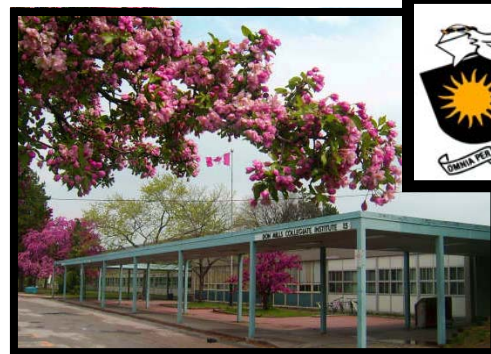


DON MILLS COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Principal Browne's Message

Once again, another school year has come to a close. It has truly been a memorable school year, filled with moments of pride, moments of joy, and, with regret, moments of sadness. For teachers, students, and administration, the 2nd semester began with an exceptional semi-formal, followed by an ECO Fair, an impressive Formal, and a thrilling end of year Student Council BBQ. During this busy time of year, it is my greatest hope that all students and parents will take some time to reflect upon their own personal accomplishments over the last year, and to use this as a source of strength looking forward to next year. I hope that all students, staff, and parents have a safe and enjoyable summer. See you in September!



C O N T E N T S

Principal Browne's Message	1	Spanish	11
Going Green ... and Gold	1	Social Global	12
Farewell & ESL / Moderns	2	Reach for the Top	13
Spring Sports	3	DECA	13
News from Art	4	Communications Tech	14-15
The Scientific Community	5	Model UN	15
Asian Heritage Concert	6	The Underground Railroad	16
Truancy Quest	7	The Chess Club / Robotics	17
A Visit from Sean Gore	7	Next Steps	18-19
Guidance Information	8-9	Big Mac → to the Future	20
Green Industries	10	Remembrances and the BBQ	21
Boys Rugby	11	The Back Page	22

GOING GREEN ... AND GOLD

Don Mills Collegiate is very proud of the fact that on our latest ECO Schools Rating, we have received a GOLD standing. We are moving forward in every way to make our school more environmentally friendly.

It is with great thanks to our students, staff, and caretakers in helping us to achieve this impressive standing. A particular thanks is deserving to Mr. McKinlay, who has lead our "Green" efforts throughout

the school year, and who has done a remarkable job raising awareness of the environment at DMCI. Well done!





We have some new friends at Don Mills C.I.
Please see page 10 for more information!



Above: "The Pond". Students in our "Tech Design and Green Industries" program have helped to imagine, design, and create impressive landscaping throughout Don Mills Collegiate.

Saying Farewell ...

It is with mixture of sadness and pride that we say goodbye to some of our valued staff. Mr. Lin is leaving us to teach at Cedarbrae Collegiate, Ms Ambwani is going to be teaching at Victoria Park next year, and Mr. Lu is headed to a curriculum leadership position at Leaside High School. We wish them all the best in their new classrooms and their new schools! In the Main Office, we are sad to lose Wafa El Maseeh, and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. We will miss her cheerful smile, and we know she will not miss those orange forms. We have two teaching staff who are very excited to begin the next phase of their lives in retirement. Ms. Hammond and Ms. Martino will be greatly missed, and I am sure they are very excited about the adventure before them. In addition, we want to wish all the best to Mr. Edwards, Ms. Pardo, Ms. Wiggins, Mr. Mirzapour, and Ms. Christofilopoulos, and we thank them all for all of their efforts this year! Lastly, we are all so very proud of our former Vice Principal, Vance Scott, who has been promoted to the position of Principal at Victoria Park Collegiate. While we will greatly miss him, we know he will continue his *quest* for excellence!

The ESL / Moderns Department

The ESL Dept. has had a busy and productive final semester in 2012. Many students finished their ESL program and moved to mainstream English classes. There has been an all day excursion for students to High Park on May 17th and short trips to our local library and the Shops of Don Mills. Ms. Greene hosted a Valentine's Day party that was enjoyed by all. The ESL Club continues to be a meeting and helping place for students on Thursdays in Room 109.

Many newly arriving students attended our NOW Program in August 2011. This gives them an opportunity to learn about our education system, visit their new school and make new friends. This wonderful

session is run by our Settlement Worker, Ms. Lok – Chee Wu. The Program will run again in August, 2012, but DMCI students will be joining with those of Victoria Park C.I. If anyone is interested in participating in the NOW program, as a student or as a Peer Leader, please contact Ms. Wu in the Guidance Department of DMCI.

The ESL Department continues to offer support and classes to students learning English at any level; there are also ESL supported classes in Grade ten Canadian History, Grade ten Civics and Careers, Grade ten Science. Special timetables are created for new ESL students entering our school at the Grade nine level.

SPRING SPORTS

The Don Mills athletic teams were roaring this spring to the best results in years.

The boys baseball team, playing be-

hind great pitching and strong batting just missed winning the TDSB tier 2 baseball championships losing in the championship game by a score of 3-2. Thanks to coaches Kamen and Nicolaou for their great work.



under the tutelage of Ms. Christofilopoulus, burst into the league, with some authority. Comprised mostly of girls in grades 9 and 10 they won a bronze medal in the championship tournament setting the stage for a great run in the next few years. Meanwhile on a different field, the Girls soccer Bruins were roaring their way through the league to reach the city championship. One game away from going to OFSSA the Bruins had some refereeing woes and suffered a 1-0 loss to Leaside in a gallantly fought battle. Swarming the net time after time the bruins just couldn't seem to find that elusive score they needed.

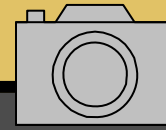


The Don Mills Track team had one of "those" days at the Metro Championships as lady luck seem to be teasing us most of the day as a number of athletes fell, tripped or just seemed to be eked out in their quest to go to OFSAA. Ezana Debalkew made the trip to OFSAA ranked number 21 but with a personal best discus throw by over 8 meters he vaulted himself into 2nd to win a silver medal making coach Kerr look like a technical master. Number 2 in Ontario is quite the accomplishment, congratulations to both coach Kerr and Ezana.

The girls softball team, newly formed this year



From Art ...



Visual Vibrancy 2011 to 2012

The year began with Elizabeth Forrest, Japanese block printer, who taught the students how to carve and print on Washi paper using Japanese techniques. The students were engaged and enjoyed mastering the technical side of the process. Not long after, Joanne Rich came to make light sculptures with the grade 9 and 10 classes. The project was so challenging and successful that some of the works were showcased at TDSB head office for December 2011 as a Celebration of Light. Many students took their beautiful work home too. Second semester began with a glass artist Bonnie Thomson, who taught glass slumping and fused glass to grade 9 to 12 students. Each student was able to take a bright glass tile home. The Museum of Inuit Art opened its door to schools and our students enjoyed sketching and touring the gallery. The rest of the day was spent visiting Harbourfront's installations and galleries. The Photography students have just submitted their images to the Henry's competition and will be soon preparing their submissions for the Contact show at the TDSB head office. Congratulations to Eric Zhao for 2nd place in the Henry's Analogue photography competition. Don Mills won 1st place for the Grand Prize for Digital Submissions. Visual Arts students have been busily participating in a huge fabric printing collaborative project inspired by Lucky Numbers (similar to Sudoku). The 16 bolts of fabric will be used by Ryerson University Fashion students to make garments. Look out for our fabrics from August to December 2012 at the Ontario Science Center. Apparently the Idea gallery is likely to have 400,000 visitors over the summer!

— Michele Kaufmann

Visual Arts Department at Don Mills
C.I.



THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY



DMCI sent teams of Physics and Chemistry students to the McMaster Engineering & Science Olympics which provides high school students the opportunity to participate in an exciting engineering and science experience. This includes preparation and learning at school, the challenge of competition with teams from other schools and the feel of a university campus on a regular day. School teams compete in events

throughout the day - like a track meet. Don Mills teams were very competitive and finished 1st and 2nd in the Chemical Forensics event, 3rd in the Egg Jump, 3rd in the Software challenge, and 2nd in the Twists and Turns event.



Grade 11 & 12 Chemistry Students spent the day at the University of Toronto in the department of Materials Science and Engineering. Students were given a tour of the Engineering buildings and completed some hands on activities presented by Graduate students. We explored nano materials inspired by nature and saw a demonstration of a powerful scanning electron microscope that allows researchers to examine the surface structure of materials. During our tour we met DMCI graduate Michael Helander who is a PhD student investigating Organic Optoelectronics. Michael's research may lead to more efficient and cost effective flat panel display technology.





Asian Heritage Concert at DMCI

May was Asian Heritage Month – a month that acknowledges the long and rich history of Asian Canadians and their contributions to our country. It was an ideal opportunity for all of us to celebrate the beauty and wisdom of Asian cultures from 49 diverse nations.

On May 15 we had the pleasure of welcoming Chi-Ping Dance Company and Chung Wah Kung Fu.



For 1 hour our students were mesmerized by the beauty and grace of the dancers performing Ribbon Dance in Classical style, The Shimmering Water Falls and Dai dance form Yunan - Melodies of Spring .



We were amazed by the awesome presentation of forms and Kung Fu weapons. But of course the highlight of the concert was the Lion Dance. Lion Dance is very symbolic. It is performed as a ceremony to scare away evil spirits and to summon luck and fortune.

So, we had our own Lion to bring good fortune just in time for the exams.





The Quest Continues....

Truancy Quest

Every day, at approximately 4:15PM, Mr. Scott and Mr. Fewson continue to listen attentively to the beeping sound of the “greatest innovation in public education” since the chalkboard. The beeping is the sound of “Truancy Quest” doing its daily work of informing parents*, via e-mail, that their child has an unexplained absence or late for that day. Since its launch in November of 2011, we continue to send out an average of 131 e-mails a day to parents, letting them know — often before they have left work for the day — that their son or daughter has either been late or absent from a class. As partners in your child’s education, we want to keep you informed as to your child’s attendance, and we hope that these e-mails will promote productive and fruitful dinner conversations, with the ultimate goal of getting all students to class on time and ready to learn. Many parents have responded to us with words of thanks for implementing this system, and with tales of the different ways they are going to ensure that their child gets to class on time. Thank you again for your support in getting all students to class on time!

** Please note that “Truancy Quest” only sends e-mails to parents/guardians of students who are under the age of 18.*

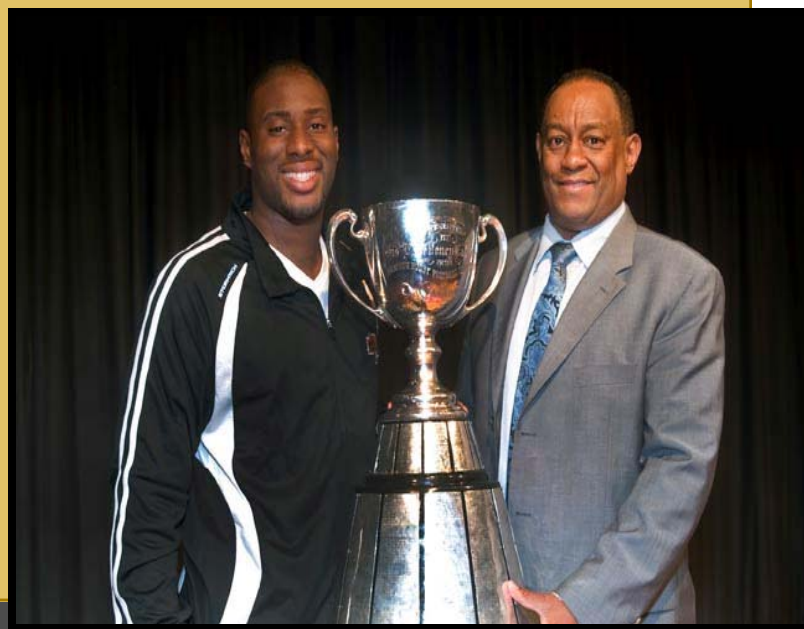
A Visit from Shawn Gore

In late April, former Don Mills C. I. student and recent CFL Grey cup winner, Shawn Gore, brought the Grey Cup to Don Mills C. I. Shawn and the BC Lions won the Grey Cup this past season. Shawn is obviously a great athlete, but more importantly an amazing young man who has pursued and realized goals which reflect his character and integrity. All of his elite level athletic achievements have been connected to pathways and decisions which focused upon education, family and self expression. He is a joyful young man who communicates with passion and pure honesty. It would be difficult to find a better source of positive inspiration for his community.

During the assembly, Shawn shared his experience and background with our students and staff. He spoke of the power of sport, the importance of dreams, the value of goal setting, the anchor that is family, the bind that is community, the importance of surrounding yourself with positive people, the lessons that come from making mistakes and staying true to

oneself along the way. He reflected upon the season that was and his journey to this victory, from rather humble beginnings. He shared future hopes and plans. This will be a great experience for all involved.

Shawn was joined on stage by surprise, esteemed guest, Dr. Chris Spence, Director of Education of the TDSB. Dr. Spence shared his similar experience and connections with Shawn's path. Chris Spence is a former CFL player who also played with the BC Lions. The pair on stage provided a dynamic and exciting set of speakers who engaged the audience with their reflections and answers during the Q and A portion. Don Mills is very grateful for the experience and greatly appreciates the time given by these two amazing people.



GUIDANCE

COURSES and CREDITS

For the past four years, grade 9 students at DMCI have been introduced to www.myBlueprint.ca, an organization devoted to powerful education planning and post-secondary options tools. This year we embraced our school board's partnership with this dynamic program in order to move course selection to an online process. Through assemblies for all grades, hands-on support and an info session for parents and guardians, we're delighted to report that almost 90% of our students chose their courses by the deadline. Feedback indicates that this new process provided families to be more actively involved than in previous years.

The month of June is always a busy one for students and staff alike. As the year winds down with student presentations, assessments and final examinations for credit courses, a number of students are being consulted regarding course conflicts in next year's schedule, and in some cases, summer school planning. Guidance counsellors are pleased to see that more and more DMCI students are making realistic choices.

Students who complete a summer school credit course outside our school board (TDSB) must present an original copy of the final report card to Guidance in September to have their transcript records updated. If a student completed a summer school credit course within the TDSB, the transcript will be updated automatically. Students who did not pre-register for a failed compulsory course will be automatically re-timetabled for the prerequisite credit. At the start of the school year, changes to students' timetables will only be made if necessary, i.e., to reflect updated credit course completions and to correct conflicts, errors and incomplete schedules. Students will only have one opportunity to request such a change via a form that will be available from a counsellor when timetables are picked up before school starts.



Phone: (416) 395-3192 (ext. 20040)



2011-2012 GRADUATING CLASS

We wish all DMCI graduates much success as they move on to post-secondary studies or to work. Congratulations! Many of you have been granted scholarships and entrance awards for your post-secondary programs of studies – well done! We look forward to reconnecting with you when you return to visit DMCI.

If you did not get in to a post-secondary institutions, you can reapply. Contact

Ontario colleges for diplomas and applied degrees (www.ontariocolleges.ca); or Ontario universities (www.ouac.on.ca).



POST-SECONDARY PLANS - FALL, 2012

Your guidance counsellors look forward to supporting future Grade 12's throughout your post-secondary application process. We communicate with senior students via assemblies, classroom visits, individual appointments, and email. Despite the growing use of social media, colleges and universities still correspond with students via email, so it's important to have an active and professional email address. Students are encouraged to maintain an organized document system, both online and in your physical filing system. While the initial stages of a student's post-secondary application are processed online, there is still significant hardcopy mail correspondence between students and their post-secondary institutions of choice.

September 28-30 - Ontario Universities Fair, Metro Toronto Convention Centre

October 23 - College Information Fair at Exhibition Place-Direct Energy Centre

November 20 – Post-Secondary Fair @ DMCI – Over 25 university and college campuses participating

A BIT MORE NEWS FROM GUIDANCE

STAFF

We continue to work with a dedicated professional team consisting of a psychologist, social worker, child and youth worker, visa student counsellor, settlement worker and host co-ordinator. Together we do our best to support our students. — Karin Phillipson, Head of Guidance



ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE

The Ontario Science Centre Science School offers Grade 12 studies in four areas - Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. This is an elite program for students who would like to dedicate a semester of their last year in high school to study in a unique science environment with outstanding students and educators. It attracts students from across Ontario. Graduates of the program unanimously recommend the experience as one of the most profound educational events of their life and go on to study across Canada and the United States. Don Mills C.I. supports all public school students studying at The Ontario Science Centre Science School by providing help with career/personal counselling and university applications. Please contact us for more information.

GUIDANCE VOLUNTEERS

This year we had the pleasure of working with an adult co-op student from the Cooperative Education program at Yorkdale Adult Learning Centre. Our Guidance secretary, Ms. Farah, trained and supervised this volunteer as well as the many students who help out with a number of clerical tasks. Special mention goes to our graduating helpers, brothers Peter Xu and Harry Yu.

PEER TUTORING PROGRAM

Many of our strong academic students have continued to volunteer as peer tutors providing much needed support to those students who despite trying their best, struggle with concepts.

GRADE 9 ORIENTATION

Every year, our new grade nines are treated to an orientation day at an outdoor facility. For the fifth year in a row, students helped Ms. Phillipson manage the event that involves 8 busloads of 300 students. They are activity leaders, team leaders, cheer writers, team builders – resulting in great school spirit. None of this would be possible without our devoted Ice Cream Committee, our affectionate title of the Grade 9 Orientation Committee.

Volunteers in Guidance

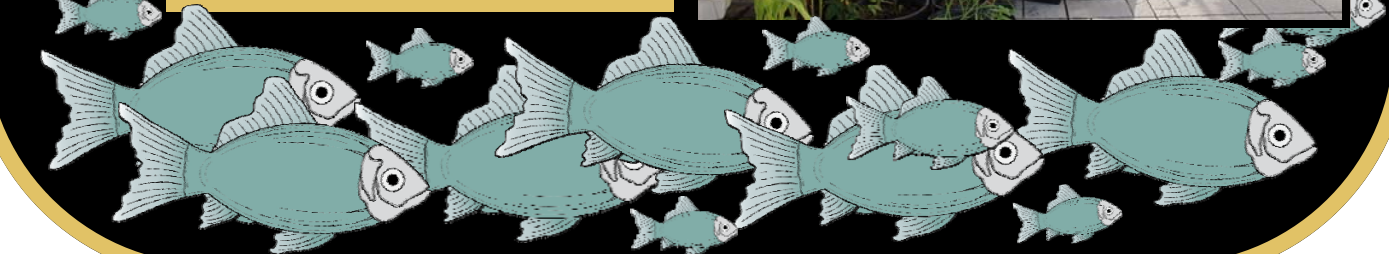
Throughout the year, dedicated students continue to volunteer in the guidance office, proving their excellent organizational skills and attention to detail. We are so grateful.

Something Fishy at DMCI...

Green Industries Updates

The Green Industries program at Don Mills CI has quickly become renowned throughout the Board and the Province for innovative and engaging connections to the curriculum. An incredible number of projects have been completed this year with ongoing plans to utilize these projects to support future students. In addition to Green Roof Panels, Water Collection Systems, Vegetable and Fruit Gardens, we continue to push the possibilities of the Green House, which now includes a Walk Around Living Wall, Biofiltration System which reclaims and reuses the irrigation water from the Green House. Our connection to U of T Forestry continues, with multiple lessons and certification being taught by Masters student, Susan Frye. This year's lessons include tree identification and GPS locating and entymology which is focusing on the Emerald Ash Borer. We are currently constructing traps in a plan to fight off this evil menace! Perhaps the most stunning achievement of our year is the design and construction of our Tilapia Pond Rice Paddy Hydroponic Recirculating Aquaponic System. We are currently looking for a better name.....This is quite simply a spectacular project which is quickly gaining a great deal of praise from many members of related communities including universities and the Toronto Zoo. This project is funded by a grant secured by the NE5 Family of Schools Innovation Fund. We would like to acknowledge the incredible assistance of University of Toronto student Mat-

thew Poot who is laying down a fantastic foundation for his future as well as for our students who he is assisting. Amazing things are happening! Stay tuned!



BOYS RUGBY

It has been a spectacular year for Boys Rugby at Don Mills CI. Following an impressive Fall 7's Season which saw our Senior, Junior and Bantam Boys finishing in the top 5 in the City and within the top 7 in the Province, our boys continued their strong performances with 2 Silver Medals in the Spring 15's Season.

No one could have expected our Senior Boys to have performed as well as we did, considering how many brand new players we had. The task fell upon our veterans to bring these new players along as quickly as possible. The energy of the rookies and the mindful skillsets of our experienced players combined for a group that was ready for a dogfight each time they played. Every win was hard fought with some spectacular come from behind victories. An impressive group to be sure.

The Juniors started the season with 18 players, an uphill challenge considering 15 are needed on the field at all times. In spite of this, this group strung together an undefeated regular season with a total of almost 300 scoring points for and less than 40 against. Playing short-handed in the last couple of games the boys finally ran out of steam but competed hard to secure our second silver medal of the spring season. The foundation has been laid for an incredible 2012-2013 year in both 7's in the Fall and 15's in the Spring.



SPANISH

Another year has come to an end. What an exciting semester the Spanish students had. Students participated in Hispanic Heritage month activities, made piñatas and went to El Rancho for a scrumptious buffet and a salsa/meringue dance lesson.

Maria Karajovic and Leah Mindroff represented DMCI at the 5th Annual Ontario Secondary School Spanish Contest at Glendon College. After just a few months of Spanish instruction, Leah placed 16 out of 77 beginner students and Maria placed 5th – winning \$50! Congratulations girls and thank you for the great representation and effort.



SOCIAL GLOBAL ... AND SOME ANIMALS

Social Global Studies Department News

In April the Grade 11 Introduction to Psychology, Sociology Anthropology classes (HSP3M) of Mrs. McBurney and Ms. Giannotta enjoyed a day trip to the Metro Toronto Zoo. The focus for the trip was the discipline of anthropology and specifically the specialization of primate studies. The students and staff were divided into smaller groups and led through many areas of the zoo by competent volunteer guides who enlightened the groups on many aspects of primate and other species' behaviour.

The same Grade 11 classes as well as Mr. Gibson's Grade 10 Civics classes welcomed presenters from Red Cross Canada later that month. The Grade 11 classes were examining the concept of breaking the cycle of poverty from a sociology perspective. Grade 10 Civics classes explored International Humanitarian Law.



REACH FOR THE TOP



For the third year in a row a Don Mills team won a spot in the provincial competitions for Reach for the Top – a contest in which teams of four students face off in answering questions from the culturally trivial to the academically significant. To win you have to know lots of facts and be very quick.

With keen interest in Reach for the Top at Don Mills, over thirty students started working on their quiz answering skills early in the Fall. Every Thursday after school they played practice games. By February they were ready to field five strong teams in the regional competitions, far more than any other school.

Of these, two teams composed of Ritika Achrekar, Filip Burlacu, Henry Gu, Dane Kaladeen, Leo Chan, Vinay Giridhar, Kaya Kim, Lily Zhang, Jake Lewis, Ka Chun So, Peter Xie and Jeremy Wang won all their matches in regular play.

Unfortunately only one team from the region could move on to the next level. The Reach for the Top team of Ritika, Filip, Henry, Dane, Leo, Vinay and Kaya came first in in these playoffs and carried the DMCI banner to the provincial competition in mid May, where they won five of seven games, losing only to the top team in the tournament and to a school that came in first last year. They finished in 11th place out of 40 teams, which was just one position short of moving on to the final round of competition.

DECA

Don Mills students did better than they ever have in the DECA International Business Competitions held in Salt Lake City, Utah, this Spring. Of the six Don Mills students who made it to the international event, four of them won awards. Peter Xu and Hiran Zafari went all the way by taking first place in their category of Financial Services Marketing. They couldn't resist breaking protocol at the award ceremony by waving a Maple Leaf Flag while on the podium in front of thousands of competitors at the Utah Jazz Stadium. The team of Nancy Zhao and Jeffrey Hui surprised themselves and made the delegation proud by scoring high enough in the first round of competition in Salt Lake City to be among the top dozen teams to get into the finals. And the team of Kevin Chen and Jeffrey Mu scored in the top ten percent of their category of Sports and Entertainment Marketing, although it wasn't quite good enough to get them into the finals. Three additional Don Mills students – Connie Yu, Haoming Ren and Rahim Shamsy – joined the delegation to Salt Lake City to take part in training that might help them win positions in future competitions. It was a great year for the whole of the Ontario Chapter at DECA International. The roughly 500 delegates from our province came back from the U.S. with 26 trophies (4 first place, 13 second place and 9 third place) and a staggering 301 medals! It was enough to put Ontario in first place overall for awards at DECA. The international event was the culmination of a very active year for a number of students who entered DECA at the beginning of the year. Dozens of students put in many long hours to prepare written proposals or oral presentations in numerous areas of business. Of these about thirty students made it past the regional competitions in the Fall. Then, at the provincial competition which took over the Sheraton Centre for two days in February, the Don Mills DECA contingent was narrowed down to the six that travelled to Salt Lake City.



Communications Technology News

TGJ2 produced amazing CHASE videos and developed fantastic research presentations on big ideas relating to technical communications and social issues. Finishing the semester they have completed some eco-focused public service announcements and their digital portfolios.

TGJ3 created crazy bio music videos, had some dramatic conversations about how 'character matters' and did some amazing 'big ideas' presentations. They all finished with solid resumes and portfolios. TGJ4 went zombie early in the semester creating movie posters with themselves as zombies, then went on to create the film trailer for DON of the DEAD in After Effects with cameos from teachers and staff all around the school. They've developed demo reels and portfolios to assist in their applications for their next steps next year.

This semester TGJ students participated successfully in the Ontario Mining Association's Contest, 'So You Think You Know Mining' winning a variety of awards. TGJ, TEJ, and ICS students also participated actively in the Career Mash program provided by CCICT hosting three guest speakers to the classroom talking about how technology can mash up with other interests to create truly unique niche jobs of the future based on student interests, and then our students were invited to the Youth Tech Jam conference to work with other students in the board to address 6 areas of technology development innovation. Our students debated and represented our school very well. TGJ also went on a media scavenger hunt downtown to examine all forms of digital production, producing news segments for our magazine style show TWIST for TGJTV. Then we went to the CBC for the taping of the George Strombolopolous show and met guitarist Slash.

Fazel Akbari, Kaitlyn Song, Teodora Pasca, Andrew Taylor, Joey Kim, Justin Plummer, Denis Kutah, and Russell Wu were also recognized at Awards Night on June 6. These communications technology students have demonstrated leadership inside and outside the classroom, mentoring and setting a good example for peers, creativity, scholastic improvement, self-management skills and have delivered strong production work in graphic design, animation, video, audio, and technical skills. They have done special projects to train their peers, participated in video contests, and made an effort to help peers who are struggling. Their commitment levels and true enjoyment of the program were evident, and their passion for making something out of nothing, inspiring others, and making it fantastic, were exemplary.



Programming Club

Don Mills CI's programming team #1 proved to Ontario and the Toronto District School Board that they were the one of the best programming teams. They competed in 3 rounds lasting 3 hours each against 50 other schools from across Ontario at York University. They took 1st place at the board level competitions, top 10 in semifinals, and made it all the way to provincial level. The female team performed outstandingly as well and managed to earn 2nd at the board level in their division and moved all the way to semifinals. Gary graduates this year, but he has led us with a strong team and a programming club that will continue to compete and make Don Mills proud.

Design and Technology Club

The design and technology club was very busy this year, led by Ms. Dunlop. They participated in the Skills Canada competitions at the TDSB and provincial level with Rasha Abou-Hawach advancing with the Job Interview category. Other activities they completed together were model building, technical language skills development, experimenting with design software, participating in the Girl's Networking dinner, and working with a variety of advanced tools.

... and More News

Stage Crew

Currently this group has around 24 members from all grades, led by Mateja Lucic (Technical Manager) and Alex Wu (Administration Manager). We have definitely appreciated their leadership this year. The 'Knights of Lights, Hounds of Sounds, Mages of Stages' have been exceptionally busy this semester working on a variety of events over the year, totaling about 113 special events, providing AV services at our school and also supporting the Middle School. The big changes that are coming in September include a full revitalization of our cafetorium staging including lights and audio and projection / display for increased safety and updated technology. Students Andrew Taylor and Sumedh Tantry have combined their work in the Communications Technology course to enhance the Stage Crew training process. Mateja Lucic, Alex Wu, Andrew Taylor, and Sumedh Tantry, and Kurtis Dinner were recognized at Awards night. With Mateja leading, these folks have ensured assistance for all AV events at the school with a positive, can-do professional attitude with an emphasis on mentoring and training new members, balancing their school work alongside other school involvements. The technical management skills they have developed will serve them in any career path they choose. They are sincerely appreciated.



The Voice Announcements

Betty Chang the student administrator of the DMCI voice, our daily announcements, has worked very hard and always with a professional and positive attitude to coordinate our amazing team of students who get to school early and prepare to give DMCI the news of the day. Special thanks to all our announcement crew this year led by Betty Chang. Our morning announcers were: Hiran Zafari, Austin Gaghadar, Nakita Gibson, Luc Palombo, Iris Guillermo, Betty Chang, Nicole Kim, Natasha Traikos, Hananeel Robertson, Vivian An, and Jeremiah Vijey.

Broadcast Club

Many students have been participating in a variety of poster, video, and interactive contests from DMCI this year as part of the club. This club focuses on working with video editing, graphic design and animation softwares to participate in competitions. Next year they are hoping to participate further in the Skills Canada competitions in these areas. Their main contest focus this year was the Ontario Mining Association at www.oma.on.ca.

MODEL U.N.

The Model UN club this year kept up a pretty active schedule of meeting every Friday to engage in debate ranging from how to respond to Iran's nuclear enrichment program to how to cope with the imaginary end of the world in three years when a giant asteroid collides with Earth.

On two occasions a number of students headed off to Model UN conferences in town. In each event some of our students won major awards. Kenneth Kim won "Best Delegate" awards in each of his conferences and Jasmeet Singh won an "Honourable Mention" award for his contribution at the recent Albert Campbell C.I. conference.



The Underground Railroad Experience



In early May of this year, eight students accompanied Mr. Fewson and Ms. Allen on an amazing educational adventure. These students were given an opportunity to better understand the experiences of Canadians and Americans of African heritage, as they suffered, endured, and — for some — escaped the bonds of slavery. Our experience began with a visit to “Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historical Site” in Dresden, Ontario. Here students participated in a tutorial on the Canadian connection to the real-life Uncle Tom, and participated in a scavenger hunt looking for artifacts from the 1850s.



After “Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historical Site”, students travelled to the “Buxton National Historic Site & Museum”. Here, we were able to see and hold some of the oppressive tools that were used to restrain slaves in the American South, and we were also given an opportunity to attend a



class at one of the schools that educated many of the former slaves who had made their way to freedom in British North America (later Canada).

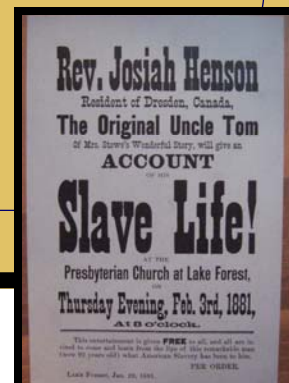
After a somewhat restful night at the St. Clair Residence in Windsor, we took the bus across the border into Detroit to visit the “Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History”.



In this incredible museum, students had a chance to walk — literally — through the experience of different black communities throughout American history. Their journey took them from early colonial trade contact and enslavement along the Gold Coast, to the development of plantations in the American South, and across the bow and into the hull of a slave ship. After this, students stepped into a slave auction, moved forward through time to the streets of Chicago and Harlem in the 1920s, forward through the Civil Rights Movement, and ending with the election of President Barack Obama. This incredible journey really brought to light the struggles, hardships, accomplishments, and perseverance of black Americans and Canadians.



We are hopeful that we will be able to run this trip next year, and that we will be able to bring many more students on this incredible journey.



The Chess Club ...

The Don Mills CI chess teams competed yet again for another successful season. The newly formed senior team made up of both experienced and beginner members tried very hard to live up to the legacy of last years prize winning team, unfortunately they did not make the playoffs and ended up 5th in the East Division. The junior team managed to defend their title of East Division Champions for another year. The junior team was very strong this year and we have many new faces to add to the team. Congratulations to Jerry Yang, Haoming Ren, Mandar Chen, Kevin Zheng, Naeldo Dokaj, Hongyu Wang and Raymond Fan.



... Robotics

The DMCIVEX Robotics Team "Electric Sheep" had a great year where they represented Don Mills CI at two competitions this year: Southern Ontario and Mississauga Regional Competitions. We had 3 great teams this year. The teams were composed of dedicated robotics club members, grade 12 computer engineering students, and a few dedicated grade 11's who worked tirelessly for many weeks to achieve their results. They performed very well at both of those competitions. The grade 12's are currently mentoring the new members in preparation for next year's game and the rookie grade 11 team made up of Alex Ye, Alex Wang, Alex Zhang and Jian He are one of the most dedicated teams Mr. Lu and Mrs. Strelkovska have ever witnessed. Jian has already taken on a leadership role for next year's team. What an amazing year and congratulations to our graduating members: Gary, Mohammed, Tsegai, Vignesh, Richard, Jimmy, Ted, Omar and Enye.



NEXT STEPS ...

JoAnne Martino

When I was a young student in Toronto, I was blessed with a variety of excellent teachers. They were smart, kind, creative, interesting, and fun. I wanted to be one of them and so after much formal education (which I am very grateful for) I earned my degrees and began teaching many years ago. It has been a varied, challenging and enjoyable experience (most of the time).

I loved introducing my students to new ideas, places and possibilities through literature, drama and writing. Probably one of the best compliments a teacher can get is for a student to say, "I didn't know that" or "I never thought about it like that before." I

am happy to be able to say, I got my share of this type of feedback and "it" made for many an interesting discussion.

I very much have enjoyed teaching high school. I always felt the teen years were a special time of life. It has been an honour to be part of this precious time for thousands of teenagers over the years and a pleasure to be a witness to their profound energy, growth and fun.

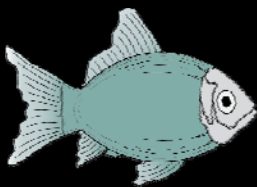
As I approach early retirement and reflect, I am so very glad that I got to do and be exactly what I wanted when I grew up. I have loved my teaching career. It truly has been a great source of pleasure and fulfillment for me. To be able to conclude this journey at a school like DMCI, I consider pure luck. Much credit has to go to the

people of Don Mills. There are so many really sweet kids, helpful staff and last but not least, the best Admin around (I know because I have been around – six different schools over the course of my lengthy career).

I very much appreciate the kind words and mementos my students and staff have bestowed upon me. I shall treasure them forever! Thank you.

I will always be proud to say I was a teacher. I tried to help; I hope I did. I leave happy and well and wish for each of you that too!

— JoAnne Martino



Above: Grade Nine students enjoy the day at "Green Acres".

AND MORE NEXT STEPS ...

Vance Scott

Mr. Vance Scott is a man on a *quest*.

Before I joined Don Mills CI, I had heard about the mystery man who had designed all of these fantastic computer programs that were making life so much easier for teachers. His name was legend. But questions remained about this elusive programmer: *Where did he work? Is he really from Elliot Lake? It is true he might be a robot? Does he only eat popcorn?*

When I came to Don Mills as a rookie Vice Principal in 2009, it took me very little time to realize how lucky I was to have a professional mentor like Vance Scott. Vance made me feel very welcomed, helped me to become familiar with DMCI, and encouraged me to set my own goals. Vance was always patient with my questions — “*What is Filemaker Pro? How do you get the projector to work?*” — and he was always eager to find solutions that work for students, staff, and parents. I knew immediately he was the sort of Vice Principal I would want to become.

Where does leadership like this come from?

Well, Vance spent most his formative years in Elliot Lake. Trust me, he’s from Elliot Lake... I think he gets royalties for mentioning the town. Although proud of

his small-town roots, Vance decided to move to Toronto after completing a Commerce degree. He spent some time working for Nelvana as an accountant, but could not resist the call of the classroom and joined the Toronto District School Board in 1998.

Vance started his teaching career at Woburn CI, teaching Accounting, Computers, Data-Processing, and Introduction to Business. After his first year of teaching, Vance was promoted to the position of Assistant Department Head of Business Studies.

Vance’s career continued moving forward, and he soon after earned the position of Department Head of Business at Albert Campbell CI. The thrill of business, however, was not enough to reign in Mr. Vance Scott: Mr. Scott needed to be near Robots.

Yes, robots.

In 2004, Vance became the Program Administrator for FIRST Robotics, and developed career-long relationships, connections, and friendships that would serve him well later on.

Vance Scott became the Vice Principal of Don Mills Collegiate in 2006. Working along side VP Marnie Phoenix and Principal Cindy Browne, Vance worked hard to make the working-life of teachers a little easier. During his time as Vice Principal, Vance created “*Comment Quest*”, “*Coverage Quest*”, “*Truancy Quest*”, “*Room Quest*”, and “*People Quest*”. In addition, he created pro-

grams to ease the burden of organizing the EQAO Literacy Test (OSSLT) and the Math EQAO test. Furthermore, he created a program to help him timetable the school, and a program to help the Guidance Department look for course conflicts.

I have no idea how any of these programs work. I only hope Vance is currently working on “*Dave Quest*”.

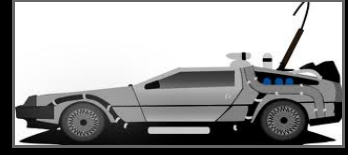
During his time at Don Mills, Vance has truly had some memorable moments. He has put ribbons and awards on some kids, while chasing others through the ravine. He has watched dozens of student performances, and students have watched him open a time capsule, cook a thousand burgers, and, on one occasion, even put his rookie VP partner’s head into his fish pond. Vance has built strong relationships with his staff, and he has earned the respect of our students. Parents trust him, and administrators across the Board hold him in high esteem.

During his time at Don Mills, Vance has produced some impressive results. Notably, EQAO scores have gone up, and suspensions have gone down.

It is with great pride that I see Vance move forward to the position of Principal at Victoria Park Collegiate. I remain confident that his *quest* for excellence will be as evident there as it has been for us here.

— David Fewson

Big Mac → To the Future



“We need to go back, McFewson ... back to 1991!” These were the last words Doc Scott said to Marty McFewson before opening the time capsule and being exposed to a world that was at once so very familiar, and yet so very different!

It all began when Betty Garnett, DMCI’s Office Administrator, decided to clean out the vault. Herein she discovered the note that would change everything. The letter, written by Mr. Houston’s history class of 1991, was intended for the world of tomorrow....the world of 2011. We were told that artifacts from 1991 were buried near a tree at the South-East corner of the property.



A team was quickly assembled, under the leadership of Mr. Biff Kunanec. They dug and dug and, at the end of a long day, discovered four enclosed PVC pipes. We have two heroes to thank here, Justin Auguste and Todd Kim.

On June 18, 2012 the past met the present. Doc Scott and Marty McFewson opened the time capsules! Inside they found newspapers, strange fashions, a TV Guide, and something called a “cassette tape”.

But these were not the only treasures given to them from the world of yesterday!!! Inside one of the PVC pipes was a decomposed Big Mac. Apparently, they tend to develop a bit of a smell after 21 years. What a wonderful smell they discovered!



Doc Scott wondered what kind of music would exist on these “cassette tapes”. Marty McFewson responded, “You may not like this music ... but your kids are going to love it!”



Above: Doc Scott and Marty McFewson ready themselves to go back to 1991.

Remembrances

It is never easy to say goodbye to a loved one or a friend, and sadly Don Mills Collegiate has had to mourn the loss of two of its students over the past two years. Last year, Alistair Hoy, an amazing Grade 9 student, succumbed to leukemia after a brief but valiant struggle. This year, we were deeply saddened by the loss of Justina Erb, a wonderful Grade 11 student who passed away after a long, protracted, and courageous struggle against cancer. Many students were touched by the lives, friendships, and the strength these two possessed, and many students would like to see them remembered.

Earlier this year, Neil O'Bright, Family Services Manager, Pine Hills Cemetery and Visitation Centre arranged to have two plaques made and mounted onto rocks. On June 22nd, with family and friends present, Alistair's plaque was placed beside the weeping cedar outside of Portable 4. In September, Justina's plaque will be placed beside a sitting rock in front of the school. We would like to thank Mr. O'Bright and the staff at Pine Hills for their generous donation and for facilitating the process.

End of the Year B.B.Q.

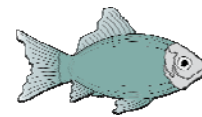
Don Mills students had a chance to have a burger, jump in the bouncy castles, and fall into the dunk tank at our end of the year BBQ this June. The DMCI Student Activity Council decided to thank all the students of DMCI with this fun-filled lunch-time event.



THE BACK PAGE ... SOME ESSENTIAL INFO

EVALUATION

Grade Range	Achievement	Summary Description
80-100%	Level 4	A very high to outstanding level of achievement Achievement is <i>above</i> the provincial standard
70-79%	Level 3	A high level of achievement Achievement is <i>at</i> the provincial standard
60-69%	Level 2	A moderate level of achievement Achievement is <i>below, but approaching</i> , the provincial standard
50-59%	Level 1	A passable level of achievement Achievement is <i>below</i> the provincial standard
Below 50%		Insufficient achievement of curriculum expectations A credit will not be granted



Report Cards

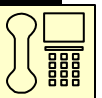
Each student receives an interim report card, a mid-term report card, and a final report card for each course. Interim report cards are issued in October and March, mid-term reports in November and April, and final reports in February and June.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School councils are an excellent way for parents to get involved in their child's education. Our school has an elected school council that is an important forum for involving all members of the school community in issues that affect the education of students. The school council is made up of an elected committee of parents, staff and student representatives, appointed community members, the principal, and a general membership which includes all parents of children attending the school. The school council advises the principal on a variety of issues and activities relating to student achievement, curriculum goals and priorities, school budget priorities, school safety, renovation plans, after school activities, and criteria for the selection of new principals.

Don Mills Collegiate Institute
15 The Donway East
Toronto, Ontario
M3C 1X6
Tel: (416) 395-3190



School Council Dates

September 18 February 19
October 16 April 16
November 20 May 21
January 22



Looking Forward ... EQAO (www.eqao.com)

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is an independent provincial agency funded by the Government of Ontario. EQAO's mandate is to conduct province-wide tests at key points in every student's primary, junior and secondary education and report the results to educators, parents and the public. EQAO acts as a catalyst for increasing the success of Ontario students by measuring their achievement in reading, writing and mathematics in relation to Ontario Curriculum expectations. The objective and reliable assessment results are evidence that adds to the current knowledge about student learning and serves as an important tool for improvement at the individual, school, school board and provincial levels. Students will write an EQAO math test in Grade 9 (January 16-17, and June 11-12, 2013), and an EQAO literacy test in Grade 10 (April 11th, 2013).