



Lisgar Collegiate Institute

Newsletter

November 22, 2011

Newsletter for Students, Parents and Staff of Lisgar Collegiate Institute

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Social Sciences & Library

R. Crabtree

Student Services

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Science

S. Hewitt

English & Languages

D. Grose

Healthy Active Living

J. Ruff

ENGLISH & LANGUAGES

English

On October 5th and 6th a bus full of Lisgar students participated in the English Department's annual excursion to the Stratford Festival. During the drama-packed two day odyssey, students saw *Camelot (The Musical!)*, *Jesus Christ Superstar (The Famous Rock Opera!)* and *Twelfth Night*.



Lisgar students inspired by the Stratford Festival
Photo Credit: L. Wick



Lisgar students improvise during a break.
Photo Credit: L. Wick

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy test is coming up on March 29th, 2012. Grade Ten students who have English in the first semester will be having special preparation classes on November 29th and 30th. Grade Ten students who have English in the second semester and all other students who will be writing the literacy test in 2012 will be having their preparation sessions on February 28th and 29th. Students wanting to practice independently can visit EQAO's information on the OSSLT for students (<http://bit.ly/1CZC9p>).

IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec. 5 – School Council Meeting 7pm
- Dec. 19 – Start of Summative Evaluation Period
- Dec. 8 – Jazz & Choir Night – 7pm
- Dec. 15 – Winter Music Night – 7pm
- Dec. 23 – Last Day of classes before Christmas Break; Holiday Assembly
- Dec. 26 - Jan 6 – Christmas Break
- Jan. 9 – Classes Resume
- Jan. 10 – School Council Meeting 7pm
- Jan. 12 – Art Show & Sale, 4:30pm - 7pm
- Jan. 18 – Summative Evaluation period ends
- Jan. 19 – Grade 8 Information Evening
- Jan. 25 - 31 – Examinations
- Feb. 1 – Semester 2 begins
- Feb. 1 – School Council Meeting 7pm
- Feb. 13 – Last day to start a new course
- Feb. 13 - 24 – Transfer Application Period
- Feb. 14 – Semester 1 Report Cards distributed

Languages

The Language Department has been preparing our students for two upcoming events.

The first is the *The Diplôme d'études en langue française* (DELF - Diploma in French Language Studies) examination. With its written and oral components, these examinations from the International Centre for French Studies certify the competency of non-native speakers of French; they are administered by the *Centre international d'études pédagogiques*, for France's Ministry of Education. On Monday, November 28th, ten of **Mme Kunstmann's** grade twelve students from Lisgar will be completing this internationally recognized external examination coordinated by the OCDSB.

Later on this year, the students from all grade levels will have a chance to compete in the *Concours oratoire* sponsored by the Canadian Parents for French (Ontario). The local competition will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 at Bell High School. Students who compete successfully at the local level may have the opportunity to advance to the final at York University's Glendon Campus on Saturday, May 12, 2012. **Mr. Derry** is coordinating the competition at Lisgar.

FINE ARTS, BUSINESS & LAW

Music

On September 16th our music classes were able to see Opera Lyra's production of Pietro Mascagni's opera *Pagliacci*.

Wednesday October 20th was Senior Music Night. All senior ensembles performed for grade nine parents and students.

Once again this year we ran our annual Citrus sale which concluded on October 28th. Thank you to all who purchased fruit this year. The fruit should arrive from Florida during the week of November 30th – December 2nd. Citrus will be available for pick up after school until 5:00 pm. The fruit is not refrigerated and the temperature in the music room is quite warm, so

please make arrangements to pick it up as soon as possible.

Dates to remember:

Jazz and Choir Night - Thursday December 8th @ 7:00 pm Alumni Auditorium. Performances by Junior Jazz, Lisgar Singers and Senior Jazz

Winter Music Night - Thursday December 15th @ 7:00 pm Alumni Auditorium. Performances by Junior Band, Intermediate Orchestra, Symphonic Band, String Ensemble, Senior Orchestra and Wind Ensemble.

England Concert - Thursday March 1st 2012 @ 7:00 pm Alumni Auditorium. Performance by the Band and Orchestra traveling to England during the March Break

All performances are \$5.00 for Adults and \$3.00 for Students.

England Trip - March 8 – March 17th, 2012

Ottawa Region Kiwanis Music Festival - April 10 – April 28th, 2012

Congratulations to **Bryan Cheng** – a grade 9 student who made his Carnegie Hall debut October 16th, 2011. Cellist Bryan Cheng performed works by Franz Schubert, Niccolò Paganini, Canadian Alexina Louie, and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky along with, and accompanied his sister and Lisgar Alumnus, Silvie.



LISGAR TEACHER WINS THE BAILLIE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHING

The *Baillie Award for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching* was established in 2007 to enable students graduating from Queen's University to honour educators who, during the students' high school careers, exercised upon the students a decisive and formative influence and set them upon the course which brought them first to Queens and subsequently to graduation.

Up to seven awards are given annually and each award recognizes an exceptional teacher who has served as a role model and mentor, instilled a love of learning, and inspired academic excellence and the pursuit of higher education.

RICHARD ARRIGO

*Music Teacher and Conductor of
Ensembles at Lisgar Collegiate
Institute
In Ottawa, Ontario*

Nominated by
Keltie Gale

BSc (Hons) Life Sciences (Minor Music) and
BA in Global Development Studies

"No matter what he was doing, Mr. Arrigo always had incredibly high standards for himself which he never let waver. Setting these standards served as an example to his students, as he expected us to set equally lofty goals for ourselves and to achieve them. He never doubted our abilities to exceed what we were reaching for and offered all the support that was necessary for us to get there. In exchange for the support and guidance he provided, he expected us to be dedicated to what we were doing and to follow through on our commitments. This was a very fair trade off, especially considering that the expectations of dedication and follow through became engrained in me and have served me well in my years since high school graduation. Mr. Arrigo is who I think of when I hear the words "excellence in secondary school teaching."

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The Lisgar String department has been busy this fall with many performances already. Our String Quartet was invited to perform at City Hall's annual awards ceremonies. The students traveled to Nepean Sportsplex on five occasions where they received many compliments, and were personally congratulated on their fine efforts by Mr. Watson, mayor of Ottawa. The quartet also was invited to perform at the U.S. Embassy in November for their annual American Thanksgiving luncheon. There, the students were treated to a huge traditional meal. Upcoming events also include a performance at the Lord Elgin hotel.

In December, the String Ensemble will be performing at the Notre Dame Cathedral on Sussex Drive as part of the European Union Christmas Concert. Ambassadors and dignitaries from EU countries will be attending, and the concert is open to the general public as well. The concert takes place on Friday, December 9 at 7:00pm.

The Lisgar Singers also have a busy season ahead, and in addition to performances at the Remembrance Day assembly and music nights, we will be performing at City Hall for Councilor Holmes' staff, and a live performance on Ottawa's A-Channel. Be sure to tune in on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:40am for a holiday treat by our school choir!

Visual Arts

This semester has been another busy one for the Lisgar Art Department. From guest appearances of former Lisgar students to visiting local art galleries to creating murals for The Ottawa Hospital, Art students have been actively involved both in the classroom and in the community.

For those students interested in additional opportunities outside the regular class, the Art department hosts a variety of clubs. The Art club meets Monday at lunch, the Mural Maniacs

meet Tuesday after school, the Invent It club meets Wednesday at lunch and the Anime club meets on Friday at lunch. New members are always welcome.

Upcoming noteworthy event - January Art Show and Sale

MATHEMATICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES

Math Department

On-Line Resource: Students in grades 7 through 10 have access to Homework Help, a math resource made available by the Ministry of Education and the Independent Learning Centre. Homework Help is a website that offers free online math tutoring by Ontario Certified Teachers Sunday through Thursday night from 5:30PM to 9:30PM. The site also offers other rich resources available all day every day such as interactive tutorials, a glossary, a calculator and previously recorded best sessions.

Students and parents/ guardians can view this site at <http://HomeworkHelp.ilc.org>. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to register their children at home so that students can start enjoying the site right away. To register, students must provide their Ontario Education Number (OEN). The OEN can be found on a timetable or report card.

Math Contests: If your son or daughter is interested in writing any of the many math contests we run at Lisgar please encourage them to look at page 14 in their planner. This page contains information on the contests, including dates, appropriate websites and how to sign up.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & ATHLETICS

The **Senior Boys' volleyball** team under direction of **Mrs. Morrison** has claimed the **NCSSAA Tier One Championship**.

Thank you to **Mr. Findlater** and **Mr. Meng** for once again leading our soccer teams this fall. The **senior boys'** had a difficult regular season but managed to slide into the playoffs and upset Colonel By and Nepean on their way to Qualifying for **AAAA OFSAA** this spring.

The **cross country running** team competed very well at the NCSSAA championship meet. This year's team was exceptionally dedicated under the leadership of **Ms. Asselstine** and our enthusiastic senior runners. Congratulations to the Midget Boys' on their performance at **OFSAA**. Great work!

The senior and Junior Girls' Basketball teams had challenging seasons competing well in the Renfrew and Referee tournaments. The Junior Girls qualified for the tier one league after a successful early season. Thank you to **Mr. Mclean, Mr. Shoup, Ms. Lee** and **Ms. Vipond** for all their support.

The swim team continues to enjoy great success in membership and results. Well done **Ms. Odecki**, and **Ms. Jarvis**.

Congratulations to **Velda Wong** for qualifying for the **OFSAA** championship golf tournament for the third consecutive year.

The senior and Junior Boys' Basketball teams are set to start their seasons at the end of November.

The Hockey teams are enjoying competitive seasons. The boys are coached by **Mr. MacDonald, Ms. R. Crabtree** and **Ms. S. Crabtree** continues to lead the girls.

The Senior Girls' Volleyball team will begin play at the end of November. **Seanna McMartin** joins **Joel Fair, Mr. Spidell** and **Ms. MacDonald** on the coaching staff.

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Badminton training is taking place on most Friday afternoons. Practices will be scheduled as gym time becomes available. Prospective players should see **Mr. Kronberg** for details.

Rugby off season training will begin at the end of November. Some players have taken part in fall sevens tournaments. The team claimed their pool championship at Twin Elm Rugby Park. The 15s season takes place in the spring.

The Nordic Skiing and Snowboard teams will begin training soon.

Thank you to all our fall coaches for your commitment to Lisgar Athletics.

The Intramural Dodge ball tournament was a great success. The basketball tournament is under way.

Physical Education Summatives are due on January 13th. Students will be receiving their assignments soon.

Guy Ouellette of Elite Karate has been working with some of our classes providing instruction in self defense and kick boxing.

The gym schedule is on the Lisgar website under Athletics. All intramural and interscholastic events are posted there.

The grade 10 outdoor ed. trip has completed successful canoe and orienteering trips to Algonquin Park, the Arboretum, and Gatineau Park. The classes will soon begin preparations for winter camping.

SOCIAL SCIENCES & LIBRARY

Canadian and World Studies

We welcome back **Mr. Edwards** to teach Geography, and we extend a new welcome to **Ms. Street** and **Mr. Bell** who are teaching Civics and Geography respectively this semester. In addition **Ms. Peden** from Ottawa U.

has been with us on a teaching practicum.

The great weather this fall made geocaching even more appealing for the Grade 9 Geography students but unfortunately let us down on our Gatineau Park field trip when it was so cloudy/foggy that at times we could barely see 10 metres in front of us. So much for the great views and the wonderful fall colours!

The Grade 11 World History class was visited by guest speaker **Marcella Kampman**, a local author who has written a book retelling the mythology of ancient Sumer. The book entitled *Inanna: Goddess of Love, Great Myths and Legends from Sumer* shows just how inter-linked many of the world's earliest civilizations actually were. Students were interested in what it takes to become a published author and how Marcella came to write this book on the world's very first civilization.

The Grade 12 AP European History class visited the Caravaggio art exhibit at the National Gallery in early September. This block-buster show, which received rave reviews from art aficionados and the general public alike, showed how Caravaggio's art, while vital to understanding the Baroque movement, also reflected his time period and wild life-style to a considerable degree.

A group of about 25 Lisgarites joined students from across the city at the University of Ottawa to take part in A Day of Information for a Lifetime of Action. Students saw a moving presentation by **Michel Chikwanine**, a former child soldier, whose family moved to Ottawa after being granted refugee status by the Canadian government. Students also worked in small groups to think of ways of improving and addressing social conditions and injustice.

Ms. Crabtree's Grade 12 Canadian and World Issues class heard **Les Whittington**, a National Affairs

reporter with the Toronto Star, speak about the political and economic situation, as well as his past experiences as a foreign correspondent.

Grade 10 History students will be visiting the War Museum in early December, before the summative period rolls around.

Library

In September, all of Lisgar's Grade Nine students were scheduled to spend a period in the library learning about the library as a source of both real and virtual resources. The first half of the first semester has also seen classes coming to the library for lessons in topics ranging from the critical evaluation of electronic resources on captive breeding to creating Animoto videos on articles about civil rights related to a *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel study.

Students with smart phones can now find a short cut to the library web site by scanning the QR Code displayed at the library entrance and on many of the library's handouts. You can try it too:



Of course the website can be accessed much more economically by typing in the URL:

<http://www.lisgar.ca/library.php>.

Although virtual resources are expanding, the library's book collection is not being neglected. Over three hundred books have been added to the collection since the beginning of the year. **Ms. Ladouceur**, our new library technician has been working diligently to catalogue these new books and to update the catalogue descriptions of many items in the existing collection so that students will be more likely to find what they are

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looking for when the search Alexandria, the school's On-line Public Access Catalogue.

Amongst the new books are copies of the books nominated for the 2012 White Pine Award for books for Grades 9-12. The ten fiction nominees that are already on our shelves are *The Way It Is* by Donalda Reid, *Something Wicked* by Lesley Anne Cowan, *Motorcycles & Sweetgrass* by Drew Hayden Taylor, *Blood Red Road (Dustlands, #1)* by Moira Young, *Beat the Band (Swim the Fly, #2)* by Don Calame, *The Gathering (Darkness Rising, #1)* by Kelley Armstrong, *The Fifth Rule* by Don Aker, *Death Benefits* by Sarah N. Harvey, *Chance to Dance for You* by Gail Sidonie Sobat and *Ashes, Ashes* by Jo Treggiari. The books are now available to be borrowed and students will soon be able to access on-line book clubs sponsored by the Ontario School Library Association to discuss their White Pine reading. Students should check in the library for more information.

LEAF

LEAF has had an extremely busy start to the new school year. Coffee House fell early on the calendar and was a huge success. It was great to see Grade 9s getting involved at the start of their school career. A full house enjoyed dancing, juggling, singing, musical performances, fair trade coffee, delicious desserts and environmental messages from across the grades. Students are already talking about the next Coffee House in the Spring. The first veggie lunch happened soon after, and an interesting selection of foods was on offer to appreciative customers. Two members of the club attended an Eco-Conference hosted by Elmwood School. A clothing and book swap offered some interesting exchange opportunities. The Bike Week draw rewarded some dedicated student cyclists. "Clean Up The Capital" saw

club members cleaning up in the vicinity of City Hall. Bulb planting took place in the Mall. Documentaries are being shown at club meetings, and preparations are under way for the December Craft Sale. All that in 9 weeks...stay tuned for lots more!

Reach for the Top

Regular practices resumed the first week back and have been enthusiastically supported since. The club hosted a novice tournament in October and plans to host others in December and February. They will be participating in the Ottawa Quiz Bowl Tournament in late November, hoping to win places at the U.S. National Finals in Atlanta next May. Four players (**Joe Su, Alex Rochon, Charles Li and Will Sanna**) went to PBS in Watertown to defend our national and international titles on the "Whiz Quiz" show. The results are to be kept secret for now but we encourage you to watch our performances on TV in late December when our games should be aired. At the beginning of November the club joined with Key Club to host a Spaghetti Dinner & Trivia Night raising around \$900 in aid of CHEO and the Reach team. Tickets sold out in advance, so we had a packed Cafeteria with guests of all ages enjoying a good meal and testing their wits on everything from World Series winners to remembering on which side the Prime Minister parts his hair!

Debating Society

The Debating Society sent four teams to their first formal debating tournament of the year: the McGill High School Debating Championships. The results were promising for this novice-filled club in spite of stiff competition at the Canadian tournament that presently serves as the qualifier for the Oxford Cup at Oxford, England. The Society will again send four teams to the upcoming Carleton University Xerxes Cup being hosted by

Lycée Claudel on November 25th and 26th.

STUDENT SERVICES – Here to help!

Information for Potential Graduates

Parents and students are reminded that a minimum of 40 hours of documented community involvement are a graduation requirement in Ontario. We recommend that graduating students have their hours completed by January 2012. Blank forms can be picked up in Student Services or downloaded at www.Lisgar.ca.

Graduating students planning to enter college or university in September 2012 have now received program information and enjoyed visits from several Canadian post-secondary institutions. Information sessions on the application process took place for students on September 20th and for parents on the evening of September 22nd. Everyone considering post-secondary study options is encouraged to take advantage of the many print and electronic resources available in the Student Services office. Students are encouraged to contact the universities and colleges of interest in order to arrange campus tours and attend sponsored activities.

Specific log-in information for the Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC) will be provided for students by the end of November. Applications are completed electronically, at www.ouac.on.ca. Deadline is January 11, 2012.

On-line college applications should be completed through the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) at www.ontariocolleges.ca. Students will need their Ontario Education Number to apply. This number is printed on report cards and is also available from Student Services. The equal consideration application deadline is February 1st, 2012.

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The OUAC and OCAS application systems become very congested in January so we encourage students to get their applications in early!



Scholarship information is posted regularly at www.Lisgar.ca and on bulletin boards outside the Main Office.

Students and families are also encouraged to follow us on Twitter (@LCIStuServices) for updates and important information.

If students have any questions or concerns about the post-secondary schools or the application process, they are welcome to visit Mrs. Stephens in the Student Services office, mornings from 8:30 to 12:00.

Local Information Evenings for Parents:

Carleton University – December 7th, 5:45 pm (www.admissions.carleton.ca)
University of Toronto – December 6th (www.discover.utoronto.ca/infoevent)
Ottawa University – December 8th (www.uottawa.ca)

International Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Lisgar students are able to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The Advanced Placement Program provides motivated and academically-prepared students with the opportunity to demonstrate evidence of university-level studies while still in high school, and to earn advanced standing in their first year of university. To earn advanced standing, students must perform well on the AP Exams which take place in May. AP is a well-known, highly-respected, academically-demanding program that has gained international respect. A grade of 4 or higher on an AP exam is accepted as equivalent to a credit for a first year course at many universities. Some universities will consider a grade of 3.

AP Scholar Awards

Many students at Lisgar have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of

their exceptional achievement on AP exams. About 18 percent of the nearly 1.8 million AP students worldwide performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar award. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP exams.

Our School AP Grade Average is greater than 4.5! Kudos to the students and their teachers!

Career Choices and Information

Students who would like to explore career options can use the Career Cruising software to do an interest inventory and to research programs and careers that match their interests, abilities and resources. To access the Career Cruising, go to www.careercruising.com. (username: ocdsb, password: careers)

How to get extra help in a subject

If a parent or student is looking for extra help in a class, they are encouraged to read page 17 in the student planner. The Math Help Room (Room 314) and the Student Support Room (Room 203) are open daily at lunch.

Special Education

On Wednesday, November 23rd, Carleton University and Algonquin College will be offering their Fall Session of Make the CUT (College and University Transition) for Grade 12 students who have a Learning Disability and/or ADHD. This event creates an awareness of resources available for LD/ADHD students at the post-secondary level, provides transition information, interactive group sessions as well as an opportunity to interact with post-secondary staff and students. For registration information, please speak to **Mrs. Sentic** or **Ms. Adams**.

Link Crew

Lisgar is into its second year of two popular interdisciplinary courses: the grade 11 and grade 12 Link courses. The Link classes focus on: leadership

theory and skills, building school spirit and community, and helping incoming grade 9s transition successfully into high school. Each of Lisgar's grade 9 students has been put into a Link group; each group is lead by two or three senior students who are enrolled in the Link courses.

The first Link event was the grade 9 Orientation Day. It was a very well attended day of activities and teambuilding that marked a spirited start to the 2011-2012 school year. Since September, the Link groups have met for informal lunches, a pumpkin carving event, and a door-decorating contest. There are many other social and spirit events planned for the grade 9s.

As well as social events, the senior Link students have been responsible for teaching the grade 9 students lessons on making choices, the value of cooperation, nutrition and getting enough sleep.

Student Accident Insurance

Creating a caring and safe environment for our students is our top priority. Unfortunately, despite all reasonable precautions being taken, accidents can still happen. Some injuries may result in medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans. As a parent/guardian, you become responsible for these expenses.

Student accident insurance is available for purchase, on a voluntary basis, through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Forms can either be picked up from the school office or downloaded at www.binks.ca, or you may apply online at www.insuremykids.com.

The OCDSB encourages all parents/guardians to consider purchasing this insurance. If your child is involved in after school related sports activities or is participating in any field trips out of the province you may wish to seriously consider the coverage options, which range from \$3.50/year to \$26.50/year. If you have any questions, please call Binks Insurance Brokers directly at 613-226-1350.