

WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY

....your community high school since 1966



February 2015

Welland Centennial Secondary School

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AUTHOR'S PERSONAL MESSAGE INSPIRES COUGARS



At Centennial, students are always encouraged to think for themselves and explore new avenues to learn, and that is just what **Eric Egert** did when faced with the task of, creating his presentation for Mrs. Code's Grade 12 University English class. The group had just read the novel *Indian Horse* by awardwinning Canadian First Nations author Richard Wagamese, and Eric contacted Mr. Wagamese to see if the author had any message he could convey to the class. Much to Eric and his classmates' delight Mr. Wagamese did just that, and shared a heartfelt message that concluded with words that should serve to inspire us all. He said:

"Be proud and be the best you that you possibly can be today and then repeat it tomorrow and in all the days to come and you will create a wonderful life for yourself and those you love...."

What an honour! We thank Mr. Wagamese for his beautiful writing, and for taking the time to share his wisdom with us!

COUGAR WITH INTERNATIONAL ROLE

Centennial is pleased to welcome **Michelle O'Keefe** on February 26th as a guest speaker. Michelle is a graduate of Welland Centennial and a former member of many Cougar sports teams. She is currently the Executive Director of **Canada Basketball** which is a private, non-profit corporation committed to excellence in leading the growth of the game domestically and in pursuing medal performances on the international stage. She is also the Canadian representative for the International Basketball Association. As the Executive Director at Canada Basketball (CB), her main responsibilities "are to support Canadian basketball however I can, working with the CB staff, athletes, coaches and officials as well as with our basketball partners—the CIS, CCAA and provincial/territorial sport organizations—to develop basketball at home and achieve success on the international stage".



Alumni Alert... In anticipation of our upcoming 50th anniversary in 2016, the Alumni Association will be hosting several events leading to this big event. For up to date information, please visit us at: <http://centennialalumni.weebly.com>

FEBRUARY'S ARTS SHOWCASE

Our exciting theatrical showcase features something for everyone, with performances by **The Cats Band**, **AChaired Taste**, and our **Dance Teams**, as well as a comic one-act adaptation of *Hamlet* entitled **Zombie Killer of Denmark**. Performances will take place Feb 19 and 20 at 7:00 pm. On Feb. 19, the audience also has an opportunity to combine dinner with their theatre experience by buying a dinner/show package. Tickets will be available through the main office.

Adults: \$10, Students/Seniors \$7
Dinner/Show tickets: Adults \$20,
Children under 12 \$15.

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LA FRANCOPHONIE...

A group of Extended and Core French students spent the day in Toronto experiencing French culture. The day began with a meal at Café Crêpes, followed by an exciting play called Les Zinspirés 3D at the Théâtre Français de Toronto. The performance was comprised of 5 short plays written by young francophones from the Toronto area. It was a great day! We are looking forward to the March trip to France and to Italy.



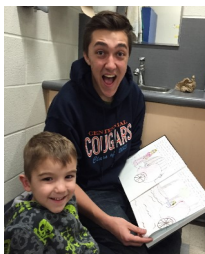
"IN CUCINA"

Welland Centennial's Italian class had the opportunity to prepare 'Pizzelle' (Italian Waffle Cookies) as well as make homemade pasta and gnocchi this semester. This would not have been possible without the help and kindness of Ms. Duchene and her Gr.10 Cooking class. They took the time to learn and practiced these recipes and then taught them to our Italian students. The activities and the food were enjoyed by both classes!



READING WITH YOUNG GRIZZLIES...

Students from Mrs. Bootsma's Writer's Craft class visited Gordon P.S. Kindergarten classes. The Grade 12 students wrote children's books and had the chance to read them to four and five-year olds. Both groups enjoyed the opportunity to engage with each other, especially our Grizzly graduates who had the chance to visit their former elementary school!



Grade 12 student Ben Orosz with a Gordon Grizzly

EQAO - HELPING THE STUDENTS PREPARE!

This year, students will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on **Thurs, March 26th**.
Before the Test: All grade 9 students write a practice literacy test. In March, Grade 10 classes will work through *Don't Panic 2.0: A Guide to the OSSLT* with their teachers to prepare for key elements of the test. All Grade 11s and 12s writing the test this year have two half-day sessions of additional practice focusing on the OSSLT.
During the Test: Breakfast and snacks are provided to fuel students for the day. We provide small class settings for students to write the test. Extra time and accommodations are provided for students with IEPs and for English Language Learners.

THE ART OF PRINTMAKING...



Tara Napper and Cassidy Larabie Leo Dziarkach and Elizabeth Mazzuca learn the art of printmaking in Mrs. Martino's grade 9 Visual Art class.

GEOGRAPHY OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Centennial's Geography classes have been active in the first semester, with field trips to Niagara Falls and Ball's Falls Conservation area. Sixty Grade 9 Geography students traveled to Niagara Falls to experience attractions like Journey Behind the Falls, Niagara's Fury, Whirlpool Aero Car, and Hornblower Niagara River Cruise beneath the Falls. Grade Eleven Geography students went to Ball's Falls to assist in the Niagara Children's Water Festival. The festival is a fourday event where Cougars led and assisted in water demonstrations presented to elementary students. Centennial has participated in the Water Festival since its inception.



Left to right: Hannah Thompson, Aaron Middleton & William Halliday

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Geography classes could also be found on the stage in December, not acting or dancing, but exploring a giant map of Canada provided by Canadian Geographic. Too big for a classroom, the energy-themed map was rolled out on the stage in the auditorium for interactive lessons related to the theme of energy and water resources. Where else could you walk across Canada in your stocking feet following the flow of energy or Canada's mighty rivers?



LAW TALK GETS A POSITIVE VERDICT

Grade 11 & 12 law students in Ms. Bowman's class attended a talk featuring Constable Jeff Ralston of the NRP and Steven Nagy LL.B. who practices Family Law in Fonthill. Students learned about police equipment, arrest procedures and police routines. They also heard about the court room experience and the education needed to practice Law. Thank you Constable Ralston and Mr. Nagy!





The collage above has pictures taken during Grandparents' Tea, Talent Show, Geography Trip, Girls' Basketball & Grade 8 Open House .

BLUE, ORANGE, WHITE...action!

PROBLEM SOLVERS EXTRAORDINAIRE

As the culminating activity for the Grade 11 Technology course **Jordan Barnartt**, **Brandon Elliott** and **Malav Patel** had to develop a system for controlling an R.C. Car using a computer by way of the parallel port. The students built their own Bread Board and then wrote the code, allowing the computer to control the car. When asked what was the most important thing they learned Jordan stated that "to a problem there will always be a solution."



Brandon Elliott & Malav Patel photo provided by Jordan Barnartt

COUGAR CHEERLEADERS

In December our Cheerleaders won 1st place at the Power Cheer Competition in London. While at the Tribune Tournament they won the Santos award for "Best Cheerleading Squad". Congratulations to **Carley Muir & Emily Neudorf** who were nominated as Cheerleading all-stars. Presently 4 Cougars are in training with the Scorpions Niagara for the World Cheerleading Championship in Disney World Florida. They are **Justice Pearson, Carley Muir, Lee-Ann Skulj and Carrie-Ann Plante.**

FUTURE COUGARS CENTRE STAGE



EXPLORING FUTURE CAREERS

Many students have completed extremely successful co-op placements this past semester. **Ashlynn Giovenazzo**, completed her co-op placement within the Niagara Health Services' Organizational Development and Human Resources departments. Ashlynn was able to apply the skills and knowledge acquired in her Grade 10 Introduction to Business course to various administrative tasks, including the planning of the NHS staff recognition banquet. She was able to observe management meetings and was introduced to the recruitment process. She has gained excellent references from her experience and has since decided to pursue a career in human resources.



Ashlynn with Nancy Dillon of the NHS.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The Student of the Month is awarded by the staff at WCSS to recognize students from each grade for their hard work, participation and contribution to school life.

November

- Grade 9** Vani Sharma
- Grade 10** Dario Smagata
- Grade 11** Amanda Pattison
- Grade 12** Bayleigh Turgeon

December

- Grade 9** Korynne Cousineau
- Grade 10** Kyle McKnight
- Grade 11** Alexa Sutton
- Grade 12** Dean Haydon

Centennial would like to thank all the Grade 8's for the enthusiasm they showed on their recent visit to Cougar country. Thanks also to the Grade 8 teachers and elementary school principals who made this day such a success.

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SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

The senior boys basketball team is in full swing for the 2014\15 season. Our Cougars started the season winning the 3rd annual "Cougar Classic" in the Centennial gym. They defeated Fort Erie, Thorold and Stamford on the way to winning the championship. The boys then travelled to Waterloo to compete in the Viking Invitational playing against some of the top teams in the Waterloo area. The Tribune Tournament is always exciting and this year our Cougars once again made it to the Championship semi-finals. They defeated E.L. Crossley in the quarterfinals, which allowed them to face rivals Notre Dame in front of a packed house at Niagara College. Other highlights of the tournament include the team being selected as the "Most Sportsmanlike Team of the Tournament" and Alex Elliott was selected the "Most Sportsmanlike Player of the Tournament." Finally, our boys are gearing up for the playoffs as the regular season ends. Good Luck, Cougars!



Front Row (left to right): Justin Bryan, Gabe Marais, Dylan Hanson, Mike Hardy, Eric Matkowski
Back Row (left to right): Tony Ferrusi, Sheldon Davis, Owen Alexander, Noah Berketo, Brandon Elliott, Jay Clayton, Alex Elliott, Coach Mosley, Nick Fitzgerald.

CURLING TEAM

Good luck to Centennial's curlers as they compete at the Zone 3 Finals on February 9th.

From left to Right: **Zelda Bianco, Bayleigh Turgeon, Steven Alakas, Adam Brule, Drew Caissie.**
Missing: **Cita Johnson & Noah Fuaco**



CENTENNIAL'S "ORANGE CRUSH"

Centennial Orange Crush hockey returned to the ice with third place finishes for both the junior and senior teams at the three on three tournament in Port Colborne this past fall. In exhibition action, the Orange Crush tied in their games with the Blue Bears from Port Colborne with close games in a home at home series. The next competition will be in Smithville where Centennial will face Dunnville, Port Colborne, and South Lincoln in four on four non-contact hockey action.



Back row - left to right: Nathan Martin, Konnor Luciani, Kennedy Seebach, Scott Russo, Curtis Egert, Greg Campbell, Austin Atkins, Dayton Bundzeak, and Nathan Van Schyndel
Front row - left to right: Jordan Banner and Jesse Konert

For detailed and up to date information visit us at <http://centennial.dsbm.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS...

February 12th - Semi Formal	March 14-22nd - March Break
February 13th - Early Release Day	March 24th - Parent-Teacher Interviews
February 16th - Family Day (Holiday)	March 26th - Literacy Test
March 9th - Progress Reports	April 3rd - Good Friday (Holiday)
March 9-13 - Spirit Week	April 6th - Easter Monday (Holiday)
March 11th - DSBN Dance Showcase	April 24 - Mid-Semester Report Cards
March 13th - Spirit Assembly	

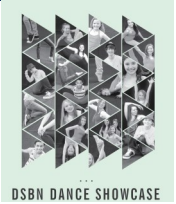
NEW BOARD APPLAUDS COUGAR DANCERS

The Fosse Dance Team was asked to perform at the inaugural DSBN Board meeting on Tues. Jan. 13th as part of the student entertainment before the meeting. The dancers were a highlight of the evening and received praise from the Board's Chair, Sue Barnett and Director, Warren Hoshizaki.



UPCOMING DSBN DANCE SHOWCASE

On Wed. Mar. 11th, Centennial will be hosting the 3rd annual DSBN Dance Showcase. This unique event brings together dance teams, classes, and groups from both elementary and secondary schools interested in performing for a wider audience. This evening showcase is a celebration of what is happening with dance in our school board. Tickets will be sold at the door and food items will be collected in support of the **Welland Open Arms Mission**. Cost: \$10 for adults (or \$8 with a food donation at the door) and \$7 for students (\$5 with a food donation). Doors will open at 6:30pm.



FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Graduation is quickly approaching...

Grad Fees: Please ensure your grad fees are paid.

Baby Photos: Student Council is asking all graduates to bring in a baby photo to use in the grad slide show. Pictures will be returned to you.

Community Service Hours: Are your 40 hours completed? Remember your 40 hours must be completed in order to graduate.

Course Selection for 2015/16:

Students will be completing their course selections for the 2015/16 school year beginning in early February, with help from the Guidance staff. Students and parents are encouraged to pre-plan their course selections beforehand. Students can log into their D2L account by selecting the Career Cruising icon.

FREE ADULT COMPUTER EDUCATION

Welland Centennial offers **FREE** Adult Computer Education. Our next session starts in February. Learn Microsoft Office, Photoshop, MovieMaker and website design. Join in our classes geared to adult learners. For further information or to register please call 735-0700 x60711.