

ODYSSEY NEWSLETTER

We acknowledge that we live, work, and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), s^kwx̌wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.



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Welcome Fall 2023!

As the vibrant leaves fall and the temperature is slowly dropping, we are excited to share some updates and highlights with our community. We invite everyone to flip through the pages and stay connected with us! Enjoy the read!

ODYSSEY GR 8 & 9 DRAGON BOATING & BC HALL OF SPORTS FIELD TRIP



Row! Row! Teamwork! Team Odyssey 8s and 9s went Dragon Boating at False Creek and toured the BC Hall of Sports at BC Place. Lots of giggles and bonding took place under the beautiful fall weather in Vancouver.

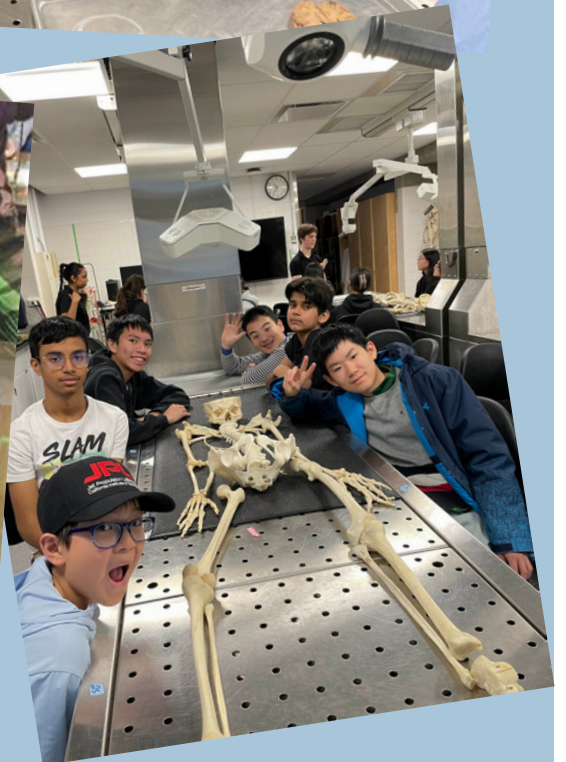
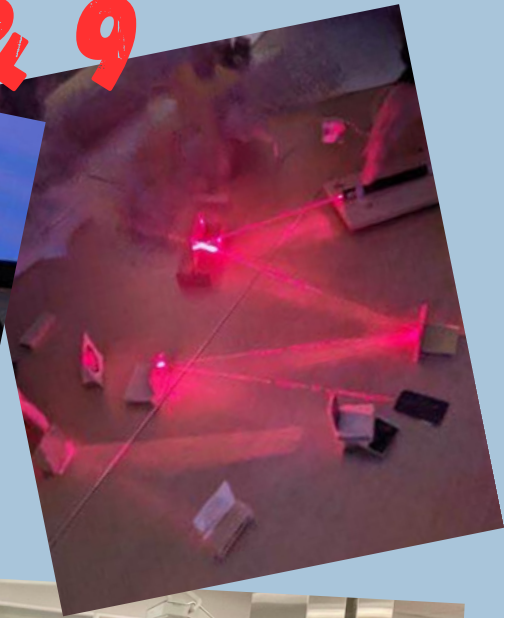
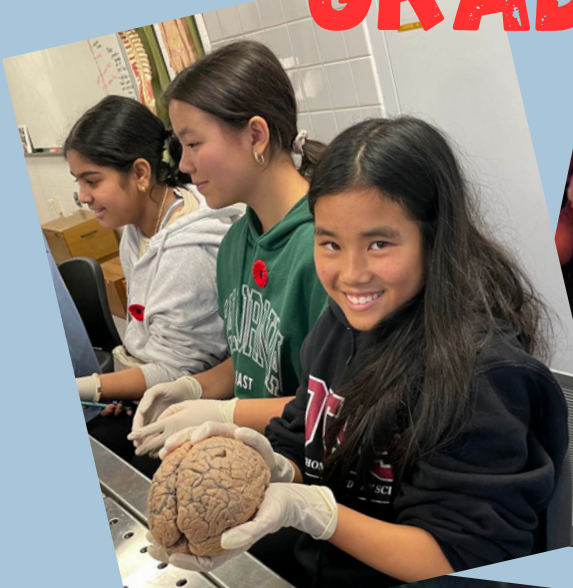




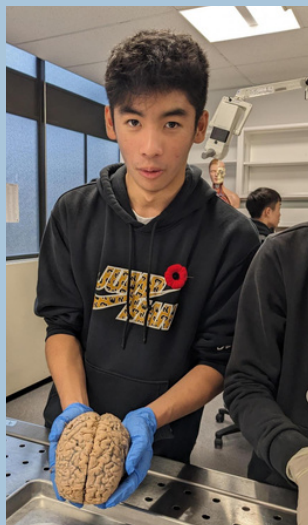
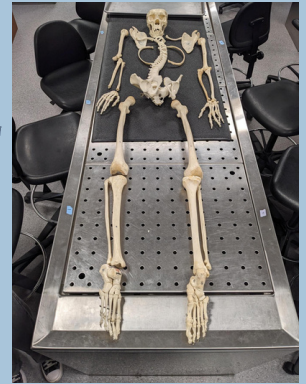
The Odyssey 8s and 9s were off to SFU to spend the day on campus to be a post-secondary student for a day! Tons of giggles and ewwws as they held real human brains and pieced together human skeletons. Post-secondary students gave our students an opportunity to view a human anatomy touch-screen table costing over \$120k where they zoomed in and out of the body organs. At their second workshop, they tinkered with lasers and investigated light and all its amazing properties.



GRADES 8 & 9



GRADES 8 & 9



ODYSSEY PROGRAM INFO NIGHT



What an amazing turnout of parents and family members that were interested in the Odyssey Program on October 18th! Many grade 7 families came on a stormy dark night to meet our Odyssey volunteers to learn more about the program. Many thanks to all the Odyssey students that volunteered their time and shared their experiences with the community.

Justin Peng, Odyssey 11 student, directed and filmed a short video with many grade 8s to 12s contributing their thoughts for the film. Guess whose in the video! Check it out! Here's the link: <https://youtu.be/wlF3q1bZf6Y>



Check out the Odyssey website for program info and student photos. Website link: <https://blogs.vsb.bc.ca/thompson-odyssey/>

STUDENT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



2023/24 Student Council members

" Nice to
meet you!"

Lucie Li is this year's Secretary, Patrick Huynh and Justin Peng are this year's Tech Specialists, Viduni Siriwardana and Tara Zhan are this year's Members-at-Large, Timothy Truong is one of this year's grade ten rep, and lastly Kenny Le is one of this year's grade eight rep.

Sajjid Barcelona, DT's VDSC Representative

I have been on David Thompson's Student Council ever since grade eight as a grade representative. I am happy to say that this year I have been elected to the executive team of the Student Council as this year's Vancouver District Student Council (VDSC) Representative for David Thompson. Being a VDSC Representative for DT has been a really huge responsibility of mine. It requires me to take time out of my day to go to the VSB office on West Broadway for our meetings.



The VDSC essentially serves as a connection hub for all of the VDSC Representatives from every high school in the district to hold a meeting and update each other on what's going on at each other's schools. The VDSC are also in charge of planning district-wide events such as the annual CANley Cup Can Drive, the Sister School Switch, and the VSB Art Gala. This year, the VDSC also has a hand in enforcing the Student Liaison Officer (SLO) Program, as well as creating budgets and guidelines to fund leadership & environment-related passion-projects. I am looking forward to sharing the many events that the DT Student Council and VDSC are planning.

Pari Goyal

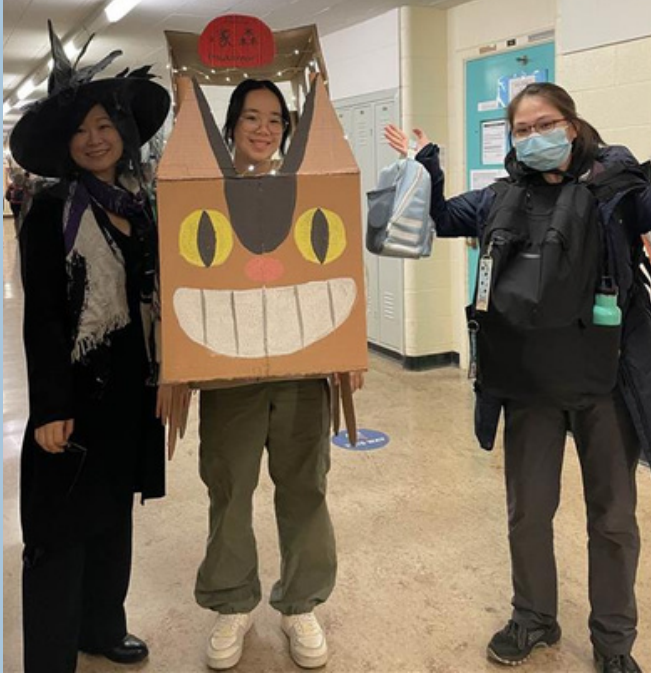
Pari Goyal, a grade 12 student in the Odyssey program, is currently a finalist with her Science Fair project in the 2023 Youth Innovation Showcase, ranking among the top 5 projects within BC and Yukon.

Alongside her academic pursuits, Pari is a member of the Canadian National Team in Rhythmic Gymnastics. Last summer she competed at the World Cup in Romania and Bulgaria, and she is ready to participate in her next international competition in December this year!



HALLOWEEN

These are a few of our favourite costumes from Halloween 2023!



Costume Contest with student council!

CLUBS DAY

DT has lots of clubs! Everyone is welcome to join!

SCIENCE CLUB

This club is highly focused on science competitions, such as Science Fair. Here, students are given guidance and advice from peers in higher grades on their Science Fair project. Throughout the year, a variety of guest presenters working in the science field also come to discuss their journey and their job.

CODE CLUB

Code club's objective is to be a place for anyone interested in programming to learn new skills and work on projects together. Whether new or experienced, they have created a welcoming environment for anyone to join, learn, and compete against fellow club members in various fields of computer science.

STEM SORORITY

STEM Sorority aims to empower girls to explore the areas of STEM and pursue careers they're passionate about in these fields. By providing an inclusive and positive environment for high school girls to explore their interests, this club helps build a network of girls across different schools.



SPORTS



Kyle Tsuji, team captain and MVP of the game led the Senior Boys to beat Vancouver Technical Secondary School 2-0 on Senior night.



Cross Country team at city finals, and there are a few people from Odyssey in the team.



Our Seniors and their banners made by the managers. Kyle Tsuji, on the right is a member of Odyssey

SHAD CANADA

What is SHAD? SHAD Canada is a nonprofit organization that runs a month-long summer enrichment program for high-achieving high school students. The program focuses on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) disciplines and aims to foster innovation and leadership skills in participants. Students engage in hands-on learning, collaborate on projects, and have the opportunity to explore various academic and professional fields. The goal is to inspire and empower the next generation of Canadian leaders in diverse fields.

A few lucky students, Brydan Y, Brandon Y, Patrick H. , and Nathan Y, attended SHAD recently. Here are some snapshots of their experiences working with many brilliant minds! Below: Nathan was working with his group (left) and receiving recognition for their work.



SHAD CANADA



Photos submitted by B. Yuen

Brydan and Brandon attended Shad for a month learning at Carleton University and McGill University, respectively. Aspects of the program included designing a business to improve lives of Canadians, having lectures from professors and PhD students, and bonding with likeminded peers. This month long program taught them leadership and collaboration skills as well as strengthened their independence, and is a program that they would definitely recommend.

JAPAN EXCHANGE



Recently, the Vancouver School Board announced that international travel will be permitted for the 2023-2024 school year, but for only grade 10-12 students. Currently, a trip to Japan is being planned for the upcoming spring break by Ms. Huey (with the help and support of Mrs. Monk). According to the new district travel policy no homestay or billeting is authorized.

However, plans to visit our progressive science and technology sister-school, Yokohama Science Frontier High School (YSFH) will be included. In-school student exchange opportunities to learn and engage with YSFH will be a highlight for trip. YSFH is a heavily funded public school, where high academic achievement and all-round excellence are expected in this Odyssey-like school.

Two Japan trip power point presentations were delivered to all interested David Thompson grade 10-12 students. In addition to going to Yokohama (Vancouver's sister city) our itinerary also includes traveling to possible cities such as Kyoto, Tokyo, and possibly Himeji or another city.

Thirty students will be selected to participate and represent our school in this once in a lifetime opportunity to experience the wonders of Japan. The deadline for parent consent forms, passport copies, and the deposit is Friday, November 3. Then, it's time to prepare and get ready for our trip to the Land of the Rising Sun!

Check out DT's Japan Trip video from 2019:
<https://blogs.vsb.bc.ca/thompson-odyssey/japan-exchange/>

thank you

This newsletter was created thanks to all the students and staff members that contributed. Special thanks to Kaitlyn Leung, Yuhiro Lisle, Pari Goyal, and Edwin Lui!

