



## LANGUAGES

The Modern Languages Department is pleased to welcome Ms. Shognosh to W.D.S.S. She is teaching Grade 9,10,11 and 12 Ojibwe and is a former student of W.D.S.S. She invited Rita Sands to come in and share her knowledge with our students. She helped the students learn new vocabulary on various Aboriginal issues. Students also celebrated Hallowe'en by carving pumpkins and learning the Ojibwe terms for the various steps in carving them.

The Spanish classes celebrated the traditional Day of the Dead ( Dia de los muertos )with Mrs Dolbear. Students made papel picado, sugar skulls, and calacas -a traditional skull mask. Everyone enjoyed the traditional Mexican style food.

We are also hoping to continue our involvement with ISE's exchange program. Last year we had four students involved in exchanges. They all felt the exchange was an enriching experience. There is no one participating in the exchange this year, but we hope there will be some eager to go next year. Three month exchanges are available to France, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Spain and Italy. Summer exchanges are available to Quebec, France or Spain. They are a great experience and benefit all who are involved. See Mrs. Newby for more information.

The Modern Languages Department wants to encourage all students to consider enriching their lives through learning a second language. There are many opportunities to do so- through high school French or Spanish classes, through exchanges, through pen-pals, through community language classes or through travel to other countries. Second language learning encourages more divergent thinking and cognitive development. It can bring satisfaction and a sense of achievement.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

The students in Mrs. Stitch's class are running their catering program again this year. Tartan Tasties is in full swing with weekly orders for their delicious cooking. Mrs. Stitch's class is also undertaking a new initiative and have begun a Coffee Club for the staff. Students will be responsible for preparing the coffee and beverages as well as handling the money. Students in our ABLE program joined with our DD classes for a field trip to the Corn Maze in Thamesville in October. A good time was had by all. Coming up in December, our DD classes will be attending a Christmas Social in Chatham at CKSS. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and celebrate the holiday season.



## FOOD & NUTRITION

The Food and Nutrition Department continues its staff fundraisers: Homemade Soup and Bread every 2 weeks. On October 30th we premiered a Quesadilla and Salad Combo which was a huge success and has inspired us to use that format for future endeavours.

November 20th and again in second semester, 4th year Community Nutrition students from Brescia College at the University of Western Ontario will be offering hands on workshops on Nutritious Food Choices to all of the Food and Nutrition classes. I am very excited to have these young nutrition specialists at WDSS.

In the second half of the semester, the Grade 10 Food and Nutrition classes will be consulting parents about their assignment to cook a "Meal at Home" for their families. In November watch for the parent letter and kit for this project.

The Grade 11 Shelters students create several home decor crafts during their program. The November project is an individualized theme wreath made from colourful scrapbooking papers and various decorative accessories.

## PHYS. ED. DEPT.

Physical Education teachers and students are working cooperatively to achieve the Department's main expectation - the development of skills, attitudes and experiences which promote healthy, active living. The annual grade 12 Outdoor Education camping trip to Attawandaron (near the Pinery) was a great success. Students (50), staff and support volunteers participated in the three day experience. Curriculum activities included orienteering, hiking, canoeing, open-fire cooking and initiative tasks. Students enjoyed the environment, while discovering the importance of proper planning, team work and safety concerns for outdoor living. The next big event in the grade 12 curriculum is the Ski trip at Boler in London. Students will be introduced to downhill skiing or snowboarding. Each student will receive a mandatory lesson, ski lift pass and equipment rental (with mandatory helmet).

Personal Fitness classes continue to be very popular amongst WDSS students. The personal focus allows students to direct their own learning path using a variety of facilities and guest instructors. Our Fitness Centre provides an excellent base for both students and teachers.

The Centre has numerous cardio stations, selectorized and free weight strength stations and a flat screen TV and stereo system for motivational purposes. Although only available at the grade 10 (co-ed) and 11 level (girls only), students from all grades can select the course.

