



# Tiger Talk

Westgate C.V.I.

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## What's been happening?

### Messages from the Principal

I am thrilled that our first copy of the Westgate Newsletter is in print and out to the Westgate community. Our intent is to have four copies of this Newsletter out each year with current events and updates about school activities. I would sincerely like to thank Ms. Sayer for all her hard work and dedication in making this Newsletter a reality.

### Camp-out for Camp Quality

Funds are raised annually for the organization called *Camp Quality* which provides year-round fun and support to children with cancer and their families.

The overnight fundraiser took place at Westgate on March 26<sup>th</sup> began at 6p.m., going all night to 8a.m. the following morning. The evening was a huge success and included live bands, activities, movies, video games, great food and much more. The students bonded over the night's events and raised close to \$5000 for Camp Quality. Way to go Westgate!

### Different Kind of Flu Season

#### H1N1 Vaccination

H1N1 has affected children and young adults at a greater rate than the regular seasonal flu. Almost half of the people hospitalized from H1N1 have been under the age of 24. And even a mild case of H1N1 can have a significant impact.

The single, most effective way to protect yourself against the flu is to receive both the H1N1 and seasonal flu shots. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is encouraging parents to speak to their children about getting vaccinated.

### Westgate Lockdown Simulation

The first Westgate "lockdown" simulation was conducted on Feb. 10, 2010. Lockdown simulations are practiced the same as fire drills to ensure that both staff and students are prepared during possible emergency situations. Lockdown procedures are taken very seriously and are a necessary part in keeping Westgate safe. Future practice simulations will be conducted during different class periods this semester.

### Parent/ Teacher Night

Semester two parent/ teacher night was held on March 11, 2010. It was a busy night, providing parents the opportunity to meet teachers early in the semester to establish the lines of communication. Messages for staff can be left on our school messaging system and messages are checked daily by teachers.

Teachers will provide a mark slip to students at the end of each month to keep both students and parents informed of progress.

### Haiti Fundraising Events

On January 12, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti. Westgate SAC has been busy this semester fundraising for Haiti relief. Events have included bakes sales, dances and other events with monies totalling close to \$1500. All funds are given to the Canadian Red Cross for distribution.

The Red Cross is working exhaustively to make sure people are receiving short-term care and ensure a safer better future for Haiti. Thanks to all who supported Haiti relief.

# Upcoming Events & Important Info.

## *Fame* – The Musical

*Fame* hits the Westgate stage this May! This 80's inspired musical frames the lives and struggles of students in a performing arts school. Westgate proudly features its talented dancers, actors, singers and musicians from Westgate and the local community in this two act school production.

Casting began in September and rehearsals are in full swing. Lead roles are featuring the many talents of:

Madeline Loroff – *Carmen*  
Alistair Philp – *Nick*  
Dayna Payment – *Serena*  
Drew Nelson – *Tyrone*  
Stephanie Philp – *Iris*  
Joseph Legall – *Joe*  
Bailey Giroux – *Mabel*  
Sean McMillan – *Schlomo*  
Tanner Homonko – *Goody*  
Armelle Sandford – *Lambchops*  
Amber Milford – *Ms. Sherman*  
Riley Vainionpaa – *Ms. Sheinkopf*  
Jennifer DeBruin – *Ms. Bell*  
Jenni Grandfield – *Ms. Myers*

Performance dates are May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets can be purchased in advance and at the door for \$12, general admission and \$6 for six and under. Come and watch Westgate talent light up the stage as the cast sings out, "I want to live forever." "FAME!"

## *Fame* Dance

Dig out your parents 80's wear and come dressed for the Tight and Bright dance on Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 7:30 to 10:30. \$5 at the door. Spandex, legwarmers, and runners are a must!

## Westgate Dress Code

As the warmer weather approaches, students are reminded that the Westgate dress code is in effect. Please take a look at the posters displayed in every classroom for examples of acceptable Westgate attire.

## Future Highlights

- PD Day – April 30<sup>th</sup>
- *Fame* – May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
- May Long Weekend – Monday May 24<sup>th</sup>
- Convocation – June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Semester Dance Recital – June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Gr. 11&12 Drama Performance of "Break a Leg" – June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Exams – June 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

## Guest Speakers

Westgate would like to welcome two very special guest speakers in the month of May:

### **May 5<sup>th</sup> – Eva Olsson**, Holocaust Survivor

Eva Olsson was barely out of her teens when she and her family were rounded up from their Hungarian village and shipped to the camp. Now, 79 and living in Canada, she has written a book about her experience called "Unlocking the Doors."

### **May 11<sup>th</sup> – Luca "Lazylegz" Patuelli**, B-Boy

Luca "Lazylegz" Patuelli was born in Montreal, Canada, but raised in the Washington DC area. He was born with arthrogryposis, a disorder that affects his bone structure and muscular growth from the waist down. He has been break dancing since the age of 15, and is competing and performing in many cities including Washington, New York, Montreal, and Toronto.

## Welcome Student Teachers

Westgate would like to welcome Lakehead University Teacher Candidates, who began their second placement after March Break. Placement dates are March 22 to April 27. Good Luck!