

Dalewood Golden Hawks

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND STAFF: WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE DALEWOOD BETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

April 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Ms. Szabo retired on March 31st. I would like to thank her for all her work with the students over the past few years and wish her well in her retirement. Ms. Szabo will be replaced by Ms. Little for the remainder of the school year.

Health and Physical Education: Mr. DiFelice and Mr. Mayner will be completing the Health unit on Growth and Development over the next two months. Letters were recently sent home with students. If you wish to review the curriculum and resources, a copy of the documents is available in the main office during regular office hours (8:05-4:05).

We are working through the staffing process for next year. The number of students in the school in 2019-2020 will be similar to this year and the number of classes will remain the same (in both English and French streams). More information will be provided as we continue the process.

Our Attendance Reporting System is Changing

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day. To improve our safe arrival process, we are adding a new system that will make it easier for you to report – and respond to – your child's school absences.

Once it is deployed on **April 23rd**, SafeArrival will let you use a website, mobile app, or an interactive toll-free phone number to report an absence in advance. This will save time when a school needs to verify student attendance, and when notifying families of unexpected or unplanned absences.

An email address is required to log in to SafeArrival and to receive notifications. HWDSB will be contacting by phone all families that did not list an email address in their child's student record. This new, automated SafeArrival process is part of the SchoolMessenger notification system from West Corporation, a company used by many Canadian school boards. There is also a new SchoolMessenger mobile app for iOS and Android devices. It will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to make it convenient for you to report future absences. You will soon receive more details on how to sign up for SafeArrival, as we look forward to all families taking part. *Learn more about SafeArrival at bit.ly/safearrivalHWDSB*

Prom Project Hamilton: occurs on Saturday, April 13th at Delta Secondary School, 1284 Main St., East, Hamilton and Saturday, May 4th at Hill Park Learning Centre, 465 East 16th Street., Hamilton. Prom Project Hamilton is a pop-up event providing students with an outfit for grad. The outfits are free of charge. Check out Facebook: @promprojecthamilton Twitter: @PromProjectHam and Instagram: promprojecthamilton

March 1, Professional Development Day: On March 1 we looked at our Continuous Learning and Improvement Process. Two areas we looked at were academic achievement and positive culture and wellbeing. Regarding academic achievement, we looked at how to meet the needs of different learners and how students with accommodations and modifications can have their needs met through leveraging their strengths. This is particularly important given that our Learning Resource Teachers (LRTs) now go into classrooms to collaborate with teachers rather than having students withdrawn. This in-class support also helps address feelings students may have of being singled out when they leave the room. Having a LRT in the room enables them to help various students, not only those with accommodations and modifications, and the collaboration provides classroom teachers with a variety of new strategies to potentially help all students. On positive culture we looked at the survey data which told us that students at Dalewood who feel they have two or more important adults in the school is at 40%. We discussed this and decided to set a target of 63% of students indicating that they have two or more important adults in the building by June 2020.

TVOMathify: (tvomathify.com) is available free to all grade 7 and 8 students in publicly-funded schools in Ontario. Live tutors are available every Sunday-Thursday, 5:30-9:30 to help students consolidate their classroom learning. To register, students only need their OEN number. If you do not have your child's OEN number, please contact the school office.

Drills: We have carried out three fire drills, one Lockdown, a Hold and Secure, and a Shelter in Place this year. The drills have all gone well. Fire drills and a bomb threat drill are scheduled for the spring.

Education Week

Concours Oratoire: Congratulations to the winners of our Junior Division Concours oratoire! Coltrane Singh and Amaya Gagnon-Whitney will be representing Dalewood at the Board level concours in April. Ms. Mason-Grant

Scholastic Book Fair

Dear Parents and Families: Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- Set the example. Let children see you read.
- Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our **Scholastic Book Fair** is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates: **May 7 - 9, 2019**

Dalewood Open House shopping date: Thursday, **May 9th, 2019** We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Dalewood Student Success at BASEF 2019

On Tuesday, April 2, 2019, cash, prizes and scholarships were awarded to student participants in the 55th Annual **B**ay **A**rea **S**cience and **E**ngineering **F**air held at Mohawk College.

More than 400 students in grades 7 – 12 from Hamilton, Halton, Brant, Haldimand-Norfolk and Six Nations spent months preparing more than 360 science and engineering projects.

Dalewood students and alumni did very well at BASEF this year and should be celebrated and admired for all their hard work and commitment to completing and presenting their projects despite very busy school lives and many extracurricular commitments.

To learn more about the projects and the awards please go the BASEF website (<http://basef.ca/>), please click on the **Results** section. The following awards were won by the Dalewood students and Dalewood graduates:

ArcelorMittal Dofasco Award

Conserving Momentum with MMDs by Paul L.

Primary Fluid Systems Award

The Marangoni Effect in Liquid Environments by Maria C.

Bronze Medals and scholarship to Sheraton College or Mohawk College:

Fingerprints: Inherited or Not? by Katherine L. *and* Taran K.

The Marangoni Effect in Liquid Environments by Maria C.

Feel Safe by Arjun S. *and* Jeronn Z. (Dalewood graduates who are now at Westdale)

Silver Medals and scholarship to Sheraton College or Mohawk College:

How to Know When You Need a New Sail by Arbutus F.

Fertilizer and Algae: Mass Murderers by Rose G.

Gold Medal and scholarship to Sheraton College or Mohawk College:

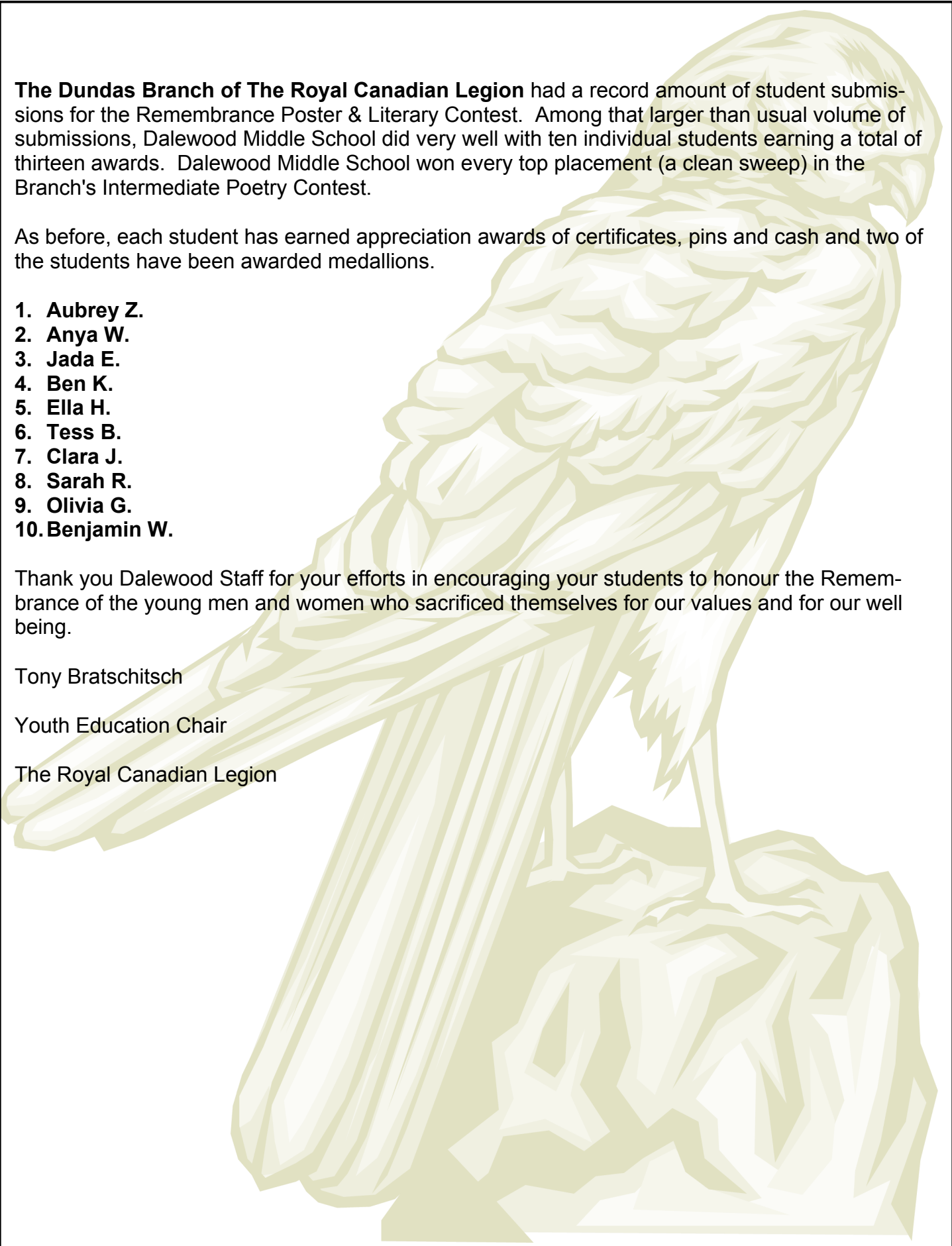
Conserving Momentum with MMDs by Paul L.

Canada-Wide Science Fair Trip Award:

Conserving Momentum with MMDs by Paul L.

Congratulations to all the participants of the Dalewood Science Fair *and* BASEF.

Mrs. Diacon



The Dundas Branch of The Royal Canadian Legion had a record amount of student submissions for the Remembrance Poster & Literary Contest. Among that larger than usual volume of submissions, Dalewood Middle School did very well with ten individual students earning a total of thirteen awards. Dalewood Middle School won every top placement (a clean sweep) in the Branch's Intermediate Poetry Contest.

As before, each student has earned appreciation awards of certificates, pins and cash and two of the students have been awarded medallions.

1. **Aubrey Z.**
2. **Anya W.**
3. **Jada E.**
4. **Ben K.**
5. **Ella H.**
6. **Tess B.**
7. **Clara J.**
8. **Sarah R.**
9. **Olivia G.**
10. **Benjamin W.**

Thank you Dalewood Staff for your efforts in encouraging your students to honour the Remembrance of the young men and women who sacrificed themselves for our values and for our well being.

Tony Bratschitsch

Youth Education Chair

The Royal Canadian Legion