



# Thornlea SS

**Principal: Joe Foti**

**Vice-Principal: Kim Tavares**

**Vice-Principal: Barb Caravella**

**April 4, 2017**

Happy Spring



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## **MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL**

Dear Families and Community Members:

We hope that everyone had a good March Break and is looking forward to milder temperatures and a change of season as we welcome Spring.

Thornlea has been very busy these last couple of weeks. On March 30th, many grade 10 and previously eligible students wrote the Ontario Secondary Literacy Test which is a graduation requirement. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we modified the schedule for the school day to accommodate the writing of the test. Students and teachers worked very hard to prepare and we look forward to receiving and sharing our results in the new school year.

We look forward to seeing you at Parents' Night on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Parents' Night is a great opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to learn about their progress, strengths and next steps. If you are unable to attend Parents' Night, please feel free to call and leave a message to speak with teachers or set up an appointment should you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress.

As we move into April, the Easter holiday will soon be upon us. To those of you who celebrate Easter, I hope that you have a joyous celebration. School will be closed on Friday, April 14 and Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

April will be a busy month as well. Midterm report cards will be issued on April 26, spring sports will begin, drama shows are set to showcase student talent, spirit and fundraiser assemblies have been planned for students, and Thornlea's second annual Health and Wellness Day will take place on April 27th. We look forward to all of these exciting events.

As always, if you have any questions about school events and activities, please call the main office to be directed to the appropriate person.

As we head into the final term of the academic year, I wish you all a wonderful start to Spring as we finally say goodbye to winter.

Kim Tavares  
Vice-Principal

**Hello all from the Guidance Department!**

**Our team has been busy with providing our students with their course request for next year. Please make sure your child has submitted a signed course selection form to the Guidance Department. A Course Selection Verification Sheet was distributed, students had their opportunity to request a change on this sheet or keep it for their personal records. The deadline has now passed.**

The Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) deadline has now passed. Currently over 162 Thornlea students have applied. We wish them all the best and will continue to answer their questions on the University selection process. The next marks transmission for OUAC will be on **April 27<sup>th</sup>**.

Guidance will continue to monitor and support the College application process. Currently, over 30 Thornlea students have applied. No PinCodes are distributed for College Applications; students will create their own on-line at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca).

Please note that the “equal consideration” deadline has passed (Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>), but students can still apply. The next marks transmission for OCAS will be on **April 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**Important Notice for all grade 12's that have applied to OUAC for university!**

**Your grades from semester one have been processed by OUAC and sent to the Universities to which you have applied. Please log on to your online application in order to review your academic information. This verification is especially important if OUAC does not have a valid email address on file, or you are not able to receive emails from OUAC/your Universities because of a junk-mail setting with you inbox. If you see an error in your OUAC file, it is very important that you contact your Guidance Counsellor as soon as possible to have it corrected.**

College and University Spring Open Houses are a popular way for prospective students to visit various Post-Secondary Institutions and evaluate them prior to applying and/or choosing. It is never too early to begin the search. The Guidance Department encourages all students, especially in grades 11 and 12 to attend the open house program of any potential future University/College. Please visit the University/College website to confirm Open House schedules. Spaces can be limited.

We also would like to remind students of the process for making guidance appointments. If any student would like to make an appointment with their Alpha identified counselor (Mr. Paul Stephenson A to M, Mr. Nizam Alkins N to Z), they should come to the Guidance Office before school starts (8:30 to 8:55), during their lunch, or after school (3:00 to 3:30).

We would also like to remind students that there is a new process in place for Community Service Hours (CSH). All students must complete 40 community hours to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The Guidance department must approve your community service opportunity before you start your hours. Please see your counselor for a CSH sheet and pre-approval. **Finally, a reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours as soon as possible. It is highly recommended that this be completed before the April 27/24 OUAC/OCAS transmission.**

For more information on volunteer opportunities, please come down to the Guidance Office and pick up a Community Service Hours form and please take a look at our “**Volunteer Bulletin Board**” for current opportunities to fulfill this Ministry of Education requirement.

Special Announcement: see below

Attention Grade 12 students, you may request Part-Time Status started on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please come to the guidance office to pick up a drop request form. This form must be completed and handed in by Friday April 27<sup>th</sup> 3:00 PM. The Full Disclosure date is Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>, after that date, the mark will be recorded on their official transcript.

### **Summer School Registration Information**

Registration is open on Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> – register on-line in your career cruising account, get your sheet signed by a parent/guardian and hand it in to your guidance counselor.

**For summer school details:**

**Copy and paste this link:**

**<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Secondary-School-Summer.aspx>**

Also, if you are a grade 11 or 12 student and would like to apply for the 2-credit summer school Co-op session, please come to the Guidance Office for an application. Deadline is Monday April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Attention all ESL students**, if you are interested in taking ESLB, ESLC, ESLD, ELSE for CREDIT this summer with the YRDSB. Please register in your career cruising account.

**Attention all grade 9 French Immersion students** – there will be a possible summer course in grade 10 academic history for French Immersion students offered at Pierre Elliot Trudeau – coded CHC2DF (no YRDSB transportation offered to this location). Go on career cruising to register on line – April 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## **VIMY RIDGE SCHOOL TRIP - Apr 3 to 11**

It is a very exciting time for some of our students, Mr. Gord Izumi and Mr. Joe Foti, as they visit France to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Battle of Vimy Ridge**. They will also be visiting England.

We would like to wish them all a wonderful, safe time!





## **Attention Students Graduating this year:**

Please make sure to complete the Graduation Gown/Ceremony form and make sure to pay the \$40.00 fee. You may pay online via Cash On Line or Cash or Cheque (Payable to: Thornlea Secondary School).

Check with Ms. Burdett in the Guidance Office if you aren't sure if you have already paid or completed the gown order form.





March 9, 2017

## Interim Report Cards

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The staff at Thornlea Secondary School are committed to ensuring that all students have a successful academic year. It is our belief that early intervention is the key to this success. To that end, your son/daughter is bringing home their interim report card today, **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**. The purpose of this interim report card is to provide formative feedback to both students and parents regarding the students' initial progress towards achieving the subject specific curriculum expectations.

This Board standardized report will show absences/lates and a current level of achievement based on formative and summative data to date. It is important to realize that this report is early in the semester and should be seen as an early snapshot of your child's progress.

Please continue to have regular discussions with your son/daughter regarding his/her progress with a focus on learning skills, strengths, and possible next steps for improvement. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, just email our school account at [thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca) indicating the teacher you would like your email forwarded to.

On the back of this letter, please see instructions on how to book online, your Parents' Night interview time with your child's teacher.

We look forward to seeing you at **PARENTS' NIGHT on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 pm.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Foti'.

Joe Foti  
Principal

**THORNLEA SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENTS' NIGHT INSTRUCTIONS TO BOOK  
TEACHER APPOINTMENTS VIA TEACHASSIST APPOINTMENT MANAGER  
PARENTS' NIGHT ON THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH FROM 6:30-8:30PM**

The online tool teachassist has the ability for parents/guardians to book appointments for Parents' Night. You will be able to book your appointments via Teachassist.

To book an Appointment with your classroom teacher who has set up appointment slots with TeachAssist:

1. Students or parents go to [ta.yrdsb.ca](http://ta.yrdsb.ca) . Use student's username (student number) and password to log in to Teachassist.
2. Once logged in scroll to the bottom of the page and if a teacher has created Appointment slots they will be visible on the page.
3. Click on the calendar to select the appropriate date for Parents' Night, For this Semester it is on **Thursday, April 6, 2017.**

The image shows two screenshots of the TeachAssist interface. The left screenshot shows the 'Calendar' section with 'yesterday Mon., Oct. 5, 2015' selected and a 'Full Year Calendar' link. Below it, the 'Appointment Bookings' section shows 'No appointments today' and a 'Book Appointment for the date 2015-10-09' button. The right screenshot shows the 'All open appointments' list for the date 2015-10-09. The list includes appointments with 'MacIsaac, C' at various times. A red circle highlights the '2015-10-09 18:00:00' appointment, and a red arrow points to it from the text 'Click to check for specific dates'.

4. Click on the time you would like to select. Please note that teachassist uses a 24 hour clock, and appointment times are 10 minutes in length.
5. A confirmation of your appointment time and date will appear on your screen. You can change or cancel your appointment at any time, depending on the teacher's availability.
6. It is recommended to allow travel time between appointments in order to reach the next classroom.

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**Appointment Bookings on 2015-10-09**

The image shows a screenshot of the TeachAssist interface. At the top, there is a yellow bar with the text '2015-10-09 18:00:00 with MacIsaac, C' and a red 'cancel' button. Below this, the 'Book Appointment for the date 2015-10-09' button is visible. The 'All open appointments' list shows 'MacIsaac, C' and '2015-10-09 18:05:00 with MacIsaac, C'.



## Nowruz at Thornlea!

On March 22<sup>nd</sup> staff, students and parent volunteers helped celebrate the arrival of spring and Nowruz. Thank you to all who helped make this day special for our Thornlea community. A special thanks to Mr. Foti and Ms. Tavares who supported our plans and Ms. Bolouri who helped from our parent community. Your support was much appreciated. Below are some pictures from the celebrations. Nowruz mobarak!

-Ms. Pilaram

Thank you to everyone who brought in food and to those who tried something new!



Students gather around the *haft-sin*; a spread with symbolic items celebrating the arrival of spring.



Eidi (loot bags) filled with Iranian goodies were given out to students.



## *Awards Ceremony*

Our Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, March 22 at 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria. We were happy to see many family members were able to attend the ceremony.

Congratulations to our many successful students who received certificates for their exceptional achievement and high marks. We are so proud of all of our students.

# Parent Engagement & Network (P.E.N.) Workshop Series (Mandarin & Cantonese)

## Workshop 6

### Raising Resilient and Assertive Children

### 建立孩子的逆境韌力及積極坦率表達想法的技巧

What is resiliency? 逆境韌力

What is assertiveness? 怎样才算是積極坦率地表達自己

How to foster resiliency and assertiveness? 如何培養孩子的逆境韌力及創造  
積極坦率表達想法的環境

**Date 日期:** Tuesday, April 4, 2017 4月4日 (星期二)

**Time 時間:** 6:00—8:00pm 下午6時至8時

**Language 語言:** English and Cantonese (translation will be provided in Mandarin) 英語及廣東話 (提供普通話翻譯)

**Location 地點:** Markham South Welcome Centre 南萬錦迎新中心

7220 Kennedy Road, Unit 8, Markham, L3R 7P2

**Registration 網上報名:** <https://goo.gl/iTrr1q> (請於4月3日前報名 Please register before April 3)

**Inquires 查詢:** Jean Wang (School Settlement Worker 王姑娘) 416-662-5416

Cathy Ng (吳老師) [cathy.ng@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cathy.ng@yrdsb.ca)

This program is organized & facilitated by:



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada





The Student One Act Play Festival (or “SOAP” if you want to sound cool) has been a Thornlea tradition for twenty one years.

It brings together a talented bunch of drama types, from actors, to directors, to technicians—and even the occasional staff member—and combines them into a show.

This year we have NINE different One Act plays together to bring you an evening of enjoyable theatre. C’mon out and enjoy the show!

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Apr 3 to 11	Vimy Ridge Trip
April 6	Parents' Night 6:30-8:30 (See online appointment instructions in this bulletin)
April 14	Good Friday ( No School)
April 17	Easter Monday (No School)
April 18-21	Student ONE ACT Play Festival
April 24	School Council Mtg 7:15pm Library
April 26	Mid-term reports Home
April 27	Wellness Day for Health
May 5	PA Day (No school for students)
May 8-12	Outdoor Ed Trip
May 10	Spring Concert
May 15	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
May 18	Prom
May 22	Victoria Day
May 25	Thornstock 2017