

WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY

....your community high school since 1966



May 2016

Welland Centennial
Secondary School
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COUGARS CELEBRATE A LOVE OF READING

The White Pine book club was launched in February for all grade 9 and 10 students. This high school level element of the annual Forest of Reading program is sponsored by the Ontario Library Association. This initiative was embraced by several WCSS students at the launch party. Over the next few months, students are encouraged to read 5 of the 10 titles nominated for book of the year. By-weekly meetings are held under the direction of Mrs. Saunders where students will voice their opinions, write book reviews and participate in various contests. The book selection are newly published books written by Canadian authors which encompass different themes that teens can relate to. In April, students will vote for their favourite book and the winner will be



announced at a DSBN student conference May 20th. Students will meet some of the authors of the nominated books and participate in various activities to celebrating the joy of reading!

AWARDS BANQUET CELEBRATING OUR TECH GOLD MEDALISTS

The DSBN Technology Awards Banquet was held at Club Italia in Niagara Falls in April. **Stephen Koiter** and **Jacob Naumann** were both awarded the gold medal in the Team Construction competition. Within the Individual Carpentry Competition, **Jacob Naumann** was awarded the gold medal and **Stephen Koiter** received the silver medal. The gold medal represents beating all the other high schools in our school board and advances them to compete against teams representing the best of the best from all over Ontario. The provincial competition is on May 2nd at RIM Park in Waterloo, where over 30,000 people will be in attendance. Congratulations, Stephen and Jacob.



Stephen Koiter, Jacob Naumann



THE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
are chosen by the staff to recognize students from each grade for their hard work, participation, and contribution to school life. Congratulations to the following students:

February Winners

Grade 9:

Sarah Egert & Brianna Levere

Grade 10:

Noah Bucsis & Keegan Mueller

Grade 11:

Nicky Chung & Mac Nisbet

Grade 12:

Hannah Jaremizin & Sheldon Davis

March Winners

Grade 9:

Hayley Williams & Jenna Bucsis

Grade 10:

Xanda DeFreitas & Owen LaChapelle

Grade 11:

Keaton Welychka & Grace Nichols

Grade 12:

Erica Choi & Carlton Todd

WCSS STUDENTS SOAR IN UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MATH COMPETITION

Some of Centennial's best and brightest math students participated in the Waterloo Math Contest last month. The tests are written by the top students worldwide and certificates of distinction are awarded to students who achieve in the top 25%. This was an exemplary year for Centennial, with seven students receiving certificates.

The recipients (R-L) **Justin Zacharuk**, **Bobby Lacombe-Watt**, **Jared Wogan**, **Rahim Piracha**, **Leo Paraskevopoulos** and **Nahyun Chung**. Absent: **Skyler Bohun**



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

All students are encouraged to register beginning **May 3rd**. Registration packages are enclosed with your child's report card and this newsletter!

To register early, please submit the following:



1. Student Verification Form
(parents must revise and update all info)

2. Applicable fees
Activity Fee \$30 + 2017 Yearbook Fee \$33;
Graduation Fee \$40 for grade 12s only

3. Info Technology Digital Agreement Form

4. Permission to Participate Form

****Early registrants** avoid having to register in August, receive their timetable in the July mail-out **AND** will be entered for 3 weekly draws every Friday (until beginning of exams in June).

Cheques (payable to Welland Centennial S.S.) or cash are accepted.



WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY

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Page 2

MICROSOFT OFFICE CERTIFICATION

More colleges, universities and workplaces are insisting that people have Microsoft Office skills. What better way to prove that than a Certificate from Microsoft? You can get yours here at Centennial. We've already had over 60 certificates earned this year alone. It's not too late for you. Sign up for BTA30 next year and GET CERTIFIED! For any parents who are interested in getting certified call 905-735-0700 Ext 60711.



LE CONCOURS BROCK-NIAGARA



On Wednesday May 11, 17 Core and Extended French students will participate in the 38th annual Brock Niagara French Contest. The contest, open to grades 11 and 12 challenges students in the areas of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will also have an opportunity to hear from the faculty and speak to current Brock students regarding university life. Bonne chance à tout le monde!!

FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

WCSS' 2nd annual Art Contest was launched in March. All students have the opportunity to design the Class of 2016's Graduation Program and Yearbook cover. This is an opportunity to get their art published and noticed. The winner will be announced at the beginning of May.



Students participated in the **SHORT2 FILM Contest** April 22nd, creating a PSA on 'world change'. They had 5 hours to create, write, film and edit their piece for submission.

Students: Flora Sibley, Keegan Mueller, Grace Nichols, Lily Ayres, Maxine Barber and Meaghan Beaton

Short2

SHOWCASING "OFF THE WALL" ARTWORK

The "Off the Wall" art show took place at the DSBN Board office in March. Grade 9-11 Art students were recognized. Congratulations to Cougar representatives **Madison Aitken and Grace Nichols.**



DSBN DANCE SHOWCASE

On Thurs. Mar. 3rd, Centennial hosted the 4th annual DSBN Dance Showcase. This unique event brought together dance teams, classes, and groups from both elementary and secondary



schools from the Niagara Region to celebrate dance in our school board. This year was the biggest yet with over 400

participants from 15 schools. The evening performance took place in front of a sell-out crowd and was filled with various types and styles of dance; it culminated in a combined dance featuring all participants.

WCSS 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Centennial turns 50 years old this fall and the alumni committee has events planned for Thanksgiving weekend 2016. Alumni social events (adults only) will be held at the school on Fri. Oct. 7th and Sat. Oct. 8th during the evening. As well, there will be an intersquad football game, family events, and school tours on Sat. Oct. 8th during the day. More details will be released as we get closer to the celebration weekend. Please check the Welland Centennial Secondary School Alumni Facebook page or the Alumni website for more details. Tickets will go on sale for the evening events in late spring 2016. If anyone has WCSS memorabilia that they would like to lend or donate to the school for the 50th anniversary celebrations, please email kim.wylde@dsbn.org.



VIMY RIDGE - APRIL 2017 - A TRIP OF A LIFETIME



Vimy 2017! No, it is NOT too late to register. So far 24 students have registered for the trip of a lifetime! This year marks the 100th anniversary of the battle that created Canada.

If you need more information, go to the school website or see M. Marais or Mrs. Bowman. To register, please visit www.explorica.ca/Bowman-6989. The link can also be found on the school's website. Don't miss out on an incredible trip. If you like to study history then you will love to live history next April!

RELAY FOR LIFE 2016

On Thursday, May 27th, WCSS is hosting our 6th Relay for Life. All of our students are invited to attend this worthy event from 6pm to 6am. The evening will be chaperoned by teachers and security. To participate, each student must submit a \$20 fee along with a permission form signed by a parent for students under the age of 18. The evening will be filled with many fun activities to keep students engaged all night long. Cancer survivors are invited to join us for the Survivor Lap at 7:00 pm. Please contact us if you know anyone who would like to participate in the Survivor Lap.



WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY

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COUGAR SPIRIT 2015 - 16

Page 3



BLUE, ORANGE, WHITE...action!

GORDON P.S. SCIENCE FAIR

On February 10, 2016, a team of 6 science teachers and 8 senior science students visited Gordon Public School to participate as judges for the elementary school's Science Fair. The event was the first bilingual Science Fair held in Niagara, and involved more than 200 students from several grades. The Centennial judges were impressed with the variety of creative projects and the ability of students to describe their scientific inquiry processes. Thank you to Centennial students for your willingness to help out with this event, and congratulations to all of the Gordon student participants on a great Science Fair!



Student judges (L-R): **Dvir Hilu, Gabriel Marais, Amanda Pattison, Morgan Fink, Adrienne Thompson, Robyn Prison, Barb Hopkins**

FIT FOR A QUEEN...

How do you show young Culinary students the pinnacle of fine dining? You take a tour of The Queen's Landing Hotel in Niagara On The Lake. Led by Executive Chef Marc Lyons, 21 students got a full tour of this fine hotel. Walking through the massive front doors, students were amazed at the lovely décor, exotic furniture, sculptures and especially a royal library. Students got to see the kitchen and pastry shop before enjoying a memorable first class lunch in the Tiara Room. What a fantastic trip!

QUEEN'S LANDING
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONTARIO

ESL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE CANADIAN CULTURE

In March, ESL students and conversation partners visited Agape Valley Sugar Bush to learn about a tasty part of Canadian culture: maple syrup. After a brief hayride, we had an outdoor and indoor tour learning each aspect of the syrup production process. No trip to a sugar bush would be complete without sampling. Everyone enjoyed delicious pancakes with maple syrup before leaving. It was a fun day and a good taste of Canadian culture. Are you interested in learning more about other cultures and participating in events like this? Become a Conversation Partner! Meet according to your schedule, help a new student adapt to Centennial and make a friend! See Ms. Shedden in room 157 for more details.



"WITH MIRTH AND LAUGHTER LET OLD WRINKLES COME"

April 23rd was Shakespeare's 452nd birthday and also the 400th anniversary of his death. Mrs. Code's 3U English class celebrated with a party in honour of the Bard. Students had cake, exchanged Elizabethan compliments and insults, played Pin the Beard on the Bard and competed in online Shakespearean games that tested their knowledge of the man and his works.



JR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL FINALIST IN SOSSA

The Centennial Junior Girls Volleyball team had a tremendous season with a 10-0 record in the AA division. The Cougar girls were zone champions in an entertaining home victory over St. Michael's. The team traveled to Waterdown in February for the SOSSA championships where they were finalists in the day-long tournament. Coach Simon Krall and Coach Allison Mauro were very impressed with the talented team.



With nine returning players next season, the team looks to impress again.

CHEERLEADERS SHINE AGAIN IN NATIONALS

Congratulations! Cougar Cheerleaders fought hard for a 1st place finish in the Senior Co-Ed Level 3 category at the Canadian National cheerleading competition, held in Brampton's Powerade Centre on April 2&3. They also placed 2nd at the Cheer Evolution National Championships held in Niagara Falls at the Scotiabank Convention Centre April 8 & 9.



GOLF TO START IN MAY

Calling all golfers! Starting in May, Mrs. Thibault and Ms. Huska will be recruiting student golfers. All students are invited to practice at the driving range with golf lessons followed by 9 holes at Waterpark Golf Club.



SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Each year, Centennial awards scholarships to a number of its graduates. These scholarships are made possible by generous community-minded citizens who would like to recognize our students for their dedication to their studies. If you would like to become a scholarship donor, or would like more information regarding donating towards a scholarship, please contact our Guidance Department.

MUSICAL NOTES

The Music Department has been busy as usual. During 1st semester, our traveling Arts Road Show performed at 6 local schools, our Cats Band performed at 2 local seniors' homes and performed at our annual Grandparents' Tea, along with vocalists from our upcoming musical. We ended 2015 with one of our biggest Winter Concerts ever! Following the January exams, we started up a new band for the Guys & Dolls musical. The Cats Band and students in music classes (instrumental, vocal, guitar) are getting ready for the **Spring Concert on Thursday, May 19th**. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and is open to the public. Hope to see you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

May 4th - Guys & Dolls Matinee Performance 11:00 a.m.

May 5-6th - Guys & Dolls Evening Performance

May 11th - Opportunities Speakers conference

May 12th - Student Dental Screening

May 18th - Spring Concert

May 23rd - Victoria Day (Holiday)

May 27th - WCSS Relay For Life

June 1st - Cougarfest and Awards Assembly

June 16th - Senior Drama Showcase

June 22-27th - Semester 2 Final Exams

June 27th - Prom

June 29 & 30th - P.A. Days

June 29th - Grade 12 Graduation

July 5th - Report Cards and Final newsletter mailed out

COUGARS BASKETBALL: SEASON IN REVIEW

The junior boys had an outstanding season in 2016. They went 9-2 in the regular season, finishing second overall. A strong play-off run defeating rival Westlane in the semi-final lead them to the zone 3 finals against ELC. This meeting of two strong programs was an epic battle, with the Cougars coming up a bit short in the final. The loss over shadowed an amazing single game performance by **Jacob Bray**, finishing with 35 points. Coach Frazer would like to commend ALL players for their hard work and dedication.



Jacob Bray

The senior boys also made a strong play-off run to finish the 2016 season. The Cougars defeated a strong Stamford squad to make it to the zone 3 final. The Cougars met a strong St. Paul Patriots team in the final. The young Cougars played arguably their best game of the season, pushing the Patriots hard in the final.



Congratulations to graduating seniors **Gabe Marais, Jay Clayton, Nick Fitzgerald, Eric Matkowski, and Ahmed Fadlalla**. Coach Mosley would like to thank all the boys and coaching staff for a great season. Cougar basketball: "Ball is Life".

GUYS & DOLLS TECHNICAL THEATRE CREW

Congratulations to the Technical Theatre class who completed building the set for this year's musical "Guys & Dolls".

Pictured bottom row:

Brandon Eedens, Jeremy Waskawich, Angela Nicholls

Laying down:

Michael Naszados. Back

row from left: **Dayton Duong, Joel Barlow, Michael Kim, Harry Choi, Austin Brown, Alex Richer, Reid Whitaker and Alexandria Kelder**.

