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### **So Much Science!**

This month has seen a lot of scientific exploration for the students at Blyth Academy Whitby!

Today we are hosting a Girls in Science event for female-identified Blyth students from across the greater Blyth community at the Whitby Public Library. Students are participating in hands-on activities in areas like environmental science and video game coding and testing, and the day will conclude with a career panel where students can ask questions of our various presenters.

Last week, our 11 biology and 12 chemistry students attended a day-long workshop at neighbouring UOIT in Oshawa where they engaged with VR technology to learn about the human body and had to beat an escape room using their knowledge of math, physics, chemistry and biology. The students had an incredible day.

**Blyth**  
ACADEMY  
WHITBY

**2018 GIRLS IN SCIENCE DAY**  
FOR FEMALE-IDENTIFIED STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-10!

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES:

- MEDICINE
- ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- CHEMISTRY
- PHYSICS
- COMPUTER SCIENCE

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**  
**CHRISTINE DOUCETTE**  
PhD

Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba  
Research Scientist at the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba  
Research Interest: Type II Diabetes

WHITBY PUBLIC LIBRARY • THURS, MARCH 29, 2018 • 9:30AM - 3:30PM

EMAIL **KIM HACKER** (KIM.HACKER@BLYTHEDUCATION.COM) OR **JOELLE DELAPAZ** (J\_DELAPAZ@BLYTHEDUCATION.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

Just prior to the March Break, the majority of the school visited the Ontario Science Centre where they took self-guided tours, and watched IMAX films appropriate to their various classes.

We send a huge thank you to our science teachers, Joelle dela Paz (high school) and Meghan Armstrong (middle school), for all of their hard work in planning and co-ordinating these events for our students.



**Trip to UOIT**

Back row: Michaela, Jordan, Kene, Charlie, UOIT Instructor  
Front row: Britney, Chelsea, Hana and Noor



The course selection process for 2018-19 is underway and students are starting to discuss their course choices for next year. The schedule, whilst subject to change, is reasonably set for next year and we are asking students to select their courses using the proposed schedule. The schedule was circulated at parent-teacher interviews and copies have been available to students at the front desk.

In the Term 3 report package, each student will receive a copy of their credit counselling summary, which will clearly show the credits required for your son/daughter to graduate and receive their OSSD. The course selection sheet will also be sent home with Term 3 final reports and we will ask students to complete it and return no later than **MAY 18<sup>th</sup> 2018.**

For students heading into Grade 11 and 12, course selection discussions should also feature higher education counselling, to ensure that your son/daughter places themselves in a strong position for their higher education applications. They will need to ensure that their plan not only ensures they are studying the required prerequisites but also that they are planning for success by taking courses at appropriate times. I invite all students and parents to arrange a meeting, to discuss their plans, between now and the end of term.

[Course Selection - Students entering Grade 10 in September 2018](#)

[Course Selection - Students entering Grade 11 or 12 in September 2018](#)



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## MEET THE TEACHERS

**Margaret (Peggy) Klem**

**French**

**Joined: February 2018**

**Please describe your teaching/employment experience prior to joining us at Blyth Whitby.**

I have been teaching French as a second language to students for over 40 years for school boards across the province, including Ottawa, Sudbury, Bruce County, Durham, and Kawartha-Pine Ridge. I am also a proofreader and translator.

**What hobbies and interests do you have?**

I have a passion for reading. I prefer non-fiction books on a variety of topics as well as authors who pen the mystery/spy genre. When I'm not reading I enjoy knitting, quilting and working on needlepoint.

**What are you enjoying most about teaching with us this year?**

Mostly I enjoy the interaction with my class. It's refreshing and gratifying to have students who are interested and willing to explore the intricacies and vagaries of the French language. At the same time they are learning to appreciate the nuances and complexities of the English language with which they are much more familiar.

### If you became famous, what would it be for?

I would prefer not to become famous but if I did, I would like it to be for making a positive difference for someone.



## BLYTH GIVES BACK - ANIMAL SHELTER DRIVE

It's time to show your community pride, and earn House Points at the same time!

From **Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** until **Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**, we will be accepting donations to help out local animal shelters. The furry (and not-so-furry) critters who call these places home are often overlooked when it comes to receiving help from the community. We know that we have a generous community here at Blyth Academy Whitby. Let's show the animals some love!

Items should be given to Sarah at the front desk. House Points will be awarded as follows:

1 point	2 points	3 points
Towels	Animal toys	Bags of dry food
Face cloths	Soft food	Non-clump litter
Leashes	Treats	Cages
Collars	Office supplies	Animal Beds
Feeding dishes	Blankets, bedding	
	Hot water bottles	

## SUPERSTAR STUDENTS - MARCH EDITION



**SKYLAR SMIT (Gr.11)**  
Nominated by teacher Meghan Hagedorn

I would like to commend Skylar for her many successes in her first Grade 12 class. As one of the only Grade 11s in the HSB4U - Challenge & Change course, Skylar is stepping out of her comfort zone and sharing her ideas in class discussions. She works extremely well with others, and makes her classmates feel safe and comfortable. Skylar always submits her work on time, completed to the best of her ability; and never hesitates to ask for help when needed. Congratulations on your hard work and great attitude, Skylar!

**ALEX FERMO (Gr.8)**  
Nominated by teachers Chantelle Judge and Meghan Armstrong

We would like to recognize Alex Fermo as our Superstar Student this month in Middle School. Alex always comes to school with a positive attitude and showcases an infectious energetic personality. Alex has settled into Blyth very well and has made some great connections with peers. Alex is a fantastic leader, and is not afraid to take risks or try new things. Alex

regularly encourages classmates to see situations from the perspective of others and always tries to solve issues with critical and creative thinking. The contributions Alex has made to classroom discussions and debates has fostered a lively and thoughtful environment where differing views are accepted and valued. Keep up the great work, Alex!



**TAYLOR RANKIN (Gr.12)**  
Nominated by Principal Kim Hacker

I nominate Grade 12 student Taylor Rankin as a Superstar Student. Taylor works very hard behind the scenes to organize events and experiences for our students, contributing to the overall school culture. Thanks to Taylor, we have run a great pancake breakfast to raise funds for our Prom candy table; many of you are sporting Blyth 2018 gear; and we can also thank Taylor for the idea to bring in therapy dogs on the day before exams for some stress reduction for our students. Taylor's thoughtful nature and can-do attitude have made Blyth Whitby an even better place, and for that we are grateful. Thanks for all that you do, Taylor!



**MISS SHERMAN'S ENG4U CLASS (Gr.11/12)**  
Nominated by teacher Laura Sherman

The grade 12 English class worked on a challenging visual project this month. They were tasked with imagining the world of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. They each brought elements of the story to life with a 3-dimensional model. Renee and Johnny each focused on the horrific, intense aspects of the story, while Vivianne and Kyra used their models to speak to different objects of symbolic significance. Emmerson used technology to create part of the world in Atwood's novel that the class toured virtually, and finally, Shane and Cameron each focused on the lives of the handmaids and the mood of the text. Everyone was able to discuss their choices and explore each model.

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## LOOKING AHEAD...

### **Fri. Mar. 30/Mon. Apr. 2**

- School is closed for Good Friday/Easter Monday

### **Tues. Apr. 3**

- Animal Shelter Drive begins (see article above) and runs until the end of April

### **Wed Apr. 4**

- Blyth Triathlon hosted by Blyth Lawrence Park at Glendon College

### **Thurs. Apr. 5**

- Spring Bake Sale during Period 2 - bring your change to support a good cause (TBD)

### **Fri. Apr. 6**

- Middle School (Grades 6-8) to visit the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)  
- Miss Sherman's classes (10 Careers, 12 English and 11 Ancient History) to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)

### **Tues. Apr. 10**

- All Grade 10s writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test starting at 9:30am. Students writing the OSSLT will be dismissed for the day when the test concludes. All other grades will run as usual today.

## **COMING EVENTS:**

### **Fri. Apr. 20 and Mon. Apr. 23**

- Term 3 final exams for high school students

### **Tues. Apr. 24**

- PD Day for teachers - no school for either Middle School or high school students

**Wed. Apr. 25**

- Term 4 starts for high school students

209 Dundas St. E | 905-666-3773 | whitby@blytheducation.com

STAY CONNECTED:

