

THE RAVEN'S NEST



APRIL 2023



RCI STUDENT EARNS GOLD IN THE 2023 TDSB SKILLS COMPETITION!

On March 8th, RCI hosted the TDSB Skills Competition for coding. **Shawn Capper** and **Kieran Norman** competed, winning **GOLD** and **SILVER** for Learning Centre 4 (LC4)

CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY SUPPORTS MS. SONG'S MUSICAL THEATRE COURSE!

Exciting News! Runnymede has been awarded a spot with **The Opera Makers Program**. Through this program, the students of **Ms. Song's Musical Theatre AMT3M1/AMT4M1 students** will choose a theme and a Teaching Artist from COC will aid in providing deeper knowledge & understanding of the specific subject area. Students will then create their own production that tells the stories of their communities through music. The COC will be assisting with final funding needs for their production. Thank you Canadian Opera Company.



Congratulations to **Shawn Capper** who will be moving on to the Provincial Level!



ISLAMIC HERITAGE AT THE TDSB - CELEBRATING RAMADAN -



During late March and most of April, Muslims will be celebrating **Ramadan**, one of the holiest months in the lunar Islamic Calendar. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims around the world abstain from food and water from sunrise to sunset for 30 consecutive days. They practice charitable giving and spend increased time prayer and worship.

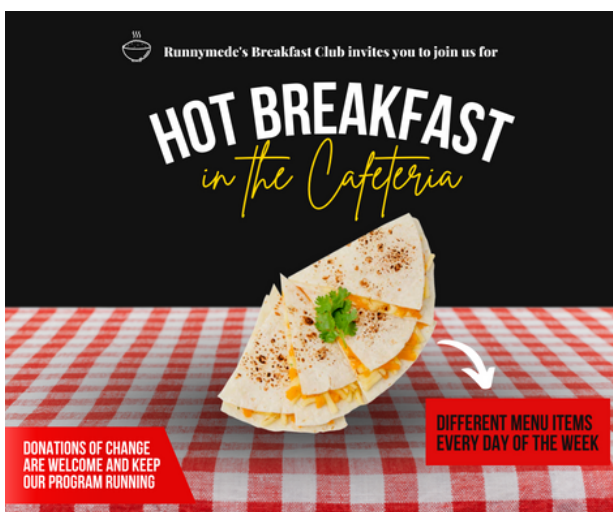
UPCOMING DATES:

- March 28 - Parent Teacher Interviews
- March 29 - Late Start (Staff meeting)
- April 7 - Good Friday
- April 10 - Easter Monday
- April 17 - Parent Council Meeting
- April 18 - Mid Term
- April 19 - Late Start (PLC Meeting)
- April 26 - Late Start (Staff meeting)
- TBD - Semester 1 Honour Roll Ceremony

The Celebration Club would like to wish everyone who celebrated a very Happy Purim, Happy Holi and a very Happy Persian New Year in March. To those celebrating in April, we wish you a very Happy Ramadan, Happy Passover, Happy Easter, Happy Baisakhi and Happy Eid!

Thank you to the students of **the Celebration Club** for creating the holiday posters and for creating the displays outside the library that celebrate the various cultural heritages of our diverse student body.

Breakfast Club



Runnymede's Student Nutrition Program is funded by the Toronto Foundation for Student Success.

The program serves well over 100 students each day.



Students are provided with food in mornings and snacks in the main throughout the day. Our community lead, Ambia Ali and staff supervisor, Karen McCrimmon oversee students preparing and cooking food as early as 7:45.

Speak to Ms. McCrimmon about **volunteer hours!**

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

ANIMATION PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP

WITH JOSH MILLER

March 31st. **Mrs. Lamberts grade 10 Visual Arts class** is excited to welcome guest artist *Josh Miller* who will be running a workshop on figure drawing and character design with our Gr.10 Art students.



KPE @ UOFT MARCH BREAK REACH AHEAD PROGRAM

Congratulations to **Simon Berry** and **Derrick Smith** on their acceptance to the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education March Break program.

They were among 26 Ontario students selected to participate in this week-long event of workshops, lectures and activities at the University of Toronto.



LOOKING FOR A SUMMER JOB?

Virtual Interviews

March 28 4:00-6:00pm

Follow CultureLink for more employment information

Are you looking for a summer job? Schedule a slot for a Virtual interview NOW!

CENTREVILLE TORONTO ISLANDS

March 28th 4pm - 6pm

Some of the Positions available - No experience necessary on most

Ride attendant	Ticket Sales	Host/Hostess	Facility attendant	Server/Bartender
Food Services	Retail	Games		Stock attendant

Virtual INTERVIEWS on ZOOM

For more information or to REGISTER contact Kayla at 437-770-1488 or at Kperden@culturelink.ca

TDSB UKRAINIAN WELCOME FAIR

11:00AM-2:00PM Saturday, April 15
Western Technical School

April 15 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

TDSB Ukrainian "Laskavo Prosymo" Welcome Fair

A Collaboration Event for Newcomer Secondary Students from Ukraine and their families!

Treats

- Refreshments
- Finger Foods
- Desserts
- Gifts for Students

Resources

- Community Support and Connections
- Employment
- Housing

Entertainment

- Pottery Workshop
- Arts and Crafts
- Team-Building Activities
- Ukrainian Dance

FREE!

PLEASE REGISTER HERE: <https://www.tdsb.org/ukrainian-welcome-fair>

WELCOMING COMMUNITIES

WELCOME UKRAINE TODAY! WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!



Click [here](#) to register

RCI CO-OP STUDENT MENTORS AT MOUNTVIEW

Thank you Ms. Amy, Ms. Jessica and Ms. Sarah for hosting 3 fabulous co-op students. **Jaz-Maree**, **Asia** and **Luisa** are working hard planning activities and supporting students; learning from the best.

SHSM, Robotics & STEM

Aspirations in Computing (AiC)



Congratulations to **Cas MacDonald** and **Niyah Miller**, who were both selected as 2023 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC) award recipients!

Cas and Niyah were selected from more than 3,400 applicants from all 50 U.S. states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. overseas military bases, and Canada. The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC) honours 9th-12th grade women, genderqueer, and non-binary students for their computing-related achievements and interests, and encourages them to pursue their passions.

TEAM 1310 Places 2nd at 1st Qualifiers Round!



Team 1310 had an amazing performance as a finalist this last weekend at Humber College.

The team wants to recognize the major contributions of our Mentors, and parent community for providing guidance, support and food for our team during the season and at our events. Thank you to staff who have taken night and weekend shifts to give our students the time they need to build and program a robot.



Next Up: The 2nd (and last) qualifier is at McMaster University March 31-April 2nd.

**Good Luck
Team 1310**



TEAM 1310 earns Judges Award at 1st Qualifiers Round!



The Judges Award is given to a team that has caught the attention of judges throughout the competition for their positive attitude and significant performance. We were honoured to be chosen out of the 28 fantastic teams that shared the field with us this weekend.

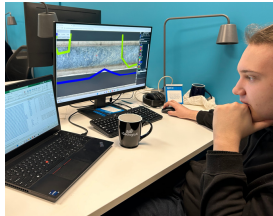
Experiential Learning - SHSM & STEM

Click [Here](#) to learn about RCI's SHSM Programs



SHSM Co-op

Maks is working for GeologicAI; training AI software to detect chalcopyrite and other sulfides - ultimately looking for gold deposits.



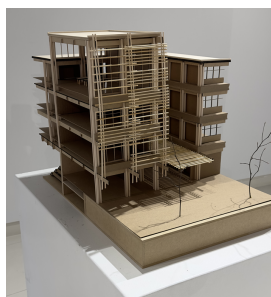
Maks gets to join the AI Development Team once a week. He and the other co-op students enjoy finding bugs and reporting back to developers.

AI software has revolutionized the mining industry. This is the ideal job for any student interested in chemistry, geology and computer tech!

Congratulations to **Rita, Ana** and **Jasmin** for securing Co-op placements with the Department of Architectural Science at Toronto Metropolitan University.



Students are busy attending lectures, supporting the office and assisting the Woodshop and undergrad and graduate students building sections of their 3D models.



UPCOMING STEM OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Toronto STEAM D Summer Program

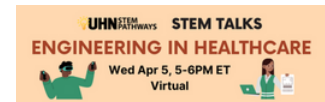


STEAM Design is an experiential learning program for grades 10 to 12 students. Spend a month learning at U of T earning SNC4M credit and \$1600 upon completion.

Application Deadline: [April 7th](#)
See the STEAM D [Flyer](#) or [WEBSITE](#) for information

University Health Network STEM Talks

Join Us After School Hours for engaging discussions



STEM Talks - Engineering in Healthcare
Wed April 5, 2023 | 5:00-6:00 PM ET | **Virtual** - Register [Here](#)

Celebrate World Creativity and Innovation Day with our team!

Join us for an interactive virtual session featuring a fun STEM workshop.

In this session you will hear from professionals who practice engineering in healthcare. Learn all about their journeys, what they do at UHN and helpful advice they have to offer. We will be having a Q&A period at the end of the session.

Thursday, April 20, 2023 | 5:00-6:00 PM ET | Virtual - Register [Here](#)



Experiential Learning / OYAP



An apprenticeship is a pathway to a rewarding career in the trades

As an apprentice, you take classes and learn your trade by working under the direction of experienced workers – and get paid while you do it.

Click [HERE](#) to learn about the **TDSB's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Programs**

or contact christine.sabetti@tdsb.on.ca to schedule a zoom or telephone call to discuss these programs in more detail.



Baker
Cobs Bread



Automotive Service
Lexus

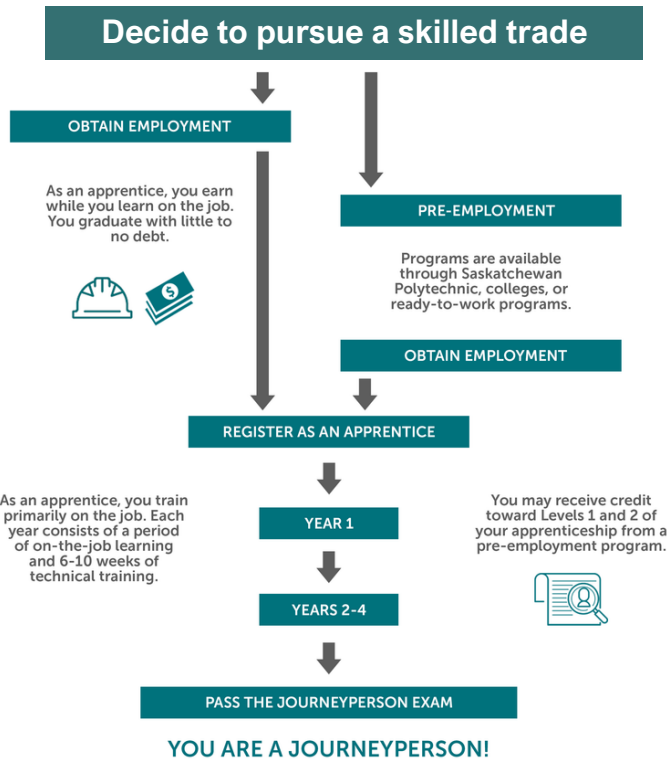


Carpenter
Brothers Dressler

Check out [TDSB's 17 Accelerated OYAP Programs](#) for grade 11 and 12 students. These programs offer students an opportunity to complete a co-op placement and earn their Level 1 training at a college or training center.



Click [here](#) for more information on **STEP programs**



Open House - Saturday April 15th 9:00 - 4:00 pm. By Appointment Only.

Visit the Skilled Trades College of Canada [website](#).

Campuses:

East Mississauga, Vaughan, Ajax, Toronto East and Cambridge.



Resources to help start your Apprenticeship Journey:

[Skilled Trades Ontario](#)

[Job Talks](#)

[Women in the Trades](#)

[Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program](#)

Extracurricular Activities and Wellness

ATHLETICS

Did you know children and youth aged 5-17 require 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity each day for optimal health?

Runnymede was excited to return to Athletics this year after a very long pause! Over 100 student athletes have participated in our Fall and Winter Seasons and have proudly represented the Runnymede Ravens in the West Region. Congratulations to all of our student athletes for their commitment, dedication, hard work and results. A special mention to our Boys Basketball team who finished with a Silver medal at the City Finals. Congratulations boys and coaches!

Fall Season:

- Cross Country
- Boys Volleyball
- Girls Ultimate
- Frisbee
- Cheer



Winter Season:

- Boys Basketball
- JR Girls Volleyball
- SR Girls Volleyball
- Badminton
- Cheer



Extracurricular Activities and Wellness

GET INVOLVED!

Runnymede offers a wide array of **extracurricular activities** that may be of interest to your son or daughter. Encourage them to participate or start their own club!

Extracurriculars look great on a resume and help young people build:

Social Connections

(finding like-minded people, building a network)

Personal Growth

(responsibility, commitment, leadership)

BADMINTON

Runnymede's Badminton team has had an exciting season so far, competing in tournaments against local schools and winning key matches and sets at Ursula Franklin Academy, Kipling CI, Weston CI and Humberstone CI.



With a few more weeks to go in the season, the students continue to bring on the skill, energy and dedication needed to succeed. Go Ravens!



Photo credits: Maryam Fouroughi-Nejad

WELLNESS

At Runnymede, supporting our students' success is our priority. We are here to help with anything you need to support your health and wellness and to help you navigate the tools and resources you may need.

Click on this [link](#) to access a wide variety of resources in the community for students and their families. Resources



UP NEXT: SPRING SPORTS

Information meetings and tryouts are coming up. Stay tuned to the announcements for more information.

Spring Season:

- Track and Field
- Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee
- Co-Ed Volleyball
- Cheer

WEIGHT ROOM HOURS

The weight room is currently available to students every **Wednesday afterschool.**

Speak to Cosmin or Mr. Lee for more information



Extracurricular Activities and Wellness

RUSTCO - STUDENT COUNCIL



We are so thankful to all our amazing performers who took part in Runnymede Idol.

We would like to congratulate our amazing winners who took the time to practice and give us an amazing dance performance



BLACK STUDENT ALLIANCE (BSA)



African Heritage Month Assembly 2023

The **New Circles Community Services** was delighted to receive 12 bags of clothing from the winter clothing drive organized by the BSA.

Thank you to all who contributed!

February wrapped up an unforgettable African Heritage Month at RCI. Many events were planned throughout the month culminating in an assembly celebrating Black Joy!

RUNNYMEDE GENDER AND SEXUALITY ALLIANCE (GSA)

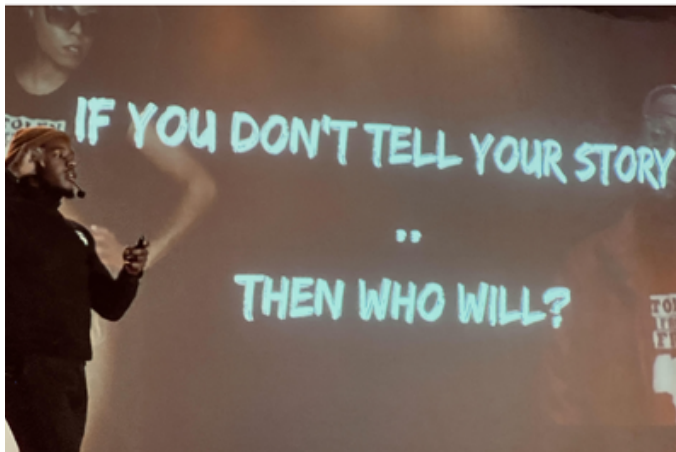
Follow us on our school socials:



Instagram:
rustco
runnymede_coop
team1310

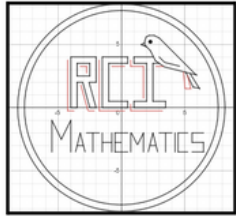


Twitter:
@RCI_BSA
@RCI.GSA



Academics

MATHEMATICS SUPPORT



Lunch Time Help hours - Drop in for help!

Day	Teacher / Room number
Monday	Mr. Zizovic Room 211, Copeman room 210
Tuesday	Mr. Garrison in Room 212
Wednesday	Mr. Garrison in Room 212, Copeman Room 210
Thursday	Mr. Garrison in Room 212
Friday	Mr. Garrison in Room 212

After School: Drop in Wednesdays! Room 212

Students can also access extra support online from experienced Mathematics teachers online at [TVO Mathify](#) if online help is needed at home!

TDSB ONLINE TUTORING

The TDSB continues to support students with unfinished learning through the Ministry's funding for Tutoring programs. All tutoring services are voluntary. There is no obligation for any student to participate in tutoring.



TDSB students have free, unlimited online tutoring available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through Paper and Brainfuse.

THE RUNNYMEDE RANT

The Runnymede Rant Needs Your Child's Voice!

Encourage your child to expand their creative writing skills by submitting a contribution for the school's Student Newsletter.



Email [Reese Peterman](#) if you have any questions.

- updates from clubs/teams, reports on events
- artwork, poetry and/or creative writing pieces

Former RCI Co-op Student excels at the University of Toronto



Student podcaster Elijah Miller was inspired by experiential learning at Hart House.

Elijah Miller, a former Runnymede CI student, participated in [SEE U of T](#) last school year and is now a student at the University of Toronto.

Elijah shares how his experiences in the TDSB-SEE U of T partnership program provided him with opportunities to explore issues that are meaningful to him, while simultaneously receiving mentorship and encouragement throughout the program.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

PATHWAY PLANNING

Families are encouraged to join the [Guidance google classroom](#) to stay up to date with news, opportunities and events.



Each student has an Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) in their myBlueprint account. The grade-specific IPP tasks are [here](#). Students are encouraged to maximize their use of the myBlueprint planning tool when researching post-secondary pathways.

Scholarships and Bursaries



[ONE City Scholarships](#) are awarded to awesome TDSB students who have demonstrated financial need and/or significant personal challenges.

Applications Close April 11



\$150,000 in bursaries

The CST Foundation provides 25x \$6,000 bursaries to support students with financial need

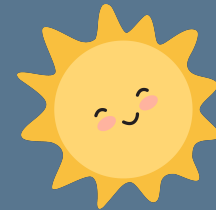
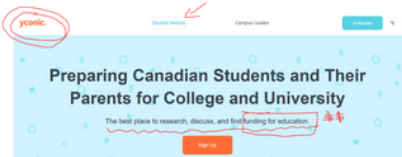


The Canadian Scholarship Trust Foundation (CSTF) is providing \$150,000 in bursaries to help students realize their post-secondary goals!

Click [Here](#) to Learn More!

Start your Scholarship and Bursary search now!

[yconic](#) is all about supporting Canadian students and their families as they prepare for college and university. We're the place to go to find the scholarships, information and resources that will help you make the most of your post-secondary education. Sign your child up today! It's never too early to start searching for post secondary funding.



SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

[In-Person Full Credit](#)
[Remote Full Credit](#)
[Remote Credit Recover](#)

e-Summer School Program:

TDSB e-Summer School is a free, high school credit program for Ontario students who wish to pursue secondary school courses online! TDSB e-Summer School offers dozens of online courses available in the July and August sessions.

Our summer online program is offered in two sessions throughout July and August. The program is primarily asynchronous, with direct teaching for one hour/day. Teachers are available for small group sessions, individual tutorials and respond to student questions via email.

Speak to the Guidance Department for registration dates and deadlines

or Join the [Guidance Google Classroom](#)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

We wanted to share some informational resources and flyers about benefits offered to families with children, primary/secondary students and renters living on a low-income. Some of these benefits applications are only open for a limited time.

One-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit deadline to apply March 31, 2023

WoodGreen's Financial Empowerment Program
fe@woodgreen.org (416) 645-6000 ext 1330

CANADA HOUSING BENEFIT "TOP UP"

A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF \$500 FOR HELP WITH RENT

Eligibility criteria, at a glance

- FILING 2021 TAXES**
If you need to file, contact WoodGreen's Free tax clinic: 416-645-6000 x 1187 taxclinic@woodgreen.org
- LOW-INCOME**
If you're single, income is less than \$20,000/year. If you're a family, combined income is less than \$33,000/year.
- RENT IS 30%+ OF YOUR INCOME**
Only include amounts actually paid in the 2022 calendar year.

*In order to be eligible you must meet the above criteria, live in Canada and be 15 or older as of December 1, 2022. "Income" is "adjusted family net income," which is line 23000 of your (and your spouse's, if applicable) tax return + LCCB and HST/ST amounts repaid/received. "Rent" is "eligible rent," which must be paid in 2022 for the place you live. "Rent" does not include other costs, such as food or additional utility costs.

How to apply
apply by March 31, 2023

- 1 Online form**
- 2 MyCRA**
- 3 Phone**
1-800-282-8079

Information required

- You (and your spouse) have filed your 2021 taxes.
- You have the following rent information:
 - Address(es) of where you lived in 2022
 - Total amount of rent you paid in 2022
 - Name and contact information of who you paid rent to

If you don't have a MyCRA account, you can access it through a My Service Canada account, or reach out to FE for help to register for one.

If you're applying over the phone, be ready to answer security questions (about your taxes) to verify your identity.

A tax-free one-time payment of \$500 for renters living on a low-income. See [flyer](#) & information [handout](#).

Canada Dental Benefit applications open ongoing

Canada Dental Benefit

Smile!
It is here.

For kids under 12 years old

For families with an adjusted net income under \$90,000 per year

For those who don't have access to private dental care insurance

Find out more at Canada.ca/dental or 1-800-715-8836

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Temporary benefit to help lower dental costs for eligible families earning less than \$90,000 per year without private insurance for children 12 years old and under. See [flyer](#) & information [handout](#). Fact sheets available in other languages here.

Ontario Catch Up Payments deadline to apply March 31, 2023

WoodGreen's Financial Empowerment Program
fe@woodgreen.org (416) 645-6000 ext 1330

Ontario Catch Up Payments

A one-time payment of \$200-\$250 to help cover student learning supports (tutoring, supplies and equipment) to help fill gaps caused by COVID-19.

Deadline: March 31, 2023

Who can apply?

- Parents/guardians of students in: kindergarten to Grade 12 OR kindergarten up to age 21 with special education needs
- Secondary school students who are 18 years old can apply themselves

How to apply:

Apply online through My Ontario. A valid email address is required to apply.

- 1 Visit www.ontario.ca/page/catch-up-payments
- 2 Select **Apply Now**
- 3 Sign into your My Ontario Account (or create an account to access the application)

For more information: www.ontario.ca/page/catch-up-payments

A tax-free one-time payment to bridge the learning gap caused by COVID-19. See [flyer](#) & information [handout](#).

Got Feedback?
Click [HERE](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

Join Us!

Message from our Parent Council Community

Want to stay up-to-date with current happenings impacting RCI students and families? Attend an upcoming RCI School Council meeting to receive updates from the school admin and community partners like the Robotics team and the Youth Hub Librarians at the Jane/Dundas library. This forum also shares and discusses student needs, school events, and upcoming initiatives.

Next School Council meeting: 7 pm, April 17, 2023