

Winter 2012



# Pearson Patriot News

*We pledge to create a safe and healthy environment in which each student is engaged, supported, and challenged everyday.*

## Important Dates

**Feb. 6th**

Semester Two Classes Begin

**Feb. 8th**

Final Report Card Distribution

**Feb. 15th**

School Council Meeting (7pm)

**Feb. 17th**

P.A. Day - No Classes

**Feb. 20th**

Family Day - School Closed

**Mar. 12th - Mar. 16th**

March Break

**Mar. 22nd**

5th Week Reports (Mailed)

**Mar. 22nd**

OSSLT Practice Test (Gr. 10)

**Mar. 29th**

OSSLT Test

**Apr. 6th**

Good Friday - School Closed

**Apr. 9th**

Easter Monday - School Closed

**Apr. 18th**

Half Courses Begin

**Apr. 18th**

School Council Meeting

**Apr. 19th**

Mid Term Report Card Distribution

### Principal's Message ~ Mrs. Hartman

Semester end is a time for reflection. As you know, parental involvement and support contributes greatly to student achievement and overall success. I encourage you to have a critical conversation with your son/daughter about his/her progress this semester. Review final grades, teacher comments, learning skills and work habits. Ask the probing questions: What is one thing I do well? What is one thing that I need to improve? What is the one thing I will do differently next semester?

Over the next few weeks, students will embark on the course selection process for the next school year, 2012-13. In the first week of February, Ms. MacLennan and Ms. Galay will be visiting classrooms and holding assemblies to provide support and assistance for students with course selections and program pathways. Again, this is an excellent opportunity to have a critical conversation with your son/daughter regarding his/her course selections, career goals and program pathways.

Essential details regarding the course selection process are provided in this newsletter. The 2012-13 program book is available in print and on our website. This is an excellent resource for students and parents.

Please take a moment to read through our newsletter to catch up on the exciting things that are happening here at Pearson.

~Karen Hartman, Principal



### Message from the Halton District School Board

#### Help Us Name Our New Burlington School

The Halton District School Board encourages public input in naming the Board's newest elementary school, currently under construction and scheduled to open in September 2012. The new school is located in the Alton community in northeast Burlington (3290 Steeplechase Drive).

Suggested names may be submitted until Friday, February 17, 2012.

Please go to [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca) or the link below for the balloting process.

<http://checkbox.hdsb.ca/Survey.aspx?surveyid=1887>



Parents/guardians are invited to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> annual PIC Conference on

**Saturday, October 20, 2012**  
**8:00 a.m – 2:30 p.m.**

MM Robinson High School  
 (2425 Upper Middle Rd., Burlington L7P 3N9)

**Key Note Speaker:**  
 David Booth

Registration opens in August  
<http://registrations.hdsb.ca/picreg/>

Free child-minding available on request.

For more information contact Denise Pearson at 905-335-3663 ext. 3307 or [pearsonde@hdsb.ca](mailto:pearsonde@hdsb.ca).



# Patriot Sports Corner

## Athletes of the Month

The Pearson Athletic Council would like to introduce the December athletes of the month!



Our senior boys winner is **Brendan McCully**. Asked to move back to defense, Brendan has been a key contributor to the Hockey team's success thus far. Brendan plays physical, always moves the puck quickly and is relied on in key situations.

Congratulations to the senior girls winner, **Bri Molnar**. As the setter and co-captain of the Senior girls Volleyball team, she has an innate ability to lead others and superb setting skill. Bri has dedicated a great deal of time to her teammates. She is a role model both on and off the court.

Congratulations to the junior boys winner, **Ifaz Uddin**. Ifaz always displays great leadership skills and believes in the team systems. He works hard and demonstrates a great deal of dedication to his team.

Finally, congratulations to our junior girls winner, **Holly Clarke**. She plays a crucial role in the success of our first place volleyball team! As the Libero, Holly has outstanding defensive skills and is able to pass with a great deal of efficiency. She was also voted co-captain, which speaks to her leadership role.

Congrats to all the winners!

The Varsity Boys Hockey Team ended the preseason with a great team building tournament in Columbus Ohio, where they experienced a Columbus Blue Jacket game and some Black Friday deals. After that they got off to a quick start to the regular season rolling off 3 wins in their first 4 games. Since then the boys have been playing some sound defensive hockey but have been unable to match their early season success. With the second half of season approaching, this veteran group of young men are hoping their recommitment to a strong team game will enable them to be poised and peaking for a solid playoff run.



## Junior Girls Volleyball Gold Medalists!



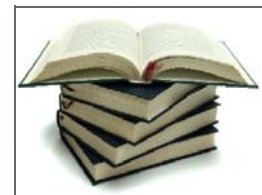
The junior girls volleyball team took home a gold medal of the season at the Bracebridge and Muskoka Lakes Secondary School tournament! This is the second gold medal in tournament play for the girls this year. The tournament involved A LOT of play, with back-to-back games and little rest. Holly Clarke was awarded the team's MVP for the tournament.

Currently the team has a 10-1 record in regular season play, and will advance into the playoffs!

# LIBRARY NEWS

## The Library

The library has had a very busy semester. There have been many new titles added to the collection and improvements made to the physical space. Volunteers help to shelve books at the end of the day and others have given time to special projects. All of these students are earning community service hours for the time they give outside the school day.



## New Website

A new library website has been created to help keep students informed about library events, new books, e-book access, etc. The new website can be found at [www.lbplibrary.blogspot.com](http://www.lbplibrary.blogspot.com). This website will also be linked from the school home-page.

## E-Books and Audio Books

Halton Library Services are leaders in their field and have taken on the challenge of using Overdrive to offer students e-books and audio books. All titles can be searched using HIP [LBP Library Catalogue](#) but all of the downloading and transferring to devices happens at home. If there are any questions, please contact Wendy Lang Brouwers, Pearson's Teacher-Librarian.



## Manga Club

This semester the Manga book club began again with very spirited discussions about graphic novels and anime. The club will begin again in Semester Two on Wednesdays after school. New members are more than welcome to join us in the library for the 30-minute dialogues. New titles for the graphic novel collection are currently on order. Look for the new arrivals to be on the shelves at the end of February.

## Forest of Reading Program and Book Clubs

All of the [White Pine](#) books are in the library and students have begun to read them. This year the OLA has decided to offer a set of fiction nominees and a set of non-fiction nominees. Students are welcome to read from either category. However, only those that read 5 of the 10 nominated titles in a single category for the White Pine award will be eligible to participate in the official voting at the end of April. There will be voting for fiction and voting for non-fiction. Starting in semester two, students will be able to participate in the formal in-school book club meetings and provide comments online provincially! Participation in the book clubs is not essential for participating in White Pine. Students may read and track with Mrs. Lang Brouwers independently if that is all that their time permits. Announcements will be made in school and posted on the [Library Website](#).



## Research

All students have access to a variety of research support materials through Halton's [Secondary Internet Tools](#) page. If students are trying to access the subscription databases, they will need their student card (all 14 digits on the bottom) to login at home. On the "Research" page are links to help with completing bibliographies.

## Advice

As more students are using new versions of Microsoft office at home and on their laptops, they should remember to save their documents to a lesser version (the school has Microsoft 2000) or as an .rtf to be able to open their assignments successfully at school. This is particularly true for PowerPoint presentations; many of the graphics, transitions, and animations are lost when opened on the school version. There are viewers at school that allow the work to be opened from the new versions of Microsoft, but not edited.

## Overdues, Lost Items, and Fines

Many students borrowed materials from the library in semester one and returned them late. Students are required to pay a fine for their overdue items and replacement costs for lost items. Failure to clear their library account results in students being unable to sign-out any other library materials. We would like students to have access to materials all the time, but they need to take responsibility by paying off any outstanding balances to reinstate their borrowing privileges.

# Give Respect



Lester B. Pearson student **Sydney Lanteigne** continues to spread the “Give Respect, Get Respect” message of her award winning poster with a new ad campaign adopted by the Halton Region Police Service and Oakville Transit.

Congratulations again Sydney on your amazing art work and very important message! We are so proud of your achievements.

**\*YEAR BOOKS\* \$55**  
**\*NOW ON SALE\***

**\$55**  
**2011/2012 Dollars**

**2011-2012**  
**INTEGRITY**

**\* CHEQUES CAN BE HANDED IN FEB 6th-16th IN COMM TECH ROOM 131 OR**  
**\* ONLINE PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE AFTER FEB 16th ON**  
**PURCHASEYOURYEARBOOK.COM**  
 ANY QUESTIONS SEE MANZELLA

## It's Time to Think Literacy ~ Mrs. Sharma

During periods 1 and 2 on **March 29, 2011**, Grade 10 students across Ontario will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This test measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the OSSLT is a requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

The best way to alleviate stress surrounding the Literacy Test is for students to be prepared.

We will be supporting our students by hosting an information assembly and guiding them through a practice test in late March. In addition, after-school preparation classes will be offered. Information will be posted shortly. In the meantime, it may be helpful to visit [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com) for further practice resources.

**LITERACY**

***NO NUTS, please!** All parents and students should be aware that there are several individuals in our school with severe, life threatening food allergies (anaphylaxis) to peanuts, peanut butter and all nut products.*

**Community Engagement Together**

LEARN GROW SUCCEED

## Co-operative Education Corner

The Co-operative Education program would not exist without all of our loyal employers in the community who take the time and effort to participate in the program. A tremendous thank you goes out to each Company and all of their employees involved with the Pearson Students who have just completed their Co-op experience.

Here are some responses from students when asked to complete the sentence, "I love Co-op because..."

*"It gave me a small taste of what lies ahead of me"*

*"I got a part time job out of it."*

*"It was fun. I was not sitting in a classroom all day because I was outside."*

*"It gave me experience with animals. I also enjoyed meeting and socializing with others."*

*"I enjoyed the change from school to workplace as well as learning new things every day and working with different types of people."*

*"It gave me a clear understanding of what I want to do when I am older and made me realize what I definitely do not want to do."*

*"Co-op offers an experience that you can't get in class or at school. I learned what it is like to be in a professional workplace and I gained some independence doing so. Co-op really aided in my decision of what I want to take in university and gave me personal insight of what speech pathology is really like."*

Is Co-operative Education a good choice for YOU? Check out the reasons many students take co-op and the reasons students may not take co-op. You solve the problem! Create a pros and con list. Does this help you make your decision?

### TOP TEN REASONS TO TAKE CO-OP

- Can pick the topic you study within the course
- You can earn multiple credits
- Develop social skills / Meet new people
- Gain experience in the workplace
- Build your skills and resume
- Possible future employment
- Flexible with your schedule
- Gaining a sense of responsibility
- Gaining up to date and current knowledge students do not have access to at school
- Having a better understanding of what you want to do when you are older

### TOP TEN REASONS NOT TO TAKE CO-OP

- Requires a high degree of maturity and independence
- Arranging transportation to and from your placement can be difficult
- Getting back to class on time can be tricky
- Heavy workload first 3 weeks during pre-employment session
- A lot of pressure to impress and do well in the workplace
- Can interfere with school activities / sports involvement
- May have to wake up earlier to get to placement on time
- May have to stay late (get home later in the afternoon)
- ALL HOURS MUST be completed
- ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST be completed