



# Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

December 14, 2018

Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos

## Full Cast of Almost, Maine Theatre 219



# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL	3
EXAM SCHEDULE/MEMO TO PARENTS	4-5
LITERACY CORNER	6-8
STUDENT ABSENCES	9
CHANGES IN CONTACT INFO	10
GRADUATES OF 2019	11
QUEST CONFERENCE	12
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT	13
PHARLEY'S	14
SANTA SHUFFLE	15
THEATRE 219	16
GUIDANCE NEWS	17-18
HAPPY WINTER SOLSTICE	19
TWIC'S ANNUAL WELLNESS	20-22
WINTER WONDERLAND	
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER	23
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	24

# MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL

Dear Families and Community Members,

It's been a busy few weeks at Thornlea Secondary School as staff and students wrap up course work, extra-curricular activities, and special events before the winter holidays.

On the evening of November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Visual Arts department showcased *Night of the Arts at Thornlea Secondary School* with the theme *Celebrating Diversity through the Arts*. The event featured an art exhibition, a Holiday sale of artwork and jewelry hand-made by students, and performances by the spectacular vocal team, "Les Voix." Special thanks to the students who participated in the event and to the Visual Arts department for their hard work to plan the night.

The annual *Holiday Music Concert* took place on December 5<sup>th</sup> which included a wide selection of musical performances. The Woodland PS Band were part of the concert performances as special guests for the night. The evening featured performances from the school band, as well as students who played classic guitars and orchestral strings that played a variety of musical pieces. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the evening performances and to Mr. Chan for organizing the night.

Thornlea Secondary School's Wellness Initiative Council hosted an event called *Wellness Winter Wonderland* during lunch in the cafeteria on December 12<sup>th</sup> to promote well-being in the school. They decorated the cafeteria with paper snowflakes, put decorative table cloths on the tables, and served the school hot chocolate and cookies. Special thanks to the staff and students involved in this event which was much appreciated by everyone in the school.

Finally, congratulations to Ms. Lambert, Ms. Villeneuve, and the cast and crew of the drama production *Almost Maine* which took place between December 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> in Theatre 219. It was a great success and enjoyed by many staff, students, and families every night.

Since this is the last message before the Winter Holidays, on behalf of the administration team at Thornlea Secondary School, I would like to wish everyone a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable holiday, and a Happy New Year!

Anthony Hu  
Vice-Principal

**Thomlea S.S.**

# Memo

To: Students and Families  
 From: Joe Foti, Anthony Hu, Sofia Papadatos  
 Date: December 2018  
 Re: Semester 1 Examination Schedule for January 2019

Thomlea students will write their semester examinations at the end of January. Our exam schedule is on the back of this page. All exams are written at 10:00 a.m. from Thursday January 24<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday January 30<sup>th</sup> 2019. Please review the examination rules below, and determine the days on which your examinations are scheduled.

## York Region District School Board Examination Rules

### Examination Schedule:

All students must write their examinations at the scheduled time. Vacation, employment and/or appointments must not be scheduled during the examination period. Students must be available throughout the exam schedule in the unforeseen event that any exams need to be rescheduled.

It is the responsibility of each student to confirm the scheduled examination time, date, and location.

If a student has a valid medical certificate detailing why he/she was unable to write the final examination on the assigned day, the school's administration will address the situation on a case by case basis.

Should any exam day be cancelled, all evaluations of that day will be re-scheduled during the exam period. In such an event, check the website to learn when postponed exams will be written.

### On the day of the examination:

1. Bring any remaining course textbooks to your examination to return to your teacher.
2. Arrive at the assigned examination room by 9:50 a.m.
3. Leave all books, pencil cases, geometry set cases, carrying cases or covers for calculators, I-pods, MP3 Players, cell phones, jackets or bags in your locker or at home as they are not allowed in the evaluation room. The exception is textbooks to be returned to the teacher which should be placed on the floor beside your desk and specific devices that a teacher has instructed you to bring beyond the pen, pencil and eraser normally required.

### During the examination:

1. You must not talk or communicate with any student in the evaluation room once the evaluation has begun.
2. You must remain in the evaluation room for one full hour and you may not leave during the last fifteen minutes of the evaluation time.
3. No items may be borrowed/shared during an exam.
4. Any student cheating on an evaluation or trying to pass information to another student will have their test paper immediately confiscated by the teacher and will be referred to administration who will determine the grade received on a case by case basis.

### After the examination:

1. Vacate the building as soon as your examination is completed. There is no cafeteria service during this time and teachers are occupied marking.
2. Exam Review Day is on January 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:55-11:30 am. Please see below for the schedule.

#### End of Semester Calendar for January 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 21 <sup>st</sup>	January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	January 24 <sup>th</sup>	January 25 <sup>th</sup>
			Period 1 Exams	Period 2 Exams
January 28 <sup>th</sup>	January 29 <sup>th</sup>	January 30 <sup>th</sup>	January 31 <sup>st</sup>	February 1 <sup>st</sup>
Period 3 Exams	Period 4 Exams	Exam Conflict Day	Exam Review Day (See schedule below)	PA Day

SCHEDULE FOR EXAM CONSULTATION DAY	
January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2019	
Period 1	8:55 – 9:30 am
Period 2	9:35 – 10:10 am
Period 3	10:15 – 10:50 am
Period 4	10:55 – 11:30 am
Teacher Meetings	All Afternoon





## LITERACY CORNER

Education Quality and  
Accountability Office



Hello Parents and Guardians,

I wanted to update you about the progress in the school's preparation for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

### **OSSLT Lessons for Grade 10 Students Only:**

⇒ The OSSLT Lessons will resume second semester on February 25, 2019.

### **'Whole School Initiatives' (WSIs):**

⇒ Students received their results for the third WSI earlier this week. Please review the results with your son/daughter. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact me.

⇒ The last WSI will take place in second semester on March 4, 2019.

### **After School Literacy Program:**

⇒ We are planning to offer the After School Literacy Program in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester for Grade 10 – 12 students who are preparing to write the OSSLT.

<b>OPTION #1 (3:15-4:45pm)</b>	
<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Wednesdays</b>
Feb 4	Feb 6
Feb 11	Feb 13
Family Day	Feb 20
Feb 25	Feb 27
Mar 4	Mar 6
Mar 18	

<b>OPTION #2 (3:15-4:45pm)</b>	
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Thursdays</b>
Feb 5	Feb 7
Feb 12	Feb 14
Feb 19	Feb 21
Feb 26	Feb 28
Mar 5	Mar 7

⇒ Submit the completed form to me in the Guidance office OR email the completed form to me at [lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca) (form is available in the Main Office/Guidance Office OR download & print copy in E-bulletin)

**Once the form is submitted, your son/daughter is automatically registered.**

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact me either by phone or email

Lovleen Rai  
905-889-9696 Ext/254  
[Lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca)

NO SPANISH OR FRENCH COURSE CREDIT RECOVERY COURSES AVAILABLE



# AFTER SCHOOL CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM LITERACY/NUMERACY STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

STUDENT ID NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname First Name

GENDER: M  F  DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_  
YEAR MONTH DAY

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street Name Town/City POSTAL CODE

HOME TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCY STATUS: CANADIAN CITIZEN  PERMANENT RESIDENT   
VISA STUDENT  - Elementary Visa Students pay \$68.55 - cheque attached   
- Secondary Visa Students pay \$109.50 - cheque attached

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE: FIRST NATION  INUIT  METIS

Please use one set of Registration forms per Class. Please enter the dates "To" and "From" (between October 1 and May 31 in the current school year), during which the course will be held. Please check off the days on which the course will be held.

FROM: February 14 TO: March 15 M  T  W  Th  F   
*every morning 8:30am - 9:30am*

NOTE TO STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN: Punctuality and regular attendance are vital to the process of learning and the completion of this Program. *Please contact your program counsellor if you have any questions.*

STUDENT AGREEMENT—My signature indicates my commitment to the Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT SIGNATURE TEACHER'S SIGNATURE DATE

### PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL

This student has my approval to enroll in the course listed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE PRINT NAME DATE

### PRINCIPAL'S APPROVAL (original signature required please).

[Signature] [Signature]  
PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE DATE



# Student Anticipated Absences

If students are going to be away for an extended period of time, they must complete an anticipated absence form well in advance of the absence.

Forms are available in the main office.

Thank you



## Dear Parents/Guardians:

If your contact information has changed,  
please don't forget to let us know



Email any changes to:

[thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca)

**Thank you!**



# Hello Graduates of 2019!

The graduation ceremony will be on June 27, 2019  
at Hazelton Manor.

There is a fee of \$75.00 to attend the graduation ceremony.

Fee includes the following:

- Venue
- Sound/Lighting
- Décor
- Gown/Cap to keep
- Refreshments
- Programme printing

Make sure to pay your fee via **CASH ON LINE** and  
include your gown size.

There is a limit of 2 guests per grad.

**DEADLINE DATE to pay your fee is: March 31st, 2019**



On Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> there was a collaboration of elementary and secondary students who performed at this year's Quest Conference - The Quest for Well-Being: Making Connections, Making Commitments.

This group of Thornlea S.S. grade 9's (formerly from Johnsville Village PS) performed the play "Invisible" with the current grade 7/8 students attending Johnsville Village PS.

These students did an amazing job and were key to the success of this amazing performance.

Myles Anderson, Charlie Daurio, Daniel Duclos, Ashlynn Finley, Lena Gharooni, Roham Hosseini, Emily Kim, Junhee Lee, Arshia Mathur, Robin Park, Faith Safi, Elyon Sang.

Well done.



Mary Ng our member of Parliament for Markham/Thornhill visited Thornlea S.S. and spoke about Youth Engagement to one of our Grade 10 Classes.

Mary is a devoted community leader who has always believed in the power of public service, with 20 years of experience in the areas of education, women's leadership, job creation, and entrepreneurship. Our students were excited for the opportunity to have a question and answer period with her, as they learned how they too can make a positive impact in their local community.



Students in Ms. Villeneuve's class building new furniture for Pharley's throughout the month of November. Thank you to: George Keylin Myles Anderson Jai Shah Noah Goldberg

The students in Thornlea's Physical Education classes (Healthy Active Living and Personal Fitness) did a great job running in the Salvation Army's "Santa's Shuffle 5K" on Saturday Dec. 1 in Sunnybrook Park. Alongside many other "Santa's" of all ages, our students demonstrated their improved stamina and determination. Great job students and staff!



# Theatre 219

## Almost, Maine



## *Happy Holidays* 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. Julie Scott (Student Success) Voicemail 476  
 Ms. Maria Merecoulias (Student Support for ESL students) 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.

The Post-Secondary Institutions (Universities and Colleges) visits have come to an end. We would like to thank our presenters and our students for attending these seminars and asking great questions. A special thank you to Ms. Lovleen Rai for organizing all the visits.

As for Scholarship information for grade 12 graduating students, please make an appointment to see Ms. Rai in the Guidance office. **There is additional scholarship information available, please see Ms. Rai for the password.**

Two great websites to find out more information on scholarships are:

<http://www.studentawards.com/>

<http://www.electronicinfo.ca/scholarships>

### **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.

**The Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) Pin Codes have already arrived. Over 237 graduating students have already picked up their Pin Code and are on their way to applying to University. Over 105 Thornlea students have already applied and some have been accepted with an early conditional offer!**

**If a student has not picked up their code, they should come to the Guidance office immediately.**

**University Applications:**

You can select as many University programs as you would like (\$50.00 each), but, you can only choose a **maximum of 3 programs** per University. For example:

Only 3 choices can be used for all University of Toronto campuses, for example (St. George, Scarborough, Mississauga) can have one program each or all 3 at Scarborough or any combination adding up to 3.

Waterloo University, you could only select a maximum of 3 programs. If you wanted to add a 4<sup>th</sup> you cannot.

If you need clarification on this process or have questions, please do not hesitate to ask a counselor.

Guidance already offered a College application seminar. If you need further assistance please see Ms. Lovleen Rai in the Guidance Office. 15 students have already applied.

No PinCodes are distributed for College Applications; students will create their own with their Ontario Education Number (OEN) at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)- Students can apply today!

## **The Deadline for your University Application is January 16, 2019 (highly recommended to pay on-line with a credit card)**

The next OUAC University grades transmission is scheduled for early February, 2019.

## **The “Equal Consideration” Deadline for your College Application is February 1st, 2019 (highly recommended to pay on-line with a credit card)**

The next OCAS College grades transmission is scheduled for early February, 2019.

We would also like to remind students that there is a 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. *A reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours by Friday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.*

***If students are planning on making a request for a timetable change for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, they should make an appointment with their counselor today.***

Night School Course registration starts in January 7, 2019.

[www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx)

Night School E-Learning Course registration has started – register on-line today. (Note: Only if you have 3 or less courses on your Timetable)

[www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Winter-Catalog.aspx](http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Winter-Catalog.aspx)

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



## Shabe Yalda Mobarak/ Happy Winter Solstice!



Many around the world celebrate the Winter Solstice or *Yalda*, the longest night of the year. In particular, Iranians celebrate this ancient Persian tradition by welcoming the arrival of winter, the renewal of the sun and the victory of light over darkness.

Considered the longest night of the year, Yalda is when the birth of Mithra, the goddess of light, is celebrated. During this night, family members get together (most often in the house of the eldest member) and stay awake all night long. Dried nuts, watermelon and pomegranate are served, and classic poetry is read aloud.



Iranians believe those who begin winter by eating summer fruits will not fall ill during the cold season. Therefore, eating watermelons is one of the most important traditions during this evening.

This night is also celebrated by many areas in Central Asian such as Afghanistan, as Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Armenia.\*

**JOIN US DEC 20TH AT LUNCH (11:30-12:30) IN ROOM 213 TO CELEBRATE THIS FESTIVAL. PARENT VOLUNTEERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!**

Please contact Ms. Pilaram for information on how to help out: [neda.pilaram@yrdsb.ca](mailto:neda.pilaram@yrdsb.ca) or 905-889-9696 x113.

\**Celebrating Yalda Night*, Iran Review, 2017, [www.iranreview.org/content/Documents/Celebrating\\_Yalda\\_2.htm](http://www.iranreview.org/content/Documents/Celebrating_Yalda_2.htm). Accessed 11 Dec. 2018.

## TWIC's 2nd Annual Wellness Winter Wonderland!



The Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council (TWIC) held its 2nd Annual Wellness Winter Wonderland on Wednesday, December 12th in the Cafeteria during lunch. This event was co-sponsored by two other clubs: Thornlea GSA and Thornlea Interact. The Thornlea Thunder Network was also present to help us record the event for posterity.

### All students and staff were welcome to:

- marvel at the beautiful hand-made, decorations
- make holiday cards or paper snowflakes
- view posted information about how to optimize mental health during the holiday season
- listen to wonderful holiday-themed music
- enjoy hot cocoa and nut-free cookies
- find out about the Interact Club and the GSA Club

A special shout-out from TWIC President Gabby Laws to the following TWIC students who worked so hard to plan this event:

- Kaitlyn Fletcher
- Laura Ross
- Maya Lekhi
- Ginny Au
- Meera Chopra
- Mikayla Astroff
- Emma Kursell
- Daniel Fu
- Ike Weng

Thank you, also, to the staff who helped TWIC students to prepare for this event:

- Mrs. A. Ackerman
- Mrs. D. Hanff
- Ms. M. Karounos
- Ms. E. Chan
- Ms. S. Wang

Winter Wonderland Decorations (Set-Up) (Pre-Lunch Rush!)



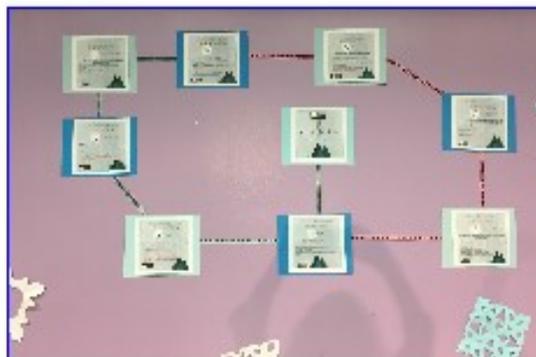
Hot Cocoa and Nut-Free Cookies, Ready to Go!



Holiday Card Craft Stations Ready to Go!



8 CAMH Tips for Surviving the Holidays



One Craft Station during the Rush!



Another Craft Station during the Rush!



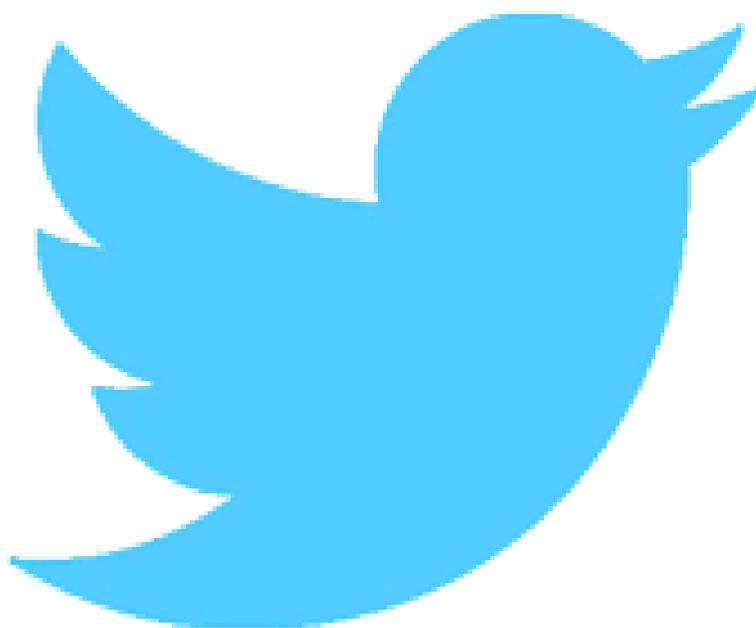
A Small Part of the TWIC Team Responsible this Event!



**TWIC wishes the entire Thornlea community a very healthy and happy holiday season.  
Remember to be kind to yourself!**

# Follow us on Twitter

@ThornleaSSYRDSB



twitter

# Calendar of Events

December 10-20	GRAD Photos
December 24- January 4	Christmas Break
January 7	Back to school
January 14-16	EQAO Math
January 17	Last day for assessments
January 21	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
January 24-30	EXAMS
January 31	EXAM Review Day
February 1	PA Day
February 4	First Day Semester 2
February 8	DECA Provincial Competition
February 14	PHOTO Day
February 18	Family Day—No school today
February 19	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
March 7	Interim Reports Home
March 11-15	Spring Break
March 25	Thunder Rally
March 27	OSSLT

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS to you and yours!**