



# BELL RINGER

[www.bellhs.net](http://www.bellhs.net)

Spring 2009

From the Desk of Principal Bruce Whitehead

As many of you know Bell High School now has a new website. This amazing resource has all the information you need to know about our school. It also features "Through the Halls of Bell High School" – a blog by Mr. Whitehead. This feature will allow us to communicate on a more regular basis. Please visit: <http://www.bellhs.net/>

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 27	School Council at 7pm
April 30	Blood Donor Clinic at Bell HS
May 1	Sports Marathon 9 am to 6 pm
May 1	Vinyl Cafe at 7 pm
May 4	Ubuntu – Final Link Crew Event for Grade 9 Students
May 7	Music Concert (SEVEC and Bell HS Students) 7 pm
May 4-14	Advance Placement Exams
May 8	United Way Pancake Breakfast at 7:30 to 9:00 am
May 8	Coffeehouse 7 to 10 pm
May 13	Grad Breakfast at 8:30 am
May 18	Victoria Day (no school)
May 20	Girls & Women in Sports Day at Bell HS
May 20	Music Concert at 7 pm
May 25	School Council at 7pm
June 5	Dance Showcase at 7 pm
June 16	Final Exams Begin
June 26	Commencement at Centrepointe Theatre

## REQUESTS TO LEAVE PRIOR TO THE EXAM PERIOD

Requests made by students to leave the school before the end of term cannot be approved. Evaluations of student achievement require that all students be in classes until the course is completed and that all students complete summative evaluations according to the schedule established by Bell HS and the OCDSB. Please consult the school before making travel arrangements. The exam schedule will be available by May 1, 2009.

## STRATFORD 2009

There are still limited spaces for students wishing to go to Stratford in September 2009. Plays include **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**, Oscar Wilde's **The Importance of Being Earnest** as well as **Bartholomew Fair** and **Phedre**. This trip runs from September 23rd to the 25th. For more information contact, Mrs. Davidson or Mr. Van Allen. The October trip is full.

## GloBell Travel : Bell Goes to Greece



The Greece trip this past week was a great success. The weather was generally fair and warm and the students were good company. The many sites we visited and the experiences we shared were powerful and meaningful. Students stood atop the Acropolis, marveled at the beauty of Delphi, toured the National Archaeological Museum and the Benaki Museum, while enjoying gyros and other culinary delights, the changing of the Guard, and the occasional dip in the Aegean and Ionian seas. The students displayed many qualities that marked them as being smart, well-educated and full of "Khefi" or spirit.

Parents and guardians of student travelers are all invited to the Greece post-trip party on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, in the Staff Room at 7:00 PM. Please RSVP to Mr. MacGregor so that we might prepare the venue and order light refreshments. Students are also asked to share copies of their photos with Mr. MacGregor ASAP. Please also wear your Greece attire to the party, and bring your souvenirs and stories for a fun evening of recollections.

Our planning now turns to next year's spring tour of Paris, Amsterdam and Berlin to mark the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Holland and the end of World War II. This will be a twelve day trip that will tour a wide variety of important Canadian and WW II sites as well as immersing ourselves in the cultures of France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany from the end of April through the first week of May. Interested parents and students are asked to contact Mr. MacGregor or to go to the lunch time meetings that are held frequently.

# News from Student Services

([www.bellhs.net](http://www.bellhs.net) → Student Services)

## Post-Secondary Study Information

Graduating students are reminded that their **40 hour Community Involvement** requirement must be completed and documentation handed in to the Student Services Department no later than the end of May. There are many opportunities coming up including the Tulip Festival and the Ottawa Race Weekend. More information is located in Student Services as well as on the bulletin board outside the main office.

**University and College offers of admission** can arrive at any time through the spring with many coming once the institutions have received the April mid-term marks. May 25<sup>th</sup> is the latest date by which all university applicants shall expect a response from an Ontario university and May 28<sup>th</sup> is the deadline response date for applicants to their offers. For college bound students, applicants must respond by May 1<sup>st</sup> to an offer. Students are encouraged to log on regularly in to their OUAC and/or OCAS account to review their current courses and marks for accuracy.

Bell's newly-revamped scholarship newsletter, *The Growl*, is published monthly and available in Student Services and on the Student Services page of the Bell HS website ([www.bellhs.net](http://www.bellhs.net)). The **Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)** access window is located at [www.ontario.ca/newOSAP](http://www.ontario.ca/newOSAP). Applications will be available on-line at the beginning of May and an information session will be held at Bell HS later in the month.

## Summer School 2009

Registration begins May 5<sup>th</sup> and classes are held from July 2 to 27. Available programs are Reach Ahead, Make-up and Cooperative Education. Additionally, there are a limited number of ESL (English as a Second Language) courses available in the Reach Ahead program. Students interested in Summer School may make **appointments with their counsellors after April 20<sup>th</sup>** to begin the registration process. For more information, check out the bulletin boards in Student Services or visit [www.ocdsb.ca/continweb](http://www.ocdsb.ca/continweb) and follow the link to *Night & Summer School Credit Program*.

## Summer Employment Opportunities

Students seeking summer employment are encouraged to check out the notice boards beside the Main Office and the employment binder in Student Services. There are many opportunities for summer employment with the Ontario Public Service, summer camps, City of Ottawa, etc.

## Special Education

The Special Education Department is pleased to welcome **Kelly Hayes-Crook** to Bell High School. In her role as Learning Support Teacher (LST), Mrs. Hayes works with **Teresa Cordick** (LST) and **Ruth Wakeford** (Educational Assistant). The Special Education team has worked tirelessly this semester to develop a lunchtime drop-in program, to revitalize an aging computer network and to develop an inclusive delivery model of Special Education services. Students and families who use these services are encouraged to contact any member of the team if they have questions or concerns about a student's program.

# Graduating this June?

## Important dates and information

Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 am Grad Breakfast in the cafeteria.  
All graduating students are invited.

Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> – deadline for money and forms to Ms Cameron for ordering your gown for Commencement

Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. Commencement at CentrepoinTE Theatre

Can't make commencement?

Grads who are not attending the ceremony can still receive a Bell High School graduation pin and composite picture of all the 2009 grads as well as a memento cap & tassel, for just \$10.

## LINK CREW UPDATE

### Movie Night

Lights, camera, action! On March the fourth, after school, Link Crew, a high school transition program that welcomes grade nines and provides mentorship throughout their first year of their high school, held "Movie Night", a social event for grade nines. "Freedom Writers" is a movie about a young teacher who inspires her class of at-risk students, in an uncaring and racist school system, to learn tolerance, to apply themselves, and to pursue education. These teenagers live in a community where drive-by shootings, hard-core attitude, and drugs are more important than academics and future. Their teacher, with much struggle, gives them a voice of their own, and dedicates her time and money to providing these students with better lives. The students are inspired to read and tell their own stories, and they learn the power of tolerance, and are able to change the world, while improving their own futures. "Freedom Writers" is engaging and has an important message of tolerance that we can apply in our own lives. The movie night was complimented by pizza and popcorn, and much fun was had by all.

### UBUNTU

Much planning is now underway for our year-end celebration with Link leaders and grade nines. UBUNTU, a half day special event featuring team work opportunities, initiative challenges, and cooperative activities will take place May 4<sup>th</sup> (Rain date May 7<sup>th</sup>). The morning event will conclude with lunch, a group photograph, and an award ceremony.

## Bell HS Partners With Algonquin College Apprenticeship Program

*Algonquin College Auto Service Technician Level One Apprenticeship Program available through Coop*



James Jackson, Kadeem Murphy and Tyler Campbell are currently enrolled in a Level One Auto Service Technician (AST) program. This program is available to grade 12 students who have completed their compulsory credits, have taken Transportation Technology courses and are in their final semester before graduation. Students complete the AST course full days on Tuesday and Thursday and attend full day Cooperative Education working in an automotive placement on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Upon successful completion, students will have attained their level one AST, two Coop credits and an Algonquin College dual credit. See Mrs. Wright in Coop for further information.

## Algonquin College Dual Credit Program

This is an opportunity for students to take a course at Algonquin College while still completing their secondary school studies. Upon successful completion of the Algonquin College course, students will be granted a **college credit and a secondary school credit**. We currently have 12 students enrolled. Most students will take their dual credit course in conjunction with their high school **Cooperative Education** program so as not to miss secondary school classes while attending their college course. Others take evening college courses.

Algonquin College offers a wide variety of courses for grade 11 or 12 students to choose. Top-up courses are those where students are enrolled in a section with other college full-time students. Dedicated courses are those where a special section has been created solely for high school students.

What are the **benefits** to the students?

- Students gain exposure to a college program which will enable them to make a more informed decision regarding their post-secondary destination;
- Students earn a secondary school credit towards their OSSD for the time they spend earning their college credit.
- Students will have the opportunity to earn a college credit at no cost to them. There is no cost for tuition fees, text books, transportation for example.
- Students will have an opportunity to learn at the college level and get a head start on their college credentials.
- Students experience what it is like to be a college student.

The course offerings for September 2009 will be posted soon on the Cooperative Education bulletin board outside room 122. See Mrs. Wright for further details. This is a great opportunity!

## "Skills Work! for Women" Networking Dinner

Bell was represented by Kristina Biasotto, Amanda Roy and Rebecca Ellis (left to right) at the Skills Canada sponsored networking dinner held April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Algonquin College. This dinner was an opportunity for girls to meet fascinating women who work in the trades and technology sectors. The girls heard inspiring stories and networked informally with mentors about the challenges and rewards of their chosen career path. The girls left feeling empowered and informed about a variety of career choices available to them.



## Cooperative Education Semester Two



**Cooperative Education** students are working in the following areas this semester:

Medical research

Construction

Retail

Hospitality

Animal care

Plumbing

Baking

Computer

Child and Youth worker

Radio broadcasting

Office administration

Equestrian

Geology

Education

Social Work

Automotive



## Bell Volunteers at the Ottawa Race Weekend

For the past few years Bell students have been a major part of the Ottawa's largest community sports event, the Ottawa Race Weekend. We have had students and staff running and volunteering in the 5km, 10km, 21km and 42 km events. Some students have helped out in the elite tent, getting to meet some of the top runners in the world.

Students will be there this May to see their friends and peers from Mr. Stasko's fitness class finish the 5k and 10k races, while earning volunteer hours. The finish line is a rewarding place to be: the atmosphere is upbeat, and although the athletes are tired, the volunteers who welcome them in, hand out water, blankets and medals, remove their chips and help them over to the recovery area make all the difference.

Students who were part of this last year are already asking if they can help again. It's not the cool gifts or the free food that brings the volunteers back year after year, but the feeling of being part of such a positive community event.

So why not be part of this too? Family, friends, students and staff are all welcome.



Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30 to 8 pm  
Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 12:00 am.  
The finish line is on Queen Elizabeth Drive by the NAC

If you would like to join us please see Ms Cameron or Mr. Stasko.



## City of Ottawa Public Health Department

### Immunization for Teens

Teens need a booster for tetanus and diphtheria vaccines ten years after the preschool booster, usually between 14 and 16 years of age. This vaccine is mandatory in Ontario and is provided free to all students.

The vaccine recommended for adolescents is called **Adacel**. This vaccine has added protection against whooping cough, or pertussis.

Whooping cough still frequently occurs in Ontario. The Canadian Pediatric Society reports that many teenagers are diagnosed with whooping cough. This can be a serious illness with severe coughing spells, shortness of breath, and weight loss due to difficulty eating and vomiting. These symptoms can cause sleep disruptions, fatigue, and missed days at school. The coughing spells can last for 2 to 3 weeks, and the illness can last from 6 to 12 weeks. For more information on whooping cough and on the vaccines routinely given to teens, see the following website:

<http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/immunization/dTap.htm#pertussis>

Ontario students are required to have up-to-date immunization, including the booster dose for tetanus and diphtheria.

**To avoid suspension from school, make sure to update the student's record with Ottawa Public Health.**

To update a student's record online, refer to [http://www.ottawa.ca/residents/health/index\\_en.html](http://www.ottawa.ca/residents/health/index_en.html)

#### To contact Ottawa Public Health:

Mail: 100 Constellation Crescent, Ottawa, ON K2G 6J8

Phone: 613-580-6744 extension 24108

Fax: 613-580-9660

e-mail: [immunization@ottawa.ca](mailto:immunization@ottawa.ca)

## Bell Students at the Masonry Centre

On Tuesday 14th April a small group of students from Bell High School attended an Open Day at The Masonry Centre, 440 Albert Street in Ottawa. In the morning, the students listened attentively to presentations made by the centre's apprentices and it's course leader. This was followed by a question and answer session and lunch. After lunch the real work began. The students, some from Bell High School and the majority from Osgood Township were split into three groups. They were instructed to build a block wall followed by a brick wall in the remaining two half hours. "The end result was never in doubt when The Bell High School team was awarded first place for the quality of their work". Pictured below are students from Bell High School.

Submitted by Mr. Waters

