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# THOROLD SECONDARY SCHOOL

## Thorold Secondary School

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## Best Wishes to the Class of 2011

Thorold Secondary School's 137th commencement ceremony was held on June 28th at the Americana Resort in Niagara Falls. The event saw 73 graduates cross the stage to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diplomas. Several special guests and community partners joined us to recognize the efforts of our graduates. We appreciate the support and generosity given to our students by many businesses and service organizations who donate scholarships, awards and bursaries to recognize the achievements of our graduates.

This commencement included, for the first time, a special video presentation put together by Mr. Steven Fife, which highlighted the graduates and their past four years at Thorold Secondary School. Another memorable moment saw Mr. Demers heartfelt introduction of Michael Easson, while Mrs. Farquharson SANG her introduction of Alycia Sones. All in all it was a wonderful evening which brought smiles to many faces. Congratulations to all and continue to *Seek the Highest!*

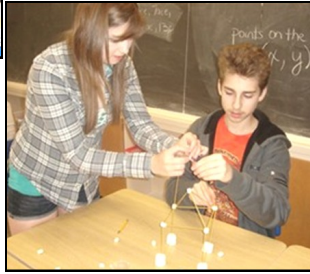
Right: Mrs. Miller congratulates Kelsey Burnett, the TSS Governor General's Medal recipient.



Above (left to right): Michael Easson (co-Valedictorian), Vanessa Verworn (female Rotary Medalist), David Redfearn (male Rotary Medalist), Mrs. Miller (Principal), Alycia Sones (co-Valedictorian), and Alyssa Morrison (Excellence in Education Award).

## Fun with Math

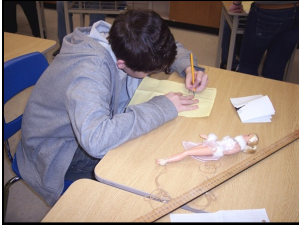
Mrs. Kennedy's math classes put their knowledge into action in some interesting classroom activities. Students created towers of pasta and marshmallows.



Each team earned building supplies by correctly answering math problems. Team members had to work together to solve the problems and decide how to design the tallest tower with the pasta and marshmallows they earned.



The grade 9 class applied their knowledge of linear relations to complete the Barbie Bungee activity. Students investigated the relationship between the length of bungee cord and the distance that their Barbie fell.



Teams had to model this relationship with an equation and make a prediction about the length of bungee cord needed for the final jump.

Students in math classes regularly get the opportunity to apply their learning in fun and interesting ways, while at the same time build problem solving, team building, and communication skills.



## Welding at Thorold Secondary School

Devon Schlosser recently spoke at the Canadian Welding Association (CWA) meeting, along with 2 other high school students and 3 college students. Having no prior experience in welding, Devon

shared his opportunities in the welding program at TSS. He enjoyed developing the skills to create projects, seeing the change from a welding rod to a molten puddle of metal which will actually hold together. Through it all, Devon developed his patience and hand/eye coordination.

Devon graduated with the Specialist High Skills Major designation in Manufacturing and has been accepted into the 2 year welding technician program at Niagara College. He also won a welding helmet and \$200 award from the CWA for excelling in the TSS welding program. Devon is very excited about his future and can't wait to learn more about welding.

## CLASS OF 2011 COMMENCEMENT STATISTICS

**Number of Graduates 73**

University Acceptances  
17 - 23.3% of graduating class

College Acceptances  
18 - 24.7% of graduating class

Apprenticeships  
6 - 8.2% of graduating class

Total Proceeding to Post-secondary Studies  
41 - 56.2% of graduating class

Returning  
11 - 15.1% of graduating class

Employment or Travel  
21 - 28.8% of graduating class

### Academic Excellence

23	Ontario Scholars
7	SHSM Graduates
19	DSBN Gold Medal Winners
14	DSBN Silver Medal Winners
33	Total Medal Winners (45.2% of graduating class)

### Demographics

Staying Home - 67 (91.8%)

- 19.2% to Brock University
- 21.9% to Niagara College
- 42.5% Working/Returning
- 8.2% to Apprenticeship Program

Leaving Town - 6 (8.2%)

- University/College/Work outside the Niagara Region

## Another Proud Eagle



Congratulations to **Vanessa Verworn** who won this year's 'I Love Thorold' Good Citizen Award.

## Thorold's Quiet Cheerleader Says Goodbye

Mr. Martin - math teacher, team coach, sideline fan, volunteer driver, dance chaperone and avid TSS supporter for ?? Years, retired in June.....

According to his students:  
"Even if you were never actually in Mr. Martin's class, he knew you, said hi in the hall and always had an open door whenever you needed to chat."

Mr. Martin is a Golden Eagle through and through. He has been cheering on our teams, coaching, supporting, supervising, assisting and teaching us for 33 years. For all the students who will never have the privilege of having you for a mentor, they are truly missing out on a rare individual".



## A Year to Remember

by H. Lailey

Here are the highlights of Thorold Secondary School's efforts to make the world a better place.

Our Halloween for Hunger campaign was a success, resulting in a donation of 900 pounds of food to Community Care, the largest donation by a school in their history. Throughout the year, everyone contributed to saving up over 5,100 milk bags which equals 17 bed mats for children in Haiti. At Christmas we filled 40 shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse who distributed these presents to children in poverty in Central America. Three students took a beading course and sold their handmade bracelets to benefit the children in Japan after the tsunami. In second semester we collected 22 pounds of pop tabs which purchased 2 wheelchairs. Finally, we met our goal of raising \$5,000 to support health care in Yomandu, Sierra Leone.

We are making a difference in our local community as well. We hosted a DSBN *Niagara Connects* conference for all DSBN schools with a *Me to We* club, volunteered at the *Start Me Up Niagara* soup kitchen and won an award for banking 924 hours, the most volunteer hours of any school in the Niagara Region. We are also pleased to announce that **Shauna Carson** and **Ashley Bellamy** have been accepted into *Me to We's Take Action Summer Academy* and will be attending a week long camp in July learning about global issues and hearing amazing, motivational speakers.

We celebrated all of our achievements at our year end assembly with guest speaker Mr. Charles Conteh from Brock University who was born in Sierra Leone and managed to escape the lengthy civil war as a young man to study in Canada. He is currently working to improve the lives of those in his home country and was moved by our efforts over the last four years to build a school, a clean water project and provide alternative income projects for families to end the cycle of poverty.



Our new goal is to partner with *Free the Children* and to sponsor a rural community in Kenya for the next four years following their *Adopt a Village* model. As we work to build them a school and a clean water project, we will also be fundraising to travel as a team to participate in a two-week building project in Kenya. We will visit local villages, see their homes, learn to eat authentic African cuisine, go on a safari and work with the community to build a school that we have paid for. Save your milk bags and pop tabs over the summer, set up a trip account and start saving your money, because we are going to keep changing the world. Be the Change!

## Chartwells Committed to Ontario Food and Beverage Policy



School is where students spend much of their time and they need nutritious food to grow, be active and develop into healthy adults. Selling nutritious food and beverages is one of the ways we can help make school a healthier place for students.

Chartwells (a division of Compass Group Canada) is proud to be the primary foodservice provider at our school. To help us prepare for the new fall food policy, Chartwells, has kid-tested recipes and reformulated menu options to ensure our nutrition standards are in place. Student feedback has played a huge role in helping Chartwells construct menus that include healthy, innovative options. Items like pizza made with turkey pepperoni, fresh vegetables and a whole grain crust, fresh deli sandwiches, salads, pasta and rice bowls with fresh vegetables topped with authentic, spicy and flavourful sauces. Students say they like diverse flavours - Asian, Italian, Greek, Tex Mex and Middle Eastern and such options will dominate the new menus.

All menus and meals will come with an additional ingredient - value! Meal combos are priced to encourage students to visit the cafeteria for breakfast, mid-morning snacks and lunch. Check out the cafeteria this September and see for yourself how committed Chartwells is to offering healthy eating options to students.



### Has your teen received their Adacel® vaccine?

In order for your son/daughter to complete their childhood immunization series, and to avoid possible school suspension in the coming year, please ensure he/she has received their Adacel® vaccine.

Adacel® is the brand name of a vaccine that protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). A single dose is routinely given between 14 and 16 years of age.

If your child has not yet received Adacel®, please call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425 to make an appointment for your child at one of Public Health's General Immunization Clinics. You can also call your child's doctor to make an immunization appointment, or visit a local walk-in clinic. Once your child has received his/her vaccination(s), please report this information to Niagara Region Public Health using ONE of the following:

**WEBSITE:** [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)

**TELEPHONE (Immunization Report Line):**  
905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7459

**FAX (a copy of your child's Immunization Record):**  
905-688-8225

If you are a parent/guardian not wishing to have your child vaccinated, you will need to provide Niagara Region Public Health with a legal exemption document (i.e., a statement of medical exemption, or a statement of conscience or religious belief affidavit).

For more information, please call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

### ONCE UPON A MATTRESS



The TSS Musical Theatre Production of 'Once Upon a Mattress', a comedic spin on the classic *Princess and the Pea* story, was a huge success. Students spent countless hours preparing and rehearsing. Curtains opened for the 2-night run in May and the students' performance was amazing! Above, cast and crew members ham for the cam.

Thank you to Mrs. Farquharson for your patience and guidance with putting together this production.

Next year's musical, 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown' is planned for May 2012 at the Firehall Theatre in Niagara Falls. Students interested in trying out for a part should watch for audition information in the fall. Tickets to see the production will go on sale in April 2012. Listen to morning announcements for more information.