

HAWK TALK

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ECOLE SEVEN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2012

Stories, poems and essays written by our students in English and in French will be a regular feature in our publication. French text will appear in the May newsletter.

We want to give our students the experience of writing intentionally about topics that matter to them and to the community.

ESOMS STAGES *FOOTLOOSE*

Are you ready to go back in time? Join us as Ren and Ariel get the town of Bomont moving and shaking!! Excitement continues to build as we get ever closer to our production debut of *Footloose*.

- Miss Koshelanyk has had meetings with students to discuss their costumes. If you haven't received a note or been to a meeting, please see Miss Koshelanyk as soon as possible. Thank you to students who have handed in their costume pieces to Miss Koshelanyk.
- We ask for your help in reminding our student/actors to pay close attention to the rehearsal schedule and to arrive at rehearsals on time. We are getting close to show time and every rehearsal counts.
- Schedules are posted on the board outside Mr. Hall's room, outside Miss Koshelanyk's room and on the production website.
- Soon we will be asking for donations for the silent auction. What would you like to contribute?

Thank you to all students, staff, and parents for their support with our production. We are looking forward to show time!

IMPORTANT DATES

April 2	Classes resume after Spring Break
April 3	Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm
April 6	Good Friday – No Classes
April 9 – 12	ESOMS Musical Production

April 18 ESOMS Open House
7:00 pm

April 20 School PD – No Classes

May 1 Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm
May 7 School PD – No Classes

May 9, 10, 11 Winnipeg International Storytelling Festival

May 15-18 Band Trip
May 21 Victoria Day – No Classes

June 5 Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm
June 13 Choral Concert
June 27 Grade 8 Farewell Evening
June 28 Administration Day – No Classes
June 29 Last Day of Classes



ORDER FORMS FOR
FOOTLOOSE
T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES
ARE NOW AVAILABLE
IN THE OFFICE.



Jenna is reading Homer's *Odyssey*. In the following essay, she is sharing her reflections with us.

AN INVITATION TO READ HOMER'S *ODYSSEY*

Every hero starts out as nothing more than a child, a pupil in need of a teacher. Telemachus was just that – until the bright-eyed goddess Athena visited him.

Telemachus, the son of the strong and famous Odysseus, is facing a crisis at home. Unwelcome guests have invaded his home. With his father missing and his mother held captive by the home-invaders, Telemachus must step up and become the man and hero he was meant to be. With Athena as his advisor and courage in his heart, Telemachus embarks on an adventure that will change his life forever.

Telemachus is still a child when Athena first meets him. He is simply sitting around dreaming of a better future. Homer tells us that, "...nobody noticed her at first but Telemachus, who was sitting disconsolate among the Suitors, (the home-invaders), dreaming of how his noble father might come back from out of the blue, drive all these gallant pell-mell from the house, and so regain his royal honors and reign over his own once more." Athena sees that in his heart was the strength and willpower he needed to set out in search of his father. I believe that Athena knows what she was doing when she gave Telemachus hope, by saying, "... though the gods are putting every difficulty in his way, I still maintain that the good Odysseus is not dead but alive somewhere on earth." Then she transforms into a bird and flies off to leave Telemachus with the knowledge that a goddess is on his side.

As Telemachus begins to take control of his awful situation, he finds his courage with each step. He begins to believe in the possibility although many have long dismissed the thought of his father's return. It is with wise words and daring that he speaks to the people of Ithaca, his home island. I believe that is his best quality. But his bravery and hope is inspired by Athena, although she is disguised as another by the name of Mentor. She says to him "Today has proved you, Telemachus, neither a coward nor fool, nor destined to be such, if we are right in thinking that your father's manly vigor has descended to his son". It is here that he begins to take his first steps to becoming a leader, a hero.

Telemachus must learn to be wise. Even with a goddess as an advisor he cannot rely on chance. After Athena gathers a crew and finds him a boat for his adventure he must take on the challenge of finding information about where Odysseus is now. Telemachus first visits Nestor, King of Pylos. As he meets with Nestor, Athena helps him give spirited replies to his host and even though tempting offers of large gifts and feasts are offered, Telemachus turns them down. The one thing he wants most doesn't come plated with gold or served on a silver tray. No, what he wants is to know where his father is. As he goes from one place to another searching for clue of his dad's location, he meets up with Helen and Menelaus. And Menelaus knows something about an island and a Nymph by the name of Calypso whose primary guest, Odysseus, has become her captive.

With this new information in hand and a path laid before his feet Telemachus must sail across the ocean. But his journey will not be easy. Poseidon is angry at Odysseus and the Suitors are planning an ambush for Telemachus' return. Will Telemachus find his father or does fate have something else in store for him? This inspiring and incredible page turner will keep you guessing from page one. Read the story of a real boy who became a hero.

WORKING TO HELP AT WINNIPEG HARVEST

On February 29, we went to Winnipeg Harvest. While we were there, we learned how the food gets donated and how it gets delivered to the hungry. The people who require food fill out a form to get food. Then the form goes to Winnipeg Harvest. Then they receive the food. They have to go to their local distribution center to get the food.

We sorted potatoes and onions in boxes for delivery. We sorted and packed 35 boxes of potatoes and 1 box of onions and donated 82.6 pounds of food. Some potatoes were soft and had holes in them. If they were soft or if they had holes in them, they were discarded. The same goes for the onions but they were soft and mouldy. It was hard to find onions that were in good shape, but we managed to find them.

Our tour guide showed us a map of where the food gets shipped.

- 60,000 people get fed in a month
- They get 400 calls a day
- The volunteers get free meals
- Over 50% of people getting fed are children

Karen, Richard, and Matthieu

**Haiku Poem (Altered):
Rose in relation to humans**

Solid but aerial

This is only one part of me

Angelic but fatal

There is no end in myself

However there's limit

Damon



MISS KOSHELANYK'S GRADE 8 FORT

We spent a day recently building a classroom fort and we spent time inside talking and learning. I asked the students why they thought we did it and these were some of the responses:

- *I think we built the fort because in the olden days people inside the fort were like a family.*
- *To use our imagination and relax. Chill and have a break from life.*
- *To bring back our childhood.*
- *To show us that some people are not as privileged as we are and don't have a roof over their heads.*
- *I think that it was a good experience for us to get back to our inner child because it may have been the last time before we get too old or caught up in work.*
- *For science. I think it was science for building structures.*
- *Maybe you wanted us to expand our imagination and be more creative. Oh Miss K! So this was just a way to get us to write?*

Spring

The squish of rubber against watery mud seemed to satisfy the wearer of the rubber boots - a sure sign spring was nearly here. The last bits of snow melted against the mushy dirt and debris of the previous fall, the little white crying quietly of all the fun that it had provided. The gurgle of the chilly puddles draining into the sewer, a winter's worth of snowmen whispering goodbye to all the children with promises of returning, etched into the water.

The breeze was a little chilly still, but the air smelled warm, the future spring barbeques sneaking up on her nose, she could nearly smell them now. The geese could be heard in the distance calling out "we're back!" and finding a fresh area to rest after the long journey back.

The many trees did not yet have leaf buds on them, but the branches no longer swayed and quivered at the mercy of the fierce winter wind. Instead they stood damp and tall, anticipating the new leaves as much as the people of the city did. Everyone knew spring is coming.

Holly
Grade 8
Room 29

VISIT TO THE CENTENNIAL CONCERT HALL

I went to the Winnipeg Centennial Concert Hall on March 13th, 2012. I went as soon as I got to school. I was nervous and excited at the same time! There were two shows, a morning show and an afternoon show. I performed in the afternoon show. I saw the morning people play; there were about 15 violinists from our school and one other school. It was really cool to see other people from my school play on the stage. When it was my turn to play I got nervous. As I was getting ready to go on stage along with 14 other people, I heard the conductor talking about our presentation. I arrived on stage and I had really big knots in my stomach. Before we played, a group of dancers performed while we were on stage. When their dance was over everyone clapped and then the orchestra started playing and then we got ready to play and played! Everyone did really well!
I had a lot of fun!

This wouldn't happen without the conductor, Richard Lee, the orchestra and most importantly our violin teacher, Mrs. Hamilton!

Amora-Belle

Hunger is white,

Like an animal alone in a blizzard.

It keeps trying to take cover,

Like the prey of your enemy.

It makes me feel empty,

**Like I haven't eaten anything in
days.**

**It makes me want to do something
about hunger**

Madison & Braden

Hunger is Green

Like a mouldy piece of potato.

It makes your stomach turn.

Like the London eye.

It makes me feel disgusted.

Like a cat eating a mouse whole.

It makes me want to cry.

Mikhael, Dylan & Brennen

SPRING HAS SPRUNG IN ROOM NINE

Like the flowers in the hills,
We are all blooming in our math skills,
The spring showers are not making us weary,
Because we are learning about Pythagoras' theory.

Our hearts beat just like the butterflies wings flutter,
We are learning about the things that are bad for our heart like butter,
You have to hustle,
To make your heart a stronger muscle.

Like the bees, Kony is the buzz around our school,
He kidnaps children in Africa which makes him very cruel,
We have been talking a lot about this video and its contents,
It has been creating a lot of dramatic events.



THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY AN EXPERIENCE IN CRITICAL LITERACY

In class, we watched the video, *Kony 2012* (<http://www2.invisiblechildren.com/videos/37119711>), made by the organization *Invisible Children*. This film is about the abduction of children who are then used as child soldiers by Joseph Kony and his so-called Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Our first reactions to the film were sympathetic, we felt a connection to the emotional side and we really wanted to help.

We watched the video for a second time and had a guest speaker, Mr. McCloud, who talked to us about the video. He explained what is happening in Uganda and shared information that is missing from the video. He showed us a video response from Rosebell's blog (<http://rosebellkagumire.com>), a Ugandan multimedia journalist, who speaks about the danger of a single story. Rose explained a part in the video where they showed a clip of African children being scared of going home and sleeping on the floor. But this clip was four years old and the situation is much better now; not because of *Invisible Children*. Rose also suggested that *Invisible Children* is just another "want-to-be-hero" and this organization needs to know more about the people they are trying to help.

This really got us thinking. After some discussions in class, we decided that we do not want to drop this issue. In fact, we are going to do more research about what is going on in Uganda, what is actually being done (and has been done) to help and then we are planning on making a video response to the *Kony 2012* video. Our goal is not to create a single-sided view but instead to teach people that there is always more than one side to every story.

- Maddy and Elliot

How hunger makes me feel is
 Unbelievably fierce. I can't believe children go with
 No food for so long. Unfortunately,
 Generations will go to bed hungry and with
 Empty stomachs. Worldwide hunger is not
 Right & should be stopped.

Devon, Ryan, & Jordan

Having no food
Undernourished
Needing someone who cares
Giving food for those who
need
Everlasting gratitude
Relief at last

Sidney & Keenan

- Hunger**
- Help needed**
- Underfed**
- Near death**
- Got nothing to eat**
- Ever alone**
- Reaching out for help**

By. Madison & Braden

Hunger is Grey,
Like a cloudy dark day.
Hunger rings in my mind like thunder,
Like a gunshot from a fearsome hunter.
It makes me feel a shock of depression,
Like when one discovers an embarrassing confession.
It makes me want to help.

Devon, Ryan, & Jordan

BAND TRIP TO MINNEAPOLIS

We are happy to announce our annual Gr. 8 Band Trip to Minneapolis from **MAY 15-18!** We are now proceeding by collecting deposits from students wishing to participate on the trip. Attached is a sample itinerary.

We are currently collecting an initial **\$100.00** deposit from each student wishing to attend (**The total cost of the trip is \$400**). This is primarily used by the tour company to pre-purchase tickets, tours, etc. This deposit is due on or before **THUR, APRIL 12th**. You can pay by cash or cheque, payable to ESOMS. If you wish, you may also use money from your child's band or school account. Please fill out the form below to show your form of payment.

The final payment for the trip is **\$300 minus any fundraising or school account funds you wish to use** and will be due on **Friday, May 11th**. We will be sending a letter home with the exact amount due and another breakdown sheet for cheques, cash and fundraising used. If you wish, you may bring payments in instalments. Please contact us at the school if you wish to do this.

Please note the recommended documents required for travel to the US from our government website. We highly recommend a passport for all students.

"The Government of Canada continues to recommend that all Canadian citizens carry a valid Canadian passport for all visits abroad, including visits to the United States. A passport is the only universally-accepted identification document, and it proves that you have a right to return to Canada."

We will be holding a parent meeting for the trip during the first week in May, time TBA.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the trip, please feel free to call us at school, 586-0327 or email John.Racciatti@7oaks.org.

Musically,

J.L.Racciatti, E. Lees, B. Hamilton

Gr. 8 Band Trip to Minneapolis

Consent/Deposit Form

DUE: Thursday April 12th, 2012

I, _____ give my permission for my son/daughter
 _____ to attend the trip to Minneapolis from Tuesday, May 15th to Friday,
 May 18th, 2012. Enclosed is my \$100.00 deposit.

Signed _____

Date _____

Payment:

Cash _____

Cheque _____

Band Account _____

Classroom Account _____ (please send a note to the homeroom teacher informing them of the withdrawal)

Total _____

CHAPERONES

Interested in being a chaperone on our trip? Please call the school or email us at the address below (CPR or other credential would be beneficial).

john.racciatti@7oaks.org

Please note that parents are also welcome to attend on a non-chaperone basis using their own transportation and many have done this in past years. Please inform us if you wish to do this.



EXTENDED DAY GROWTH EDUCATION

EDGE offers a variety of after school activities for middle year students. Parents and students who are looking to fill the gap between school and the supper hour can check out the affordable programs offered by **EDGE**. Our regular grade 6 – 8 Spring program will start the week of April 30th.

EDGE information is available
on the **Seven Oaks Website!**

On the site, click on **Programs**, scroll and click on **EDGE**. You will be able to view information on all available **EDGE** Spring programs, participating schools, calendars plus all registration materials.

If you are interested in joining any of the courses, registration materials will be available at your school, or you can print them right off the site!

Courses are fun and educational, but spaces are limited...

So...don't delay, register soon to ensure participation in **EDGE**.

Questions? Contact Penny Raymond,
Extended Day Coordinator at:
885-4333 or 227-7136
e-mail: penny.raymond@7oaks.org



Hop into spring break at Oak Hammock Marsh!

From March 26 – 30, have fun participating in daily themed activities at Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre or register for one or all of our day camps. Camp runs daily from 9a.m. to 4p.m. and is for children ages 6 to 9. Camp is filled with fun indoor and outdoor themed activities that may include scavenger hunts, animal tracking, outdoor cooking and nature crafts. For more information on daily themes or to register a camper please visit: <http://www.oakhammockmarsh.ca>, or call (204) 467-3300.

APRIL INFO

KYAC is FREE all school year long!

We have a couple of Movie Nights @ Riverbend this month!

Important Dates:

April 5th, NO KYAC @ Forest Park

April 6th, NO KYAC – GOOD FRIDAY

April 11th, NO KYAC @ Edmund Partridge

Our summer program will be coming out! Stay Tuned!!

We are looking for parent representatives on the KYAC board council,
email us!

Have a suggestion for KYAC programming?? Let us know!

Register w/ KYAC - Email us kyac@7oaks.org for more details!**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Subject to cancel if there are not enough participants

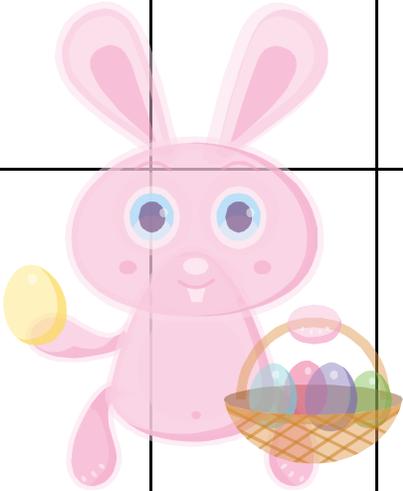
Check out our website: <http://www.7oaks.org/Programs/KYAC/Pages/default.aspx>

‘Like’ our page on facebook, search:KYAC
Follow us on twitter→@kyac7oaks for daily updates

For more information, contact Pierre Feng, KYAC Program Coordinator, at
586-0327 or

by email at pierre.feng@7oaks.org.

April 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 Day 5 Classes Resume TAS Term 3 Begins	3 Day 6 PAC 6:30 pm	4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6 7 Good Friday No Classes	
8	9 Day 3 Footloose 7:00 pm	10 Day 4 Footloose 7:00 pm	11 Day 5 Footloose 7:00 pm	12 Day 6 Footloose 7:00 pm	13 Day 1	14
15	16 Day 2	17 Day 3	18 Day 4 ESOMS Open House 7:00 pm	19 Day 5	20 Day 6 ESOMS PD No Classes	21
22	23 Day 1	24 Day 2	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 5	28
29	30 Day 6					

K Y A C April 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 KYAC is CLOSED	2 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	3 KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	4 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	5 NO KYAC @ FP KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	6 GOOD FRIDAY KYAC IS CLOSED	7 KYAC @ ESOMS 1-5pm
8 EASTER KYAC is CLOSED	9 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	10 KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	11 Open house @ EP KYAC @ GS 330-530pm NO KYAC @ EP	12 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	13 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm Movie night!	14 KYAC @ ESOMS 1-5pm
15 KYAC is CLOSED	16 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	17 KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	18 Open house @ ESOMS KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	19 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	20 PD Day No Classes, but KYAC is OPEN! KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	21 KYAC @ ESOMS 1-5pm
22 KYAC is CLOSED	23 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	24 KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	25 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	26 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	27 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm Movie night!	28 KYAC @ ESOMS 1-5pm
29 KYAC is CLOSED	30 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm		GS – Governor Semple RB – Riverbend ESOMS – Ecole Seven Oaks Middle School EP – Edmund Partridge FP – Forest Park			