

# CENTRAL NEWS

November 2014

60 St. Andrew Street, Stratford, ON N5A 1A3

Phone - (519) 271-4500

Fax - (519) 273-7118

R. MacSorley, Vice-Principal (7-8)

K. Mills, Principal

S. Richardson, Vice-Principal (9-12)

## Principal's Message

Greetings Stratford Central. This year marks my first experience with events at Stratford Central such as Commencement and Remembrance Day. I can certainly say as the new Principal that both these events left a positive impression on me. Commencement was well attended and organized. Through conversation and observation, clearly the students who graduated felt "connected" to the school and appreciated their time here. Remembrance Day honoured our veterans using the talents of students within the Arts Department along with the Stratford Police Services Pipe Band. This was a very solemn and moving assembly. Congratulations to all who participated and organized these venues.

Secondly, this month marks the midpoint of the first semester. On Friday, November 14, all students in grades 9-12 received a Provincial Report Card. This report card reflects student achievement up to November 7. As a school we are trying to develop skills in communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and problem solving. Please review all the information on the report card with your son/daughter. Have your son/daughter reflect on their learning and growth by asking questions.

On Page 2, students are required to comment on their best work as well as set some goals. Although course work and marks are important, so are learning skills and work habits. There are six work habits listed on this page. The next step for some students is to set a goal that involves a work habit or habits. As a parent/guardian, please sign off on this second page and have your son/daughter return this page back to the school as soon as possible.

Some teachers have requested a parent interview to discuss next steps. Please call the school to make arrangements with teachers, and, if necessary with school administration to have concerns addressed.

Lastly, School Council meets once a month to discuss educational issues and topics that may influence the school culture at Stratford Central. Students and teacher representatives also attend these meetings so the viewpoints of all constituents are represented. We always welcome new members. Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Kevin Mills, Principal

## Dates to Remember

Tues., Dec. 2 - Christmas Food Drive  
Dec. 4-6 - Theatre Central Fall Show  
Dec. 8-12 - Gr. 12 Grad Photos  
Dec. 12 & 13 - Dance Central Show  
Tues., Dec. 16 - Music Dept. Christmas Concert  
Dec. 22-Jan. 2 - Christmas/New Year Holidays  
Jan. 22-28 - Semester 1 Final Exams  
Thurs., Jan. 29 - Professional Development Day  
Fri., Jan. 30 - Second Semester Begins

## Student Services

### Applying to University or College?

1. OCAS Applications (College)
  - Equal Consideration Due Date: Feb 1, 2015
2. OUAC Applications (University)
  - Equal Consideration Due Date: Jan 14, 2015
  - Recommended last date to submit any program changes to OUAC: Feb 3, 2015

\*students should apply over the Christmas Break if possible to avoid delays.

OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program)  
Presentation - May 14, 2015 10:30 a.m.

3. Students who will be applying to College and/or University need to come to Student Services to pick up a PIN number and an OEN number so that they are able to apply. When students come to Student Services, they should also ensure that their transcript of marks (provided to each student) is accurate.

### Registration Sessions for Current Students - 2015/16:

Students in grades 9-12 will be using <http://myblueprint.ca> to select courses for the **2015/2016 school year**.

Current Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 will select during the week of Feb. 9-13. (Deadline TBA)

Course calendars will be posted online to provide students and parents time to review courses. Students will then attend information sessions so that they are able to apply.

Students who are registering for grade 9 will be using a registration sheet and will not be using <http://myblueprint.ca/>.

### Semester Two Courses

Students will be provided with a paper copy of their Semester two classes in January. Students who need to

make a change to a timetable are encouraged to book an appointment with a counsellor.

#### Stratford Central Open House 2015

Central will be hosting an information evening for Grade 8 and Grade 6 parents and students on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015. There will also be school tours for incoming grade 8 students in December (rural schools) and January (SCPS).

#### School Website:

Parents and students are encouraged to visit the section for 'Student Services' at

<http://scss.amdsb.ca/studentservices.html> .

#### **Sabrina's Law and Anaphylaxis**

In January 2006, Sabrina's Law came into effect. This Law requires school boards to have emergency procedures in place to deal with incidents of anaphylaxis and to provide training for all staff. With support from the Perth District Health Unit and the Huron County Health Unit, school Principals provide to their staff, annual training in the administration of EPI-Pens to treat anaphylactic reactions. In cases where a student is anaphylactic, parents/guardians are expected to provide an EPI-Pen(s) for their child to carry with them at all times during the school day. Parents/Guardians must also work with the school to develop an Individual Medical Management Plan that outlines emergency procedures for their child. In accordance with Sabrina's Law, all schools have been provided with two generic EPI-Pens. These EPI-Pens are being provided to support schools in responding to a medical emergency for an anaphylactic student for whom the school has an Individual Medical Management Plan and Emergency Procedure in place. Also, in accordance with Sabrina's Law, schools must administer an EPI-Pen when a student is suspected of suffering an anaphylactic reaction even if no Individual Medical Management Plan exists. If you are aware that your child is allergic to epinephrine or if you have any concerns, it is suggested that you contact the school Principal.

#### **Theatre Central**

Our fall show, *Waiting for Godot*, will run Dec. 4th-6th at 7:00 p.m.; tickets will be available at the door. We are looking forward to presenting the piece with two casts: one all male (Adam), one all female (Lilith)! Meanwhile, students are getting their writing ready for the Sears Drama Festival. They will present their ideas on Nov. 24 to a panel of teachers for selection. Once a piece has been chosen, auditions will take place during the 2nd week of December.

#### **Forget-Me-Not Theatre**

For the Remembrance Day Assembly, we prepared a short piece entitled, *The Three Graces*: One woman's words shared by three characters as they meet at the Stratford War Memorial to pay their respects.

Our eight-member group is currently working on an original script about mental health, entitled *The Waiting Room*. Lindsay Price from Theatrefolk in Toronto will be mentoring their work when she comes to our school to do a workshop on Nov. 10.

We have been asked to re-mount our production of *This One Goes Out to the One I Love*, a piece about domestic violence, for an event on Dec. 5 at the Emily Murphy Centre. This is exciting news: we want to be known for and requested to do meaningful, issues-based theatre!

