



# Thornlea SS

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**Principal: Joe Foti**

**February 8, 2019**

**Vice-Principal: Anthony Hu**

**Vice-Principal: Sofia Papadatos**



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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families and Community Members,

We are off and running in semester two and almost all student timetable issues have now been dealt with. Once again Thornlea has experienced growth. We currently have 1020 students registered. If you have questions or concerns about your child's timetable, please feel free to contact me. Last week, semester one report cards for all students were handed out in homeroom or by the office if your student has a period one spare. If your students report card has not found its way home, please give us a call.

The second semester has started and a number of our winter sports teams are heading towards the playoffs. Our Sr. Girls Volleyball has had a great season and are looking forward to a long run in the YRAA playoffs. Our Boys' Basketball teams are also at the top of the league and looking forward to success in the post season as well. We would like to acknowledge one of our Prep Basketball players for a tremendous season. Cashius McNeilly has been invited to the NBA All Star Game this weekend in Charlotte North Carolina. He has been recognized as one of the top players in North America and will be working out with NBA development scouts. Congratulations Cashius we look forward to your stories and pictures when you return.

This week our guidance department is meeting with students in each grade to go over course selection. There are grade assemblies and individual sessions in our computer labs. Our students will become familiar with My Blueprint which is the new course selection tool. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alkins in the guidance office

Finally, we wish all our families a relaxing and enjoyable Family Day long weekend. When we return to school on Tuesday February 19<sup>th</sup> School Council will meet in the library starting at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome please come and join us if you are free.

Warmest regards,

Joe Foti



# 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**

## 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!**



## LITERACY CORNER

Education Quality and  
Accountability Office



Hello Parents and Guardians,

**The test will take place on March 27.**

**An Information Assembly for all eligible OSSLT writers is on  
March 22.**

### After School Literacy Program:

- ⇒ Reminder that the **After School Literacy Program is now running** for Grade 10 – 12 students who are preparing to write the OSSLT.
- ⇒ It is not too late to sign up your son/daughter. 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)

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

### OSSLT Lessons for Grade 10 Students Only:

- ⇒ During period 3, Grade 10 students will be learning how to respond to a news report prompt. Their teacher will pick one of the following dates for them to participate in the lesson: **February 25-28, March 1**

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

- ⇒ All Grade 9 & 10 students (including Grade 11 & 12 students without the requirement) will write a WSI, which will provide students with an opportunity to practice writing a news report from a past OSSLT.
- ⇒ The last WSI will take place on **March 4**.

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)

# Guidance News

Welcome to the start of a new semester from the Guidance Department! Our team has been busy with providing our students with timetable request changes for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. We saw over 300 students requesting changes, and we tried our best to support each student's request.

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.

**The Course Selection process for next year will begin on Monday February 11<sup>th</sup>. We will have our grade assemblies on this day to provide information on this process.**

**There will be grade assemblies on Monday Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> during Periods 1, 2, 3, and 4 to provide information on this process. Grade 9(Pd. 1), Grade 10(Pd. 2), Grade 12(Pd. 3), Grade 11(Pd. 4). Course selections in myBlueprint are to be completed and submitted by Friday Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> this is the Equal Consideration Deadline.**

**After students have 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 Wednesday Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>; or if they have a spare period 1, to the Guidance Department. Thank you.**

**Please make sure your child submits a signed course selection form to their Homeroom Teacher or the Guidance Department.**

The Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) deadline has now passed. Currently 198 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 25<sup>th</sup>**.

Guidance will continue to monitor and support the College application process. Currently, 15 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 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. Before the next OUAC/OCAS transmission.***

Night School Course registration started on 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*

# UNIVERSITY INFORMATION NIGHT

## FOR GRADE 10/11 STUDENTS & PARENTS

**Are you a current grade 10 or grade 11 high school student who is university bound after you graduate?**

You and your family are invited to attend a Trent University Information Night to help prepare you for a smooth transition to university.

### TRENT UNIVERSITY PETERBOROUGH

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 7pm-8pm  
Trent Student Centre

### TRENT UNIVERSITY DURHAM GREATER TORONTO AREA

Thursday, February 21, 2019 7pm-8pm  
55 Thornton Road South, Oshawa

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO AT INFO NIGHT:

- Find the right academic program for you and get details on admission requirements
- Tour campus
- Learn about the application process and how to prepare
- Find out more about scholarships and other ways to help fund your education
- And more!



[TRENTU.CA/FUTURESTUDENTS/INFONIGHT](http://TRENTU.CA/FUTURESTUDENTS/INFONIGHT)

**TRENT**   
UNIVERSITY

CHALLENGE THE WAY YOU THINK

## Who Inspires You, Thornlea?

In each E-Bulletin, beginning with this one, we will 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



# KASSIUS ROBERTSON

After graduating from Thornlea, Kassius played college basketball for the Canisius College and for the Missouri Tigers.

In June 2018, Kassius signed with with Medi Bayreuth of the Basketball Bundesliga league.

# THORNLEA GRAD



## SHEILA MCCARTHY

Canadian actress and singer who has worked in film, t.v., and on stage. She is one of Canada's most honoured actors, having won two Genie Awards (film), two Gemini Awards (t.v.), an ACTRA Award and two Dora Awards (theatre).

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

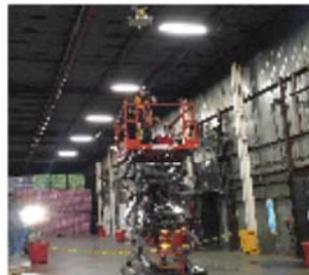
**Who Inspires You, Thornlea?**



## A Fast Track to Skilled Trades

### *Thornlea's Exploring Opportunities Program (EOP)*

In Canada, skilled trades are approaching a vital period in expansion. Statisticians believe the skilled trade workforce is approaching a “demographic deficit – the number of those about to retire exceeds new entrants into those important professions” (Robinson 2017). Parents and students need to consider the demand of skilled trades, the perk of obtaining education and working concurrently, and the satisfaction of these highly technical and evolving jobs. The days of having ‘weak’ students enter trades is long gone. As you read this, contemplate that person you know that can solve problems at ease, pick up highly technical terms effortlessly, or one who dismantles everything to see how it works; employers of various skilled trades are seeking these individuals and will offer the education to be extremely successful and respected. More importantly, “in Canada’s future economy, the skilled trades are going to matter more than ever. So we need to make significant and sustained investments in attracting our best and brightest talent to these professions, the same way we do for the best and brightest knowledge workers” (Buck 2014).



For those who have never heard the saying ‘practice makes perfect’, this message applies to you more than anyone! Thornlea’s Exploring Opportunities Program (EOP), concentrated in Transportation Technology, is offered to Gr.11 students who strive for exposure to experiential learning. EOP stands as the premier program advancing and catering to students that want to learn and, more importantly, *do*. To elaborate, EOP runs two semesters – one in Gr.11 and one in Gr.12.

During either grade level, students involved in EOP will not only gain educational training in our updated automotive technology facility, but will have the chance to experience trades in the 'real world' through a Co-op placement. After completion, students involved in EOP will graduate with valuable industry education, experience, and potentially an apprenticeship.

Thornlea's Exploring Opportunities Program provides the pathway to get there! For more information about this exciting program, speak to Ms. Walker (Rm.305) or email her at [joan.walker@yrdsb.ca](mailto:joan.walker@yrdsb.ca). Information may also be obtained through the guidance office.

You can take my word for face value or hear about the potential of the program from a student who experienced great success this semester.



One of our EOP students this past semester, **Vadim Politov**, has since been signed as an apprentice with an electrical company. He has full time hours and will be going back to school to complete his level one accreditation while gaining experience in the field. At this point, Vadim will have the tools to gain employment as a residential and industrial electrician by the time he is 26!

**Congratulations!**

*Article written by: Mr. Nicholas Giorgio*

Buck, Genna. "Jobs Report: The Tricks-and the Stigma-of the Trades." *Macleans.ca*, Macleans.ca, 27 Oct. 2015, [www.macleans.ca/education/college/jobs-report-the-tricks-of-the-trades/](http://www.macleans.ca/education/college/jobs-report-the-tricks-of-the-trades/).

Robinson, Nobina. "Skilled Trades Will Enable The Future Of Canada's Economy." *HuffPost Canada*, HuffPost Canada, 16 Jan. 2017, [www.huffingtonpost.ca/nobina-robinson/canada-skilled-trades\\_b\\_14138820.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/nobina-robinson/canada-skilled-trades_b_14138820.html).



**FEBRUARY 20, 2019 • 7PM-9PM**

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS FOR PARENTS AND CARING ADULTS  
NEWMARKET THEATRE · 505 PICKERING CRESCENT, NEWMARKET

Hear from our **YOUTH SPEAKERS**, who will share their personal stories and how they were able to cope with mental health challenges, bullying and substance misuse

LEARN MEANINGFUL WAYS TO CREATE A  
**SAFE SPACE** FOR YOUTH TO TALK

Hear from **YORK REGIONAL POLICE** how we can protect youth from cyberbullying

SEE A PERFORMANCE BY **UNITY Charity**, FOCUSED ON IMPROVING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Visit **AGENCY BOOTHS** to access valuable information and resources

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



**"APPROXIMATELY 1 IN 5 CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN ONTARIO HAS FACED OR WILL FACE A MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGE"**

*Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario (2019).*



As a parent or caring adult, it is important that you know how to identify these challenges and help youth cope and face life's challenges with resilience and self-confidence

905 967 0604 · [una@youthspeak.ca](mailto:una@youthspeak.ca) · [www.youthspeak.ca](http://www.youthspeak.ca) · [f](#) [t](#) [i](#)

# Join a Club at Thornlea 18-19!

Art Council

Mental Health Society

Digital Media Arts Club

Vocal Ensemble "Les Voix"

Peer Buddies Club

Ski and Snowboard Club

Thornlea Amnesty International Book Club

Gender Sexuality Alliance

Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council

Thornlea Peer Tutors

Breakfast Club

Athletic Council

Rock-Climbing Team and Club

Computer Club

Afghan/Iranian Club

Korean K-Pop Dance Club

Thornlea Street Patrol

Otaku Club

Thornlea Thunder Network

Thornlea DECA Club

Tennis Club

Biology Club

Eco Club

Stem Cell Club

Thrill Seekers Club

Golf Club

Thornlea Curling Club

Music Council

# Calendar of Events

February 7	Final Sem. 1 report cards home
February 11-14	Course Selection Assemblies
February 18	Family Day
<b>February 19</b>	<b>PHOTO Day **NEW DATE**</b>
February 19	School Council Meeting 7:15pm
March 7	Interim Reports Home
March 11-15	Spring Break
March 22	OSSLT Assemblies
March 27	OSSLT
April 1-5	Student One Act Play
April 5-14	Greece/Italy trip
April 11	Parents' Night
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 2	PROM
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
June 27	Graduation