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THOROLD SECONDARY SCHOOL

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INTRODUCING...

Thorold Secondary School's very own School Resource Officer...

Making a Difference!

TSS is pleased to introduce our new School Resource Officer, Constable David Sawyer. Constable Sawyer has been recently placed at TSS as part of a pilot project between

the Niagara Regional Police and the DSBN. There are three full time dedicated officers who are assigned to all the secondary schools in St. Catharines and Thorold. Officer Sawyer works with Thorold Secondary School, West Park, Denis Morris, and Sir Winston Churchill.

Officer Sawyer recently sat down with us to answer some questions.

When did you become a Police Officer?

I was hired in August of 1998, 13 years ago. I spent 4 years in Uniform Patrol, 7 years in Forensics, and one and a half years back on the road.

Why did you want to be a School Resource Officer?

It is a new challenge and a program I strongly believe can make a difference in the lives of young people.

What does a School Resource Officer do?

Well, I will be visible in the schools, be available for class visits and discussions, provide advice for staff and students, follow up on incidents both inside and outside of the schools, and build positive connections between the police services and the community.

What is the coolest part of your job?

Making a positive influence in society and helping people who may not be able to help themselves.

What things would you like to be a part of here at TSS?

All aspects of the school, from academics to sports. Really, I want to help any student if they need advice or need someone to listen.

What are your favourite sports?

Hockey and Volleyball.

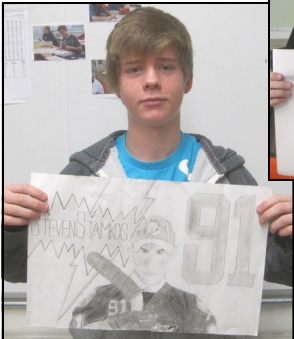
Are your favourite colours purple and gold?

Anytime I am at Thorold Secondary School they are!



Grade 10 Students Face Challenges Head On

The grade 10 visual arts class was given a serious challenge when the portrait assignment was given to them. Using grids and demonstrations of facial features, they set to work creating their own portrait masterpieces.



Connor Marshall and Nick Bergen (above), Cody Reid (left) and Alex Taylor (top) display their portrait masterpieces.

We ♥ Thorold

Modern Reflections Photo Studio would like to invite all Thorold residents to join them in Beaverdams Park on Sunday, April 10th from 12-4 p.m. to help spell out 'WE ♥ THOROLD' while local photographer, Adam Hill takes a photo from a helicopter to commemorate the occasion. Please call the studio at 905-680-6199 to register or if you have questions.

Giving Back - TSS Style

TSS loves a challenge. For one year, we have been collecting milk bags to be woven into sleeping mats for the homeless children of Haiti following the earthquake of 2010. Mrs. Sayliss' Period 1 guitar class challenged themselves in first semester to collect 300 milk bags, enough to create a child-size mat. Then they had enough for two mats. Then they collected 500 more for an adult mat. By the Christmas Variety Show, they surprised Youth for Change and the entire school by presenting Mrs. Lailey with 2000 milk bags! By collecting from their parents' work, Breakfast Club, and a local hair salon, they surpassed their goal and have challenged classes in second semester to do the same. Our school total at this time is over 3100 bags. Drink your milk and make a difference in the life of a child!

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST

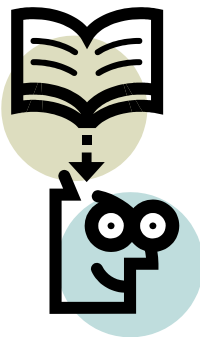
SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE LITERACY COMPONENT is a graduation requirement in the Province of Ontario.

All grade 10 students will write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test of reading and writing skills on the morning of **THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011**.

In the weeks leading up to the test, students at TSS will be participating in focused lessons and activities to prepare them to be successful on this test. We have a strong literacy focus in the school and implemented a literacy support program during semester one.

In order that students are able to take best advantage of the preparation exercises that will be going on in classes, it will be important that they are in school. We would ask that, wherever possible, dental and non-urgent medical appointments are made for times outside the school day and that having students attend school each day is a high priority.

If you are interested in further information about the Literacy Test or the preparations that the Grade 10 students are participating in, please call the school.



Six students from Youth for Change represented TSS at the STAT Conference at St. Catharines Collegiate on February 8th. Comedian and keynote speaker Josh Shipp from California, encouraged everyone to not settle for being average.



Wednesday, February 9th was a special day at Thorold Secondary School as we hosted the first ever Niagara Connects Day. Students from 20 schools in our Board attended this one-day conference facilitated by Free the Children. Following the keynote address, there were breakout sessions for students and teachers to share fundraising ideas and learn from each other. These schools attended Me to We Day in October, and together we are continuing the movement in the Niagara Region.

We continue to work towards reaching our goal of raising \$5000 to purchase medical supplies for Yomandu, Sierra Leone. Thank you for continuing to support our ongoing fundraising efforts. Look for our Wakeathon event April 15th and future assemblies to raise awareness about local and global issues.

Off to a Great Start at T.S.S.



Grade 9 students have now finished their first semester of high school. The 2010 graduates of our elementary feeder schools have been very successful in completing their first credits toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and have now moved on to new courses. Congratulations to **Hannah Bacon, Teresa Badgley, Roger Bilodeau, Colin Blakely, William Butcher, Cialyn Carson, Alexander Chudy, Tyler Cowan, Ryan Donnelley, Jackson Erb, Michael Gualtieri, Trevor Jones, Marlena Larouche, Connor Manlow, Karyn Marshall, Joshua McCart, Emily Morrison, Jake Murphy, Tyler O'Brien, Danielle O'Sullivan, Dean Pugh, Zachary Rabe, James Robidas, Heather Scarbo, Tiara Scott, Ty Smith, Hunter Terryberry, Laura Visser, and Breanna Wylie** who achieved Honour Roll status at the end of first semester.

In addition to their academic success, our grade 9 students have taken advantage of a wide variety of co-curricular activities available at TSS. A sampling of these activities include: Grade 9 Barbecue, Terry Fox Walk/Run, Sign-on to Graduate, Homecoming Week and Dance, Queenston Heights Activity Day, Recognition Assemblies, Take-Our-Kids-to-Work Day, Halloween Spirit Week, Halloween Dance, Remembrance Day Assembly, Christmas Spirit Week, Christmas Variety Show, Fundraising for our Free the Children Project.

Several grade 9 students are making the most of their high school experience by taking part in the extra-curricular activities listed below.

- Art/Anime Club Teresa Badgley, Roger Bilodeau, Alexander Chudy, Jenna Groombridge, Jessica Kovacs, Tiara Scott, Brianna Wylie
- Basketball - Junior Girls Kiley Barron, Brooke Kares
- Basketball - Junior Boys Joseph Gosselin, Curtis Lyons, Jake Murphy, Drew Noonan, Cameron Philip, Dean Pugh, Joshua Upper
- Cheerleading Armela Gashi, Brittany Green, Katrina Nimeth
- Chess Club Abubaker Elghul, James Robidas
- Cross Country Team Joshua McCart
- Football Jacob Boekestyn, William Butcher, Sam Elliott, Joseph Gosselin, Justice Murphy, Zachary Rabe, Jordan Redman, Tristin Riesebosch, Harlie Scapillato
- School Ambassadors Kiley Barron, Cialyn Carson, Kallie Edmonson, Armela Gashi, Jenna Groombridge, Michael Gualtieri, Brooke Kares, Karyn Marshall, Joshua McCart, Justice Murphy, Katrina Nimeth, Tyler O'Brien, Dean Pugh, Zachary Rabe, James Robidas, Ryan Smith, Joshua Upper, Laura Visser
- Student Council Armela Gashi, Karyn Marshall, Danielle O'Sullivan, Chantal Wayland
- Volleyball - Junior Girls Kiley Barron, Brittany Green, Karyn Marshall
- Volleyball - Junior Boys Michael Gualtieri, Trevor Jones, Cameron Philip, Dean Pugh, Ty Smith
- Wrestling Team Sam Elliott, Jenna Groombridge, Brooke Kares, Joshua McCart, Danielle O'Sullivan, Cameron Philip, Ty Smith
- Yearbook Club Marlee Biggs, Chantal Wayland

Semester 2 is well underway, filled with many more activities for students to enjoy along with their studies. Courses are being selected for 2011-2012 and we are looking forward to welcoming the next group of elementary graduates to Thorold Secondary School.

~ Moving Ahead ~

With first semester behind them, students have selected courses for the 2011-2012 school year. Since February 8th, Mrs. Gibbins has been meeting with students to select their courses for next year. Based on the success of the electronic Career Cruising Course Planner last year, we have continued with the same format. Students in grade 11 have had individual appointments to review their progress and plans for graduation and post-secondary studies. All other students have completed the process in the computer lab with their period 1 class. An information package was given to students, and parents/guardians should have reviewed the course selection with students and signed the Course Request Sign-off sheet to be returned to the period 1 teacher by March 4th. Please call Mrs. Gibbins in Student Services if you have any questions or concerns.

Free Money You Never Heard About

Here's a great idea, let's set up education savings accounts for students from low-income families. Research shows that all else being equal, students with money earmarked for their higher education are far more likely to go on to college or university. Having even a modest amount of money set aside raises their expectations and gets them focused on the future.

Visit www.smartsaver.org for complete details.

In fact, we already have such a program. The trouble is that hardly anybody knows about it. The program, 'Smart Saver' offers a \$500 contribution to a *Canada Learning Bond* for any child born since January 1, 2004, who lives in a low-income family. The federal government adds another \$100 every year, to a maximum of \$2,000, and will match any extra family contributions by as much as 40 percent. It's a great deal. The only catch is that you have to ask for it.

About 880,000 kids in Canada are eligible for the Smart Saver Program, but only 200,000 - under 20% - are enrolled. The number one question people ask is, "What's the catch?". There isn't any - the only condition is that the money must be spent on postsecondary education.

The earlier you introduce the savings into a child's life, the more it can change their ideas and expectations. It changes the child's decision-making from 'Should I go?' to 'What should I study?'. It's a great starting point!

Recognizing Our Students Efforts!

The following students were recognized by their teachers for their efforts at our end of the semester Recognition Luncheon, which took place on Friday, January 14th:

GRADE 9

Teresa Badgley
Kiley Barron
Nathan Bickford
Marlee Biggs
Colin Blakely
Jacob Boekestyn
Cialyn Carson
Ryan Donnelley
Abubaker Elghul
Sam Elliott
Jackson Erb
Michael Gualtieri
Brooke Hagar
Joey Horton
Brooke Kares
Quinn Kellough
Karyn Marshall
Nick Martin
Jake Murphy
Tyler O'Brien
Paige O'Neill
Danielle O'Sullivan
Dean Pugh
Cheyenne Putzman
Zachary Rabe
Hunter Sheppard
David Stockman
Laura Visser

GRADE 10

Courtney Baril
Nick Bergen
Riley Daniel
Wes Derwinsky
Shanniqua Gerald
Sky Hayes
Emily Kimpel
Brandee Krawec
Erica Lamontagne
Jason Macauley-Brenet
Connor Marshall
Alicia Panos-Fryer
Brad Parks
Melissa Quesnel
Rob Rasmussen
Robyn Sibley
Megan Vanderloos
Kevin Visser
Jimmy Yungblut



GRADE 11

Emily Akrigg
Ethan Barnes
Bob Belfry
Brenna Belfry
Christian Bosje
Elise Brown
Darren Carey
Spencer Crites
Rachel Earle
Dallin Elliott
Sarah-Beth Frazer
Meagan Goodhew
Michael Gretzinger
Daniel Lantz
Kevin Laveck
Evan MacPherson
Lucas Newton
Christina Robidas
David Saunders
Eric Tayler
Heather Visser
Natalie Votour
Brittany Waszynski
Matthew Webb
Justyn Whitwell
Austin Wood
Nicholas Yates

GRADE 12

Alanna Alexander
Trevor Bentz
Richard Bilodeau
Kristi Bolibruck
Kelsey Burnett
Daniel Carson
Meghan Cecchini
Jamie Costiff
Megan Donn
Emily DosSantos
Michael Easson
Arjeta Gashi
Brittney Gearing
Amanda Gillespie
Karlee Gualtieri
Jesse Harper
Beth Kozicki
Dylan Labonte
Jessica Martin
Alyssa Morrison
Kelsey Osborne
Devan Schlosser
Austin Shale
Brysen Shook
Alycia Sones
Nikki Tibbs
Devane VanBeek
Vanessa Verworn
Ryder Zavadiil