

TWPS
INTO
THE
WOODS
DEC
- JAN



IMPORTANT
MESSAGES PG
03

PLATONIC
SOLIDS

THE
DANCE
CLUB

MAKE-A-WISH
FUNDRAISING PG
04

PG 6

PG 07

RESIDENTIAL
SCHOOLS PG
05

THE LEGO
ROBOTICS
CLUB

PG
08

THE
VOLLEYBALL
TEAM PG
09

MINDFULNESS
CLUB PG
10

MUSIC PG
11

PG 12

RAPTORS
905

PG 13

WONDER

FLEXIBLE
SEATING PG
14

THE TEAM PG
15

TABLE OF CONTENTS INTO THE WOODS

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

THE EDITORIAL

BY IMETH I | GR 8 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hi, my name is Imeth and I am the Chief-In-Editor of the Into The Woods Newsletter. I would like to thank Mr. Birenbaum for appointing me to this position and for being so positive and supportive so far. All my work couldn't have been accomplished without my fantastic team of Graphic designers and Text Editors. Since this school newsletter is representing students and their voices, I personally invite you to be a part of this. If something interesting has happened in your school activities or classes, feel free to give any ideas to me, Thankyou!

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

BY SAMANTHA K | GR 8 | PRESIDENT OF TOUCHSTONE COUNCIL

Hi everyone! I am Samantha K, the President of Thornhill Woods Public School's Touchstone Council. I am so honored that the students of our school voted for me to have this role. This year we are working to make our school a better place. We have our 4 vice presidents to help focus on certain aspects of our school. First, we have the Vice President of Eco, Jake R. He along with his committee is working on minimizing the negative effect we have on our environment. They are also educating everyone in our school on the importance of our environment. The next Vice President is Vice President of Healthy Living, Kiera B. She along with her committee, are working to make our school a healthier place. They are working on educating the school about the importance of having a healthy mind, eating healthier and doing physical activities every day. Last but not least, we have our Co-Vice Presidents of Diversity, Elan G, and Vineth I. They are teaching our students about the diversity in our school and helping them be familiar with the different people we have.

We also have our Secretary, Presley K and our Treasurer, Ben O who are very important members of our Council. Finally, we have spirit. We, at our school love spirit days. These bring our whole school together and make our school year more exciting and enjoyable. The spirit days also help us raise money for the Make A Wish Foundation. On our spirit days, we ask our students to bring in a toonie to help us raise money and then donate all the money we make to the Make A Wish Foundation. We are so excited to make this school year a special one with the help of everyone in our school and remember, dream it, believe it, achieve it!

A POEM FROM THE POET LAUREATE

BY KIANA H | GR 8 | POET LAUREATE

From the Poet Laureate....

A Poet Laureate is the official poet of a government or organization, who is responsible to compose poems for special events and occasions. Earlier this year, our Grade Eights entered a competition to become the Thornhill Woods Poet Laureate. The Successful Poet was Kiana Hoang. In honour of the first edition of INTO THE WOODS, Kiana has composed a poem about the importance of Student Voice.

Student Voice

A voice is a voice
Whether it's an opinion or a choice
The option to have an option is what makes a change
It shouldn't be limited to size, shape, colour, or age
Everyone has an opinion
Let it be said for everyone to hear
Let it be said for it to be heard
Hear our voice
Give us a choice to make a change
In our schools where we learn
Give us the rights that we earned
Hear us out of what we have to say
Freedom of speech is what we portray

- Kiana. H Gr.8



MAKE A WISH FUNDRAISING

BY BEN. O | TREASURER OF TOUCHSTONE COUNCIL

Make-A-Wish is an organization that helps to grant wishes to children with life-threatening diseases and brings joy into their lives for what could be the last time in their lives. This amazing organization has made 7,347 kids in Canada wishes come true. Wishes could vary from meeting Olaf from Frozen to meeting their favorite sports team. The Touchstone Council will continue raising money to help support kids during what could be the last time in their lives.

During our Pajama Day Fundraiser, we raised \$289.45. At Thornhill Woods Public School, our motto is "Dream It, Believe It, Achieve It", and Make-A-Wish helps achieve the dreams of children to help them stay strong through tough times. That is one of many reasons that we chose to donate to this generous organization.

When we fundraise, we help kids like Max, an 8-year-old boy suffering from an immune disorder. Max's wish was to make his bedroom into a game room that has his favorite games in it. This room will let him use his imagination to his fullest, and most importantly, let him have fun! A very significant aspect of his wish was that when his wish was granted, his whole family was brought together as one, and everyone was so happy to see the excited expression on his face when his wish was granted. There were tears and laughter, but most of all there was a smile on Max's face.

Make-A-Wish is a great choice because it relates to us, students. We are helping kids, who are just like us to get through what might be the hardest part of their lives, and we feel empathy for them. So, the next time we have a fundraiser for Make-A-Wish, remember that every donation is important in making a wish like Max's come true.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

HISTORY

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

By Jessica. K Gr. 8

Recently, my class has been learning about residential schools (A1). We started discussing what we already know about residential schools and what we wonder about. From there, we branched off into more specific topics that we wanted to learn about such as, what happened? who were the students? (A2) where and when did this occur? and why?. As a class, we read many books and articles to try and answer our questions. Later on, we were given the assignment to answer the specific question that summarized what we wanted to know. Our question was "how might residential schools have impacted the students, their families, and future generations?" I worked in a group with three of my classmates to make a song about residential schools. By doing this, we researched to get a better understanding of what we had to talk about. The song that we made shares important information such as the impacts and survivors of the residential schools. It also explains the story of how a boy was once forced to leave his home, go to a residential school, and have his culture taken away from him (A3). Learning in this way was much more fun and I feel I have learned more information about Canadian history.



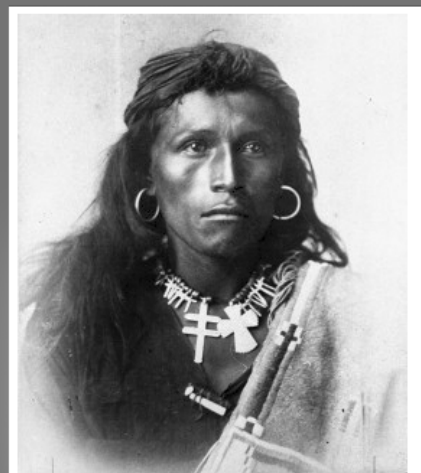
A1

Elkhorn Indian residential school

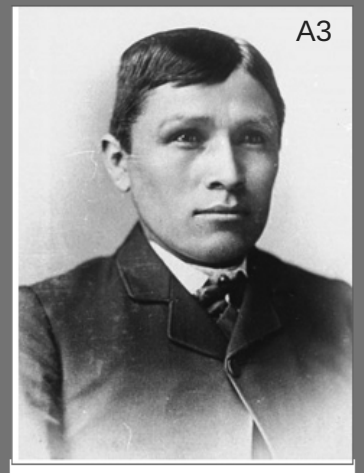


A2

Students at an Indian residential school



Tom Torlino, Navajo, upon arrival at the Carlisle School in 1887 ...



A3

... and how he looked three years later.

Tom Torlino Navajo before and after 3 years of being in a residential school

PLATONIC SOLIDS

Grade 8 Math

Platonic Solids

BY JAKE.R, GABE.S, AND COOPER.W | GR.8

During the past few weeks, Ms. Gallop's class has been working on a subject in math called Platonic Solids. The Platonic Solids include the cube, tetrahedron, icosahedron, octahedron, and dodecahedron. These shapes are special because each face is congruent. Each member of the platonic solids has a different congruent shape that makes them unique. Ms. Gallop's class learned about platonic solids through hands-on activities. They constructed nets and assembled them. They also created figures using straws, and popsicle sticks. Students also used their knowledge of angles and triangles. Students found and labeled different angles in their figures, such as corresponding angles, supplementary angles, and opposite angles. They also labeled a right angle triangle. Through these activities, Ms. Gallop's class discovered the relationships and patterns between the shapes. This activity introduced another aspect of learning where it gives you a hands-on experience on how to make the nets of these shapes.



Pictures of Ms. Gallops class creating the solids using various materials



The Dance Club

BY: EMMA. B, AND KIERA. B | GR.7

At Thornhill Woods, two grade seven students, Emma Bellamy and Kiera Bloch have created a club that they run called the Dance Club for four years in a row. This year, they have two Dance Clubs where students in grade 4, 5, and 6 (on separate days) can come, learn fun dances (that Emma and Kiera choreograph themselves), exercise and have a good time. The Dance Club runs once a week for each grade. Emma and Kiera encourage all students to join!

Most recently, the Dance Clubs performed at the school's Winter Assembly. Emma and Kiera try their best to organize the students to perform as much as possible. Last year, Emma and Kiera signed up the students who were involved in the Dance Club to perform at the annual Thornhill Woods Public School Arts Night.

Emma and Kiera are constantly coming up with new dances and material to teach the clubs, so they can learn and perform different dances as often as possible.

Currently, the grade 4's have started a dance to the song "That's My Girl" by Fifth Harmony, and the grade 5 and 6's are doing a dance to the song "Problem" by Ariana Grande. It is ensured that the students are comfortable with the song choices and dance moves as we want them to enjoy coming to this club as much as possible. In the Dance Clubs, there are approximately twenty students per each club. Many students at our school enjoy this club and continue to join it again each year. Having a club that focuses on physical activities is beneficial because it is a fun way to keep kids healthy and active. Because one of the focuses of our school's Touchstone Council is healthy living, this club helps to support that. We are proud to be involved with the school's programs and hope to continue these clubs as long as we can.

LEGO ROBOTICS CLUB

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 2018

DRIVING, SPINNING, REACHING



Image obtained from <http://www.discoveryscienceplace.org/event/lego-robotics/>

By Marcus S. | Gr.7

The Lego Robotics Club at Thornhill Woods Public School includes many students in grade 6 and 7. This club is facilitated by an intermediate teacher at our school, Mrs. Black. The Lego Robotics Club is divided into two sections, students who assemble the robot and others who program the robot.

Using Lego pieces, the builders add pieces to a robot called an "EV3 Brick". Their goal is to successfully add special mechanisms to the robot so it can perform functions such as lifting something up with a claw. The programmer's job is to use the Lego Mindstorms Education Program to program the EV3 Brick to do whatever they want it to do.

LOOKING TO THE PAST

Last year, the Lego Robotics Club has prepared for, and went to the Oscar Peterson Public School Showcase. They competed in many skill-testing challenges.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The Lego Robotics Club is currently preparing for a new area competition called the "York Region Skills Challenge." This is a competition within the York Region District School Board where twelve teams (one from each school) are on a team of four. They complete a series of challenges using only Lego from any Lego kit. There are certain things that create obstacles, such as the inability to use parts like ball-bearings and no more than three motors.

THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

TRUE SPORTSMANSHIP



THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

BY: JOSH. R | GR. 7

The Intermediate Volleyball Team was a great experience because it taught us sportsmanship and brought us closer together as friends. We learned how to become better players and great teammates. We have amazing coaches who never gave up on us and always pushed us to be the best players we could be. The coaches came to every practice ready to coach us even though at times where we were silly and immature. They didn't care when we lost, all they cared about was us trying hard and being good sports.

This wasn't a one-man team. Everyone had a job to do with setting up a spike or just cheering on the team. Even the bench had an important role in staying positive and cheering on the team. The team always encouraged us to be better in the practices even if we thought that we couldn't be better. At the end of the season, we went to Bakersfield P.S. for areas. We made it to the semi-finals but lost against Nellie McClung P.S. We were disappointed that we lost but we were still not poor sports throughout it all.

MIND FULL OR MINDFUL

Mind Full, or Mindful?



WHY WE LIKE THIS CLUB?

Here's why we like the Mindfulness Club. We like mindfulness because it helps calm us down whenever we are feeling stressed. Another reason why we like mindfulness is that every Thursday morning recess we can go and let go of our stress. We have so many reasons why it is a great program for us. We look forward to more activities to learn together.

MINDFULNESS CLUB

BY EMILY, LEAH, BELLA AND SUTTON | GR. 4

Do you know what mindfulness is? Well, we do! At school, our club participates with 10 grade 4 students, led by Mrs. Hershenfield. Some of the activities we have been doing for the past few weeks include, meditating and "Let It Go" which is an activity where we wrote down things that we wanted to forget about and then we threw those feelings away by tossing our worries down the stairs! There are so many more fun activities that we have been doing.



MUSIC

T W P S

THE GUITAR ENSEMBLE

BY: IMETH I. MARCUS S. AND KABIR P.

The Thornhill Woods Guitar Ensemble consists of thirty-five intermediate students in grade 7 and 8 and is led by Mrs. Whyte. The musical pieces of the Guitar Ensemble constantly challenge its players. The Guitar Ensemble is broken down into three sectioned groups which are led by their section leaders. In one music piece, sections vary in playing bass notes, treble notes, chords, and occasional percussion parts. Throughout the many months in Guitar Ensemble, we have practiced and performed three songs. The songs being, "Free Falling", by Tom Petty; "Wish You Were Here", by Pink Floyd; and "Greensleeves", by Yasunori Mitsuda. After the winter break, Mrs. Whyte wiped the slate clean and begun a new band where new members could join and new songs could be played. We are now beginning to practice and play the songs, "Oye Como Va", "Crazy Train" by Ozzy Osbourne, and "Mean", by Taylor Swift. Mrs. Whyte welcomes all students interested in guitar to come join! Over this span of time, we have learned much more content related to music and believe that it will help us succeed more with musical related items in the near future.

THE JUNIOR CHOIR

BY: ARI G. | GR. 4

Junior Choir is for students in grades 4-6. We practice every Wednesday at lunch recess. The types of songs we do are some 1980's-90's some newer songs like "Umbrella" by Rihanna and "Say Something" by A Great Big World. Our music teacher Mrs. Whyte is our leader and her YouTube Channel is called Ms. Whyte. We will perform at art night, competitions, and assemblies. We have already performed at the winter assembly on the last day of school before the winter holidays. Something that is interesting is solos! Special people picked from Ms. Whyte after performing a rehearsal will become soloists. If you can practice a lot maybe you can sign up a be one of the soloists. I joined Junior choir because I wanted to perform in front of lots of people. Sometimes, you can learn a new song and you can love it just because of the junior choir! For example, one song that I now love is called you raise me up. If you enjoy singing I bet you will love choir, well only if you are in grades 4-6. If you don't really enjoy singing you can try something new like me and maybe begin to enjoy it like me! I am happy I joined Junior Choir and maybe I can look forward to seeing you

THE WINTER ASSEMBLY

BY: VINETH I GR. 7

On December 22nd, 2017, the last day of school before winter break, our school had a winter assembly. Organized by Mrs. Whyte, the wonderful and beautiful assembly was filled with talent performed by students at this school. In this assembly, the Guitar Ensemble, Junior Choir, Winter Band and Dance Club performed amazingly with a great line of songs and dances. Both our staff and students greatly appreciated and enjoyed the entertaining show while singing and dancing along spreading a happy, joyful holiday spirit around the school.



RAPTORS 905 VS VIPERS

Wednesday, December 5th, 2017

By: Adam L | Gr. 7



On Wednesday, December 5th, 2017, Grades 5-8 attended a Raptors 905 basketball game at the Air Canada Center. This match was between the Raptors 905 and the Rio Grande Valley Vipers. These two teams are both professional basketball teams in the NBA G League. Classes left around 9:00 Am and returned around 2:30 Pm. All the kids were so grateful and very much appreciative of this wonderful opportunity to watch this game. The game was very intense and the Raptors were very close to coming home with a win, but failed and suffered a loss. However, this field trip meant a lot to the kids of Thornhill Woods Public School. We want to thank Mr. Birenbaum and Ms. Vanderzon for organizing this fun, exciting field trip.



VS



WONDER



WONDER

BY VINETH.I | CO-VP DIVERSITY TOUCHSTONE COUNCIL

This wonderful, inspiring and heartwarming movie tells the story of a lovely boy named August Pullman. In this story, August will be going to a mainstream school for the first time. Entering fifth grade, the reason what prevented August from going to a mainstream school all this time is the fact of his insecurity with being born with a facial difference. This amazing movie shows the struggles with one's acceptance into society today even though "you were not born to fit in but to stand out".

On December 20th, 2017, just before the winter holidays, our school's staff worked very hard to organize a field trip for the junior and intermediate grades. The field trip was for the students to go to a movie theater and watch the movie, Wonder. In the morning at 9:30, all the buses left to Imagine Cinemas. When the students arrived at the movie theater, they got a medium-sized popcorn and drink and then went to the movie. All staff and students really enjoyed the movie with many mixed feelings of joy and sadness at the end of the movie. Overall, the students and staff really appreciated the opportunity of this field trip and are looking for more in the future.

In our school, the grade sevens created their own Wonder art piece that was on display right outside the library. On this art piece, the grade sevens drew themselves just like August on the front cover of the book Wonder, and wrote their own quote about kindness. The purpose of the grade seven students creating this art piece is to show their acknowledgment and understanding of the importance of kindness in the world.



FLEXIBLE SEATING



FELXIBLE SEATING

**BY: JONATHAN, SAPNA AND
CHARLIE | GR. 3**

Hi, we are going to tell you why flexible seating is the best! First, we have multiple places to sit. For example, yoga balls, bean bag chairs, study carol, and a tall table. Second, if we get distracted, we can move to a different place to work. To explain, if a friend starts talking to you, you can move. Finally, flexible seating has made our room a lot quieter and calmer. That is why we love flexible seating!

INTO THE WOODS

Published by the Into The Woods Newsletter Team.

Editor-In-Chief

Imeth I

Graphic and Art Designers

Adam L

Daniel G

Vineth I

Proofreaders

Kabir P

Marcus S

HOW TO REACH US

If you wish to submit any articles for the newsletter, you can reach Imeth I at 33539201@gapps.yrdsb.ca, visit Mr. Moliterni's Classroom during snack recess or speak with Mr. Birenbaum to drop off any articles and suggestions. Thank you!

IMAGES

<http://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/images/tom-torlino-1882-and-1885> - Residential Schools

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/residential-schools/> - Residential Schools

<https://www.anglican.ca/tr/histories/elkhorn/> - Residential Schools

<https://www.youtube.com> - Mindful of Mind full