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AGINCOURT AWESOME

Having completed my second year as Principal at Agincourt Collegiate, it has been my pleasure to be of service to the staff, students and parents of the Agincourt community. I am inspired by the dedication of our staff and the achievements of our students. Together, we will continue to set high expectations for **A**cademic excellence, **C**haracter building and **I**nvolve-ment of student; **ACI** students certainly have accomplished all this and more.

As principal, one of my priorities is to update the technology and infrastructure of our 100 year old building. This year, staff and students have wall to wall Wi Fi access, and they are bringing in laptops, tablets and other devices to access information and work collaboratively. ACI is also piloting the STEM Initiative (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and our aim is to create state of the art science labs to further engage students. Indeed, many mathematics and science teachers are using TDSB's Desire To Learn site, web pages, social media and other on-line resources to provide course materials and support. It is our vision to transform the learning experience of students at ACI through investment in technology, E-textbooks and professional development. The day will come where a tablet or an iPad will replace a 40 pound backpack filled with textbooks and binders. Turning to Literacy and Numeracy, we are looking forward to the release of EQAO results for our Grade 9 Mathematics and Grade 10 Literacy Tests. This year, official OSSLT and Grade 9 Mathematics results will be released in September. Notwithstanding the delay, we are very proud of the effort of our Literacy Committee and Mathematics Department, who worked diligently to ensure our students were prepared for these provincial tests.

Developing CHARACTER is a TDSB and school priority. This year, staff and students took a great leadership role in what is now a new proud tradition to support the International Day of Pink. Staff and students participated in the **International Day of Pink** against bullying and homophobia. Moreover, Premiere Wynne attended our school assembly and applauded the work of our staff, students and the ACI community. Student Mental Health week was supported by staff and students. Parent members of our school council organized a mental health seminar for the ACI community and we are looking forward to more of these information evenings next year. Our Environmental Club received \$2500 from the Shell Classroom Energy Diet Challenge for their campaign video to recycle and reduce paper usage. Lastly, the year was capped off with the Marsha and Tamara Ottey Walk against violence, which was supported by our entire school population.

Student involvement and engagement are key elements to the Agincourt Experience, and I am very pleased and proud that Agincourt is continuing the tradition of excellence in athletics, music, technology, business studies, modern languages, the arts, and the list continues. This is done through the dedication of our teachers and community volunteers. On behalf of students and parents, we thank you for your commitment in time and energy dedicated to supporting our students. This year, there was a full spectrum of extra-curricular activities with some 40 clubs and councils providing opportunities for all students to participate. Of note, hockey returned to ACI and the team made the playoffs. Our First Robotics team came 6th in the province; the Madrigal Singers, were recognized as the top SATB high school choir in the Ontario Kiwanis Music Festival; not to mention the many successes of our teams and individuals that won several City Championships and went to OFFSA.

A special thanks to Parent Members of our School Council, Chinese Parent Association and the Music Parent Association. Their dedication and support of our programs and school events are also keys to our school's success. Of note, Mrs. D. La Rush is now the chair of the ACI School Council and elections for next year's 16 Parent Members is scheduled for Sept. 30th. The following pages of Agincourt Awesome provide just a brief glimpse of the wonderful activities that went on this year. These are indeed the collaborative work of students, staff and parents.

This year, we will be saying goodbye to three special members of the Agincourt family. Mr. Ed Reid, after a distinguished career as Toronto Police Constable and 18 years as a School Based Safety Monitor, will be retiring to serve his church and community. In addition, my friend and math teacher Mr. John MacLennan will be sailing into the sunset, after 22 years of service. Mr. MacLennan and I have taught and coached together for many years, indeed, he concluded his career coaching our hockey team this year. Lastly, I wish all the best to my colleague and friend Vice-Principal Lisa Edwards, who was promoted to Principal of Central Tech High School. On behalf of the entire Agincourt community, we thank all of you for your careers dedicated to enriching the lives of our students.

To the graduating class of 2014-15, congratulations and all the best as you take your next steps. I look forward to seeing you at our Commencement ceremony on Friday, October 23rd, 2015. This year we are continuing with the tradition we created last year, with graduates dressed in formal graduation gowns and caps, and the best part is graduates get to keep the gowns and caps.

Lastly, your child's report card is enclosed herein and we hope he or she has made good progress in all subjects. Please note the registration details listed below. It is important that all returning students register on Wednesday, September 2nd, 2015. Kindly refer to the registration information below. I wish you a safe, restful and rejuvenating summer.



R. Hu, Principal

Important Information

Agincourt C. I. is closed to optional attendance and is at maximum capacity; please ensure your son/daughter is registered during the times listed.

Please visit us online at:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/agincourt/>

Registration Day Schedule – Wed. September 2nd, 2015

- Grade 10 – 9:00 am – 10:00 am
- Grade 11 – 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- Grade 12 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Grade 9 – 10:30 am - 3:00 pm for Moving On Up Day

Student Activity Fee is \$50.00 which includes the Agenda Book, Yearbook, and SAC Activity Card

ACADEMIC

MATHEMATICS

Last year, the math department added whiteboards, mounted LCD projectors, and document cameras in all math classrooms. This year, our expansion of technology included an iPad cart for classroom use (a joint venture with the science department), and the introduction of posting select past evaluations and solutions online for student use/study. In addition, many math students had the luxury of using past evaluations as either mock-tests before the real one, or as a review for study purposes.



As for new math programming, the math department successfully introduced and completed an AP Statistics course this school year, and had several students write the AP Statistics exam in May. Although the results have not yet come back, the mood after the exam was extremely positive.

Once again, outside the classroom, several math students participated in a plethora of math contests offered by various universities and math institutions, and without fail, in every contest entered, there were numerous students who earned accolades and honourable mentions, and every contest result was accompanied with a medal.

Lastly, in addition to continuing to provide the Saturday and after school math program, we offered ACI Math Tutoring during the examination period. The tutoring times were provided on student's individual examination schedule. It was great to see teachers, student teachers and students working together and supporting each other to prepare for their grade 9 Final examinations.

MODERNS

2014-2015 was a great year for Modern Languages and French Immersion at Agincourt. In February approximately 40 students participated in the annual *Concours d'art oratoire*, French speech arts contest. Core, Extended and Immersion students presented speeches in the library on every topic imaginable, from the importance of environmentalism to the social implications of short hair! We are extremely proud of Grade 12 student Mohammad Yousaf who represented ACI at the Provincial *Concours d'art oratoire* placing second in a very competitive Grade 12 Extended category.

In March, French classes participated in the Francofolies festival. Examples of the activities in which the students participated were an Amazing Race, a French movie lunch and French cooking session at the PC Cooking School. The week culminated with an exciting performance by Njacko Backo.

In the classrooms we continue to implement the new curriculum, focusing on oral communication and cross cultural understanding. It is indeed an exciting time to be in the French department!

SCIENCE

This was another awesome year of Science at Agincourt. It started with ACI being chosen as a STEM (Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering) focus school by the TDSB! Our students participated in a wide variety of national contests and competitions. As always, Agincourt students performed at elite levels with some students winning awards and scholarships. We took a group of young women to the Perimeter Institute in Waterloo for a workshop on Women in STEM careers. We had two groups of senior students chosen to present at the TDSB STEM Showcase. Our students' work was very well received as one group was asked to submit their work for possible publication. Other popular activities were the Rube Goldberg machines, pig dissections, open-inquiry labs on rates of reactions, balloon-propelled rockets and classroom visits from Steve Lang from the Canadian Space Resource Centre.



BUSINESS STUDIES

The Specialist High Skill Major in Business program's inaugural year was a great success. The goal of the program is to have students "work ready" in their area of interest and to give them a competitive advantage upon entering university, college and the workforce.

Students enrolled in the program will graduate with a special **Red Seal** on their OSSD in addition to work experience and specialised training. As for our ACI traditions the Business Breakfast expanded into multiple community partnerships and helped raise funds for a variety of charities. The 19th annual Business Leadership Luncheon was bigger and better than ever, hosting over 250 guests including students, dignitaries, community leaders and TDSB administrators, providing great food, entertainment and fun. We were also very successful in various competitions such as Sage, the Coin Contest, and the OBEA Accounting/Marketing contest, having multiple students place in the top 10 in the province in their respective categories.

Lastly, we are excited for what the future holds as we progress further into a digital age. The business department is happy to announce that we will be revamping our computer labs with new computers and projectors to enhance student learning.



TECHNOLOGY

Another successful year at ACI for our programs in Technological Education. The VEX robotics team won the Woburn regional and qualified for the Provincial championship held at Governor Simcoe Secondary in St. Catharines. We filled a coach bus to attend and the team had a respectable finish in the top half of the province. Our FIRST robotics team made it all the way to the semifinals at the University of Ontario East Regionals proving that it's not the facilities that decide the team but the hard work, dedication and ingenuity of our students that tops the list. Our TADA International Auto Show team of Ying Chow and Anthony Chen had plans for a three pete but managed to place a respectable 4th in the competition. With more students enrolled for our programs next year we are doing something good and having fun with our STEM philosophy.



FAMILY STUDIES

Experiential learning within the Geography and Family Studies Departments were at a peak the in 2014-2015 school year. Highlights included excursions to the Metro Toronto Zoo, Kensington Market, and Toronto's "Hot Docs" film festival, as well as guest speakers from Ontario Agri-Food Education and the fashion industry. Working with students to build practical life skills such as navigation strategies, cooking, and sewing techniques that are transferable beyond the walls of the classroom continue to be the focus of our programs.



CHARACTER

DAY OF PINK

Agincourt's green, white and... **PINK!**

On Wednesday, April 8th Agincourt C.I. once again put aside its traditional green and white for our second annual **International Day of Pink**: a day to stand up against discrimination, homophobia and transphobia. Hundreds of staff and students alike showed up wearing pink, including the now famous "Labels are for T-Shirts, Not People" t-shirt, which was also sold to junior schools in our area.

This year, The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) put together a video invitation that was sent out to politicians, celebrities and community organizations asking for them to join our celebration. The response was tremendous! We received video messages from **Rick Mercer** and **City Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam**. By far though, the most exciting part of our morning assemblies were listening to Jazz FM radio host **Heather Bambrick** sing with Agincourt's North East Jazz, and a personal address from the **Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne**. The Premier also took this opportunity to host a press conference in our Library, where she spoke about the importance of combatting homophobia and transphobia in our schools and workplaces.

Between the afternoon workshop by the "Get Real Movement" for our grade 9 students and our lunchtime Pink Marketplace hosted by all of Agincourt's clubs and councils, the day was truly a success in showing what a wonderful, inclusive environment we have here at Agincourt.



ACI 100TH

This year, from April 30th to May 2nd we celebrated Agincourt's 100th Anniversary, and what a celebration it was! The festivities began on Thursday evening, with the Agincourt staff, student and alumni concert. Performances featured original compositions and performances from ACI staff, students, alumni staff and students. To have over 700 in attendance and so many alumni participating in the concert, is indicative of the deep connections that our music alumni have with the Agincourt staff and program. The concert was followed by an Alumni staff breakfast, on Friday morning. We had some 50 retired staff and administrators attending and many noted the positive changes to the 100 year old building, such as technology and the message of inclusiveness and acceptance. Many noted the rainbow lockers and applauded the message of inclusiveness and acceptance. Friday night featured Agincourt of Ages, which showcased drama, dance, fashion and musical performances, throughout the 100 years at ACI. We also had the privilege of presenting 2 special "Friends of Agincourt" awards to Mrs. Jean Campbell and Mrs. Kathy Shantora, in recognition of all their contribution to the ACI community and creating of the ACI Archive. The traditional Alumni Pub night was very well attended and everyone had a wonderful time. Saturday was alumni family event and the whole school was open to the community, with food trucks, antique cars, drama performances, open house, alumni basketball, volleyball, Frisbee, lacrosse, bouncy castles and participation from all student councils. It was a really big show, with \$10000 raised for the scholarship fund. Special thanks to members of the Alumni Committee, staff, students, parent members of ACI's School Council, Music Parent Association and the Chinese Parent Association, for all your hard work and dedication to this event. I can't wait for the 105th!



STUDENT WELLNESS

Student Health and Wellness has always been a focus at A.C.I but this year the Student Action Team (SAT) focussed on Mental Health and Wellness of teens. The entire first week of March was devoted to breaking the stigma of mental health. The students created posters with inspiring quotes and ran a multimedia presentation in the main hallway displaying images and facts. At the end of the week, the group was fortunate enough to secure a performance put on by *To Be Determined Co.* who presented "A Permanent Solution to a Temporary Problem" The play focused on stress and depression of teens and summarized ways to seek help. A.C.I proved to be both mature and supportive of their peers and continued the positive message that we are all here for one another.

Our infamous nutrition program, the "Snack Shack" had another great year at ACI. The student / teacher run program continued to provide students with healthy food options at affordable prices. We worked tirelessly to build our menu, and offered a range of new items from tuna, to humus and flat bread! Each purchase was complimented with a free fruit or vegetable, and all of the food served was in accordance with the nutritional guidelines of the Toronto District School Board's Food and Beverage Policy.

SAC

On behalf of the SAC, Matthew and I would like to extend our sincerest thanks and congratulatory remarks in light of another phenomenal school year. This school year has proved to be one filled with great accomplishments and innumerable successes. On all grounds and through all departments of the school, there have been successes to boast about. Agincourt has embraced some of our proudest moments this year, and it is without a doubt that the following short few sentences will prove to only be a mere attempt at showcasing just how awesome Agincourt really is.

Musica has had another enriching year with the Agincourt Madrigals Singers having entered recordings into the Provincial Kiwanis Musical Festival and winning the Paul J. Bourret Class for best high school choir. Their recordings are now being sent to Vancouver to be adjudicated nationally. Athletics also had a great run, bringing in numerous wins this year and having also put together a successful Athletic Banquet a few weeks passed. Business, without a doubt, also proved to bring about a whirlwind of successes with an outstanding Business Luncheon and networking event put on by the business students themselves. The ACI Drama Company also never ceases to fail, putting on a number of spectacular productions this year, including one for the 100th year celebrations. Finally, the SAC has also had a great year, our proudest accomplishment being the ACI Lip Dub video that we put together, which was made possible, of course, with the participation of the hundreds of Agincourt students that filled the halls with nothing but enthusiasm and cheer. Parents (or anyone, really), if you have yet to see the video, YouTube search "ACI 100th Year Lip Dub" and you'll get a small glimpse of just how amazing it really is to be an Agincourt student.



These innumerable successes we speak so fondly of, Matthew and I have both had the privilege of attending and recognizing. This accumulation of precious memories and experiences leads us to believe that we truly are immeasurably blessed to call ourselves Agincourt students. It is with a heavy heart that we say our final goodbye as we continue onto our post-secondary endeavours. We are confident, however, that we have left both the SAC and the school in good hands as there is no doubt in our mind that Howard Yu and Tiffany Yeung (our successors, respectively) are more than capable of amazing things.

Lubna Alli, Matthew Reiter

INVOLVEMENT

ATHLETICS

GO LANCERS!!!

Agincourt Athletics had another incredible and successful year! This year saw the participation of over 450 student athletes competing in 32 different teams, over three seasons. ACI Athletes won 30 medals in the EAST region and 13 at the CITY Championships. Silver medals in the EAST regions were won again by the JR Girls Volleyball team, Boys Lacrosse, and the Curling team, while Gold medals were won by SR Boys Volleyball, Coed Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee A Team, Swimming – Open Boys, Open Girls as well as Track and Field. ACI dominated at the **TDSSAA City Championships**, by representing in the following sports SR Boys Basketball, Girls Varsity Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee A Team and Gold medals were won by the SR Boys Volleyball, Swimming and the Coed Volleyball winning back to back Championships, the first time ever!!



In addition to those successes, we had our SR Boys Volleyball team as well as 13 individual students, in Cross County, Swimming, Badminton and Track & Field represent ACI and the TDSB at the **OFSAA Provincial championships**. OUTSTANDING!!! Our amazing outstanding achievements this year is the result of the incredible dedication and commitment from our students, parents, coaches/teachers and administration that have put in 100% of their time and effort into supporting Agincourt Athletics. CONGRATS LANCERS!!

DRAMA

Another busy year for the A.C.I. Drama Company is in the books. Once again two major productions, one in November, one in May and a trip to the Sears Drama Festival were highlights of the year's work.

The November production, "A Hairy Tale" was a rollicking spoof of the children's story "Rapunzel." Five performances including three elementary school matinees to over 1400 elementary school students kept the cast of 35 students on their toes. A beautiful set, splendid costume, high production values, a sparkling dance number and many exceptional performances by students entertained and delighted the enthusiastic audiences.



In March a student-written, directed and produced play, entitled "A Dealer Of Death" was presented at York Mills C.I. as part of the Sears Drama Festival. An ironic comedy set in Puragatory where the protagonist plays a number of games with Death for his soul including a climatic arm-wrestling caught the eye of the adjudicator who awarded two Awards of Merit to Ryan Troung and Kosalan Kathiramamlanathan for their writing the script and producing the play.

A climatic conclusion to the Drama Company's season came during the 100th Anniversary of A.C.I. when they presented an original play entitled, "The Reunion Show" written by Mr. Hertel, A.C.L. for the Arts and veteran director of over fifty Drama Company productions at Agincourt C.I. "The Reunion Show" was a play about a high-school reunion where different groups of graduates from different eras attend a high-school reunion. Lost loves, revenge for past wrongs, environmental action plans and the kidnapping of the school's principal were all part of the play's sub-plots. The live action on stage was complimented by video flashbacks where the characters moved back and forth in time via a special split-screen that allowed the characters to merge into the video an re-live their pasts. Two highly acclaimed performances were given on May 2nd to the delight of the enthusiastic alumni in attendance.

Congratulations to all members of the A.C.I. Drama Company and The Stage Crew for all their hard work and dedication to all these productions. Much time and rehearsal is required to present such successful works of Drama. Thanks as well to the staff members, Mr. Hertel, Mr. Butash, Mr. Tors, Ms. Hommel and retired staff member Mr. Remigio for their continued support and contributions to the success of Drama Company productions.

MUSIC

Once again it has been a busy and successful year for the Music Department. An Agincourt Christmas, two nights of Accent on Agincourt in May, performances at Commencement, the Awards Assembly, our Junior Music Retreat, Remembrance Day ceremonies, four new commissioned works performed at our 100th Anniversary Celebrations, our Guitar Slam, as well as a full festival season, have kept students and teachers alike on their toes and energized all year. The Ontario Vocal Festival, Ontario Strings Festival, Ontario Band Association Festival, OMEA Conference, local Kiwanis Music Festival and GTA Jr. and Sr. Invitational Band Festivals provided exciting learning opportunities for our students. ACI ensembles won many first and second place awards as well as Platinum, Gold and Silver ratings at these festivals, and were awarded many scholarships. Our Wind Symphony was invited to perform in the Kiwanis Showcase concert for the very first time, and came in first place in the Band Challenge class, live on stage! Two of our top ensembles also received Gold standard ratings at the MusicFest Nationals competition in May. As a result of our success at Kiwanis, three of our ensembles were invited to send recordings to the Ontario Provincial Music Festival, where our Men's Chorus and Wind Symphony were awarded second place in the province. Our Madrigal Singers won first place in their provincial category and will have their recordings sent off to the National level for adjudication in August. Stay tuned for news of those results in the summer!

