



E. L. Crossley

Secondary School

Semester 2; Issue 1

April, 2009

District School Board of Niagara

A Message From The Principal, Ms. Harrison

In a busy school such as E.L. Crossley, it always amazes me how quickly the year can go by. At this stage we are focused on final celebrations for the 2008-2009 year and well into planning for the next school year. For our Class of 2009, this final term is a time to focus on working to complete all aspects of the components needed for graduation. We look forward to celebrating our graduates at our annual Parent Council Graduation Breakfast and at our Commencement Ceremonies. If your son or daughter graduates this year, please be sure to talk with them about grad tickets and information.

Our In School Student Success Team will review all midterm data and meet with every student who is at risk (less than 60%) in the next few weeks to help them develop strategies to improve their success. If you are concerned about the report card of your son or daughter, please contact the school to talk with teaching staff. Our teachers offer many extra help sessions for students to attend. Our math department in particular are available regularly to support students who struggle with math. As I read report cards, one frequent comment that will help students is the timely submission of work to teachers. Submitting work on the due date, allows staff to provide timely feedback that will assist in improving progress on the next assignment. If students submit work late they fall behind in key areas. Please work with your son or daughter to assist them in keeping up with their assignment submission.

In June we should receive our Literacy test preliminary results. With extensive support from our Travelling Literacy Team we look forward to improved results this spring.

A final reminder that June is full of final performance assessments and examinations. Please help to ensure your son or daughter does not miss days in June.

Specialist High Skills Major

In September, E.L. Crossley will introduce a Specialist High Skills Major in Energy Conservation. The SHSM is a ministry-approved program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements of their diploma. Designed for students heading to university, college, the workplace, or apprenticeships, our SHSM will combine courses and opportunities in sciences, design and electricity. In conjunction with the Ontario Power Authority and its Ambassador for Conservation of Energy, interested students will examine ways to work at conserving our energy resources. Interested students should meet with Ms. Cripps in Guidance for further information.

From E.A.R.T.H. and the Niagara Envirothon

On the environmental front, April has been a very busy month. Three teams from Crossley participated in the 2009 Niagara Envirothon at Ball's Falls on April 21st. This competition was a one-day event whose purpose was to allow students to expand and test their knowledge and develop their problem solving, teamwork, and critical thinking skills in an interactive manner. Each Envirothon team consisted of five high school students, who worked together to complete various tasks presented to them in the core areas of Forestry, Soils, Aquatics, and Wildlife. By placing second overall, the Crossley team of Elizabeth Brooks-Carmichael, Melyssa Curtis, Darren Dixon, Lucas Durand, and Madison Wikston is heading to St. George on May 6th through May 9th to compete at the Provincial Envirothon. The team of Carolyn Mann, Alix Nori, Ben Sparrow, Carrie Sportel, and Erica Tokar finished second in the Biodiversity presentation competition and third overall. Honorable mention goes out to the members of our third team, Brianna Blahut, Holly Czepek, Rachel Flagg, Jermaine Kawa, and Callie Metler. Congratulations are extended to all students who competed! Good luck at the provincials!!

Good Planets are Hard to Find...



E.A.R.T.H.

Environmental. Advocates. Ready to Help.

From Scientifically Yours 2009

Bronte Fudge, Daniella Rizzo and Melanie Ulch are heading to Brock University on May 5th -6th as Crossley's representatives for Scientifically Yours. This is a two-day residential workshop designed to provide grade 11 female students interested in pursuing a career in the fields of Mathematics or Science with an opportunity to get a taste of university life.

Highlights From the Music Department

Saturday, May 2 DSBN Buskerfest - we have some of our guitar students participating downtown St. Catharines.

Monday, May 4 - Nationwide Music Coalition Event - Make Music Monday - some of our students are singing at the gala showcase concert at Governor Simcoe Secondary School in the evening.

Thursday, May 7 - Crossley Spring Concert featuring Sr. Concert Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Guitar Ensemble, and Percussion Ensemble.

Monday, May 11 - Sunday May 17 : Music Dept. trip to Walt Disney World in Florida, performances by the Marching Band and Choir.

Friday, May 22 - Marching Band at the Fenwick Lions Parade

Sunday, June 21 - Marching Band at the Welland Rose Parade

Wednesday, July 1 - Marching Band at the Fonthill Canada Day Parade

From Track and Field



The Track & Field team has been up and running now for 1 month. All the athletes are determined to succeed this year because of their hard work and dedication at practices. There are 100 athletes coming out for the team this year. First meet is on Wednesday, April 29th at Ridgeway Crystal Beach H.S. Mrs. Mergl has some extra help this year from Miss Miller & Miss Brenko, and distance help from Ms. Chudyk, Mr. Kowalski, Mrs. Frech and Mrs. Kicul and pole vault coach Iris Roman. The team will do well at the following meets. Pre-zone (at RCBHS) Tuesday, May 5th, ZONE (RCBHS) Tuesday, May 12th (top 5 move on), S.O.S.S.A. (West Park H.S.) Thursday, May 21st (top 5 move on), REGIONALS (West Park H.S.) Thursday and Friday May 28th&29th (top 4 move on), OFSAA June 4th-6th at University of Toronto. Stay tuned for announcements with outstanding performances after each meet. Visit the website for more sports info - www.dsbm.edu.on.ca/schools/elcss



From the Coop Department

Co-op is in full swing this second semester, with students working towards over 100 credits, and ten students at all day co-ops. Students have been diligently working at their placements gaining many new skills. The Co-op department would like to thank all the employers for providing our students with a fantastic learning experience.

We would like to congratulate our second semester trade students who have been registered as OYAP students. They are Jason Poortinga, Coty Bastien, Linden Nieuwold, and Ivor Summersides. A special congratulations to Calli Doucette, E. L. Crossley's first Specialist High Skills Major construction student!



Highlights From The Chess Team

Checkmate! The E.L.C chess team won the DSBM Championships, (7th year in a row), this month. Crossley players took home an amazing 9 out of a possible 12 trophies! Undefeated winners at 6 wins and 0 losses were Mike Prysiazny (Gr9), Sean Visser (Gr10), and Clayton Peters (Gr11). Second place winners were James Loewen (Gr9), Jordan Patten (Gr10), and Mike Hluska (Gr12). Third place winners were Ben Vanderzwet (Gr9), Jacob Koudys (Gr10), and Lucas Durand (Gr12).

Computer Programming Phenoms. The ELC computer programming team has participated in 6 major competitions this year, and has advanced to Provincial Regionals at University of Western Ontario. It is the first team in many years to advance to this level. Grade 10 members Paul Correia and Drew Saltarelli, and grade 11s Lawson Fulton, and Jake Peters are to be commended on an incredible performance, especially when considering that these competitions are at a grade 12 level. Good luck at Regionals Team!

E. L. Crossley Secondary School

From the Technical Department

On behalf of Mr. Csikos and the Technical Department, we would like to express our thanks to all the students who competed in this years DSBN Tech Skills competitions. Also, thanks to the Technical Department staff for your dedication to all the competitors. This year Crossley students proved they are among the best in Niagara.

2D Animation (District Champions) - Dylan Lepine, Brandon Lepine

Small Powered Equipment (Bronze Medal) - Tyrel Henry

Architectural CADD (Bronze Medal) - Bradley Neufeld

Job Skill Demonstration (Silver Medal) - Sierra Fishbach

Electric Wiring (District Champion) - Drew Thorne; (Silver Medal) - Dylan Vittie; (Bronze Medal) - Michael Langenberg

Robotics Team (District Champions) - Saud Manzar - Welland Centennial Team

Saud Manzar, Drew Thorne, Tyrel Henry, Dylan Lepine and Brandon Lepine will move on to the Provincial competitions held at R.I.M. Park in Kitchener on May 5. Best of luck as you represent your school community and region. Students interested in travelling to the Skills competition in Kitchener on May 5 please see Mr. Etten. Cost is \$5.

From the Library

The library has purchased many new titles including Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse and Breaking Dawn (from the Twilight series). Students and teachers have been enjoying these.

Some popular novels that have circulated 7 or more times this year are: Define Normal, Go Ask Alice, The Blue Girl, Mosh Pit, Hearts in Atlantis and Merrick.

Our Graphic novel collection is growing to include: Batman, Coraline, Dark Wraith of Shanara and Watchmen to name a few.

Once a month the Librarian draws a name for an electronic prize for a lucky reader so get reading!

We welcome students to come on in and read in our sitting area.



E. L. Crossley Secondary School
350 Highway #20
Fonthill, ON
L0S 1E0

Phone: 905-892-2635
Fax: 905-892-2637
E-mail: elc@dsbn.edu.on.ca

District School Board of Niagara
191 Carlton Street
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 7P4

Phone: 905-641-1550
Web: www.dsbn.org

