



# PHILEMON WRIGHT HIGH SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER #2

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There will be regular classes from now until December 21<sup>st</sup>. Most teachers have quizzes scheduled, reports and assignments due, up to and including December 21<sup>st</sup>, so student attendance is crucial. A reminder that the school will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007, through January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008. **Classes for all students will start on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Exams are January 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> 2008. The exam schedule will be sent home with students along with the Exam Information sheet for all parents soon. There is a PD day on January 7<sup>th</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.**

Before exams start, now is the time to get extra help from your teachers. Do not put it off! Ask your teachers about their lunchtime or after-school tutoring, or you can also speak to your Guidance Counsellor about getting extra help in certain subjects. Act now, before it's too late!

### MONT TREMBLANT SKI TRIP - GRADE 9 & 10

The Grade 9 and 10 ski trip to Mont Tremblant will take place on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> this year. The cost of the trip is \$250.00 which includes bus transportation, ski lift passes, accommodation, meals, and tubing in the evening and supply teacher costs. There are still about 10 spots available on this trip. If your son or daughter is interested, have them see Mr. or Mrs. Smith for information and permission form.

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Physical Science is a prerequisite for graduation from high school. Students should be spending a significant amount of time studying for this course. All students who are having difficulty with Physical Science should be attending the regular help sessions offered by their science teacher.

### MATH TUTORING

Now is the time to work hard to improve your math skills before the January exams. Math help is available at lunch time from your teacher. Take advantage of this free extra help now!

### FRENCH IMMERSION

Les étudiants inscrits au cours de français (immersion) 534 devront lire un roman durant les vacances des fêtes. Une interprétation de l'œuvre littéraire est au calendrier du mois de janvier.

### P.O.P. & PERSONAL CARE & HAIR DESIGN

In P.O.P the students have been working on the interview process and are now going to research a career that they are interested in. This research is to be completed in class and at home, by using at least three types of sources, such as, libraries, internet, parents who work in that career, magazines, etc. Please encourage your son/daughter to use as many sources as they can so their research is accurate and current.

In Personal Care and Hair Design the students have been learning about the theory behind braids, scalp massages and blow-drying. The students have then had the opportunity to practice these three skills. The next step is learning the steps to shampooing, rinsing, and conditioning. They will learn the theory and then practice and evaluate each other!

### HISTOIRE/HISTORY

Mme Bedard would like to congratulate the following 6 students for receiving a perfect score of 100% on the final Ministry Histoire/History exam in 2007.

Kira Gossack-Keenan, J.J. Linton, Riteba McCallum, Suzanne Newing, Gabriel Titus and Chris Plante. Unfortunately, not all students were invited to a special ceremony in Montreal to receive a certificate of recognition for their brilliant achievement. The Ministry of education also neglected to inform and invite their teachers.

### DRAMA NEWS

Congratulations to a successful run of Excerpts of Simon and The Werewolf's Curse or Hear today, Gone Tomorrow!

### LANGUAGE ARTS

The Grade 11 Language Arts field trip to Montreal was a great success. The 40 plus students and five supervisors attended a play and dinner in old Montreal. The play was a wonderful one person play set in South Africa. The various characters were captured in a truly memorable performance. The theme of the disparity between the treatments of the black and whites was a poignant and relevant theme to the Language Arts program.

Thank you to everyone who helped make it a great trip! Ms. Bacon

### ATTENTION GRADE 11 STUDENTS

Grad Pictures will be taken on January 14<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Please see Mrs. Marcoux, Room 151 for more details.

## **OVERALL AVERAGE**

We would like to remind parents and students that the most important aspect of reporting marks for us is the success rate by subject. Students must focus on passing every subject. There will be subject promotion in Math, English and French (and we are working on the promotion policy that includes Science and History), therefore, it is critical that students and parents look past "overall average" and focus on success by subject.

## **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

For Remembrance Day, students from Mme Bédard's histoire classes took the time to decorate the school cafeteria with large poppies, maple leaves and posters in honour of the fallen soldiers that died defending our country. Also two veterans from The Royal Canadian Legion came and spoke to several classes about their experiences. The histoire classes did assignments and researched names of Canadian soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> World war to Afghanistan. Their teacher would like to thank the following six students (Renée Ghattas, Amanda Rocha, Emily Bozik, Maria Lapins, Alex Chaboud and Sara Daigle) who volunteered to participate in a school wide tribute over the intercom. Several poems were read about the valor and conviction of Canadians who dared to dream of peace.

**Information for Parents/Guardians/Students:** Last year we installed a set of video cameras at the rear of the school to help us and the Gatineau Police discover the identity of local vandals who have broken windows and spray painted walls. The vandalism has almost always happened at night and on the weekend. We simply want to assist the police in apprehending vandals who have broken windows and spray-painted certain areas of the building. The cameras have acted as a deterrent to vandalism (we have not had any serious vandalism since the cameras were installed three weeks ago). We would like to assure everyone that the privacy of students is very important to us and that we respect every student and staff member. We see this as a temporary measure to help us eradicate vandalism done from members outside of our school.

**COLD WEATHER APPROACHES:** We ask that students come prepared for the cold weather. Students please dress appropriately for weather. One of the problems we face at school during the winter is students who throw snow and ice. We will discuss the dangers and consequences of "Snowballs" on school grounds and/or during school hours with all our students. In accordance with our Safe Schools Policy, students will be sent home if they throw snow or ice (whether at other people or not). The safety of our students and staff is our foremost priority and therefore the throwing of snow or ice will not be tolerated.

**BUS CONDUCT:** Students must always behave appropriately on school and city buses but especially during this time of year as road conditions are dangerous at times. We ask that all parents/guardians speak to students regarding their behaviour on the bus. Students are asked to stay seated at all times while the bus is in motion. We also remind parents/guardians and students that a student is not permitted to take a bus that he/she is not formally assigned.

**ATTENDANCE:** please call the school at 819-776-3158, to report your child absent. Please state your child's name and reason for absence. If you need to pick up your child for an appointment during school hours, please have him/her bring in a note and we will try to ensure that your child is ready to be picked up at the given time.

**AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Only students participating in after-school activities may remain at school. Parents and students are reminded to please confirm your transportation arrangements with each other prior to the activity. Students are also reminded that because there are several hours between lunch and the time you will arrive home, it is important to pack a nutritious snack for your after-school activities.

## **SCHOOL FEES:**

**All school fees must be paid by January, 2008.** Those who have filled out and sent in the "Promissory Note" for payment plans will have an extension based upon the personal arrangements made with the office. However, all other outstanding fees will be sent to collection. As we prefer not to do this, please send in your payment with your son/daughter by means of a personal cheque, cash, money order or you can pay with debit at the school between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

For information about the school please visit our website at: [pwhs.com](http://pwhs.com) or if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at [pwhs@wqsb.qc.ca](mailto:pwhs@wqsb.qc.ca)

For information about our school board please visit our WQSB website at: [www.wqsb.qc.ca](http://www.wqsb.qc.ca)  
If you would like to receive these newsletters by e-mail please let us know at [pwhs@wqsb.qc.ca](mailto:pwhs@wqsb.qc.ca)

## **FREE EVENTS, SERVICES & RESOURCES**

**The Learning Puzzle:** [www.thelearningpuzzle.net](http://www.thelearningpuzzle.net). What every parent and teacher should know about children with learning disabilities - an online multimedia guide to Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorders in Children.

**Medical Information Forms** (pink paper) regarding students were sent home early in the year and there are still many that have not been returned. Please complete and return them to the school as these are used in emergency situations for vital information such as allergies to certain medications, foods, etc.

**Quebec Health Guide** - Provincial Government website available in English: [www.guidesante.gouv.qc.ca/en/index.html](http://www.guidesante.gouv.qc.ca/en/index.html) - Find information on common health issues, diseases, clinical tests, outpatient surgeries, prevention, healthy lifestyles and a health action plan. A simple, practical and reliable source of information for dealing with non-emergency health problems and using Quebec health-care services.

## BEST WISHES

- We would like to thank everyone for a great first half of the year and look forward to a very successful second half.
- We Would Like to Wish Everyone a Restful, Happy and Safe Holiday Season.
- Best Wishes from the Staff at Hadley and Philemon Wright.
- We Look Forward to Seeing You in the New Year.
- Students return to school on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Happy Holidays, Happy Hannukah & Merry Christmas



Welcome back in 2008