

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 6th - Full School Assembly
December 11th - 15th – Sprit Week!
December 14th – Parent-Teacher Interviews
December 22nd - Last Day of School before the holidays

What you never knew about...

Mr. Mrkich

Over the past two summers I have been a volunteer with a wonderful organization called Not Far From the Tree. The group matches Toronto homeowners who have fruit trees in their yards with charitable groups who distribute food to the needy. The organization, now in its 10th year, was developed to address the fact that people who have fruit trees can only eat a small portion of the ripe fruit – the rest often rots and is wasted. This is where we, as volunteers, come in, as we travel to homes that request it and pick the fruit. The huge majority of the fruit is then delivered to food banks and homeless shelters. Last summer the organization distributed 12, 159 pounds of fruit, which included standards such as apples and pears, as well as rarer varieties such as pawpaws, quinces and elderberries. As a thank you, each volunteer also receives a portion for our own use, which was put to good use in three fine pear tarts I made last August.



Being Brilliant in Foundations!

The past couple of weeks in Grade 10 Foundations, we have been looking at goal setting. Students learned how to choose a measurable and accomplishable goal, and how to set up targets to help meet their goals. Students were also encouraged to come up with “roadblocks” that could prevent them from reaching their goals. Strategies were then developed to overcome these hindrances. Students were encouraged to set daily, weekly, and monthly targets and check points to help break down their goals. On Mondays, Foundations students are encouraged to give updates on their goals, and the entire class acts as a support group for one another! Even Mr. Ebel got into the swing of things by swearing off pop! The group support network has been especially helpful for keeping him on track and off of sugary drinks... (see below left!)

Coles Notes

A great big thank you to all who came out to the ribbon-cutting and Grand Opening celebration of our beautiful new building! We started the day with some congratulatory words from Ward 16 Councillor Christin Carmichael Greb and our founder Sam Blyth, and then had an emotional (and unforgettable) purification ceremony from Yvonne Maracle, a cultural worker from the Homeward Bound Aboriginal Centre. Our students learned so much from her, and the thin wisps of smoke from her smudging ceremony suggested that we are in space with good energy to grow and build within. Our party in the evening was spirited, as we tried to celebrate both our roots north of Lawrence, and the possibilities before us in our customized new home. Among many highlights that evening, we celebrated that between just 17 of our staff and faculty, we have 75 collective years at Blyth LP. That’s not bad for a school just 7 years old! I thank Ms. Abner, Mr. Ebel, Magnus and Leah for their words, and Mr. Savaria for a terrific slideshow. Many helped organize the event, and it was a great success. For one or two, the party extended right through to the start of class next day!