

Blenheim District High School Home of the Bobcats November Newsletter



Principal: Mr. Mark Sherman
Vice-Principal: Mr. Murray Hunt

School Motto
Spero Bene Agere
Hope to do well



Principal's Message

Semester one is now half over. The **Interim Reports** were mailed out October 14th for any credits that were deemed at-risk by the teachers or in courses where the instructor felt the student had really fallen behind. Thanks to all those parents who responded early and joined us in the process of having their son or daughter succeed. The new earlier date for **Parents Night** – falling on October 26th this year, ahead of the mid-term reports, was very well received and parent turn-out was noticeably higher. Thanks again for the **BDHS School Advisory Council** for sponsoring and running their BBQ for staff and parents that evening. To keep aware of school happenings, the minutes of the School Advisory Council are always posted on the BDHS website [www.southkent.net/~bdhs/].

The **mid-term reports** are going out via homerooms distribution this week, Nov. 12th. This should help to give you a continuing picture of your student's progress to date. Quite often a low mark is indicative of reports and work not received or incomplete. There are a few subtle changes to the report card format this year so please do look them over carefully. Now is the time to contact the teachers directly over any concerns about academic achievement and we will work together to help improve your student's outcomes.

Two short notices: Please note that the updated summary sheet "**BDHS – Dates to Remember**" is posted on the website for quick reference. It contains all the significant dates for the year, including examination, report card and holiday dates. While on the school website, you might want to access the **Consent to Imaging** link. The way students are allowed to be photographed, imaged and recorded has changed in recent years. All parents and guardians should take a moment to read and acquaint themselves with the new permission system – it is designed with student safety in mind.

Lastly, thanks all the community members, local organizations and businesses who donate so much support to our graduating students. Commencement ceremonies were incredibly well attended and we had 57 major awards with over 40 Community Sponsors! This is good time to mention that we are changing to a new tradition of running our Graduation in the Spring as opposed to the Fall time slot at Thanksgiving. This year's graduates will be crossing the stage for **Commencement - Wednesday, June 29th, 2011**, in the evening - so please mark it on your calendar.

M. Sherman

Guidance Office

Liaison Visits

Most college and university liaison visits have been completed. Senior students have been strongly encouraged to sign up for the information sessions presented by post-secondary schools. The presentations involve description of program, admission requirements, residence information etc. Attendance at these visits is an excellent first step in the college/university search.

Campus Visits

It is recommended that students make an effort to visit the post-secondary schools which interest them. This is a great opportunity to see the campus, attend a class, discuss programs with faculty and tour the residence. Parents are strongly encouraged to accompany their son or daughter. Arrangements must be made by the students well in advance. P.A. days are excellent days to plan visits without missing valuable class time. Check your planner for P.A. dates.

Graduating Students

Small group sessions will be held with all college and university bound grads in November. Each student will receive a Grad Folder tailored to their destination needs, In semester 2 we will meet with students interested in apprenticeship or heading directly into the workforce. Materials given to these grads may include: On Your Way to Apprenticeship; On Your Way to College or University booklet; On Your Way to the Workplace Booklet; I Have A Financial Goal; a calendar of important dates, How to Make the Most of a Campus Tour, resume, cover letter, interview and networking tips and a list of websites to explore.

The BDHS Awards Bulletin will be distributed to each graduating student who plans to pursue a post-secondary program. It is the student's responsibility to carefully check criteria and keep an eye on these deadlines to apply for these awards. Students are also asked to check out awards and scholarships that are available. The amounts, the criteria, and the deadlines vary. Some websites to check out are:

www.scholarshipscanada.com, www.gwmisc.ca, and www.studentawards.com.

Almost every student who applied for an award last year did receive one or more awards at Graduation.

Parents are urged to review these materials with their son or daughter.

On-line Applications

The Guidance Office has arranged for computer lab sessions to assist students applying to college and university with their on-line applications. These sessions take place in November and December. Interested graduating students need to sign up in the Guidance Office for a computer lab session.

University applications are November 30 and December 1. Sessions for College applications are Dec. 6, 7 & 8th.

Both college and university applications are Dec. 9. Students need to bring their Grad Folder with them for their session.

Final deadline for university applications – January 12, 2011.

Final deadline for college applications – February 1, 2011.

U.S. Schools

Students needing information about the SAT for admission to U.S. colleges should see Mrs. Jobin for the SAT practice test, registration procedures and general information. Most U.S. colleges do not require a SAT score from Canadian applicants, but students intending to play NCAA sports at U.S. schools must write this standardized test. It is the

responsibility of each student to ensure that the on-line application is completed and forwarded to the applications centre prior to the final deadline.

Learning Centre

During the months of September and October, identified students are made aware of supports available to them in the Learning Centre. In particular, grade 9 and new students are encouraged to access the Learning Centre for additional help, a quiet workplace, and assistive technology. The Learning Centre's goal is to provide a quiet, voluntary workspace, where students can be productive with their individual learning. Students are encouraged to be self-advocates, to be aware of their own learning-style, and to be able to discuss this with each of their teachers as early in the semester as possible.

Individual Education Plans (IEPs) have been reviewed and a consultation sheet was mailed home. The consultation sheet needs to be signed and returned as soon as possible. Please forward the signed sheet to Mrs. Van Horn.

As parents and caregivers, encourage your child to communicate and share what they have learned at school each day, as it has been proven that communication with parents and teachers is critical for student success. Take an active role in your child's learning by asking questions, and engaging your child in conversations about school. This will result in being aware of what your child is learning and how well he or she is grasping new concepts and skills.

Student Success

The B.D. H. S. Student Success Team is offering a number of initiatives to foster school-wide student success.

Student Success Co-Op - One section of students, including several students who have recently returned to school again have been placed in co-op positions ranging from half day to full day placement. Co-operative education allows students to earn credits while working in the community investigating a possible future career and at the same time learning valuable work expectations in a "real world" setting.

Credit Recovery Courses - Credit Recovery permits students who have previously failed courses to recover the missed essential expectations rather than repeat the entire course. More than one credit can therefore be recovered in one semester.

Back on Track - Organization, study skills and after school tutoring in Numeracy and Literacy plus other subjects will again be offered to grade 9 and 10 students who are experiencing difficulty in one subject or more.

Monitoring and support of "At Risk" students in all grades. As part of the Ministry Student Success initiative, all students who are lagging behind in obtaining credits will be monitored and supported for attendance, truancy, and work ethic issues that may be jeopardizing their performance.

For more information, please contact M. Bunning, Student Success teacher.

Mathematics

Math Help (Catch those little problems BEFORE they become big ones!)

2010 – 2011 Semester 1
At Lunch 11:00 – 11:20
Monday - Thursday
(room 55 Day 1 only)
Friday
(Library)

After School 2:30 – 3:30
Tuesday & Wednesday
(Library)

**** or see any math teacher to arrange alternate times.*

School Musical

B.D.H.S. Players Present:



Originally Adapted and Produced for the Stage by Theatre BAM
From the Series Created by George Newall and Tom Yohe
Based on an Idea by David McCall

Book by Scott Ferguson, George Keating, Kyle Hall
Music and Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, Bob Dorough,
Dave Frishberg, Kathy Mandry, George Newall, Tom Yohe

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 25
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 26
7:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT DOOR ONLY!

ADULTS: \$10

STUDENTS: \$7

Schoolhouse Rock Live!
is presented through special arrangements with Theatre BAM. Theatre BAM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All authorized performance materials are also registered by BMI.
40 West 21st Street, New York, NY 10011
Phone: 212-693-4884 Fax: 212-693-4884
www.BMIDirect.com

SAA Fundraiser Citrus and Cookie Dough

The BDHS Student Athletic Association is running its annual fundraiser this year with a little something extra in time for Christmas. This year the students will be selling navel oranges, grapefruit, and tangelos in a variety of sizes just like we have for a number of years. In addition to the Citrus we will be adding cookie dough to the mix. For ease of ordering there will be just one form to fill out. We hope that by adding the cookie dough to the mix just before Christmas we can help with those treat trays that are so popular during the holiday season. The campaign will run from November 2 - 18 with pick-up on Thursday December 9th from 2:30 - 7:30 in the gymnasium. This is an excellent Christmas gift. Please contact the school if you are interested in ordering any

of the quality products that we are offering this year. **Product will only be ordered after payment has been received.** Thank you for supporting our student athletes.

If you need a Gift for your friend, neighbor, or just for yourself, order your Christmas Flowers from us this year.

BDHS Sr. Girls Volleyball Poinsettia Sale

We are selling red, white or pink 6" pots at the cost of \$12.00 each. Payment by cash, cheque and debit.

Pick up is Thursday December 9, 2010 at the door of the school gymnasium along with the SAA Girls between 3:00 and 5:00 pm.

*Contact person: Pat Johnson
School 519-676-5485 ext. 227
Evening 519-676-0909*

The Senior Girls Volleyball team is raising money for upcoming travel and competition expenses by selling poinsettias. If you are interested in purchasing contact Mrs. Jackson at 519-676-5485 ext 227 to place your order and then visit the school to pay your \$12.00 before November 30, 2010.

Thank you for your support.

Career Exploration Event

On November 3, while the Grade 9 students were out exploring Take Our Kids to Work experiences, our Grade 10, 11 and 12 students took part in a whole-school Career Exploration Event. Twenty-four guest speakers from the community and local colleges came to share information about their occupations. Students were surveyed last spring for their interest areas. Three weeks prior to the event, each student indicated which four presenters they most wanted to hear. Feedback about the event has been very positive!

Our deep-felt thanks goes to our presenters:

Occupation	Guest	From
Graphic Design	John Lyon	Bulldog Graphics
Photography	Melissa Doyle	Self-employed
Entrepreneur	Jordan and Josh Goure	The Pourhouse and Symbol
Automotive Tech	Jeremy Gielen	SM Freight
Mechanical Engineer	Brent Rogers	Union Gas
Policing	Constable Mike Pearce	CK Police
Construction	Steve Minten	Lambton College
Radio Broadcasting	Katie Uher	CKSY
Nutritionist	Alicia Sauve	Crescent Care
Fire Fighting	Karen Simpson	Chatham-Kent
Accounting	Christine Muckle	Self-employed
Chef	Craig Boyes	Chatham Golf and Fun Centre
Physiotherapy	Sara Reid	Children's Treatment Centre
Hospitality	Nancy Labadie	Retro Suites

Educational Assistant	Pam O'Brien	Blenheim District High School
Hair Stylist	April Larsh	Noggins
Child and Youth Worker	Carl Emmott	Blenheim Youth Centre
Farm Equipment Tech	Terry Vasick	CL Benninger
Early Childhood Education	Erin Lobbestael	YMCA
Nursing	Julie Clendenning	CK Public Health Unit
Vet Assistant	Fabiola Mascaro	St. Clair College
TV and Radio Broadcasting, Production and Sales	Cathy Miller	89X
Alternative Energies	Dean Martin	R & D Solar

Take Our Kids to Work

This initiative is a national event that happens every year in Canada. Many Grade 9 BDHS students enjoyed their day in the workplace environment and have many interesting stories to tell. It is great for our students to be able to find a placement in which to participate whether it is with family or friends. Almost all Grade 9 students were able to find a placement for the day. Thank you to all employers who took on a Grade 9 student for this experience on November 3rd.



Blenheim District High School

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South
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NOP 1A0

Phone:
519-676-5485

Office Fax:
519-676-4919

Guidance Fax:
519-676-8153

E-mail:
E-mail address
bdhs@lkdsb.net or
website:
southkent.net/~bdhs

Dates to Remember

Nov. 15-19	Charity Week
Nov. 22	Full Disclosure
Nov. 24-26	Musical
Nov. 26	P. A. Day
Dec. 3	Semi Formal
Dec. 17	Last day of classes before Christmas
Jan. 3	Return to School
Jan. 11 - 13	Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment
Jan. 12	Open House
Jan. 12	University Application Deadline
Jan. 13	Parent Council Meeting
Jan. 26 - 31	Exams
Feb. 3	First day of Semester 2
Feb. 1	College Application Deadline

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CO-OP DEPARTMENT - SEMESTER 1, 2010/2011

***NOTE: Parents, students, supervisors and the community are invited to join us for the Career Fair on December 10, 2010 from 8:15 – 10:15 in the cafeteria at BDHS. We look forward to seeing you there.

Each semester the Co-operative Education Department relies upon our community support system to provide a meaningful and knowledgeable practical experience for Bobcat Co-op Students. This semester our business partners are as follows:

PLACEMENT	POSITION
Blenheim District High School	Photography/Yearbook
McGuigan Plant Co.	Landscape and Horticulture
Blenheim Community Village	Nurse's Assistant
Eauroad Farms	Farming/Farm Managers
Blenheim Chevrolet Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd.	Automotive Service Technician
Westside Performance Plus	Automotive Service Technician
DCA Automotive	Automotive Service Technician
The Shock Doctor	Electrician Assistant
Blenheim Abattoir and Meat Market	Butcher/Meat Cutter
Country Farm Seeds	Construction Millwright
Handy Brothers Climate Care Inc.	Refrigeration/AC Mechanic Asst.
Shoppers Drug Mart	Customer Service/Cosmetology
W. J. Baird	Teacher's Assistant
The Source	Assistant Computer Technician
Wellness Clinic	Physiotherapist Assistant
Shoppers Drug Mart	Pharmacist Assistant
Canadian Tire Association	Automotive Service Technician
Growing Together Daycares	ECE Assistant
Blenheim Community Village	Personal Support Worker
W.J. Baird	Teacher's Assistant - Behavioural
Blenheim Community Village	Esthetician Assistant
Blenheim District High School	Photography/Yearbook
Gladstone Farms	Agricultural Labourer
St. Anne Catholic School	Teacher's Assistant
Harwich Raleigh	Youth and Childcare Worker
South Ridge Veterinary Clinic	Veterinary Assistant
Ontario's Fun Connection	Graphic Design Assistant
Classic Cuts and Tanning	Hairstylist Assistant
Harwich Raleigh Public School	Teacher's Assistant
Painted by Dave Auto body	Auto body Repair Assistant