



# Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

April 1, 2019

Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos

## Thornlea at the OFSAA Provincial Swim Championships at the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre



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# Message from the Vice-Principal

Dear Families and Community Members,

I hope that you had a relaxing and enjoyable March Break spent with family and friends. It has been a busy last couple of weeks at Thornlea with Interim reports being handed out on March 19<sup>th</sup>. If for some reason your child's report did not find its way home, please let us know. Mid-term report cards will be sent home on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thornlea has also experienced a great deal of success in our winter athletics programs. We would like to acknowledge the following teams for their unprecedented victories:

The Senior Boys Volleyball Team: Champions

The Senior Girls Volleyball Team: YRAA Champions and Consolation Champions at OFSAA winners of the fair play award

The Senior Boys Basketball Team: YRAA Champions Consolation finalists at OFSAA

The Junior Basketball Team: won their first National Junior Circuit Championship

The Prep Basketball team: OSBAA finalists. Three players from this team are playing in the Bio Steel Game on TSN which highlights the top 24 Basketball players in the country on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 on TSN.

The Senior Coed Curling Team won the YRAA Championship.

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test took place on Wednesday March 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Literacy team worked very hard over the last few months to prepare our writers. Students can expect to receive their results in June.

In the coming week, students in our drama program are showcasing their talents in our *One Act Play Festival*. Please call the main office for ticket information. The show runs from Wednesday April 3-Friday April 5.

Looking ahead, our next School Council Meeting will take place on April 23 at 7:15pm in the library. We are inviting York Region Public Health to deliver an interesting and informative presentation on Cannabis and Opioids.

Finally, we would like to wish our student travelers *bon voyage*. The leave on April 5<sup>th</sup> to explore the wonders of Athens, Rome and Florence.

With spring officially upon us, some important religious holidays are around the corner. Best wishes to all who will be celebrating.

Warmest regards,

Sofia Papadatos

Vice-Principal

# Hello from the Guidance Department!

The Guidance Team this year consists of:

Mrs. Gail Burdett (Guidance Secretary) Ext. 207  
Ms. Lovleen Rai (French Immersion Counselor/Scholarship Lead/Literacy Lead) Ext 254  
Ms. Viviane Estafanos (Student Success/Credit Recovery/AP Exam Lead/F.I. Teacher) Ext 251  
Ms. Andrea Tse (ESL Counselor/Head of ESL Teacher) Ext 178  
Ms. Maria Merecoulias (English Language Learner Support Teacher) Voicemail 689  
Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance (Counselor) Ext 330

We also would like to announce the process for making guidance appointments. **First**, please see Mrs. Burdett, our Guidance Secretary. If any student would like to make an appointment with their “area” identified counselor (French Immersion, ESL, Other), they should come to the Guidance Office before school starts (8:30 to 8:45), during their lunch (11:30 to 12:30), or after school (3:00 to 3:30) to make their appointment.

**Our team has been extremely busy with providing our students with their course request verification sheets for next year. Please make sure your child has submitted a signed course selection verification form if they would like to request a change.**

**Reminder: It will be very difficult after March 29<sup>th</sup> to make any new changes for next year’s timetable.**

The Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) deadline has now passed. 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 25<sup>th</sup>**. More conditional offers will usually be given by May 10<sup>th</sup>. The last day Ontario Universities might give out conditional offers is: May 29<sup>th</sup>

Guidance will continue to monitor and support the College application process. 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 25<sup>th</sup>**.

Guidance already offered a College application seminar. If you need further assistance please see Ms. Lovleen Rai in the Guidance Office.

***Important Notice for all grade 12’s that have applied to OUAC for university and OCAS for College. Your grades from semester one have been processed by OUAC and OCAS and sent to the Universities and Colleges 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 during March Break. Spaces can be limited.

### **Community Service Hours**

We would also like to remind our learning community that there is a process in place for Community Service Hours. 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 pre-approval. It should be at a Not-For-Profit organization.

We also would like to announce the approved initiative to all our **grade 9** students. Grade 9 students that complete their 40 community service hours in their grade 9 year will receive a special certificate of completion. This is for grade 9's only. The 40 hours must be submitted into our Guidance Office by **Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> to Qualify**.

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 opportunities to fulfill this Ministry of Education graduation requirement.

***A reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours ASAP. There are still approximately 45 of you that must submit their hours before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.***

Special Announcement: see below

**Attention Grade 12 students, you may request Part-Time Status starting on Monday April 8<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 26<sup>th</sup> 3:00 PM. The Full Disclosure date is Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, after that date, the mark will be recorded permanently on their official transcript.**

### **Summer School Registration Information**

Registration is open on Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> – register on-line in your myPathway Planner (myBlueprint) account, get your sheet signed by a parent/guardian and hand it in to your guidance counselor asap.

For summer school details:

Copy and paste this link:

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

### **Summer School E-Learning Information**

Registration is open on Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> – register on-line

For details copy and paste this link:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Summer%20School%20e-Learning.aspx>

**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 **myPathway Planner (myBlueprint)** 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 **myPathway Planner (myBlueprint)** to register – starting April 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education*

## Junior Girls Volleyball Team YRAA Tier 2 C Group Champions

The Junior Girls Volleyball team ended their season on March 21 as Champions of the YRAA Tier 2 C Tournament. The team showed steady improvement throughout the season, and ended on a very strong note by hosting and winning the final tournament here at Thornlea.

Congratulations to Alyssa Hung, tournament MVP, to Jade Ahn for her excellent leadership as captain, and to the entire team for a great season!

### TEAM LIST:

Jade Ahn (Captain)

Nina Dharsee

Elizabeth Dumitrache

Alyssa Hung (final tournament MVP)

Madeline Hung

Sydney Lum

Richelle Makhlouta

Zainab Mujadidi

Julia Petrucci

Sahar Rattansi

Dominique Robinson

Coach Nat Bendavid



Thornlea owned the podium at yesterday's rock-climbing competition at True North Climbing! In the rec girls category we had 4 out of 5 finalists from Thornlea!!!

At the end of the day, results were:

Kinsey Li in 1st place

Kristy Wen in 2nd place

Jayda Houston in 3rd place

and

honorable mention to Leah Chamandy who also competed in the final and placed in top 5.

(Picture attached!)

Go THUNDER!

Ms. N. Bendavid

Interim Head of Physical Education and Health, Thornlea S. S.



# YRAA Coed Curling Champions

Skip Madeleine Mungal

Vice Julia Bell

Second Matthew Rowley

Lead Grace Gagnon

Defeating Sutton DHS in the final played at the Sutton curling club on March 5, 2019

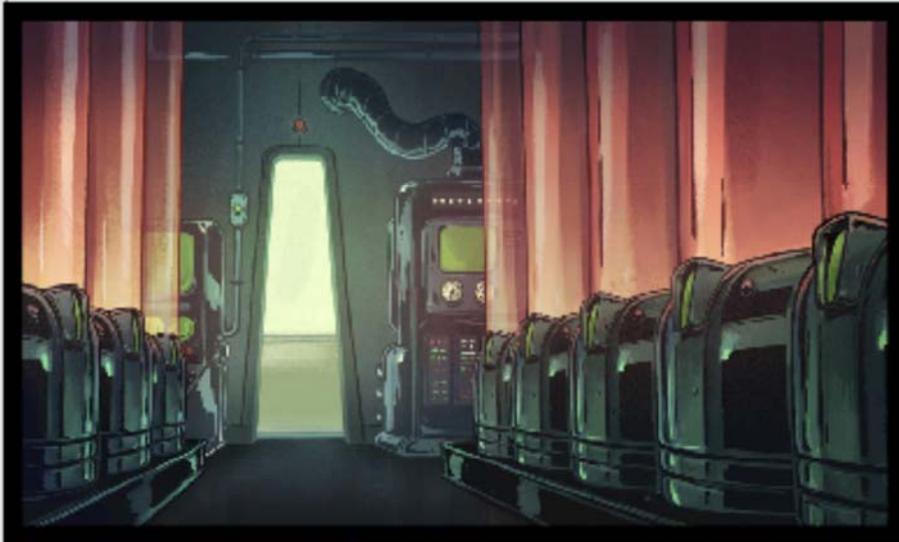


Welcome to our third installment of the E-Bulletin Series:

## Who Inspires You, Thornlea?

In each E-Bulletin, we publish brief bios of two Thornlea graduates who are distinguishing themselves in their post-high school lives. If you know of someone you feel deserves to be profiled in this series, please contact [debra.hanff@yrdsb.ca](mailto:debra.hanff@yrdsb.ca)

# THORNLEA GRAD



# JADE POON

Layout, BG Paint, Design, Illustrator. Jade studied Art & Design at Sacridan College, and now works for a full-service animation studio in Vancouver, British Columbia.

See her demo reel at:

<https://vimeo.com/211959353>

# THORNLEA GRAD



## MICHAEL PROSSERMAN

Hip-Hop artist and founder of Unity Charity, which uses hip hop to improve young people's lives. With a strong focus on improving mental health and well-being, Unity empowers youth with confidence and skills. Unity has worked with young people in Ontario, B.C., Northern Alberta, and Nova Scotia.

Drop by our school library and check out our Thornlea Grad Wall.

**Who Inspires You, Thornlea?**



## Art Department News

### Commission an Artwork!

Dear Staff, Parents/ Guardians,  
Our Grade 11/ 12 students are willing to draw or paint commissioned portraits (please see samplings of their artwork). Artworks will be commissioned in a variety of sizes with a choice of background.

Just send your photographs/ reference images, and our Artists in Residence will draw/ paint your picture in any medium of your choice (pencil, charcoal, acrylic, pastels).

Please support our Thornlea Art Council and Equity Team's efforts to raise money to make our school an even more inclusive place.

Monies raised will be used for planning Art Shows, festivals, events and celebrations.

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Bern at: [ilana.bern@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ilana.bern@yrdsb.ca).

Your support would be greatly appreciated. With gratitude,

Ms. Bern's Visual Arts class and Student Equity Team



Medium: Charcoal



Medium: Charcoal



Medium: Sepia Crayons



Medium: Sepia Crayons



Medium: Acrylic



Medium: Acrylic

"Family Portrait" Commissioned by Mr. Scott



On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, Gloria Lo and Meredith Liu represented **Thornlea at the OFSAA Provincial Swim Championships at the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre**. To get to this level, they had to be the fastest in York Region. They continued their winning ways at the provincial level, making it all the way to the B finals in each of their events!

On Tuesday, Meredith finished 12th in Ontario in the 200 metre freestyle event, and Gloria finished 10th in the province in the 100 metre breaststroke. Meanwhile, on Wednesday, Meredith finished at the top of her heat, making her the 9th fastest swimmer in Ontario in the 200 metre individual medley event. Way to go girls!!!

Mr. Ackerman and the swim team would like to congratulate Gloria and Meredith for their hard work and dedication this season. On a bittersweet note, a big thank you goes out to Gloria, who has been on the team for her entire stay at Thornlea, and who now moves on to post secondary education in the fall. Keep up the great work!

**Go Thunder!!!**









# Thornlea celebrates Nowruz!



This year Thornlea celebrated the arrival of spring and Nowruz on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Nowruz is celebrated by many ethno-linguistic groups around the world and for many marks the beginning of the New Year. This day is usually celebrated on March 21st or the day before/after depending on where it is observed.



These are just some of the items you would see displayed on an Iranian Nowruz table or *Haft-sin*: goldfish (life, the sign of Pisces), hyacinth (the beginning of Spring), garlic (medicine/health), apples (beauty), sprouts (rebirth), coins (prosperity), wheat germ pudding (affluence/sweetness), sumac (the colour of sunrise), vinegar (age and patience) and other symbolic items.



Thank you to all our parent and community volunteers who shared their knowledge of this celebration with our school. A special thanks to Mrs Hanff, Mrs Daneshmand, the Iranian Students' Club, the Iranian Canadian Teen Club and Mr. Foti for their help and support!

-Neda Pilaram



Please contact Mariam Rashidi if interested in joining the *Iranian Canadian Teens Club* at (416) 886-9306 or visit <https://www.icteensclub.com/>

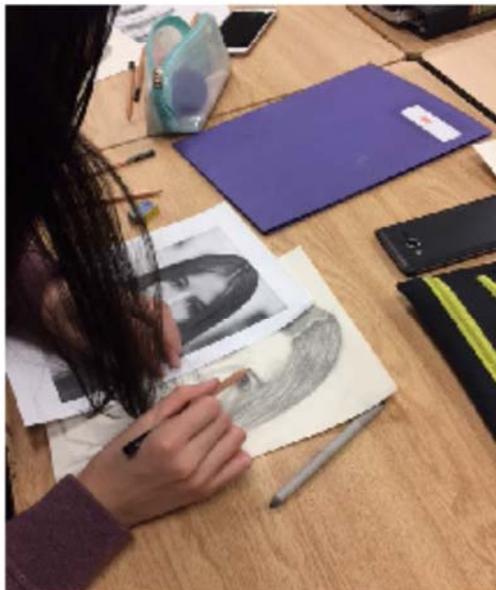






# VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

**Ms. De Luca's grade 9 French Immersion students working hard on their portrait assignments:**



## York Region Vaping Information Sessions

Acknowledging the growing issue of vaping in our schools and the health risks associated with e-cigarettes and vaping, Caring and Safe Schools and York Region Public Health are hosting Vaping Information Sessions for families and members of your school communities.

### The session will discuss:

- What are vapes and e-cigarettes?
- Why do youth vape and try e-cigarettes?
- What are the negative health effects of vaping?
- Vaping and the law and school progressive discipline



### Two sessions are available:

April 15, 2019, 7PM at Vaughan Secondary School

April 29, 2019, 7PM at Newmarket High School

To register, please RSVP by April 8 using [bit.ly/aprilvaping](http://bit.ly/aprilvaping).

Our Board is committed to creating and maintaining caring, safe and inclusive environments that support the social and emotional well-being of all our students and employees. As outlined in the Board Plan (BIPSA): Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, schools are ideal settings for mental health promotion, addiction awareness education, resiliency development, and connecting those in need to care pathways.

If you have any questions about these presentations, please contact [Dawn Laliberte](#), Principal of Caring and Safe Schools, or [John Shep](#), Caring and Safe Schools Consultant.



## Sign up for the York Regional Police **CRIME PREVENTION ACADEMY**

Interested in learning about how to keep you and your family safe and secure? Community members are invited to register for a four-week program that offers presentations from our specialty units on:

- When to call police
- Fraud prevention and senior safety
- Home security, personal and Internet safety
- Vehicle crime
- Road Watch program, Crime Map and Neighbourhood Watch

Seminar dates and times:

Monday, May 6 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Monday, May 13 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (note different location below)

Tuesday, May 21 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 28 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: York Regional Police #2 District Community Room

171 Major Mackenzie Drive, Richmond Hill. The May 13 session will be held at the Richmond Hill Library, 1 Atkinson Street, Richmond Hill, Room A

There is no cost to participate, but registration is required. Applicants must live, work or attend school in York Region and be 18 years of age or older. Registrants are subject to a police background check.

To register, please visit [calendar.yrp.ca](http://calendar.yrp.ca). If you have any questions, please contact Constables Steve Hennigar at [1357@yrp.ca](mailto:1357@yrp.ca) or Vince Garisto at [1182@yrp.ca](mailto:1182@yrp.ca).

To receive a certificate of completion, attendees must attend all sessions.

# Calendar of Events

April 1-5	Student One Act Play
April 5-14	Greece/Italy trip
April 12	Term 1 Ends
April 15	Term 2 Begins
April 17	Battle of the Bands
April 18	MADD Assembly
April 19	Good Friday
April 22	Easter Monday
April 23	School Council Mtg 7:15pm
April 25	Mid-term reports home
May 1	Best Buddies PROM
May 2	PROM-Venetian Banquet Hall
May 2	Full Disclosure
May 3	PA Day
May 7-14	AP Exams
May 13-17	Outdoor Ed Trip
May 15	Music Concert
May 20	Victoria Day
May 21	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
May 24	RELAY for Life
June 5-7	EQAO Math
June 6	Athletic Banquet
June 11-14	Senior Drama Show
June 19-25	EXAMS
June 26	EXAM Review Day