



Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu

Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos

March 15, 2018

Spring is Coming! 



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MESSAGE FROM THE 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 8th. If for some reason your child's report did not find its way home, please let us know. Parents' Night for semester two will take place on April 12th.

We have had a lot to celebrate at Thornlea in the last few weeks. We have been handing out certificates the last couple of days for students on the Honour Role (80% or better on at least three subjects in semester one) and Principals list (90% or better on at least three subjects in semester one). The rest of the certificates will be handed out on Monday when we return from March Break in our homeroom classes. Congratulations to all our winners for a job well done. Thornlea has also experienced a great deal of success in athletics from our winter sports programs. We would like to acknowledge the Sr. Girls Volleyball team for a great season and placing second in the YRAA finals. Congratulations to the Sr. Boys Basketball team for winning the YRAA championship for the second year in a row. On the Slopes we had a great year as well, congratulations Alec Edwards for a great result in both the Slalom and Giant Slalom events at the provincial championship OFSAA. Our very own Vanessa Seto placed 5th in the Slalom and 1st in the Giant Slalom. In the pool Darren Huspeka placed third in the 50 metre fly and won gold in the 200 metre freestyle at OFSAA. We would also like to wish our Sr. Boys Prep Basketball team good luck as they prepare for the provincial playoffs at the University of Guelph after March Break. With the end of Winter (we hope it happens soon) spring sports will start. In the spring rugby, soccer, track and field, ultimate Frisbee and coed volleyball will be taking place. For more information, please contact our physical education department.

The next big event at Thornlea will be the literacy test which will take place on April 10th. On that date only those students writing the test will be in attendance (and our community class special education classes). To help prepare for the test we are running after school literacy classes for all our students Free of charge. If you have any questions about the classes or the test, please contact our literacy teacher Ms. Rai. Finally, I would like to announce that Thornlea has significant birthday approaching. Our school turns 50 and to celebrate we are having a reception and party on Saturday June 2nd. All are welcome more information to follow shortly.

Warmest regards,

Joe Foti

**ATTENTION 2018
GRADUATES!**

**June 28, 2018
Is GRAD
NIGHT!**



Graduation Fee Includes:
Cap & Gown
Venue
Printing Costs
Decorations

**Graduation Fee is \$75.00. Graduation ceremonies on June 28, 2018 will be at Paradise Banquet Centre in Vaughan
www.paradisebanquethalls.com**

If you have NOT YET PAID the fee and will attend Graduation on June 28, 2018, please make sure to **PAY ONLINE AND INCLUDE THE SIZE OF GOWN YOU REQUIRE. All of this can be done online.**

School Cash On Line Instructions attached.

If you need to pay by CASH, or CHEQUE, please see Ms. Maiorano in the office to pay and to complete the Gown Size Order Form.

GRADUATION FEE IS DUE NOW!!!



TSS Literacy Corner

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Hello Parents and Guardians,

I wanted to remind you about a few things that will help prepare your son/daughter for writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Reminder #1:

- ⇒ The test will take place on April 10.
- ⇒ Students will receive more information at an assembly on April 5.

Reminder #2: After School Literacy Program

- ⇒ It is not too late for your son/daughter to join the Program.
 - ⇒ To register your son/daughter for the Program, please:
 1. choose the section (days) to attend from 3:15 to 4:45pm
 - Section 1 = every Monday and Wednesday (last class is April 4)
 - Section 2 = every Tuesday and Thursday (last class is April 5)
 - ***excluding days during March Break***
 2. fill out the appropriate registration form (pick up in the Main Office or download & print copy in E-bulletin)
 3. submit the completed form to me in the Guidance office or email the completed form to me at lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca
- ***Once the form is submitted, your son/daughter is automatically registered for the Program.**

Reminder #3: Preparing for the Test

- ⇒ The Whole School Initiatives (WSIs) will take place on the following days:
 - March 20 (period 4) March 26 (period 1)

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me either by phone or email.

Lovleen Rai

905-889-9696 Ext/254

Lovleen.rai@yrdsb.ca



**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 \$102.80 - 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 21 TO: APRIL 4 M T W Th F
EXCLUDING DAYS DURING MARCH BREAK

NOTE TO STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN: Punctuality and regular attendance are vital to the process of learning and the completion of this Program.

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 enrol in the course listed:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE PRINT NAME DATE

PRINCIPAL'S APPROVAL (original signature required please).

[Signature]
PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE DEC 21, 2017
DATE



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 \$102.80 - 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 27 TO: APRIL 5 M T W Th F

EXCLUDING DAYS DURING MARCH BREAK

NOTE TO STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN: Punctuality and regular attendance are vital to the process of learning and the completion of this Program.

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 enrol in the course listed:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME

DATE

PRINCIPAL'S APPROVAL (original signature required please).



PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE

DEC 21, 2017

DATE

Salutations from the Guidance Department!

Our team has been busy with providing our students with information about the University and College Application process, scholarship and community involvement hours and timetable requests for 2nd semester and course requests for the 2018/19 school year.

The Guidance Team this year consists of Ms. Lovleen Rai (ESL Counselor/Literacy Lead), Ms. Viviane Estafanos (French Immersion Counselor/AP Co-ordinator, F.I. Teacher), Ms. Julie Scott (Student Success), Ms. Maria Merecoulias (Student Success for ESL students), Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance (Counselor) and Ms. Gail Burdett (Guidance Secretary).

We also would like to announce the new 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 Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) deadline has now passed. Currently 189 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 26th**.

Guidance will continue to monitor and support the College application process. Currently, 38 Thornlea students have applied. No PinCodes are distributed for College Applications; students will create their own on-line at www.ontariocolleges.ca. Please note that the "equal consideration" deadline has passed (Feb. 1st), but students can still apply. The next marks transmission for OCAS will be on **April 26th**.

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.

Important Notice for all grade 12's that have applied to OUAC for university!
Your grades from semester one have been processed (on Feb. 9th) 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 Counselor as soon as possible to have it corrected.

For Scholarship information, please make an appointment to see Ms. Rai in the Guidance office.

We also have a handout in the Guidance office.

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

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

www.electronicinfo.ca/scholarships

www.scholarshipscanada.com

The Course Selection process for next year has begun! We had our grade assemblies to provide information on this process. The On-line course selection process deadline was Friday February 23rd. After students selected their courses, they must click **SUBMIT, and then **PRINT**, then get it **SIGNED** by a parent/guardian. Then they need to hand it in to their **HOMEROOM** teacher before March 1st; or if they have a spare period 1, to the Guidance Department. Thank you.**

Our team has been extremely 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 their Homeroom Teacher or the Guidance Department.

Next: A Course Selection Verification Sheet will be distributed after the March Break, at that time students can request a change on this sheet.

We would also like to remind our learning community that there is a new 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 approval. Your service must be for a Not-For-Profit organization/event.**

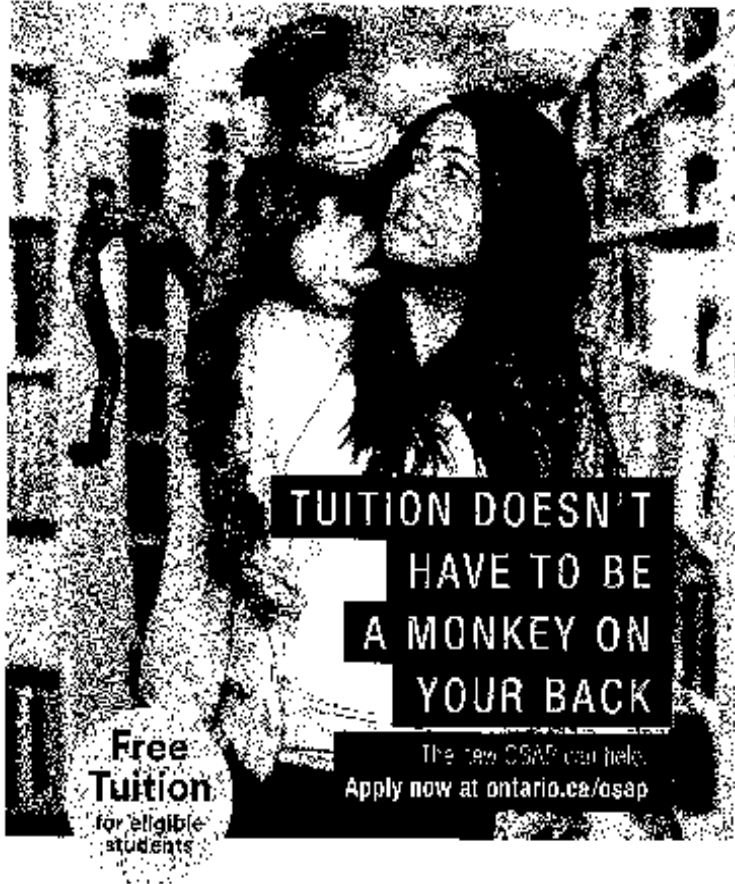
We also would like to announce to all our grade 9 students. Grade 9 students that complete their 40 community service hours in their grade 9 year will receive a special certificate of completion.

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.

A reminder to all grade 12 students; that they should hand in their community service hours before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.

Summer School registration through career cruising will begin late April/ early May. We will keep you posted. Thank you.

Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education



**TUITION DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE
A MONKEY ON
YOUR BACK**

**Free
Tuition**
for eligible
students

The new OSAP can help.
Apply now at ontario.ca/osap

ontario.ca/osap

THUNDER TAKES HOOPS TITLE

Posted by [Stephen Sweet](#) | Mar 7, 2018 |

<https://markhamreview.com/thunder-takes-hoops-title/>

Summer Co-operative Education 2018

Information and Application: bit.ly/SummerCoop2018

NEW!

1 Credit Summer Co-op

SHSM and Non-SHSM students

Program Dates: July 3 - July 27

Application Deadline: **June 1, 2018**

Interview Dates: June 4 - 15

SHSM Mackenzie Health

2 Credit Summer Co-op

SHSM H&W and Business Students

Program Dates: May 9 - Aug 3

Application Deadline: **March 23, 2018**

Interviews Dates: April 5 - 6

Required Volunteer Week:
August 6th-10th

2 Credit Summer Co-op

SHSM and Non-SHSM students

Program Dates: May 9th-Aug 3rd

Application Deadline: **March 23, 2018**

Interview Dates: April 9th-20th

There are three Summer Co-op Programs available for students in 2018. New for this year is a 1 credit Summer Co-op program. The description of the 3 Co-op programs are found below. Please share the attached poster with your students (color copies will be sent in the courier to the Guidance Department). Students can visit bit.ly/SummerCoop2018 for more information and the application package. **Please Note:** Students do not need to apply using Career Cruising; rather, students will apply using the Google Survey on the bit.ly/SummerCoop2018 site.

NEW – 1 Credit Summer Co-op: bit.ly/SummerCoop2018

- 1 credit Summer Co-op program is available to students and is from July 3 – 27
- Students in grade 10 interested in applying must meet the minimum age requirements outlined by the Labour Laws for the industry they are interested in working.
- Application Deadline: June 1st, 2018 – send completed applications to Diane Emery, Centre for Leadership and Learning, York Region District School Board (300 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket)
- Students who meet the program requirements will be contacted via telephone for their interview the first and second week of June.
- Pre-placement classes and integration classes will be held at Dr. Betty Stephenson Centre for Learning (George Street in Richmond Hill).
- All SP5M students must have a co-op placement in the SECTOR of their SP5M program.

2 Credit Summer Co-op: bit.ly/SummerCoop2018

- The 2 credit Summer Co-op program is available to All students (SP5M and Non-SP5M). SP5M students will be placed in their coinciding SP5M Sector.
- The 2 credit Summer Co-op program is a blended learning model and runs May 9th to August 2nd. Wednesday evening classes will be held at Dr. Betty Stephenson as well as online. For more details of the Wednesday classes visit: <http://bit.ly/SummerCoop2018>
- Students in grade 10 interested in applying must meet the minimum age requirements outlined by the Labour Laws for the industry they are interested in working.
- Application Deadline: March 23rd, 2018 – send completed applications to Diane Emery, Centre for Leadership and Learning, York Region District School Board (300 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket)
- Students who meet the program requirements will be contacted via telephone and email with a date, time, and location of their interview.
- Interviews will be held the weeks of April 9 – 20th (students will be contacted directly)

SP5M Mackenzie Health Hospital - 2 Credit Summer Co-op Program in H&W and Business

Sectors: bit.ly/SummerCoop2018

- The SP5M Mackenzie Health – 2 Credit program is available to SP5M students in grade 11-12 in the Health & Wellness and Business Sectors at Mackenzie Health Hospital.
- The 2 credit Summer Co-op program is a blended learning model and runs May 9th to August 2nd. Wednesday evening classes will be held at Dr. Betty Stephenson as well as online. For more details visit: <http://bit.ly/SummerCoop2018>
- There is an additional 1 week MANDATORY volunteer component at the Hospital from August 6 – 10
- Application Deadline: March 23rd, 2018 – send completed applications to Diane Emery, Centre for Leadership and Learning, York Region District School Board (300 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket)
- Students who meet the program requirements will be contacted via telephone and email with a date, time, and location of their interview. Interviews will be held on April 5th and April 6th (students will be contacted directly with the date/time/location)
- Teachers, students, and parents or guardians should NOT contact Mackenzie Health directly. The program is delivered by York Region DSB for both York Region USB and York Catholic DSB students.

Wellness Day 2018 Rollout!

On Wednesday, February 22nd, Thornlea staff and students had an early morning party to raise awareness and excitement about our upcoming May 2 Wellness Day.

Students from TWIC (Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council) and TSAC (Thornlea Student Activity Council) welcomed students into the building, starting at 8:00 a.m., with music, treats, streamers, balloons, and lots of excited yelling!



These same groups will be visiting student classes during period 3 on March 22 in order to give out specific information (and a letter to parents) about this spring's Wellness Day, on which all Thornlea students will have the opportunity to have fun and relax by participating in either out-of-school or in-school activities.

Details of the day will also be posted on the school website on March 22. Be sure to ask your teen about the letter to parents/guardians distributed during period 3 classes on March 22!

Year Two of Wellness Partnership!

In early February, as part of a 2-year partnership, Thornlea received its second \$1000 cheque from York Region to support its wellness initiatives. The money will be used for the May 2nd Wellness Day, as well as for our Thunder Thursdays and spring Wellness Fair.



The photo at left shows public health nurse Noreen Valimohamed from York Region Public Health presenting principal Joe Foti and some members of TWIC (Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council) with the \$1000 cheque for 2017-2018.

Students in photo: Meera Chopra, Sara Hirji, Kamand Rashidi, Kaitlyn Fletcher, Amir Deghani, and Taraneh Torabi. Also pictured are TWIC staff co-chairs, Amanda Ackerman and Debra Hanff.

Absent TWIC students: Gabby Laws (TWIC Student President), Alyssa Hung, and Helen Liu.

Photo by Rob Ackerman.

Junior girls volleyball team and their coaches, Ms. Bendavid and Ms. Estafanos, after winning 2nd in their Home tournament on Friday Feb. 23rd.



Thornlea's very own Vanessa Seto and Alec Edward competed in the OFSAA Alpine Ski competition this past Monday and Tuesday at Blue Mountain.

Both athletes finished with outstanding results.

Alec Edward finished 26th out of 89 racers in the Slalom event and 27th out of 99 racers in the GS event.

Vanessa Seto came 5th out of 105 racers in the Slalom event and drum roll please 1st out of 116 racers in the GS event.

A big congratulations to both athletes on their admirable accomplishments. Your team, coaches and school are very proud of you!

Go Thunder!



On February 27-28, Darren Huspeka represented the Thornlea swim team at the OFSAA provincial swim championships in Windsor, Ontario. Back in December, he had qualified for the 200 metre freestyle and 50 metre butterfly by finishing in top spot at the YRAA divisional championships. Now it was his turn to compete against the best athletes in the province, and he did not disappoint. He brought back a gold medal in the 200 m freestyle, finishing several seconds ahead of his nearest competitor, and he won bronze in the 50 m fly, finishing just a fraction of a second behind the winner. This is Darren's last competition for Thornlea, as he will be graduating in June. He has swum on the team throughout his entire high school career, and this is certainly a fitting end. We wish Darren the best of luck in the future, as we thank him for his efforts, and congratulate him on his successes!



DEAR PARENTS/ GUARDIANS AND STAFF MEMBERS,
WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR
DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS CLUB.
YOU ARE ALL INVITED!!!



Our **Digital Arts Club Hands-On Workshops** will take place
ON THURSDAYS

AFTER SCHOOL (3:30 – 4:30 PM) IN ROOM 223.

Please choose the session/ sessions that you would like to attend and send an email to: ilana.bern@vrdsb.ca. We will contact you in the next few days to confirm Workshops dates and your attendance.

Looking forward to seeing you very soon!

Digital Arts Club Hands-On Workshops:

- Surreal Collages in Photoshop
- Learning Illustration in Illustrator
- Animated E-Cards using Flash MX
 - Simple Movie in Flash MX
 - 3-D Animation in Blender 2.68
- Website Design in Dreamweaver (using Flash MX /Photoshop)

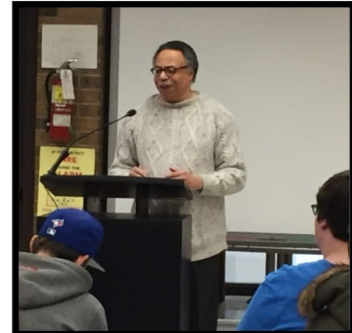
Best Regards,

Mme Bern and Digital Media Arts Team

Thornlea Library Update

Speaker Series

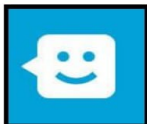
We are off to a busy and exciting start in the Thornlea library for Semester 2. One of our mandates is to invite inspirational speakers to talk to students on important topics and issues. We started off celebrating **Black History Month** with one of Canada's most important and award winning poets, George Elliott Clarke. His many honours include being the former Toronto Laureate, and Parliamentary Poet Laureate. He is the winner of numerous awards and prizes, including his appointment to the Order of Canada at the rank of Officer. It was an honour to have him speak to students about his life as well as sharing his entertaining work.



We also held our **2nd Annual Returning Grads Visit**. Sixteen former Thornlea graduates took time during their busy Reading Week to sit on a panel and share what life in university is like and also offer tips and advice to our Grade 12 students about what to expect next year. The visitors also reinforced for the audience how good time management skills ensure you will succeed and have time for it all: work, play, physical fitness, and mental health maintenance. It is always such a proud moment to hear how well our former students are doing.

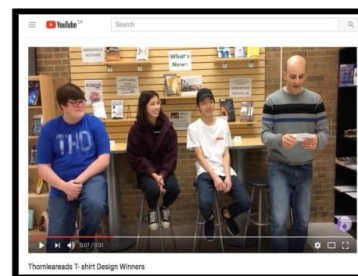


High school life can sometimes be challenging and stressful for students. We invited a guest speaker from **Kids Help Phone** to talk to a Gr. 10 boys health class about what KHP offers, and where and how to seek help.



Social Media

Our @thornleareads Twitter and YouTube accounts are going strong. Our newest YouTube Playlist is called, WishList: book reviews by the talented Megan Wishart.



Contests

Our annual Library t-shirt design Contest received many great entries. The winning design was made by Jasmine Plumb. T-shirts are available in the library. Also our current book contest is the CBC Canada Reads annual contest. CBC donated the shortlist. Students can fill out a ballot in the library to win!



Contribute to Strategic Planning at YRDSB - Upcoming Town Halls

York Region District School Board is revisioning its Multi-Year Plan (MYP) and Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the strategic direction of public education in York Region public schools. The MYP incorporates the direction established by the Trustees with feedback received from all stakeholders, and will inform decision making at the Board in the years to come. Town halls will be taking place across the region and feedback collected from families and community members will inform the creation of a new MYP. Your voice is important and your input and feedback will help York Region District School Board support student achievement and well-being. There will also be other opportunities, including a survey available in April, to share your thoughts if you are unable to attend a town hall.

Save the Date!

TOWN HALL DATES AND TIMES	LOCATIONS
Monday, April 16, 2018 7 - 9 p.m.	Keswick High School 100 Biscayne Blvd., Keswick
Wednesday, April 18, 2018 6 - 9 p.m.	Markville Secondary School 1000 Carlton Rd., Markham
Sunday, April 22, 2018 2 - 4 p.m.	Sir William Mulock Secondary School 705 Columbus Way, Newmarket
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 6 - 8 p.m.	Maple High School 50 Springside Rd., Maple
Saturday, April 28, 2018 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Bayview Secondary School 10077 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill

Attention: GRADS
Yearbook Student Grad Awards
and
Yearbook Quotes!

Grad Student Awards - Due Tuesday March 20th

Complete nominations for Grade Student Awards for the Yearbook. Use the link or QR code below.

Login with your YRDSB GAPPS email.

<http://bit.ly/2GM0rHU>



Grad Quotes - Due Tuesday March 20th

Send us your grad quote for the yearbook. Use the link or QR code below.

Quotes are 140 characters or less and must be school appropriate.

Login with your YRDSB GAPPS email.

<http://bit.ly/2sYDZcE>

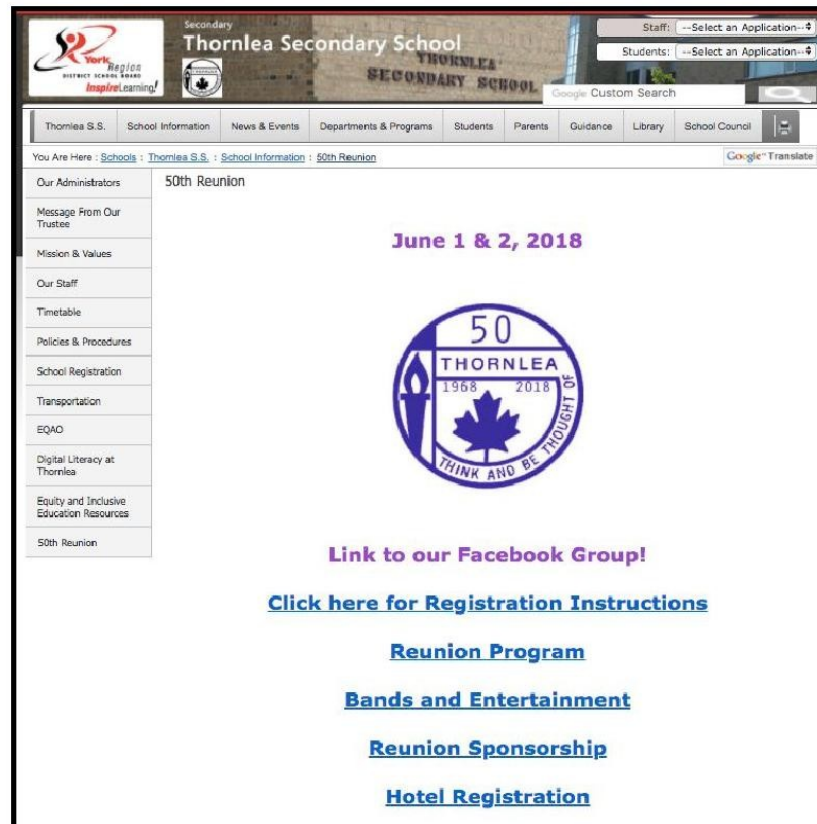


See Ms. Lerman if you have questions.

Thornlea's 50th Reunion Anniversary June 2!

Spread the word to former students and staff about Thornlea's upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration!

Information and a link to register is currently on the school website at:
<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/Info/Pages/50th-Reunion.aspx>



The screenshot shows the website for Thornlea Secondary School's 50th Reunion. The header includes the school's name and navigation tabs. The main content area is titled '50th Reunion' and features a large circular logo with the number '50' at the top, 'THORNLEA' in the center, and '1968 2018' at the bottom. Below the logo, there are several blue links: 'Link to our Facebook Group!', 'Click here for Registration Instructions', 'Reunion Program', 'Bands and Entertainment', 'Reunion Sponsorship', and 'Hotel Registration'. A sidebar on the left contains various school-related links.

There is also an active *Facebook* group which currently has about 3000 members.

June 1: Celebration at Heintzman House

June 2: Celebration at Thornlea Secondary School

See school website for details and to register!



Nowruz Celebration at Thornlea!



Calling all parents and community members who would like to volunteer and attend Thornlea's annual Nowruz celebration being held on Wednesday March 21st during lunch (11:30-12:25pm)

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 *sabzeh* (rebirth), coins (prosperity), wheat germ pudding *samanu* (affluence/sweetness), sumac (the colour of sunrise), vinegar (age and patience) and others.



Please contact Ms Pilaram (neda.pilaram@vrdsb.ca) if you would be interested in volunteering in any way. This will be a potluck with music and entertainment and is open to Thornlea students, staff and families.

News from Thornlea Student Equity and Diversity Team

Mural Painting as Inclusive Design Learning Experience

Our Student Equity and Diversity Team is actively involved in a Community-Service Learning and Painting project. Students have painted this beautiful Diversity mural “Les Inspirations par Michel-Ange”. The Mural painting component is part of the Visual Design and Technology Curriculum. These projects help our students use their art skills and present them to our community partners.

We are in the process of designing and painting more murals to promote themes like social change, respect, future, growth, diversity, education and partnerships.

We are also working on Collaborative Mural Painting “Canada 150” projects with the students from our feeder schools - Woodland PS and Adrienne Clarkson PS.

If you are interested in participating in Community Mural Projects, helping designing and painting murals, please contact Mme. Bern (ilana.bern@vrdsb.ca).

Join Our Team and Become Part of Our Community Mural Project!





More Murals – “*Les inspirations Impressionnistes*”



Community and International Education Services (CIES) will be offering the Summer Teach Abroad Student Volunteer Program again in 2018.

This year, we are looking for **25 Grades 10 and 11** students **holding Canadian passports**, who would be interested in assisting ESL teachers in a high school setting in Taiwan, from July 20 to August 20, 2018.

The students will be accompanied by teachers from York Region District School Board who will be going to Taiwan to deliver English Summer Camp programs for Grades 7-8 students at **various schools** in Taiwan.

Selected students will assist the YRDSB teachers in ESL classrooms on weekdays for 3 weeks and participate in a 1-week student exchange program with students from the New Taipei City Education Bureau. Weekends, will consist of our students participating in specially designed sessions covering Taiwanese/Chinese Culture, excursions, and seminars about global issues. All students will be staying at the student residence at the **Wesley Girls' High School** campus which has a fully equipped canteen and activity spaces.

Students will be responsible for the cost of their own round-trip airfare and travel/medical insurance, approximately \$2,200.00 CAD per person. Student will also be required pay a \$500.00 CAD program fee. This program fee will cover the costs of student accommodations, some meals, Chinese/Taiwanese cultural sessions as well as 2 cultural excursions.

Upon successful completion of this 4-week program, Community and International Education Services (CIES) will award all participating students with 100 community service hours.

The Program looks for candidates who are:

- ✓ Excellent leaders
- ✓ Independent
- ✓ Creative
- ✓ Good communicators
- ✓ Good role models
- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Team players
- ✓ Good ambassadors for Canada and YRDSB

How to Apply:

Principals will recommend a maximum of **5 candidates** from their respective school. These candidates will be notified by their school administration to submit the following documents to International Education Services by **March 31, 2018**:

- ✓ Completed Application Form (Please see attached)
- ✓ Copy of the student's passport photo page
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ Recommendation from the Principal
- ✓ 1 Reference letter from his/her current teacher

25 students from the list of recommended candidates will receive an invitation to attend an information session on **Wednesday April 18, 2018** from **4:30pm to 6:00pm** in **the Cafeteria**, at the **Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning**.

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Eden Xiao
 Community & International Education Services
 Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning
 36 Regatta Avenue, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4E 4R1
 Tel: 905-884 2046 Ext. 259 Fax: 905-773 2406

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 30	Good Friday
April 2	Easter Monday
April 10	OSSLT
April 12	Parents' Night
April 17	Term 1 Ends
April 17-20	One Act Play Festival
April 18	Term 2 Begins
April 19	Health & Wellness Thunder Thursday
April 19	France Trip Information Night
April 23	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
April 26	Mid-Term Reports Home
May 2	Health & Wellness Day
May 3	PROM
May 4	PA Day
May 21	Victoria Day (No School Today)
May 22	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
May 29-Jun 1	Alumni Theatre Show
June 2	Thornlea SS 50th Anniversary
June 11-13	Gr. 9 Math EQAO
June 20-26	EXAMS
June 27	Exam Review Day
June 28	Graduation
June 28-29	PA Day

FINAL REPORT CARDS MAILED HOME MID-JULY