

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

~ Mr. Zian Nowosad ~

This mid semester newsletter marks the official one quarter point in the 2009-2010 school year. We have been extremely busy at the YRHS which has caused the time to fly by quickly. Most of our fall sports have wrapped up for their seasons and the winter sports and activities will be starting up very soon.

Thank you to all parents who took advantage of our Education Week Open House entitled “Raider for an Hour or So”. Parents who attended seemed to enjoy the evening very much. Also thank you to all who attended our YRHS Arts Night and official grand opening of our renovated music wing. The final grand

opening we hosted was that of the GSSD Distance Learning Center this past Friday.

Please find enclosed with this newsletter the latest information in the school division H1N1 protocol as we monitor the effects of the current outbreak of this flu.

Please also remember upcoming annual general meetings scheduled for: Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> for the GSSD annual meeting of electors in the YRHS gymnasium, and the YRHS school community council on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the business center.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- November 12 ..... Picture retake day in MORNING ONLY
  - November 13/14... Senior Boy's and Girl's Volleyball Regionals  
- Debate tournament in Estevan
  - November 17 ..... QSP magazine campaign car give away pep rally
  - November 18 ..... First day of Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences  
(4:30– 8:00 pm)
  - November 19 ..... TRAC Session #4  
- November early dismissal day  
- Second day of Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences  
(4:30-8:00 pm)
  - November 23 ..... GSSD Annual Meeting of Electors
  - November 24 ..... Adjusted timetable to accommodate Yorkton Fetal  
- Alcohol Disorder Presentation entitled “Out of the Greenhouse”
  - November 25 ..... YRHS School Community Council Annual General Meeting 7:00 pm in the Business Centre.  
- Annual Agribition Tour
  - November 27 ..... School based Professional Development Day (NO CLASSES).
  - December 3..... Tentative date for H1N1 immunization at YRHS
  - December 22..... Last day of regular classes before Christmas break
- December 23 - January 3**  
**CHRISTMAS BREAK**
- January 4 ..... Regular classes resume
  - January 14..... January early dismissal day  
- TRAC Session #5
  - January 18..... Final list of semester one exam exemption posted
  - January 18—20.... Students obtain teacher of exempted exam and parents signatures
  - January 20..... Students return exemption forms to teachers of exempted exams
  - January 21—27 .... Semester One final exams
  - January 29..... Semester turn around day (NO CLASSES)
  - February 1 ..... Semester Two begins

**SCHOOL PICTURES**

Picture retake day is scheduled for November 12, 2009 in the **AM ONLY**.

**SCHOOL PICTURES**

Lifetouch will be at the YRHS on Thursday, October 15 to take school pictures. Pictures will be taken in the Anne Portnuff Theatre. Students will have their picture taken during their English class. Students that do not have an English class are asked to have their picture taken during their spare.

**DRAMA**

*Mrs. L. Yeadon*

Drama auditions will be on December 1, 2009 in the Drama Room. Audition packages can be picked up in the main office on November 23, 2009. Check with Mrs. Yeadon or Mr. Willems with any questions.

**LAST YEARS CAUTION FEES**

Last years caution fees can be picked up in the main office. Please ensure they are picked up **NO LATER** than **November 20**.

**HUMANITIES UPDATE** *Mrs. T. Mitchell*

Humanities students and staff have already participated in enjoyable and rewarding educational and professional experiences this fall—and there is definitely more to follow.

On October 19, Mrs Winnitow's grade nine French class enjoyed a potluck “breakfast”. The potluck was a culminating activity completing their unit on food. The students brought one food item from the menus they created. After the great breakfast they were all *very* sated and alert for the rest of the day.

Mr. Variyan's History 20 and 21 classes attended “Soldier for a Day” on October 21. The program is sponsored by the Canadian Forces and took place at the Yorkton Armouries. The goal of the program is to introduce students to all aspects of the military including biological warfare, drill artillery, night vision warfare, small arms, and military rations for lunch (yum).

**YEARBOOK**

Attention Parents and Students!

Have a great photo that would be perfect for the Yearbook? The YRHS Yearbook wants you to submit your photos of that great moment! How can you submit your photo? EASY! Go to the link [www.hjeshare.com](http://www.hjeshare.com), enter the School Code 4009533, follow the instructions and you will be able to quickly and easily upload your photos for the yearbook!! The Yearbook Committee can't wait to check out your photos!! Follow the link above or look for the link on the YRHS website to begin submitting your photos!

**HUMANITIES UPDATE continued...***Mrs. T. Mitchell*

Students spent the full day immersed in the experience which they found enjoyable and worthwhile. Plans are in the works for semester two classes to also experience "Soldier for a Day".

As part of their introduction to Drama and Theatre Arts, the Pre Advanced Placements ELA 9 classes will attend Globe Theatre's production of "Peter Pan" in Regina on Tuesday, November 17. Students are busy researching the origins of the globe and Elizabethan drama, theatre in the round, and the origins and authorship of the Peter Pan story. PreAp ELA 9 teachers, Mrs. Mitchell, Ms Pandit, and several parent volunteers will accompany the students on their trip to Never Land.

On October 29, Mrs. Mitchell and Ms. Pandit presented teaching strategies to other PreAP ELA teachers in the province at the Annual Advanced Placement Conference held in Saskatoon. Mrs. Nesseth and Mr. Miller also attended the conference to gain further background on developing the next stages of the Advanced Placement program. Mrs. Winnitoway and Mrs. Koch came back from their fall arts conference with great ideas and renewed creative energy to share with their art students.

Information on the Assessment for Learning Grade 10 Writing Assessment held in spring of 2009 will be shared later in November. Results will be considered by the ELA Professional Learning Community in their ongoing work on our writing program. Many thanks to parents and students who showed their interest by attending "Raider for an Hour or So" on October 21. We also look forward to seeing you at the Parent/Student/Teacher interviews on November 18 and 19.

**MATH / SCIENCE DEPARTMENT***Mrs. T. Haugen*

Wow! Time flies when you are having fun! It is amazing to us in the Math/Science department that term 1 has already drawn to a close. Those of you in Math 9 may be moving on to Technical/Life Skills for term 2. Some of you will continue on with your math classes.

Starting this second term, the teachers of the Math/Science department will be tracking how often students seek their help outside of school hours. We know that students often find their Math and Science courses challenging, and we want to be sure that students get the help and clarification that they require. Please ask your teacher(s) when they are available for extra assistance if you are requiring it.

When seeking extra help:

1. **Have your questions ready.** It is hard to help when a student says, "I don't understand anything." Have some questions to ask your teacher that will guide you to the answers that you require. In other words, make sure that you do your part too.
2. **Struggle more than a little.** Don't give up after one attempt. Make sure you have tried more than one question before you search for extra help.
3. **Make sure you ask for help as soon as you need it.** Don't wait until the day before, or of, the exam to seek extra help. If you keep up all the way along, you should have questions to ask earlier than test day. Ask the questions when they come. It will make your life easier in the long run.

Have a great second half of semester one!!!

**STUDENT SERVICES***Mr. D. Nesseth*

October and November are busy months for students and counsellors when it comes to career planning. Students (and parents) have had many opportunities to prepare for Grad Interviews which will begin this month such as:

- Experience US - October 15 (a spend-a-day at the University of Saskatchewan)
- U of R presentation at the YRHS - October 19.
- Grad Information Night - October 20
- See Your Future Career Fair in Regina - November 3.
- SUTIL - November 25 (4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30 @ the YRHS) - presentations from universities, tech schools and the Parkland College.
- Student sign up is at Student Services.
- Our website has excellent career resources as well. Click the link to "Student Services" and explore.

Of special note - two career search website links:

\* **Career Cruising**

Username: *YRHS*  
Password: *orange*

\* **Bridges**

Username: *0064502*  
Password: *yorkton*

- Grad Interviews

Each November, counsellors visit all of the Grade 12 English classes to have students complete a Graduation/Post-Secondary questionnaire.

Personal information that pertains to the graduation ceremony and in-school scholarships is also collected.

Then, each student has an appointment with a counsellor in Student Services to discuss their plans. Counsellors assist students with the following:

- choosing a career path - there are many on-line tools that help with this process
- choosing a post-secondary school or university
- applying to post-secondary school or university
- acquiring unofficial transcripts or marks for application
- setting up a job shadow experience where possible
- finding information on scholarships