



# Tiger Talk

**Westgate C.V.I.**

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**May 2011**

**Volume 2, Issue 3**

## What's Been Happening?

### Messages from the Principal

This is the last newsletter of the 2010-11 school year. Convocation is upon us, exams are coming and very soon school will be over.

In this, my last message to you, I would like to talk about the present. Wherever you read this and whenever you read this it will be today, the present. Today I would ask two things of you: the first thing that I would ask is that you *look*; the second thing that I would ask is that you *think*.

Look about you. See things around you that you have may have taken for granted. Look at your teachers, look at your school, look at the staff, look at your friends, look at the administrators, and look at your enemies. Appreciate them all. Recognize the role that they have had in making you who you are today. Each and every one of *you* is special and each and every one of *them* played a part in making you who you are today.

Today, you live many lives. You have your school life; you have your home life; you have your life with your friends; and you have other aspects of life. Think about them. Think about what you have done recently to make these lives better and be proud. Be Tiger proud. Think about what you could do in the near future to make your lives better yet.

Each and every one of you is passing through Westgate on a journey. Some of you are just starting your journey. Some of you are coming to an end of your journey. Each journey is different from the other. For each of you who is leaving the fold, think back and be proud of the things that you have done to make Westgate a better place. For those of you who will be journeying on in the Westgate community, think forward and be proud of the things that you will be doing to make Westgate a better place.

### SAC Events

Over sixty students from Westgate CVI took advantage of an opportunity to give back to their community this past week. As a part of the recently launched Change the World Initiative presented by Volunteer Thunder Bay, the Westgate Students Council hosted a three-day event in an effort to introduce students to new volunteer opportunities. The event allowed students to collect up to six volunteer hours while lending a hand within the community.

**Community Clean-up** – In April students worked together to clean up our neighbourhood by picking up garbage on and around school grounds.

**Ribbons for Cancer** – The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation Northern Cancer Fund, assembled ribbons for cancer awareness with Westgate students in the library during April when weather prevented the community clean-up.

**The Inside Ride** – The National Inside Ride Tour presented by Coast to Coast Against Cancer Foundation, is in support of Camp Quality. The event will take place in Thunder Bay on Sept. 30 in Westgate's Large Gymnasium. Teams of six will ride stationary bikes for 1.5 hours in support of our local Camp Quality. All money raised will be donated to Camp Quality. Each team's goal is to raise \$1000.00 at 20 teams for a total of \$20,000. Teams can register online at <http://ThunderBay.theinsideride.com>

Do you want to put in a team? Gather your friends and family because anyone is welcome to reserve a spot for a team. Spots are limited, so register now! Help us in the fight against Cancer. Donations can also be collected online.

**Mary J. Black** – Westgate Student Council donated \$400 dollars toward the building of the new library.

**Friends of Olivia** – A local organization that helps kids and their families overcome hardships associated with serious illness. Westgate is hosting a dance/concert to raise money for this organization, which will feature local bands – two comprised of Westgate teachers. The dance/ concert will be held in Westgate gymnasium on June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm. Cost \$7 at the door or \$5 with a Rockstar themed costume.

# Take a Look at Tiger Pride!

## Orange and Black Shines!

**Badminton** - Westgate Badminton had a successful year with tough competition and many of our athletes in gr.9, junior, and senior placing in the top.

At the N.W.O.S.S.A competition in Marathon, the Tigers were represented by Tyler Chaisson; in Junior Boys, Carleigh Mayotte; in Senior Girls. Congratulations to Carleigh for winning a bronze medal: a fantastic finish for Carleigh as she will be graduating this year.

**Technology Achievement** – On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Westgate students Renate Mayr, Francois Vezina, Donovan Hale and Cole Maki traveled to Kitchener / Waterloo's RIM Park to compete in the Ontario Skills Competition. Westgate had the most students competing from our region.

Donovan Hale once again dominated. For the second year in a row Donovan is #1 in the province of Ontario for Auto Body Collision Repair. He will be moving on to the Canadian Nationals at the end of the month. If he is successful there he will go on to the Worlds held in London, England.

Francois Vezina placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Auto Service Technology. Cole Maki had a strong finish in the Welding Competition, and Renate Mayr proved that she was among the best in the Small Motive Power competition. **Congratulations to our Tiger Techies!!!!**

**Football** - Quarterback Keon Doblej will represent Westgate at the Damon Allen High School Quarterback Skills Challenge at York University at the end of May. He will travel with his coach, Mr. Jon Krawchuk, to compete against 200 other Ontario High School Quarterbacks. We wish Keon the best of luck as he prepares to showcase his football skills in the season of his team's big championship win.

**Achievement** – Five accomplished Westgate youth were recognized at the Aboriginal Youth Achievement and Recognition Awards for their success in academics, in artistic pursuits, and for personal achievement. Congratulations to Courtney McKenzie, Eric Ritch, Jordan Davidson, Charnel Anderson and Leslie Katchen for the honour of receiving their awards.

## Westgate's World Issues Class Supports Local Habitat for Humanity

To help combat poverty in our city, Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute's Grade 12 Canadian and World Issues Class is raising funds in support of Habitat for Humanity Thunder Bay. Our class is raising awareness and funds to assist the local Habitat for Humanity crew in building a home for a family affected by poverty in Thunder Bay. Since 1994 Habitat for Humanity has built 17 homes for families suffering from poverty in our city. Our class is hosting a number of fundraisers including: a "Hats on for Humanity" Day on May 27<sup>th</sup>, a Staff Jersey Day on May 27<sup>th</sup>, hand made jewellery sales, individual pledge sheets for Westgate students to take home, and a spaghetti take-out dinner on Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please help our class help this worth while cause. When the opportunity arose for our class to raise awareness and donations for this cause, our class unanimously voted to support our local Habitat for Humanity. Poverty is an issue that affects the world. It's a huge problem, but we can help to eliminate poverty starting in our very own backyard.

## Presenting, *Cope* – A Docudrama

In February, the grade 11/12 drama class embarked on an ambitious project to write a docudrama regarding mental health issues of our youth. The Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force approached the school wanting youth to express their ideas and concerns regarding what is affecting the mental health of their peers. After a process of writing and improvisation, scenes were created, the script was formed, and the docudrama was titled "Cope". Students wanted to explore the everyday occurrences that tend to be overlooked that affect their ability to cope positively with what life throws their way. Although many of our youth choose wisely when dealing with their issues, there are those who are unable, for various reasons, to find positive ways to cope when feeling stressed. "Cope" does not present solutions to situations that affect our youth, but rather takes an honest look at them, hoping to create a dialogue regarding how to properly support our young people. At the end of the show a panel of experts will be available to field questions from the audience in order to support those who love and care for our youth. Also, numbers of organizations that assist those with mental health issues will be available. You can see "Cope" on May 25th and 26th at 7 p.m., in Westgate's Gymnasium. Tickets are only \$2, a decision made by the class, in order to make it more affordable for anyone who wants to come and see the show.

The drama class would like to thank students from our tech and art classes who worked on the set pieces, many staff who devoted their time to support the show, the ladies associated with the Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force for providing us with information and inspiration (and healthy snacks), and The Trillium Foundation for funding the play.

# Upcoming Events & Important Info.

## Deaf Kids Can Talk! SEAC Info.

May is Speech and Hearing Month and we have something to say.....Our goal is to obtain comprehensive health and education standards with dedicated funding for deaf and hard of hearing children and to attain government funded Auditory-Verbal Therapy for all children with hearing loss on behalf of families choosing this communication approach. WHY? Because if children born deaf or hard of hearing can fully engage in society they will become employable, contributing, involved tax payers in the future. An investment today will make a difference tomorrow!

VOICE is committed to continuing to assure that children with hearing loss have the supports and services they need to be included in a hearing world.

*To speak with a representative of VOICE or to be referred to a family or auditory-verbal professional in your community, please contact:*

*Norah-Lynn McIntyre, Executive Director,  
[nlmcintyre@voicefordeafkids.com](mailto:nlmcintyre@voicefordeafkids.com)  
Visit [www.voicefordeafkids.com](http://www.voicefordeafkids.com) or call  
VOICE at 1-866-779-5144*

## Educational Presentation

On May 31, 2011, the Special Education Advisory Committee of Lakehead Public Schools is sponsoring Dr. Stuart G. Shanker, distinguished Research Professor and Current Director of the Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative at York University, to speak to parents/guardians, educators, interested community partners and the general public on the topic of Self Regulation in Children.

There will be two sessions on Tuesday, May 31st

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

at the Travelodge Hotel Airline - Tiberio Room.

Admission is Free.

## Future Highlights

- Drama Production: *Cope* – May 25<sup>th</sup>&26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 in the Westgate gymnasium
- Convocation – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm @ The Community Auditorium
- Rock Out For Olivia Dance – June 9<sup>th</sup>
- Music concert – June 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm
- Grad. Dinner&Dance – June 17<sup>th</sup> @ the Valhalla
- Dance Recital – June 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00 pm

## The Annual Secondary School Art Show 2011

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is hosting the Annual Secondary School Art Show 2011 from **Thursday May 19th through Sunday June 5th**. This exhibit showcases the best artwork from local and regional high schools. There will be 52 Westgate art students participating, exhibiting 111 two and three-dimensional art. The exhibit starts **Thursday May 19th with the opening reception at 7:30**. All students, parents/guardians, teachers and supporters are welcome to celebrate the artistic success of our art students.

## Specialist High Skills Major – Arts and Culture Gala

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is hosting Westgate's Specialist High Skills Major – Arts and Culture Gala, **Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** There will be visual art displays, musical performances, dramatic and dance presentations. Specialist High Skills Major - Arts and Culture program information will be available. Refreshments will be served. Please join us for a wonderful night of the arts.

## Westgate Yearbooks

There is still time to buy a yearbook! Only \$40. Please see Mrs. Tuomi or the Main Office.

**There are only 22 teaching days left before exams – work hard to the end Tigers!**

# Westgate Dress Code

Just a reminder as the warmer weather approaches ....



## Westgate Tiger *Dress Code*

Always  
Only  
The  
Best



**NO**

- X Hats, Hoods, Bandanas
- X Spaghetti Straps, Low Cut Tops or Tube Tops
- X Shorts or Skirts shorter than mid thigh
- X Belly buttons, hip bones or midriffs showing
- X Profanity or inappropriate images and

No one wants to see  
your underwear



Please wear shoes at all times.

The Tiger Team - Together Everyone Achieves More