

SOUTH C.I. HOME OF THE LIONS



November 2018

Nov. 22nd Midterm Report Cards Home

Dec. 3-4th Grad Photos (book online)
13th Grade 8 Family Night
6:30-8:00 p.m.
19th Grade 9 Arts Night
21st Christmas Assembly

December 24th – January 4th
Winter Break – No School

Jan. 16th – 19th “Working” on Stage
22nd -23rd EQAO Testing Grade 9
25th – 31st Semester 1 Exam

Feb. 1st PA Day – No school

SOUTH LIONS ROAR



Principal's Message

It seems only short days ago that we kicked off our 2018-2019 school year. Autumn arrived with a magical brilliance that added to the investment students and in learning and school life. The pace has been quick, but I still stand in awe of how quickly mid-semester has arrived. Term 1 has been busy with rich learning experiences and vibrant school life outside the classroom, including extra-curricular activities, sports and making community connections. Our Gr.9 students have been warmly welcomed and with the guidance and role modeling of strong student leaders, are successfully transitioning into the fabric of our school. Students are working hard, playing hard and realizing success in their studies, on the field, court, stage and in the community.

Our talented and dynamic staff are committed to the success of every student and have promoted a challenging and engaging curriculum that balances the development of learning skills, student interest, 21stCentury learning and education that achieves a greater understanding of self and how one is connected to the community and world in which they live. As a staff, we continue to strive towards school improvement where we aim to improve student metacognition (thinking about their thinking) because we recognize the research and evidence that tells us that students who learn how they learn are most successful.

This has given way to a variety of interesting and meaningful professional development opportunities pursued as a staff, within departments and cross-departmentally; a direct investment in classroom instruction and student outcomes.

On November 22, mid-term report cards went home with students. This progress report is important, as it offers insight on student achievement, celebrating strengths and identifying areas for ongoing improvement during the second half of the semester. This is an ideal time to set new end-of-semester goals and a plan for how to achieve them. I encourage students and parents to share in this dialogue and planning. If students are struggling, please be aware that there are resources available from the classroom teacher, guidance counsellors, learning support teachers, student success teachers, social worker and administration who may be able to help with next steps.

We continue to have a great deal to look forward to in the remainder of semester one. This newsletter highlights many of these. I am so proud of our students and staff and congratulate everyone involved in your everyday victories around teaching, learning, coaching, playing, leading and contributing to a healthy school with a positive culture for learning. Keep up the great work, Lions!

Sincerely, *Doriana Rosati*

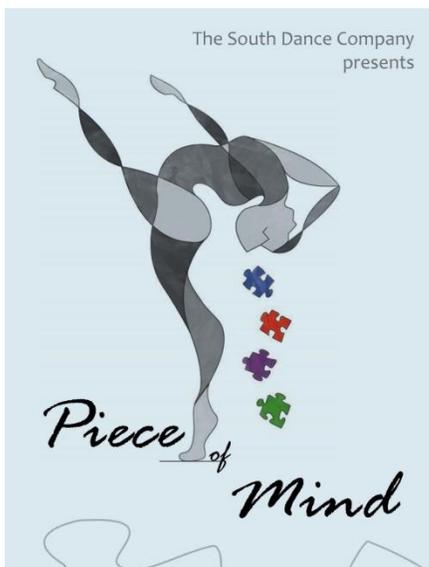
The Arts

VISUAL ARTS

Follow the South Visual Arts Department on Twitter @SouthVisualArts

DANCE

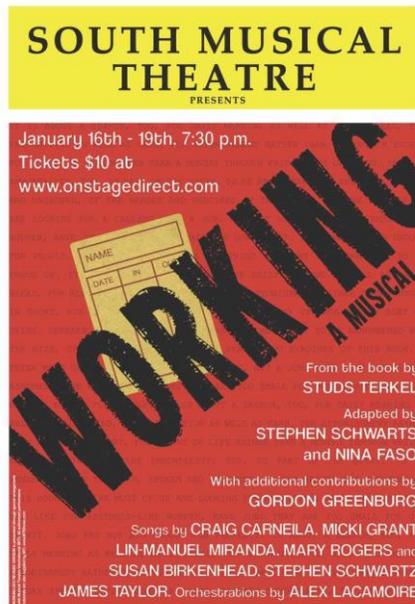
Attention all dancers!!! Auditions for next year's South Dance Company course ATP3m/4m will be held this February. All dancers of all levels and styles are welcome. The SDC is a special course that works with the feeder schools, learns from professional guest choreographers, and produces their own dance show. Last year the SDC presented "Piece of Mind" a look at mental health through dance. We are excited to see what next year brings!! Please see Mrs Gamble if you have any questions and check the stage door for audition dates.



MUSICAL THEATRE

The Musical Theatre class has been working hard on the upcoming production of "WORKING". The hopes, dreams, and struggles of the average working American are the focus of this unique, extraordinary musical. The everyday lives of those we often take for granted will

surprise and inspire anyone who has ever punched a time clock.



Based on Studs Terkel's best selling book of interviews with American workers, *WORKING* paints a vivid portrait of the men and women that keep our lives moving: the waitress, the schoolteacher, the millworker, the delivery boy, the trucker, the fireman and the housewife, just to name a few.

With musical adaptation and book by Stephen Schwartz (Godspell, Pippin, Wicked) and Nina Faso (Godspell) and featuring songs by Lin-Manuel Miranda (In The Heights, Hamilton), James Taylor (5 time Grammy winner), and many others, this musical will touch the hearts of everyone who has had a job, wants a job, or is judged by their job. In the end, we all "want something to point to and be proud of".

The show hits the South stage on Jan 16-19th and tickets are available through www.onstagedirect.com

Hope to see you there!!

MUSIC

The music classes recently performed at the Commencement, Remembrance Day and Awards ceremonies. Along with the concert band, they are busy preparing for upcoming performances including the Arts Night and our annual trip to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Math

Grade 9 and 10 Math Help

All grade 9 and 10 Math students have an amazing Math Help resource available to them. The Ministry of Education is providing evening tutorials, online, Sunday to Thursday evening from 5:30 - 9:30 PM. A qualified Math teacher is available to help with any homework concerns. Access the chat, try the tutorials, and check out the digital locker best sessions and the Listen & Learn. Students are required to have their OEN number to register (this can be found on your South schedule). Students can register online at: www.HomeworkHelp.ilc.org

MATH CONTESTS

Pascal/Cayley/Fermat
February 26, 2019
Registration Deadline – February 8, 2019

Fryer/Galois/Hypatia
April 10, 2019
Registration Deadline – March 22, 2019

Euclid April 3, 2019 - Registration Deadline - March 18, 2019

Previous contests and solutions can be found at the following website: cemc.uwaterloo.ca

It's never too early to start practicing for next year!

The Academy Program

- We're off to a great start and right from September we had grade 9 students doing a blended learning, compacted and enriched Careers course in conjunction with Geography and will achieve an extra half a credit this semester. Next year, they will do the same with Civics and History and will have 17 credits at the end of grade 10 (instead of the normal 16). Some students from last year even got 9 full credits by the end of grade 9

· Some students are looking at interdisciplinary ISP 'passion projects' where they will delve deeply into a topic that hits on 2 or more of their subjects

· ELOPE sessions are planned and some have been carried out. (Escape room Nov 15th and Western University Engineers Visit November 27th) ELOPE sessions are optional and student driven topics

· Be sure to join our Google Classroom for up to the minute announcements

· Please be sure to speak with Mr. Gamble about ELOPE sessions, passion projects, AP exams, SATs, SPARK! conferences or anything else enriched in nature.

Student Council

The 26 students on Council have had a very busy fall. We were off to the races early, with motivational speaker Joel Hilchey starting off the year with a bang – or should we say the “snap” of a mousetrap! The grade 9 orientation week was lots of fun, with the Ramp Dance being the highlight. We now have three grade 9's on Council as representatives for their class.

The fun continued with an energizing pep rally as the school supported the

Lion's Senior Football team at TD Waterhouse Stadium.

October continued to be full of activities from Council, with snack sales at the homecoming game and a full week of fun for Hallowe'en week, with the Haunted Hallway and the Grosserteria as highlights. South spirit wear sales occurred as well, and we hope the clothing will come in around the middle of December. Learn Like A Lion day allowed Council to meet our potential grade 9s, and they were able to teach them some cheers to get the new lions started on their path at South.

Coming up, Council will prepare and run the Scrooge drive – collecting cans and other non-perishable food to help those in need over the holiday season. They will also have a number of activities to keep the winter blahs at bay, including spirit days and festive events to keep everyone going strong until the winter break arrives.

Council members keep themselves very busy across all areas of school life. Several are involved in Musical Theatre, others are part of Deca Business Club, many are involved in sports throughout the seasons and virtually every student on Council has at least one other club activity. Student leadership is not limited to our one group, but is shared throughout the school in many ways.

FMNI/Multicultural Committee

Our FMNI and Multicultural Committees have joined forces this year at South. The start-up of the school year has had the committees involved in many events around the school.

Orange Shirt Day

On Thursday, October 27th South honoured Orange Shirt day. Orange Shirt day commemorates the residential school experience and

honours the healing journey of the survivors and their families and commits to the ongoing process of reconciliation.

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

The FNMI/Multicultural Committee brought awareness of local poverty to South students by serving 'Soup with Statistics' at lunch. Donations to the United Way were welcomed.



Special thanks to our school nurse, Julie Goverde for providing the ingredients and Ms. Driver's period 2 and 4 Food and Nutrition classes for making the tasty soup.

Treaties Recognition Week: November 5-9th

Treaties Recognition Week brings awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province of Ontario. Morning announcements were made each morning to recognize land and Indigenous cultures closest to South.

The FMNI and Multicultural Committee quizzed their peers on the information that had been presented all week. Great awareness and information was shared.

DECA Business Club

Demonstrating Excellence,
Celebrating Achievement



DECA, an organization of a quarter million students across the world, prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in hospitality, marketing, law, finance and management in high schools and post-secondary institutions across the globe. Students learn how to communicate thoughts and ideas, how to organize a presentation and more about what businesses expect from employees, while gaining problem solving skills. Students' experience empowers them to be an effective leader, and helps to connect school to the real world. Members compete at Regionals, Provincials, and Internationals in a business case study competition, for awards and scholarships as well as in a variety of business paper competitions. Employers, universities, and colleges alike recognize the achievements of DECA members. More than 90% of DECA members say their experience empowered them to be an effective leader and connected school to the real world

DECA members indicated that their experience prepared them academically for college and career, influenced their college/university plans, influenced their career plans,

and influenced their interest in entrepreneurship and owning a business.



26 students from London South C.I. make up the DECA chapter in it's second year. They competed at the Regional level at Waterloo by writing a 100 multiple choice question exam, and then faced the challenge of oral business case study role plays. DECA members learn how to think, and perform, quickly under pressure for the role plays. 15 members of this group qualified for the Provincial level competition in Toronto, who are now diligently preparing to earn a chance to attend the Internationals in Orlando.

South Roarbotics

To learn more about First Robotics go to:



<https://www.firstinspires.org/>

Athletics

Winter sports have started:

- Jr & Sr Boys Basketball
- Jr & Sr Girls Volleyball
- Swimming
- Boys Hockey
- Girls Hockey
- Curling

If anyone is still interested in joining Girl's Hockey, Curling or swimming please come see Mr. Stenning.

Student Success at South

The Lion's Den (Room 102) is open all day including lunch this semester. Students needinh academic, social or emotional supports are encouraged to see their guidance counsellor (Mrs. Sidler- Gr. 9, Mr. Karasek- Gr. 10-12) or student success teacher (Mrs. Baldacchino).

Credit Support Day- A midterm credit support day took place on Thursday, November 1st. Many students took advantage of this day to work individually with their teachers, receive extra math support in the Lion's Den or work individually in one of the student location centres available

Breakfast Club

South's Breakfast Club continues to run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:45-8:50am in the staff cafeteria. NEW THIS YEAR: South's DE program has introduced a Breakfast Snack program on Tuesdays and Thursdays outside of Room 205 between Period 1 and 2. ALL students are welcome to use these programs

Our Breakfast Club program would like to thank the Ontario Student Nutrition Program, Optimist Club of Byron, Maycourt of London, and President's Choice Financial for their generous donations to our program.

If there is any interest to donate to our program, please contact Tara Baldacchino:
t.baldacchino@tvdsb.ca

The Great Big Crunch

The Ontario Student Nutrition Program event happened on October 18th. Over 400 apples were delivered to the school and South's Gr. 9 STEM program, Art Club and Family Studies Department all participated to bring awareness and information about our favourite local food.



Concussions

It is parent/guardian's responsibility to inform school the school about their child's medical/health conditions and to transmit relevant information. The school staff will work collaboratively to provide a plan that is responsive to individual student needs. **If your son or daughter has suffered a concussion please notify the school.** When a concussion is suspected at school, school personnel responsible for the student will contact the parents and provide the parents with Form C-2.

SUSPECTED CONCUSSION

Once a student is has been identified as having a suspected concussion,

1. School staff will be informed.
2. Student **shall not participate in any learning or physical activities** until the parent/guardian communicates the results of a medical examination (complete Form C-3)

CONCUSSION CONFIRMED

1. When a student is diagnosed as having a concussion, the school staff will work to help the student to follow a medically supervised, individualized and gradual Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity Plan.
2. Form C-4 Documentation for a Diagnosed Concussion - Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity Plan must be completed by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. This plan indicates the student is symptom free and able to return to full participation in physical activity. (Please see the complete policy.)

CONCUSSION DEFINITION

A concussion:

- is a brain injury that causes changes in how the brain functions, leading to symptoms that can be physical (e.g., headache, dizziness), cognitive (e.g., difficulty concentrating or remembering), emotional/behavioural (e.g., depression, irritability) and/or related to sleep (e.g., drowsiness, difficulty falling asleep);

- may be caused either by a direct blow to the head, face or neck, or a blow to the body that transmits a force to the head that causes the brain to move rapidly within the skull;
- can occur even if there has been no loss of consciousness (in fact most concussions occur without a loss of consciousness); and,
- cannot normally be seen on X-rays, standard CT scans or MRIs.

CONCUSSION DIAGNOSIS

A concussion is a clinical diagnosis made by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. It is critical that a student with a suspected concussion be examined by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner.

FORMS - These forms can be found on the school website or in the main office.

- Form C2 - Tool to Identify Suspected Concussion
- Form C3- Documentation of Medical Examination
- Form C4 - Documentation for Diagnosed Concussion Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity

Guidance

Guidance Counsellors:

Mr. Dennis Karasek – Grade 10-12
Mrs. Sam Sidler – Grade 9

Post-Secondary Information
Assembly:

Attention Graduates: Be sure to listen to announcements regarding

an upcoming assembly for Post-Secondary Information.

Mandatory 40 Volunteer Hours

If your student is in Grade 12 and plans to graduate this year, the 40 volunteer hours are mandatory for graduation and acceptance to college or university. These hours must be completed by June 1, 2019. A record of the hours volunteered, including a supervisor's signature, must be handed in to our Guidance Secretary. Please encourage your student to complete these hours as soon as possible. Remember to select appropriate community involvement activities. There are guidelines for eligible community service activities available in Guidance or on the Board website: [<http://www.tvdsb.ca>]



www.tvdsb.ca

Parent Portal is available for accessing information about your child/children. The Parent Portal works on smart phones, tablets and computers. In order to use the Parent Portal, parents/legal guardians must have a valid email address registered in the Student Management System (Trillium) at the school their child is attending. Parents are encouraged to provide an email address to their child's school as soon as possible. All fee payments are expected to be paid through School Cash on-line. Once in the Parent Portal, parents/legal guardians will have access to the following information:

- Parental Consent to view IEPs and provide comments;
- Student Attendance;
- Student Achievement Information;
- Student Timetable
- Links to Forms.

Create a Parent Portal Account

To create a Parent Portal account or to login to the Parent Portal, parents should visit the following link:

<http://www.tvdsb.ca/parentportal>.
Once at the site, there is a short video at the top of the page that assists with the account creation process.

Student Fees

Student fees are \$25 this school year and you will receive a student card once paid. A valid student card is required to participate in most school activities – including any sports team, clubs or dances. Student Fees support healthy school activities, student recognition and whole school events. Student Fees are available for payment online. Team fees will also be posted online.

Bus Cancellations –can be found at mybigyellowbus.ca. *Some parents drive their student to school when their bus is cancelled (but if you do so, note that cancelled buses are cancelled for the whole day, not just the morning). Please call the attendance line stating if the absence is due to bus cancellation.*

Attendance Procedures

All schools in our Board are using the “**SchoolMessenger Reporting System**”. This system allows parents/guardians to report student absences by phone, website, or smartphone app. In the event of an unexplained student absence, the system is able to communicate with parents/guardians in a timely manner for student safety reasons. As previously communicated, parents/guardians are to inform the school of a student absence by phone toll free (1-844-305-3756), weblink (tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger), or free smartphone app.



SchoolMessenger

• App Store • Google Play

It is very important that we have a valid email address and correct contact information

– Have you kept us up to date? Moving? New phone or cell number? Please ensure we have the correct home phone number, emergency information for contacts, mailing address and phone numbers for your student.

Late - If a student is arriving to class late they are to go directly to class and sign-in in the classroom.

Notes – If a student is bringing a note for an absence or appointment, please have them bring the note to their teacher or the office.

Incorrect Absence – Please have your student see their teacher so that their attendance can be corrected.

Student Punctuality

An increasing number of students are coming to class late. This is having the effect of disrupting classes, losing valuable instruction and learning time for students, and affecting the tone at the school. We ask that parents and students have a discussion at home about the importance of coming to school on time and consider some strategies to ensure that all students arrive to school and to classes on time. Repeated lates will be addressed as a disciplinary problem if they persist.

South Daily Schedule:

Period 1: 8:10 – 9:30

Period 2: 9:35 – 10:50

Lunch: 10:55 – 11:45

Period 3: 11:50 – 1:05

Period 4: 1:10 – 2:25

Parent Engagement At South

Your South School Council is planning a second annual parent engagement event. "It Takes a Village in the Village" is the name of this event. It will take place on February 5, 2019 at South C.I. from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The entire event will bring together experts from the community to present information and strategies to parents and students on overcoming common adolescent challenges and achieving positive well-being. Some of the topics include: Vaping & Cannabis, Legal implications of some teenage choices, Relationships, Promoting Positive Well-being, Parenting in the Cyber Age, etc. A number of exhibitors will also be present to share their community resources and supports to our South parent community. Please save this date. Separate sessions for parents and students will be offered – so you can come together as a family yet be part of different sessions to personalize your experience. We hope to see you there!

The Smoke Free Ontario Act

Enforced at South

In the first week of school, at our grade assemblies, all students were advised of the implications of the new Smoke Free Ontario Act at South C.I. this year. Specifically, student cannot smoke any item (i.e.

cigarettes, vape, cannabis) within 20 meters of school campus property. Doing so may result in a fine of \$305 or more.

We ask that parents do what they can to become familiar with this act and about vaping, in particular. The vapes that are on the market cannot be sold to a minor, yet many of our students have them. Vapes are also quite benign looking and may look like a pen or a USB. They can also be quite expensive to purchase. Please note that if a student is caught with a vape at school, it will be confiscated. If a student is caught vaping at school, a suspension may ensue as well as a \$305 fine. Moreover, the health risks associated with vaping are not all known, but considered to be quite significant. You are encouraged to learn more about these risks and may wish to have a conversation with your son/daughter about the health implications of this activity out of concern for their well-being.

Also worth noting is:

- Although cannabis is now legal for students over 19, any student or employee cannot smoke/consume cannabis during the school day. Similar to alcohol, if a student engages in its use during the school day, disciplinary measures will be taken and any cannabis/alcohol is confiscated and disposed of.

- Nobody can sell cannabis or cigarettes to anyone else at school. Doing so is illegal and will involve the authorities.

Struggling with a Student at Home?

If you are struggling with a student at home, you are reminded that we have a number of resources available to you to access at the school.

- Reach out to classroom teachers if your child is having academic difficulty or issues related to the classroom.
- Reach out to our Guidance counsellors (Mr. Karasek for Gr.10-12 and Mrs. Sidler for Gr.9) if your child is experiencing some social-emotional struggles or difficulty with their program choices/timetable/course load.
- Reach out to our Administration (Mrs. Rosati and Mr. Embree) if there are any safety or school issues that they can help resolve.

We also have a Social Worker (Maggie Medcalf), School Psychologist (Dr. Barb Richardson), School Nurse (Julie Goverde) and Community Resource Officer (Constable Anthea Fordyce) who are also resources that may be helpful to you, your child or your family if you need them.



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