

Sabre Source



... From the Principal

Dear Parents / Guardians:

We have come to the end of our first semester and you should have received your child's report card with this newsletter. At this time every year, we have some Sabres graduating. This year we will be saying goodbye to 55 graduating Southwood Sabres at the conclusion of semester one. I wish them well as they begin their next journey and we will see them at Commencement next year. I would like to let our school community know that Mr. Weinhardt has made the decision to retire. We wish him all the best in his next adventure.



Mr. Weinhardt

I would like to share with the Southwood school community that our school is facing a significant facility and equipment challenge. Our theatrical lighting and sound systems are no longer working. Both systems were installed in our large gym in the early 1980's and have now been shut off for safety reasons. The theatrical lighting and sound systems are used by our music program, drama program, during assemblies, for guest speakers, our physical education program, and other special events. We are currently renting equipment so our programs can continue. The theater sound system cost is approximately \$17,000 and the stage lighting cost is approximately \$45,000. The costs are beyond our school and student activities

budgets. We will need our community's help to raise the funds to replace the systems. Donations can be made through our school website and any donation that is \$15 or greater will receive an income tax receipt. On the left side of our webpage is the "Donate Online" button which can be used to donate directly to Southwood and the lighting & sound project.



If you type into the message box your donation is for the lighting and sound system, we will add the money to that specific account. Watch in late March for a fundraising meter to show our progress towards the needed \$62,000.

Please be sure to review your child's report card with them. It is critical to ensure students are working towards the completion of their 40 community service hours. The community service hours are a graduation requirement. Aside from the 30 credits needed to graduate, the other graduation requirement is the grade 10 Literacy Test. If you child is in grade 11 or 12, please confirm they have completed the Literacy Test. If they have not completed the Literacy Test, it will be written again Thursday March 26th, 2015.

If you have any questions, please call the school at 519-621-5920. I would like to wish all Sabres the best of luck as they tackle their semester two courses.

Remember our Southwood motto "NIHIL SINE LABORE".

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr. Hugh Lambert
Principal

... From the Classroom

From Co-operative Studies

Our students have explored careers, gained knowledge, and developed skills related to their own interests, learning goals, and future plans. This learning has taken place in a variety of local workplaces encompassing wide ranging experiences including: veterinary assistant, vehicle mechanic, small engine technician, hotel maintenance, school teacher assistant, early childhood educator, information technology support, credit associate, and baker.

For some students this co-op experience has confirmed their interest and intent to pursue specific opportunities related to their chosen field of study. For others it has helped them to reflect, refine, and redirect their plans. I am confident that all our co-op students have grown in numerous ways through the learning opportunities and challenges that were presented in these real world experiences.

We gratefully acknowledge this semester's employer partners who make co-operative education possible.

Cambridge Toyota, Cambridge Auto Repair Centre, Hilton Garden Inn, Tait Street Public School, St. Andrew's Public School, Highland Public School, Premier Equipment, BoltonSmith Inc., Ayr Animal Hospital, Jiffy Lube, Cambridge Family Early Years Centre, Pepsico Foods Canada, Langdon Hall, Greulich Auto Repair. **Thank You**

If you are interested in providing a training opportunity for our students in the future, please contact the Co-operative Education office at 519 621-5920 ext. 441.

Pictured:
Colin Enns
At Premier
Equipment



From Counselling

The Counselling office is a very busy place this time of year! Course selections for the 2015-2016 year will begin on February 17 and run until February 24. All students will receive information regarding what courses are available and direction on how to enter their requests online.

Graduating students will begin to receive offers of admission to colleges and universities over the next few weeks and months. Parents and students are reminded that each college and university has its own timeline and that even different programs at the same institution may have varying timelines. It is important to carefully read all letters and emails received from colleges and universities. Also, note any conditions attached to the offer. When in doubt, come in and see your Guidance Counsellor.

From History

Southwood history students had the privilege of hearing a Holocaust survivor, Faigie Libman, recount her experiences. Her story of hardship and perseverance first in a Nazi concentration camp and then as a death march survivor, was truly inspiring. Southwood would like to thank Barrday Inc., a local company that makes these talks possible with their generous sponsorship.

Pictured:
Southwood grade 10 history students
Taylor Gibson and Tayle Graham



From Technology Studies

Once again we have completed a very exciting semester in the Technological Studies Department here at Southwood. Special mention goes to our Grade 9 Technological Studies program comprised of four classes of boys and girls. Throughout the semester, students spent approximately 22 days cycling through each of our different Technology areas: Communications, Manufacturing, Construction and Automotive. Using this cycling model, students gained experience using machine tools, oxy-acetylene welding, auto service and repair, wood working equipment (creating their own boomerang) and media and animation programs (create web pages and sprite animations).

We hope to see many of these grade 9 students continue their studies in grade 10 Technological Studies. Whether it is for general interest, career choice, or university or college we have something to offer every student here at Southwood.

Pictured Left: Keays Gaudin
Pictured Right: Hayden Quigley



... From the Field

Music Notes

Southwood's musical Sabres have had a very busy first semester. The Junior Vocal Class performed their first concert at the Honours Assembly held in the first week of October. Although it was only a few weeks into the semester the students sang two songs to entertain the crowd. The Chamber Choir performed "Earth Song" in the Remembrance Day Assembly, and trumpeters Tasha Loree, Gordon Ford and Scott McQuain performed "The Last Post" at various schools in the area.

On Wednesday, December 10th Southwood's six bands and choirs performed at the annual Festive Concert held in the school gymnasium. The groups entertained a good sized crowd with a variety of musical selections. Thanks goes to Mr. Lambert, who once again emceed the evening's festivities. One dollar from every ticket sold is being given to the Cambridge Humane Society, as it is the department's feature charity for this year. Thank you to all of the Southwood community who attended and helped to make the night such a success.

The Senior Concert Band performed at First United Church in Cambridge as part of their lunchtime advent concert series on Thursday, December 11th. This is always an excellent way to share our gifts with the community. The Man Choir entertained the school at the annual Festive Assembly with their humorous rendition of "The Twelve Days After Christmas".

On February 25th, the Chamber and Ladies Choirs will be travelling to Mayfield Secondary School in Caledon, Ontario to compete at the Ontario Vocal Festival. Choirs from all over Ontario will perform, be adjudicated and participate in a clinic led by a renowned conductor. Good luck Sabres!

Art Notes

Southwood's Art Club has been working its way toward preparing, planning and painting its first mural in the Athletic Hall. Students started by sanding and priming the lockers, while preparing a plethora of visual ideas in various styles through drawing and digital methods. Look for the fruits of their labours to be appearing soon into Semester Two!

Shortly before the December break, students were also treated to an artist's talk with Cambridge street artist and Southwood graduate Ean Kools. The lunchtime lesson proved very informative, as Kools discussed topics such as opportunities in the city for legal graffiti, his techniques and approach to creating a mural, and how to integrate one's love of art into day-to-day life.

Don't forget that new members are always welcome to Art Club. We meet every Tuesday at lunch in the art room, with alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school. Look for our mural in the athletic hallway, beginning in February.



Pictured Left
Cambridge artist and Southwood graduate Ean Kools sheds some light on the state of street art in Cambridge during a lunchtime Artist Talk. Photo by Quinn Walsh.



Pictured right:
Art Club member Miro Valian begins sanding lockers in preparation for priming and painting.

Southwood's Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Wellness Project: "Spread the Love"

For Parents: Information Workshop

Parenting a Teen: Stressful at the Best of Times!

Attend an hour-long information session for parents of teens and tweens. What's "normal" anxiety (for you...for them!) and when/how to know when you might consider getting extra support/assistance.

When: **Wednesday, Feb. 25th; 6 to 7 pm.** Southwood Secondary School's Library

Please RSVP to 519-621-5920 x 625.

Presented by the Family Counselling Center of Cambridge and North Dumfries as part of Southwood Secondary's Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools "Spread the Love" Campaign.

For Students: Random Act of Kindness Movement

Student inspired, student designed and student led. Compassion for others and ourselves = acceptance= empathy.

Orphan 32 by Thanh Campbell: Full School Assembly - Feb. 17

Thanh Campbell was born in Vietnam and came over to Canada as part of the last flight out of Saigon in 1975 with 56 other orphan children. Thanh was adopted into the family of Rev. William and Maureen Campbell (of Cambridge (Galt), ON). Thanh became the youngest of the six Campbell children. In the recent past, Thanh reunited with many of the children that flew over with him back in 1975 as war orphans. As the next chapter of Thanh's life is unfolding, you are invited to hear this amazing story of the value of family, life and the power of love.

Select class viewing of the film, "Colour Me." Feb. 20 and Feb. 27

"We identify others by what we see and define ourselves by the box we are trying to break out of."

"How many times have you doubted yourself?" The resounding question Colour Me encourages each of us to ask is "Who am I?"

"Motivational speaker Anthony McLean explains to a Brampton, Ontario secondary school the concept of "brand new racists". He describes that they love Black people, but if someone is not "gangsta" or "ghetto" or is educated, they regard that person as not really being Black. This comes from a scene in Sherien Barsoum's first feature documentary Colour Me.

Two years ago, Barsoum was inspired by McLean's mentorship program that asked youth what it means to be Black. As their conversations gave birth to her film, the story focused not only on the six teens, but also evolved into McLean delving into his own identity and how it related to him being half White and half Black. The film's honest snippets blend glimpses of humour with deep, internal confusion.

... To the Future

Feb. 12..... Team / Club Photo Day
 Feb. 16..... Family Day Holiday
 March 11..... Interim Reports – Semester 2
 March 11..... School Council meeting (7:00 p.m.)
 March 16 – 20..... March Break
 March 25..... Parents' Night (5:00 – 7:00 p.m.)
 March 26..... Grade 10 Literacy Testing (special schedule)
 April 3 – 6 Easter Holidays
 April 17..... P.A. Day – No Classes

April 23 Mid-Term Reports – Semester 2
 April 30 Club / Team Photo Day
 May 13..... School Council meeting (7:00 p.m.)
 May 18..... Victoria Day Holiday
 May 28 – June 12 Semester 2 - Grade 9 Math Assessment
 June 15 Year End Assembly
 June 18 – 24 Examinations – Semester 2
 June 25 & 26..... P.A. Day – No Classes
 July 8 – 9 Semester 2 Report Cards available

Check out Southwood's online school calendar for up-to-date events

