. Congratulations!

Mrs. Pagnotta



It's Mock Trial Season and Macdonald's Court Is In Session!

Students in Ms. Perry's grade 11 law classes have been learning about trial procedures and roles in the courtroom. In addition to examining the steps in a trial, we have discussed different pathways that can be taken in the field of law and students have realized that there are so many amazing careers.

In the month of May students start preparing for their culminating activities where they will role play a series of trials. They will take on various roles such as: lawyer, witness, judge, court service office, court clerk, and jury member. We have been learning how to craft opening and closing statements, write questions for direct and cross examinations, impeach witnesses, make objections, testify as credible witnesses, and enter evidence. Students are having so much fun dressing up and using props to bring the trials to life!

In our first trial, we saw Superman take the stand in his defence. Superman was charged with breaking and entering into a Costco warehouse in order to save Lois Lane. After hearing all of the evidence given by witnesses, the jury unanimously found Superman not guilty! Some of our future cases will revolve around murder, reckless driving, and theft. Good luck to all students!

Ms. Perry



SAC News

Hey Mac! The year has flown by so fast with summer break right around the corner. Although the school year is coming to a close, the SAC still has a few spirit days that you can partake in! Before we introduce them, let's recap the eventful month of May.

On May 13th, the SAC hosted Era Day. Students and staff were encouraged to wear clothing that represented a specific era, such as the 1980s. On the 27th, we hosted Culture Day, where we encouraged Mac to wear clothing that represented their culture. If they didn't have cultural clothing, students and staff wore colours of their culture instead. We were so happy with the turnout, Mac! Great job!

Thanks to one of our staff advisors, Mr. Hung, the Buddy System has also been released! This is a system that allows grade 11 and grade 12's to meet grade 9 students to support their time transitioning to high school. Training day will be on Monday, June 13th for those who qualified.

Near the end of May, we also hosted SAC Elections for the 2022-2023 school year. All students were welcome to apply for positions they qualified for. Speeches were made and the student body voted for next year's team. We are elated for any returning leaders and thrilled to welcome those who are new to the SAC. Stay tuned for the results! (A Grade 9 Representative will be chosen in September.)

The SAC has also been helping the Prom Committee promote the event that we're so fortunate to have: Prom. Posters were put up around the school, announcements were made, and tickets were sold. For those who purchased tickets, please come by the main office at lunch from June 7th-10th to pick up your invitations. More information can be found on this document [here](#).

Finally, onto the month of June. To celebrate Toronto pride, the SAC is hosting the 6ix Day on **06/06/22**. Students are encouraged to wear clothing that represents Toronto. For example, this can be sportswear of your favourite team from Toronto (e.g. the Raptors, Blue Jays or Maple Leafs). With summer break coming up soon, why not celebrate the ending of the school year with Tourist Day? On June 15th, students are encouraged to dress in vacation attire, merch from tourist attractions, and any of the sort.

Lastly, the SAC along with the help of staff advisors, is hosting one last Question of the Month for the school year. We will be looking forward to hearing your voice! For more information, follow us @blackscotpride on Instagram. Enjoy your last month of the 2021-2022 school year!

To the students graduating this year, thank you for such an amazing four years. I know it wasn't an easy journey, especially with the effects of COVID, but you've reached June and I'm so proud of all of us. We're lucky enough to wrap up our high school lives with a proper prom and graduation, so spend this last month doing what you enjoy with the people you love.



Judy Zhang & Sachi Taploo
SAC President & Vice President

June is Pride Month

June is Pride Month at the TDSB! It's an opportunity to celebrate diversity and raise awareness among all staff and students about the rich culture and history of our 2SLGBTQ+ community. TDSB is hosting a T-Shirt Design Competition. They are looking for unique student-created designs that celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ Pride across TDSB. The winning design will be printed on hundreds of TDSB Pride 2022 T-Shirts and worn by members of the TDSB contingent during the 2022 Pride Parade on Sunday, June 26th.



The TDSB Pride 2022 T-shirt Design Competition is open to all TDSB students of any age. Deadline for design submissions is June 6, 2022. The criteria for design submissions are: may be hand-drawn or digital; may be grey-scale or multi-coloured; must incorporate the TDSB logo or leave enough space for logo to be added; must be original; and must be respectful. Everything else is up to the designer!

For more information and to submit an entry, please email tdsbpride@tdsb.on.ca attaching an image of the design (e.g., .jpeg, .gif, .png, pdf., etc.). Be sure to include the student's name, grade, and school, as well as the name of a staff contact (if there is one).

Mrs. Pagnotta

Guidance News

Grade 12

- A reminder that you will need 20 hours of community involvement prior to graduation. Please hand in your hours in the guidance office ASAP
- **June 1, 2022** is the deadline to respond to offer(s) of admission.
- Starting June 3, 2022, Ontario high school students can search for possible openings at Ontario universities. View the [Admission Information Services \(AIS\)](#) flyer for more information.
- [University Student Transition Resources](#) A list of resources to augment learning and the skill sets needed for academic success in university.

Ask An Undergrad

- Ask An Undergrad is a Canadian student-led organization that helps high school students learn more about post-secondary options in Canada
- Students can use the platform to ask questions and learning more about undergraduate life
- For more information, see [Ask An Undergrad](#)

Summer School

Please note that Continuing Education and eLearning Programs are two different departments. eLearning is NOT part of Continuing Education. Summer school course offerings have been posted in the Guidance Google classrooms.

- **eLearning:** Registration is open. e-Summer is fully virtual and consists of synchronous and asynchronous learning.
- **Continuing Education:** Registration is open. Full credit courses will be offered in person and remotely. Credit Recovery courses will be offered remotely. Mandatory attendance daily from 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

Find more information at [TDSB Continuing Education Summer School](#).

Scholarships, Volunteer and Job Opportunities

- Guidance posts and updates on these opportunities can be found on each grade's Guidance Google classroom.

Ms. Brassard

Spring Concert at Macdonald

After two years, the halls of Macdonald were once again filled with beautiful music. From string and band performances to choir and piano solos, this year's concert had a marvelous turnout!

Every Monday and Wednesday, the Music Council (supervised by Ms. Reeder and Mr. Luck) met to prepare for the upcoming Spring Concert:

- The Designers Department and the Events Department worked together to create lovely flower decorations for the concert.
- The Operations Department frequently practiced setting up chairs and stands to make sure the transitioning of the acts ran smoothly.
- The Communications Department created videos and advertisements to ensure a great turnout for the concert.

In addition, there were three other councils that helped our concert run smoothly:

- Stage Crew (supervised by Mr. Steel) made sure the lights and sounds were in check during the concert to avoid any technical issues.
- Mac Reps (supervised by Ms. Violin and Ms. Andal) did an amazing job helping audience members get to their seats in an orderly fashion.
- The Art Council (supervised by Ms. Piperias) created magnificent pieces of art that were displayed in the main hall.

To refine our string performances, Tak Kwan, a distinguished concert violinist and conductor, visited our school. He conducted our Senior Strings, Combined Strings and Chamber Strings classes, providing valuable feedback to improve our playing. We thank Mr. Kwan for all the support!



Regarding the concert, we asked Ms. Reeder, Macdonald's Strings and Choir teacher, how she felt about hosting a concert after two years. She said: "It was an absolute blast seeing the students come together and perform after two years of not being able to share music in person. Watching our instruments come to life was inspiring for me as a teacher. I was especially pleased with our Grade 9 students because they did not have the opportunity to learn their instruments in an ensemble setting due to the pandemic restrictions. It was a pleasure to see the senior students become leaders throughout the year and become mentors to the younger students. After two years, Mr. Luck and I were overjoyed with the many families and members of the community that joined us for the evening."



We also asked Selina Yang, concertmaster and Events Executive of the Music Council, how she felt about the concert. She exclaimed: "As the concertmaster, I felt both honored and trusted for leading the orchestra, as I am responsible for doing the correct bowing direction, playing the right notes, as well as understating the conductor's cues while playing. This precious opportunity gave me more confidence to be a better leader and a great violinist in the future."

Spring Concert at Macdonald...continued

If you missed Macdonald's Spring Concert, don't worry! We'll give you a brief rundown of the stunning event. Before the concert began, everyone was preparing for the event. Violins were being tuned, microphones were being checked, and chairs were being set up. With the help of Ms. Fagan and Ms. Kotsopoulos, students were lined up and eagerly waiting to play.

The concert began at 7:00 PM sharp. MC's Tejesh Arujuna (President of the Music Council) and Judy Zhang (President of the Student Activity Council) introduced themselves and the upcoming performances. Behind the curtains, the Grade 11 and 12 string students were patiently waiting to play the opening act: *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. When the curtains opened, the Grade 11 and 12 string students performed a beautiful rendition of the piece.

Following the opening act, there were many upbeat and delightful performances. The concert consisted of mostly string acts, ensembles, piano solos, and two fascinating band performances at the end. One notable performance was a piano solo performed by Tracy Xu. She played *The Lonely Forest*, a piece composed by our very own Macdonald student: Sachi Taploo!

Before the concert finished, a short film dedicated to the graduating class was played. Haluka Matsuura, a music student, composed the soundtrack for the short film. It was truly a bittersweet conclusion to the Spring Concert.

Overall, the Spring Concert was a great success! Although the restrictions due to the pandemic impacted the music program at Macdonald, we still managed to host a wonderful concert. On a final note, we would like to thank Ms. Reeder and Mr. Luck for organizing this year's Spring Concert.

Sachi & Jatin Taploo
Music Students

June is Italian Heritage Month

Italian Heritage Month has been proudly recognized during the month of June at the TDSB since a motion was passed by the Board of Trustees on May 16, 2012. The Province of Ontario has also marked Italian Heritage month since 2010 because the Italian Heritage Month Act was passed.



This year's theme is ***Buongiorno Italia!*** As part of the celebrations to mark Italian Heritage Month at the TDSB during the month of June, virtual opportunities are being offered to all students, staff and the TDSB community to learn about the Italian heritage.

The TDSB is excited to present this opportunity, noted below, to learn about the joy of making Italian meals together and appreciate exquisite taste and recipes that have been passed down through generations! Please tune in and learn from Chef Luciano Schipano on Tuesday, June 21st from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Zoom webinar Link: <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/93424334655>



[Attached](#) are the ingredients to the recipe of Ricotta Gnocchi tossed in a Fresh Tomato Sauce that Chef Luciano will lead us in!

Mrs. Pagnotta

MAC Athletics Year-In-Review



Follow us on Instagram for all News and Highlights @macdonaldathletics

With the end of the year nearing, it's easy to wonder where the time has gone, then again time flies when you're having fun! As the 2021-2022 school year wraps up, Macdonald Athletics is excited to share what a successful year in sports we have had.

This year at Macdonald we had twenty-one teams who participated in TDSSAA events throughout the year, and we wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of our dedicated students/athletes and coaches for making this year very successful. Now that the end of the year is near, we want to highlight and celebrate the various championships Macdonald has accomplished so far. Both the Junior and Senior Boys Volleyball Teams won their respective Regional Championships, which then saw our Junior Team follow up with GOLD in the City Championships. The Varsity Boys Hockey, Senior Boys Indoor Soccer, Varsity Boys Outdoor Soccer, Badminton, Track & Field and Tennis Teams all won Regional GOLD medals in their respective leagues. In the City Championships we had our very first Tennis Mixed-Doubles Team capture GOLD and our Varsity Boys Soccer Team win GOLD with an amazing golden goal in extra time to secure a berth at OFSAA for the first time in 10 years. Also representing Macdonald at OFSAA, is the Track & Field Team in javelin and steeplechase. Good luck to all of our athletes this week at OFSAA!



All our student athletes' hard work, dedication, and perseverance in the classroom and in their respective sports will be further celebrated at this year's Athletic Banquet. The banquet will be held on June 16th at the Metropolitan Centre (3840 Finch Ave E, Scarborough) starting at 5:00pm. This week will be the last week to purchase tickets through School Cash Online, the absolute deadline is Friday June 3, 2022 at 10pm. We are very proud of all our student athletes and cannot wait to see what next year has in store. GO MAC GO!!!

Mr. Karellas



Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month

Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month is proudly recognized during the month of June at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) for the past 10 years since 2011. This year the theme is **Andorinha! Watch us Soar!**

Over 1,400 TDSB students speak Portuguese as their mother tongue or as a primary language. Internationally, there are 250 million Portuguese-speaking people worldwide, making it the fifth-most spoken language. This year the annual Portuguese Parade will once again take place! Everyone is invited to celebrate on Saturday, June 11 starting at 11:00 am at Lansdowne & Crawford (Link: <http://acapo.ca/event/portugal-week-2022-parade>).

Mrs. Pagnotta

Track & Field

Whether it was competing in the rain, snow or beautiful weather, the track and field team had an amazing season this year. As a result of COVID this was the first time for almost all of the athletes to have an opportunity to compete in track and field during high school. Athletes had an opportunity to try various events such as steeplechase, javelin and discus. Not only were the athletes amazing on the track, but the musical talents that were displayed on the bus rides home from the track meets were also impressive. From the Frozen soundtrack to Ed Sheeran, Mac athletes sang their little hearts out after every meet. A special congratulations to all of the athletes who competed at Metros and a special congratulations to Samantha Abellera who will be competing at OFSAA for javelin and Ben Whitley who will be competing at OFSAA for steeplechase.



Ms. M. Whetter

Visual Storytelling

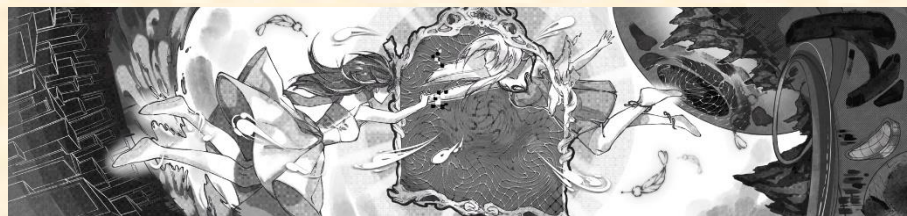
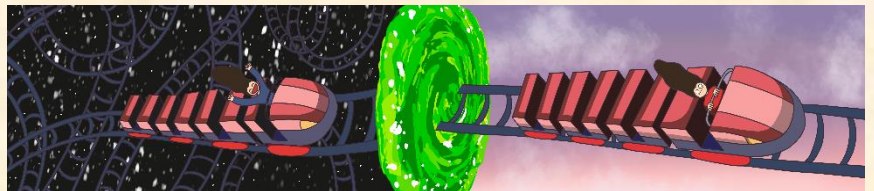
Every student's artwork tells a story. Here are some examples from our Grade 12 student artists.

Mr. Herman



← Artwork by Yushan Huang

Artwork by Mindy Lu →

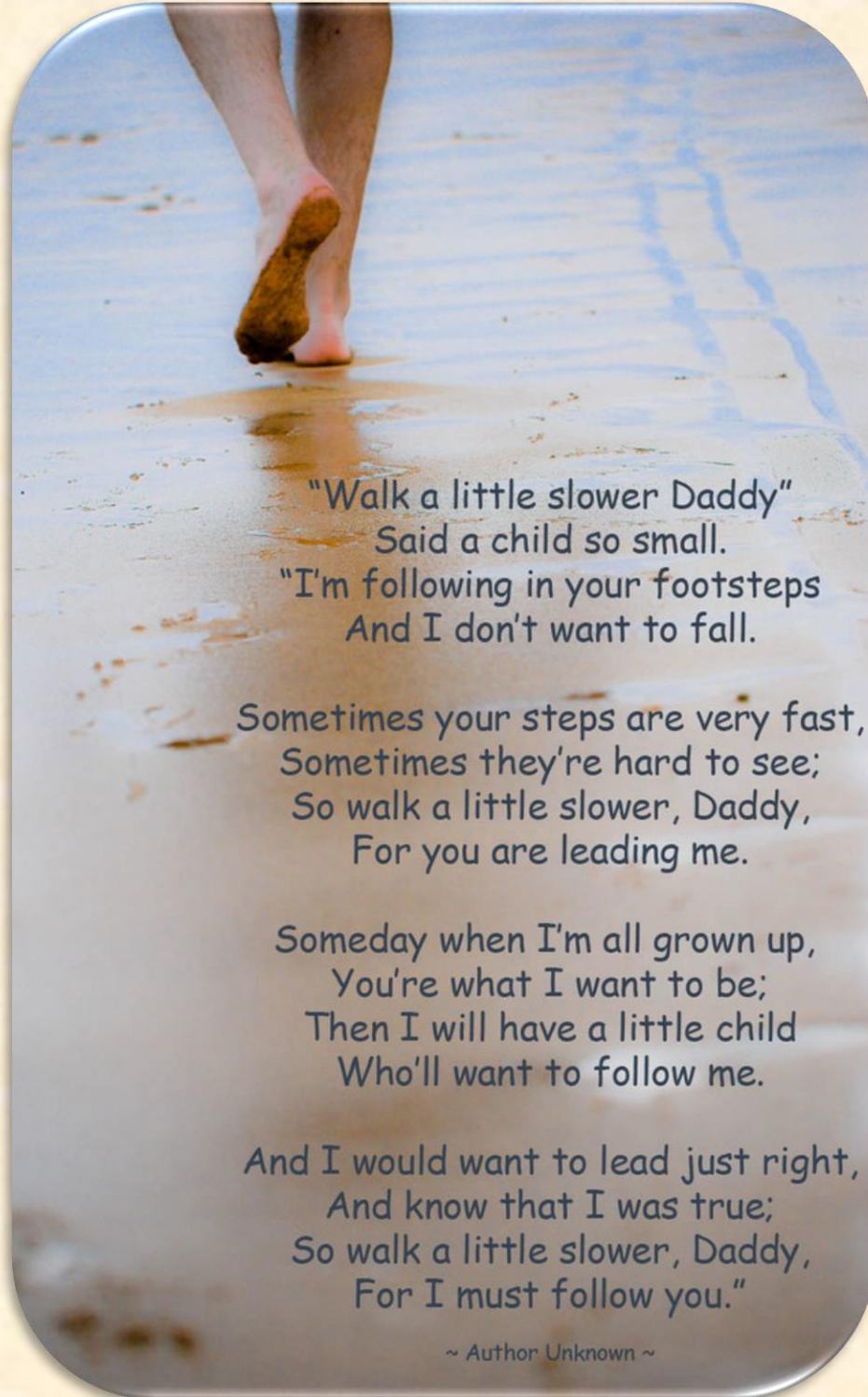


← Artwork by Amanda Ma

Artwork by Lauren Popovski →



Happy Father's Day to all fathers in our Macdonald Community!



"Walk a little slower Daddy"
Said a child so small.
"I'm following in your footsteps
And I don't want to fall.

Sometimes your steps are very fast,
Sometimes they're hard to see;
So walk a little slower, Daddy,
For you are leading me.

Someday when I'm all grown up,
You're what I want to be;
Then I will have a little child
Who'll want to follow me.

And I would want to lead just right,
And know that I was true;
So walk a little slower, Daddy,
For I must follow you."

~ Author Unknown ~

June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Day 2 ¹	Day 1 ²	Day 2 ³	⁴
⁵	Day 1 ⁶ 	Day 2 ⁷	Day 1 ⁸	Day 2 ⁹	Day 1 ¹⁰	¹¹
¹²	Day 2 ¹³	Day 1 ¹⁴	Day 2 ¹⁵ 	Day 1 ¹⁶ Athletic Banquet	Day 2 ¹⁷	¹⁸
¹⁹ 	Day 1 ²⁰	Day 2 ²¹	Day 1 ²² Late Start	Day 2 ²³ PROM	Credit Rescue ²⁴	²⁵
²⁶	Credit Rescue ²⁷	Commencement ²⁸ 1:00pm 	Report Card ²⁹ Distribution	PA DAY ³⁰		

*It always seems impossible until it's done.
Nelson Mandela*