



Weekly E-Newsletter
Stay Connected @ BCSS
Friday, October 26, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

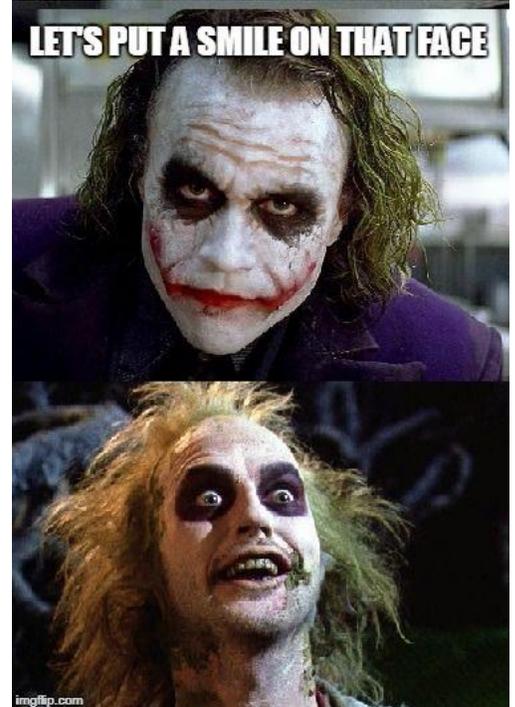
Week 8 brings about the last weekend of October – where did that month go? I don't know about you, but time went much slower as a kid than it does now – how does that happen, and why?? I need more time now than I did as a kid.

If you used the on-line interview sign-up format, would you please take 30 seconds to do the following quick survey:

<http://bit.ly/BCSSPIfeedback> . Thanks very much.

Next Wednesday is Hallowe'en and we do it big at Bear Creek. The staff dress up in a particular theme. This year's theme is summer camping/holiday. We have snacks at lunch provided by Breakfast Club and prepared by Mrs. Prentice's class. To wash the snacks down, I invite you to sample some of my otherworldly famous Witches Brew.

The interesting part of the photo on the right is I have been both of these characters for Hallowe'en. It's the hair, I'm sure!



I would like to wish the Jewish members of the Bear Creek community a joyous Sukkot that occurred from October 24th to the 30th. Also called "the Feast of Booths," this eight-day festival begins five days after Yom Kippur and is a joyous celebration. This festival commemorates the end of the forty year wandering of Jewish people and also the gathering of the harvest. Devotees abstain from work at the start and end of the festival. To wish someone a happy Sukkot, simply say "Chag Sameach!" (Happy Holiday)

I would like to wish the Jewish members of the Bear Creek community a reflective Simchat Torah that occurs on November 1st. This is the ninth day of Sukkot which celebrates and marks the end of the annual Torah reading and the beginning of a new cycle. In Chabad Hasidic thought, the **traditional** dancing with the Torah allows the Jewish person to act as the "feet" of the Torah, taking the Torah where it **wishes** to go, as feet transport the head. To wish someone a happy Simchat Torah, simply say "Chag Sameach!" (Happy Holiday)

I am always open to suggestions and comments, so please contact me at twilkinson@scdsb.on.ca if you have something on your mind.

E-newsletters are available on the Bear Creek website: <http://bss.scdsb.on.ca/>

Please follow me on Twitter: @VPWilkinson

Please follow me on Instagram: spfx8691

If you see a topic you want to learn more about, you go to the item and press the “Ctrl” button while you click your cursor and you will be “magically” transported to the topic you chose. To “magically” transport back to the table of contents, go to the “Back to the Table of Contents” words at the end of each article, and press the “Ctrl” button while you click your cursor and you will be “magically” transported back to the table of contents.

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What’s Happening at BCSS?

Mock Trial Team

Do you like law? Do you want to learn more about our judicial system and the inner workings of the courtroom? Have you always dreamed about being a lawyer in a REAL courtroom? IF you answered yes to any of these questions you may be interested in joining our mock trial team. Bear Creek is looking for 7-10 keen students who would like to take part in the mock trial being held at the Barrie Courthouse. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Catling to sign up.

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Breakfast Club Donation

A huge THANK You goes out to Kennedy Orchards for their donation of apples a sample of their cider and 2 very large and two smaller bags of apples. They are superb and are supplementing our Breakfast Club table.

Our Breakfast Club is free to anyone and everyone. Donations are accepted – food and/or cash (tax receipts can be supplied).

We are feeding approximately 200+ students per day.



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Prime Minister's Youth Council

The Prime Minister's Youth Council (PMYC) is [accepting applications](#) for the next cohort of members.

Canadian youth, permanent residents and protected persons aged 16-24 years can apply. This means that your students could be the next members of the PMYC!

The application deadline is **November 30, 2018**.

How can you help?

We need your help in ensuring that youth from diverse backgrounds are aware of the process, and that they could find themselves on the council if they apply.

Young people often undervalue their contributions and lived experiences. Let them know that their voices matter, and that they really can advocate for their communities in a meaningful way. Follow [@LeadersToday](#) on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#) and [hear directly from current members of the PMYC](#). You can share these posts on your own social media channels to reach as many young people as possible with these inspiring messages, with the hashtag #PMYouthCouncil.

Visit [Canada.ca/Youth](#), and review the application requirements.

We are looking for a breadth of youth from diverse backgrounds and interests – a group that truly represents Canadian values.

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Certamen Team

Students wishing to join Bear Creek's Certamen team are asked to attend a meeting this Thursday, October 25th, at the beginning of lunch in the Latin room. Certamen is an academic buzzer competition - like jeopardy. We need 24 students for our teams. You should be dedicated to learning information about Roman Life, Roman History, and Mythology. You do not need to be a Latin student to join this team. Please see Ms. Tiemersma if you couldn't make the meeting.

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Green Team

With the help of many at the school, the Green Team presentation went well on Friday, October 26th, with MPP Andrea Khanjin being given the petition with 860 signatures. She saw the care, commitment and dedication of the Team to strong climate action to keep climate disruption to a moderate level so youth can have a decent future. Also, their willingness to pay the cost to ensure this. A summary of the main ideas presented to MPP Khanjin are below.



(i) Nature gives us all our physical needs for free – the sweetest of all deals. So one of the primary roles of government must be to protect nature, including the climate. Environmental protection is not a barrier to opportunity but an essential part of a healthy economy.

(ii) Will the world act on climate change before it's too late? David Suzuki points out that the recent IPCC report lays out numerous solutions with the foremost being, a price on carbon. This is strongly supported by Canada's Ecofiscal Commission and the co-recipients of the 2018 Nobel prize for Economics.

(iii) Bear Creek Secondary students who signed this Climate Action Petition represent millions of Ontarians who must face climate change for the rest of their lives. They all want a decent future which requires a healthy climate. They therefore expect this government to quickly produce a better climate action plan and implement those actions to quickly reduce Ontario's climate pollution as committed to under the 2015 Paris World Climate Agreement by Canada's targets. An all parties of the legislative assembly plan would also be best so we don't stumble when the governing party changes after an election.

(iv) As the Green Team wrote to the premier designate in June, we expect the government to give very careful thought to not rashly cutting previous programs like Cap and Trade and Green Energy nor fighting the federal backstop carbon tax in order to save the province from wasting millions and billions of dollars. We expect them to be improved in a better Climate Action Plan. These monies need to continue encouraging and helping businesses and families to fight climate change while boosting the economy, saving taxpayers money, protecting their health and the environment.

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More Recycling FUNdraising

Speaking of recycling, the Green Team is holding a metal/electrical waste recycling drive, starting on the evening of the 19th and continuing until November 2nd. The Green Team will be using funds for more initiatives, including mailings and eventually the Greenhouse Project (authorization still in the works). There are volunteer hours as well, for weekend and after school bin monitoring and public assistance.

According to the Midwest Metals website: The metals we recycle fall into one of two categories: **ferrous** and **non-ferrous**.

The main element of ferrous metals is iron. Cast iron, steel, and the various steel alloys are ferrous metals. A metal is still classified as ferrous even if it has less than 50% iron content, as long as it contains more iron

than any other single metal. Ferrous metals can be found from sources including industrial activities, building demolition and consumer end of life-cycle items. We help to recycle these sources and turn them into income. Examples of ferrous metals include: end of life vehicle, household appliances, heavy melt, auto cast, rims, and unsorted loads receive our shred price per ton.

A metal is considered non-ferrous if it contains less iron than any other metal. Many metals utilized primarily for metal plating, alloying elements or used in the fabrication of parts are classified as non-ferrous. Our high-tech analyzing equipment and extensive knowledge lets you get the best recovery possible from these metals.

Examples of non-ferrous metals include: tin, zinc, silver, gold, aluminum, magnesium, titanium, nickel, copper, and tin alloys.

The following items can be collected: **{Prices per pound}****Aluminum:** aluminum unclean, cans, cast, extrusion clean, extrusion unclean, low copper, old aluminum, rims, siding, aluminum block transmissions; **Electrical:** aluminum jacket bx wire, ballasts, box transformers, Christmas lights, com wire, insulated aluminum, insulated copper #1, insulated copper #2, is wire, large motors, small motors, steel jacket bx wire, transformers; **Electronics:** circuit boards, mixed e-waste, televisions, towers; radiators: aluminum clean, aluminum unclean, copper clean, copper unclean, mixed combo clean, mixed combo unclean; **Non Ferrous:** compressors, lead, stainless clean, stainless unclean, stove elements; **Brass:** brass clean, brass taps, brass unclean; **Copper:** #1, #2, #3;

{Prices per tonne} Ferrous: auto cast, cars, heavy melt, dealer clips, oversized, shred, steel rims, white goods.

Please bring these items in for recycling starting on October 19th. Schedule of bin times is:

Saturday 27th – 9 am – 12 pm

Sunday 28th – 9 am – 12 pm

Monday 29th – closes at 3:30 pm – time has changed

Tuesday 30th – closes at 6 pm

Wednesday 31st – closes at 3:30 pm – time has changed

Thursday 1st – closes at 6 pm

Friday 2nd – pick-up

Please call, or e-mail, Mr. Wilkinson for more information.

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Treaties Recognition Week Takes Place November 5th – 9th

Did you know we are ALL treaty people? Treaties Recognition Week is the first week of November every year - this year it's November 5th to 9th. The Simcoe County District School Board is located on territory covered by several pre-confederation treaties - Treaty 5, 16, 18, 19 and 82, as well as the 1923 William's Treaty.

Treaties Recognition Week was introduced in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Take some time this week to learn about the treaty in your area. To learn more about the treaties and how we can honour them, visit www.ontario.ca/page/treaties.

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Night of Excellence - Thursday, November 1st

Bear Creek Secondary School is hosting our annual "Night of Excellence" on Thursday, November 1st, 2018. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Invitations will be distributed by period one teachers this week to students with individual overall academic excellence and/or outstanding achievement in one or more courses studied last year.

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2019 Prime Minister's Awards

As part of the Prime Minister's World Teacher's Day [statement](#), the 2019 Prime Minister's Awards competition is now open!

Teachers play an important role helping to build the next generation of successful, caring, and creative Canadians. We all remember a teacher that changed our lives. The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence, Teaching Excellence in STEM, and Excellence in Early Childhood Education honour exemplary teachers and early childhood educators who are preparing our youth for the innovation economy.

Prime Minister's Awards recipients can receive:

- Cash awards worth up to \$5,000
- A certificate from the Prime Minister
- National recognition and promotion of their best teaching practices

The Prime Minister's Award program would like to thank the RBC Foundation for their generous support towards the recipient's monetary awards.

Consider nominating an educator for a 2019 Prime Minister's Award! Download your nomination package and a poster today by clicking on the web button below, or visiting our website at www.pma.gc.ca. Submit your nomination electronically or by mail before **January 14, 2019**.

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A&E's Lives That Make a Difference 2018 Essay Competition

Tell us about the heroes that make a difference in and out of your classroom and win \$3,000!

Welcome to the 2018 Lives That Make a Difference Essay Contest

Here you can learn more about this year's essay contest and [Official Rules](#), check out last year's essay winners, and submit your own essay into the competition!

Teachers, be sure to check out our [Teacher Resources](#) section to learn how to bring free A&E educational programming weekly into your classroom.

Here's How to Enter and Win

Students in 5th – 12th grades may enter by writing an essay based on someone they think made the biggest impact on Canadian society in 2018.

Prizes are awarded in two grade levels: 5th – 8th grade, and 9th – 12th grade.

Two winners will be selected in each level.

GRAND PRIZE

\$3,000 for student

\$1,000 for Department/ Classroom of Teacher

FIRST PRIZE

\$2,000 for student

\$1,000 for Department/ Classroom of Teacher

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We Scare Hunger

It is the time of year again when Me to We will be collecting food for the food bank and women's homeless shelter. A box off to first period classes on Tuesday morning. Please bring in one (or two, or ten, etc.) non-perishable food items. We will collect these boxes just after Hallowe'en.

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College Visits

Fleming

October 31

Niagara

November 1

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University Visits

University of Windsor

October 29

McMaster University

October 30

Bader International Study Centre (Queen's)

October 31

UOIT

November 2

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Vimy Pilgrimage Award

The Vimy Foundation created the Vimy Pilgrimage Award to recognize the actions of young people who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to volunteer work through positive contributions, notable deeds, or bravery that benefits their peers, school, community, province, or country.

The Vimy Pilgrimage Award consists of a fully funded week-long educational program in Belgium and France to study Canada's tremendous First World War effort. The program, scheduled for April 2–10, 2019, is offered by the Vimy Foundation and features daily visits to important First World War sites including museums, cemeteries, and historic battlefields. A total of 20 students will be selected for the 2019 program.

Applicants are required to submit a 500-word essay describing their volunteer work; a 500-750-word biography of, and tribute to, a soldier or nursing sister; a 500-word motivation letter; a resume detailing their relevant experiences; and a reference letter from a teacher, guidance counselor or principal, service club, volunteer organization, etc. In choosing award winners, the Award Committee will take into consideration all elements

submitted for the application with special emphasis placed on the applicant's volunteer work/service to their communities. Click the 'Apply Now' link below for full application instructions.

For more information about the rules and criteria for the program [click here](#).

[Apply now for the 2019 Vimy Pilgrimage Award!](#) (Link will take you to [Canada's History website](#) to access the application page.)

Entry deadline is November 18, 2018, midnight (Pacific time).

Curious about past programs? Click here for the [2018 Vimy Pilgrimage Award recipients](#).

[Click here to view photos](#) from the 2018 Vimy Pilgrimage Award program.

Additional questions? Email programs@vimyfoundation.ca

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Schulich Leader Scholarships of 2018-2019 Academic Year

Launched in 2012, this \$100 million program funds 50 undergraduate scholarships each year, across top Canadian universities. *Schulich Leader* Scholarships are the largest and most prestigious undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) scholarships in Canada, with a value of up to \$100,000 each. Fifty students receive this celebrated award each year – 25 for Engineering at \$100,000 each, and 25 for Science, Technology, and Mathematics at \$80,000 each.

In order to become a Schulich Leader and receive the scholarship, students must first be selected by their high school as a Schulich Leader Nominee. High schools may select one Nominee each. Only Canadian schools are eligible to participate.

To be eligible, students need to demonstrate:

- 2 of 3 of: Academic, Leadership (entrepreneurial, business, community), or financial need
- AND be entrepreneurial minded in: Technology, Engineering, Innovation, or Research (Research into questions posed by scientific theories and hypotheses)
- AND be: A Canadian citizen, graduating in 2018-2019, and enrolling in partnering universities
- AND MUST NOT be: heading into medicine or medical research

For more information on the Schulich Leader Scholarships including nomination process please visit:

<http://www.schulichleaders.com/>

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Scholarships

ScholarTree is still committed to helping reduce student debt in Canada by making scholarship more accessible. Most people don't realize how many scholarships are awarded early in the school year. ScholarTree.ca has \$997,500 worth of scholarships that are currently accepting applications. Students can find which scholarships are best fit for them by signing up at [ScholarTree.ca](#).

To help with students prepare and transition to post-secondary life we have launched the [ScholarTree Blog](#). University students write the blog because we want the information to be as relevant to current student life as possible. The main areas of focus for the blog are:

1. Student Life: general advice and hacks
2. Scholarship Tips
3. Entrepreneurial Spotlight: stories about students starting their startup or not for profit
4. How to: tips for applying and getting into prestigious programs

Make sure to subscribe, so you don't miss the weekly updates.

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Cooking Club

Hey Kodiaks! Do you love food? Do you want to learn how to cook? Well, come on over to room 198, the hospitality room, on TUESDAYS, for the Bear Creek Cooking Club. We are going to be trying different recipes from a varieties of cultures. Bring a toonie, and enjoy trying something different!

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DECA

This year, we have had 28 students sign up for DECA. More than double from last year.

DECA Cluster Exams being written Tuesday, October 30th after school

Regional Competition is on November 4th, in Whitby – members will be competing in various business related events including personal finance, entrepreneurship, management, marketing, human resources in various industries through case study format. They will be provided with a case study related to their event topic, have time to prepare and then will be given a certain amount of time to present their “solution”.

Approximately, the top 8 in each event will move on to Provincials in February.

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Yearbooks

Purchase your yearbook for only 45 dollars and for a limited time you will get a free name engraving! You can also buy it from room 121. Don't wait - buy before the price goes up!

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Kodiak Studios

Kodiak Studios will be hosting many lunchtime events, including: jam sessions, coffee house performances, improv club and more. So if you're interested in learning or practicing your guitar or ukulele, want a place to perform, or a chance to break out of your shell. Kodiak Studios will have something for you starting up NEXT week in behind the stage in the drama studio. Stay tuned for more info.

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Badminton Club

Something new this year is the Badminton Club. It is on Thursday nights from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. Students can come and play for fun or to be competitive. There will be coaching available. Come for fun! Come for training! Come for exercise!

We are opening this opportunity for the family of schools for Bear Creek. Grades 7 and 8 students are welcome to participate as well, from 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

See Mr. Wilkinson for more information.

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Volunteer Opportunities

**VOLUNTEER!
GET INVOLVED!
BE A PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY!**

Do you want to volunteer or get a summer job? Not sure where to start? Check out Bear Creek's volunteer and student job opportunity board located outside of the Guidance office. It is updated weekly with fantastic opportunities! Still not sure what to do? Make an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor for some further suggestions.

Remember, EVERY student must complete a minimum 40 hours of volunteer work to graduate.

Please submit your "Completion of Community Involvement Activities" sheet (this sheet can be found either on-line or at the Guidance office) to the Guidance office as soon as it is signed by both you and a parent.

1. Do you like sports? Are you in need of community service hours? Do you want to get a jump on community service hours? Well the home game crew might be for you! We are in need of capable and trustworthy students to help with sports scorekeeping for the year. Basketball and volleyball are the main sports in which we require help.
2. Mr. Wilkinson is looking for students to be part of the Grounds Crew. Please see him in his office (upstairs admin tower) on Thursday for more information.
3. Mr. Wilkinson is looking for students to be part of the Breakfast Club. Please see him at the Breakfast Club table any day for more information and to sign up.
4. **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**
Frightful Forest & Haunted Wagon Ride at Drysdale's Tree Farm
We need ZOMBIES, we need WITCHES, we need YOU!
Where: Drysdale's Tree Farm 6635 Simcoe County Road 56, Egbert
When: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in October
To Register: Contact Luke - 705-424-9719 or info@drysdales.ca
5. Are you a grade 12 University bound student currently taking advanced functions? If you are interested in tutoring mathematics to a younger Bear Creek student for either cash or community involvement hours, then come see Mr. Gunson, in Guidance, to learn what's available.

6. For those students in need of community service hours.....volunteers are needed for various positions by the Salvation Army. They include volunteers for the Christmas Kettles and for the Santa Shuffle. Please stop by guidance for more information.

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Sports News

The scores and schedules across the County are on www.hometeamsonline.com; type “scaa ‘your sport’” in for league (i.e. scaa football).

Next week’s sporting events look like:

If you see “vs.”, that means it is a home game; if you see “@”, that means it is an away game.

Monday 29 th	Tuesday 30 th	Wednesday 31 st	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd
	Sr. Girls’ Basketball vs. Innisdale		Jr. Boys’ Volleyball @ Collingwood	Cross-Country OFSSA @ OFSAA – Christie Lake Conservation Area, Dundas Also, on Saturday.
	Sr. Boys’ Football vs. Orillia		Jr. Boys’ Football vs. Orillia	

Are you a new student to Bear Creek in grade 10, 11, or 12 and are interested in playing sports? Did you transfer from another high school? Please come to see Mr. Wilkey in Student Success, room 110, to fill out the necessary forms so you can play sports this year.

On Thursday, October 18th, your **Junior Girls’ Flag Football** team travelled to Georgian College seeking its second straight G.B.S.S.A. Title. **Jacklyn Van Shubert** hit a quick little pass to **Hannah Billedeau** to put Bear Creek in front. The game then went back and forth for the next 40 minutes. Then, **Shuuby** hit a couple of touchdown passes to **Aeryn Varcoe** and **Hannah Rankine** to seal the deal. Final Score Bear Creek 28- Innisdale 13. The win is the Junior Flag Football teams’ second consecutive G.B. Title. For the grade 10 athletes, they finish with 22 Wins, 2 Loses, 2 Ties, 2 Banting Tournament Titles and 2 GBSSA Titles.

Congratulations to the **Girls’ Rugby 7's** team. They had a terrific season with many new faces. Our season ended with a road trip to Brantford on Friday, October 19, where the girls faced some good competition. Your Kodiaks ended in a third place finish.

The first tryout for **Curling** was Tuesday, October 23rd at the Stroud Curling Club. Please see Mr. Hogg at lunch if you are unable to attend.

All boys interested in trying out for the **Varsity Boys’ Hockey** team were to meet this Friday, the 26th on the bleachers at 10:45 with Mr. Dolbear. If you are unable to attend and would still like to try out, you need to see Mr. Dolbear as soon as possible for information.

The Junior and Senior Boys' Volleyball teams travelled to Orillia, on Wednesday October 17th, to face the Nighthawks, and both teams came away with a win. The juniors won in four sets against a well-coached squad, and the seniors swept in three.

The **Junior Boys' Volleyball** team defeated the Barrie North Vikings on Wednesday, October 24th, extending their win streak to four. The Kodiaks had their first game to five sets, which made for an exciting finish. The boys will wrap up their regular season with a trip to Collingwood next week to take on the Fighting Owls.

The **Senior Boys' Volleyball** team finish their successful regular season play last night with an unfortunate loss. As a result of game schedule change, many of the guys were not able to make the game. The 6 senior players, and Owen Miller the Junior team setter, played hard and won the 1st set, but loss the next 3 sets to Barrie North. Its ok boys! Having a final regular season record of 7 wins and only 1 loss is amazing! We can't wait for the volleyball playoffs, starting soon.

If you are interested in being a part of Bear Creek's **Swim** team, please see Mr. Gunson in guidance ASAP. Practice starts next week. All are welcome regardless of experience.

There was an important meeting on Wednesday, October 24th, at lunch, for all interested **Girls' Hockey** players in room 142. Attendance will be taken. If you couldn't make it, please see Mr. Morrison.

Congratulations to the Bear Creek **Cross Country** team that competed at the GBSSA Championships on Tuesday, October 23rd, in Huntsville. Bear Creek had 3 teams qualify for the OFSAA Championships next week in Hamilton. The **Midget Boys'** team of **Caleb Wallis, Austin Morby, Justin Tate, and Jackson Cole** won both the GBSSA Championships and the GBSSA League Race Series. **Caleb** and **Austin** are also GBSSA Medalists finishing with **Gold** and **Bronze** medals. The **Senior Girls'** team led by **Amber Fisher** with a **Bronze** medal finished in 2nd overall. **Taylor Peckham, Lily Best, Charlotte Well Liddy, Lauren Ewles, Katie Magnussen, Parker Scott, and Raeanne Benjamin** will all be competing next week in Hamilton. The **Senior Boys'** team finished with a **Silver** medal led by **Braden Degrasse** with another **Silver** and **Michael Paul** in 4th place. The **Senior Boys'** team of **Brayden, Michael, Cameron Peckford, Mateo Acevedo, Logan Acevedo, Nick Scripolis, Brennan Suni** will also be competing next week.

Congratulations to the **Junior Girls' Basketball** team who had 3 wins to just 1 loss on the weekend of October 12th - 14th and won the A Flight Consolation Championship at our 5th Annual Junior Girls Tournament. Outstanding team contributions by all of the gals.

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Important Dates

Wednesday, October 31	Hallowe'en (school theme – camping)
Thursday, November 1	Night of Excellence
Tuesday, November 6	Term 1 over
Wednesday, November 7	Term 2 starts
Wednesday, November 14	Take Your Kid to Work Day – grade 9's
Wednesday, November 14	School Council Meeting
Friday, November 23	P.D. Day

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Positively Speaking

One of the 10 traits of Character Education is Honesty, and I see many examples of honesty daily. We have GREAT students here at Bear Creek!

A student, last week, came to me with a phone that another student had left in the bathroom. We were able to contact the student and return their phone to them. As I said, this happens weekly.

This week I provide an article that speaks about responsibility – we are accountable for our actions and we follow through on our commitments.

Teaching Children Responsibility

What does it mean to teach your children responsibility? Every parent has a different answer and a different expectation of when and how their child will assume personal responsibility. One thing is for sure and that is that responsibility must be taught. It is not a natural skill, but it can be learned at any age. You do not become responsible when you are mature, but rather you become mature when you are responsible.

Four variables in this exciting venture:

1. Your child (learning style, age, motor skills, interest, hot buttons or incentives)
2. Your expectations (perfection or ever-learning, do you punish for the truth?)
3. Your example (use the 4 r's: recognize, remorse, restitution and resolve to correct mistakes)
4. Consistency and follow-through (natural and logical consequences)

Outward responsibility deals with everyday things (life skills) chores, brushing teeth, returning videos on time. These are habits that make us productive and reliable. Inward responsibility deals with attitudes, beliefs and values. This is where we look at the heart. It means admitting mistakes, being unselfish, caring for other people's health, property and feelings.

2-step process:

1. Teach them the skill until it becomes a habit and then eventually it will become automatic action. Automatic action is action without conscious thought or planning. This is the difference between pre-decisions and situational ethics. For example, clearing your plate from the table, brushing your teeth, putting your bike away - you don't have to decide what to do every time.
2. Praise the attitude, performance and effort. Use natural and logical consequences to reinforce the lesson. "Thanks for picking up your toys without being asked. It makes it easier for the whole family to maneuver when we don't have to step over toys on the floor."

You cannot expect a 35-year-old job from a 10-year old. You also cannot expect a 10-year-old job from a 10-year old who isn't clear what is expected of him. We will have to occasionally jump in and help them do an unpleasant task, but not do it for them.

Voice and Choice: The more the child has the opportunity of "owning" the decision or problem, the more he/she will learn. The purpose of allowing natural consequences to occur and of designing logical consequences is to encourage children to make responsible choices, not punish them. This method permits a child to choose and then to be accountable for the decision whether it comes out well or not. Most children, when permitted to make poor choices, learn from the consequences. The most effective method of teaching is for you to remain matter-of-fact and non-punishing. This means separating the deed from the doer. If you were trying to teach your child a new skill, such as piano or tennis, you would probably be patient. You would expect and accept some mistakes.

Just regard teaching responsibility the same way. Regard slipups or wrong choices as a learning experience rather than a personal affront on your ability as a parent or teacher and everyone will be happier, more cooperative and responsible.

Source: "Teaching Children Responsibility", [Judith H. Wright](http://ezinearticles.com/?Teaching-Children-Responsibility&id=63985), <http://ezinearticles.com/?Teaching-Children-Responsibility&id=63985>

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Parent's Corner

I never really understood how much television affects children until I saw my two-year old daughter hit my four-year old son (many years ago) after watching a Disney movie where one cartoon character struck another one. Over the years, I have seen a number of "followers" who are led into some mischief by their "friends", the "leaders". Thus, I thought this article was pertinent.

Find Out How Friends, Television and Internet Influence Your Teen

With teenagers, it's important to keep discipline firm, fair, and consistent. Stay **firm** by sticking to the rules you've set. Review your rules to make sure they are **fair**. For example, a 7 p.m. curfew on weekends might be a little unfair for a teen. Maintain **consistency** – your teen will only follow the rules you enforce with the same consequences every time.

It's also important to keep in mind that even though you have a big impact on your teen's life, you aren't the only one influencing them and their behaviour. Monitor outside influences that affect your teen, like:

- ✓ **Friends** Try to get to know your teen's friends and their families. Allow your teen to invite friends over occasionally. Ask your teen what they and their friends do for fun.
- ✓ **Television** What shows does your teen watch? Watch some of your teen's favourite shows with them, and use them as a starting point for a conversation. Do they promote your family's values? Ask them why they like the shows.
- ✓ **Internet** Ask your teen what websites they like to visit and take a look at them. Talk to them about the people they "chat" with online. Do they have an online journal or a blog? Remind your teen that ANYTHING they put on the World Wide Web is public knowledge AND public access.

Source: March 2009, The Parent Institute

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Parent Pointer Calendar for the following week (Oct. 29 – Nov. 2)

Monday 29 th	Tuesday 30 th	Wednesday 31 st	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd
Make today a no-TV day. Let your teen be responsible for thinking of alternate activities.	If you're making a major purchase, let your teen do research. List features that are important. Let him/her investigate.	Create a family joke book. Write one or two jokes per page. Staple the pages together.	It's not that teens can't read—it's that most don't. Challenge your teen to read more this month.	Keep talking about school. Every day, ask your teen what she's/he's learning.

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Well, Boils and Ghouls, this brings the e-newsletter to its end. {Mu wa ha ha - evil, maniacal laugh}

Have a Boo-tiful weekend and a Spook-tacular week!

Happy Hallowe'en! Please drive carefully.

Be well!

Terry Wilkinson

Vice-Principal
Bear Creek Secondary School

P.S. (Positive Statement):

I thought this was appropriate as it represents why we do all the recycling and Green Team initiatives.

“If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder,
He needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it,
Rediscovering with him the joy,
Excitement and mystery of the world we live in.”

- Rachel Carson, author of *Silent Spring*

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P.P.S.: If you like what you have read so far, please tell another parent/guardian, get them to e-mail me, and I'll add them to the e-mail list.

Photo below shows students getting pumpkins for the Homeroom Pumpkin carving competition.

