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**Principal:**  
Lorraine Linton

**Vice Principals:**  
A - F, Ms. T. Paulen  
G - N, Mr. R. Edmunds  
O - Z, Mr. J. Pollice

**School Resource Officer:** PC. G. Reis

**School Council Chair:**  
J. Pynn

**Superintendent:**  
Manon Gardner

**Trustee:**  
Irene Atkinson

#### School Schedules

##### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Period 1 8:25 - 9:45  
Period 2 9:50 - 11:05  
Lunch 11:05 - 12:05  
Period 3 12:05 - 1:20  
Period 4 1:25 - 2:40

##### Wednesday

Period 1 9:25 - 10:25  
Period 2 10:30 - 11:25  
Lunch 11:25 - 12:25  
Period 3 12:05 - 1:20  
Period 4 1:25 - 2:20

## SOCIAL SCIENCES: Gulu Walk and Fair Trade

December 4 was a beautiful day for a walk! Ms. Andrews and the grade 11 Travel and Tourism class created their version of the Gulu Walk by walking from WTCS to the Eaton Centre. Along the way, students recalled the plight of the Gulu children walking to escape capture and life as a child soldier. \$606 was raised for "Free the Children".

Gulu Walk co-founders, Adrian Bradbury and Kieran Hayward, first heard the stories of the night commuters of northern Uganda in the spring of 2005. They read unbelievable accounts of children — as many as 40,000 — walking from their rural villages into the town of Gulu and other urban centres to sleep in relative safety during the country's 22-year war. The plight of these children sparked the idea for Gulu Walk. Every evening in July of 2005, Adrian and Kieran walked 12.5 kilometers into downtown Toronto to sleep in front of city hall. At sunrise, after about four hours sleep, they made the trek home to raise awareness about the harrowing reality for these children in Uganda.

Since the first walk in 2005, thousands around the world have walked to tell the story of northern Uganda and bring attention to the plight of its people. Since its inception, the event has raised over \$1-million for the children of northern Uganda.

Recently students from Social Sciences raised \$323 by selling Fair Trade coffee, tea and chocolate at the school with proceeds going to Free the Children. These funds will go to help support clean drinking water in Kenya.

#### 2010 Dates to Remember

Semester 2 Begins	February 2
Parent Council - 7:30 pm	February 9
Professional Activity (no classes)	February 12
Family Day (holiday—school closed)	February 15
Parent Council - 7:30 pm	March 2
March Break (holidays—school closed)	March 15 to 19
Parent Teacher Interviews 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm and 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	March 23
Good Friday (holiday—school closed)	April 2
Easter Monday (holiday—school closed)	April 5
Parent Council - 7:30 pm	April 6
EQAO Grade 10 Literacy Test	April 8
Parent Council - 7:30 pm	May 4
Victoria Day (holiday—school closed)	May 24
Parent Council - 7:30 pm	June 1
EQAO Grade 9 Numeracy Test	June 3 & 4
Exams	June 18 to 24
Professional Activity	June 28, 29 & 30, 2010

THE VOICE OF WESTERN  
TECHNICAL  
COMMERCIAL  
SCHOOL  
IN OUR COMMUNITY  
WINTER 2010

# Western Times



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## 80 YEAR TRADITION OF GENEROSITY CONTINUES AT WESTERN

It is a difficult time for many families, but Western still came through with generous donations for the school's Haiti relief fund, raising of \$818.

December's food drive resulted in 40 boxes of food for needy families. Ms. Andrews' grade 9 applied geography class and Mr. Farley's grade 9 gifted geography class each donated about twenty items per person!!!

coming up the ...  
**Polar Bear Dip**  
is coming up March 10 in Lake Ontario in support of Free the Children



On line:  
WTCS.ca

## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJORS (SHSM)

### ENGINEERING/ROBOTICS ARTS & CULTURE/CYBERARTS



SHSM's are Ministry of Education approved specialized programs that allow students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and assists in their transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace.

This year at Western there are 2 SHSM's: Manufacturing/Robotics and Arts and Culture. These SHSM's enable students to gain sector-specific skills and knowledge in the context of engaging, career-related learning environments and helps them focus on graduation and on pursuing their postsecondary goals.

Successful completion of an SHSM is indicated on the student's Ontario Secondary School Diploma by a red seal and on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST).

Each SHSM has a range of elements:

- a bundle of 8–10 Grade 11 and Grade 12 4 sector-related courses
- 2 cooperative education credits (learning experiences in a workplace setting), enabling students to refine, extend, and practise sector-specific knowledge and skills
- sector-recognized certifications and/or training courses
- "reach ahead" experiences relating to their postsecondary pathway
- development of skills and work habits required in the sector

### Robotics

At Western SHSM's provide students the opportunity to explore, identify, and refine career goals and make informed decisions related to postsecondary education or training and next steps towards a career. An SHSM helps students gain confidence in their ability to succeed, and see the connections between their studies, the world beyond high school, and their future careers.

For more information please contact WTCS Student Services.

## WHAT'S COOKING IN HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM?

Semester one got off to a quick start. We welcomed back Ms. Lisa Marie De Rosa to staff. She has enriched our grade 11 and 12 students teaching them many new skills, especially the art of baking and decorating incredibly delicious cakes. The science of baking and the art of decorating was a great success and achievement by her students.



Over 180 students from grades 9 through 12 were enrolled in the foods courses this semester delivered through Western's Hospitality and Tourism program. These students have enjoyed the opportunity to learning about foods, food preparation, nutrition and the many career opportunities related to the hospitality industry. Every week they learn about how to prepare meals and get a chance to cook delicious dishes under the careful watch of their instructors: Mr. Kilmartin; Ms. DeRosa; and Mr. Pegg. While working in the well equipped kitchens, students increase their culinary 'know-how', and expand their recipe repertoire. Ms. Nyjder assists the students and teachers and keeps everything running smoothly in the pantry area.



In April we will be sending students to the Skills Canada culinary and baking competitions.



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Education and learning extends beyond the classroom; something that the staff at Western Technical-Commercial School realized when adopting the Leadership and Peer Support course (GPP301) many years ago. As one of the largest schools in the city, the students at Western feel that they have a responsibility to uphold when dealing with the community around them.

Over the course of the last semester, the students of the Leadership class have been working hard, supporting and organizing a number of school and community initiatives including:

- the successful **Terry Fox Run**, which raised eight hundred and eighty dollars for cancer research.
- the school **Day of Respect** interactive educational workshops for their peers
- fundraising initiatives at lunch to raise funds for the student trip Albion Hill's Outdoor Education Camp.
- **Acts of Kindness Day** in December, where students groups completed a selfless act like handing out our free hot chocolate with a positive message in school and the delivering of holiday greeting cards to the local community. This theme day was featured in the **Toronto Star's 24 Hour Acts of Kindness** December article written by Kevin Kidd.

Leadership students also visited both **Annette Street and Runnymede Public Schools** and lead interactive science based workshops for grade one and two students and holiday workshops that focused on developing numeric and literacy skills for junior and senior kindergarten students.

W.T.C.S. students continued their interaction with youth by hosting the **Grade 8 Tours** for students from Western's various feeder schools, as well as giving tours on Parent Information Night.

Students also attended the **Youth Speak Out Conference** held for students across the Toronto District School Board where they discussed and shared ideas of how to improve the education system for our youth.

Even now, after the close of the first semester, the Leadership class is continuing their positive contributions to the community as they plan their Leadership and Youth Presentation for the **Ryerson Leadership Conference**.

Making change happen in society is just as important as anything else a student could ever do in school, and Western's Leadership Program is there to support that change.

## VISUAL ARTS Student Self Portraits

By Ana Z., Vicky L. and Ray V.



## CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION AND DUAL CREDITS

The co-op department has had another successful semester. Five of our students participated in the dual credit program and each received a college credit in addition to their co-op credits. Congratulations to Joseph D., Alec F., Christian L., Dinesh R., and Forbes T.

We are looking forward to next semester. The TDSB offers the accelerated Ontario Youth Apprenticeships programs in second semester. This program enables students to receive a college credit and to jump start their apprenticeship by receiving all or part of their level 1 training. We are happy to announce that Luis B., Minh H., Antonio R., and Danny N. were accepted in the competitive Electrical Program and that Eunice C. was accepted in the competitive Cook Program.

### In other Co-op News...



WTCS Co-op student, Joseph D. (picture on the left) has just been hired by Tridel. Joseph was very successful at his co-op placement in the TDSB Construction Trades Exploration Program. Joseph will also become a member of the union and be making about \$25 an hour.

James H. a former WTSC student had been hired at his co-op placement the Lambton Golf and Country Club to work in the kitchen in 2008. Recently this employer has agreed to train James as an cook apprentice.

Congratulations !!!!!

### WESTERN'S DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS WITH LOCAL COLLEGES

In total, eleven students are participating in the dual college credit program. Upon successful completion they will receive both high school co-op credits towards their OSSD and college credits. Dual credits are available in the following areas:

**Humber College:** Criminal Justice Systems, Construction & Maintenance Electrician, and Cook

**Centennial College:** Art & Design Portfolio Development, and Dimensions of Tourism

**George Brown College:** Digital Art & Design, Construction and Maintenance Electrician, Health and Safety, and Welding

