

## Media Release - Spring 2008

As part of the Safe Schools initiatives, we are offering various opportunities to engage students in discussion related to preventing violence, using healthy methods of conflict resolution and engaging the bystander.

The following is a list of our initiatives for Spring 2008:

### **“Forum Theatre” - Conflict Resolution - Secondary (Grades 9 - 12)**

This Forum Theatre script, “The Same Mistakes”, was written by Toni Wilson in collaboration with a former drama student. The Medway High School Drama group will be directed by Wendy Douglas, a drama teacher at Medway High School and Toni Wilson, Learning Coordinator - Safe Schools this semester as they tour to eight different high schools across Thames Valley. This drama presentation involves interactive theatre. The audience will watch a short play that involves different scenes involving issues including dating violence and bullying. The audience will then watch the play a second time with the opportunity to stop the play and take part by attempting an intervention. The audience member may take the place of a bystander or a victim. Prior to taking part in Forum Theatre, students will be trained in effective conflict resolution skills.

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Presentation Time</b>
Tues., April 1	Medway	9	1:10
Thurs., April 3	Medway	9	1:10
Thurs., April 8	Arthur Voaden	12	9:55
Mon., April 14	College Ave	11	12:05
Wed., April 16	North Middlesex	11	9:45
Tues., April 17	Montcalm	11	10:15
Tues., April 22	Glendale	10	11:50
Mon., April 28	Central Elgin	10	10:00
Tues., April 29	Banting	9	9:45

### **“Own It” - Secondary (Grades 9 - 12)**

The play, “Own It” was written by Bronwyn Powell, a drama teacher at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School. This semester, the play will be directed by Bronwyn and will be performed by the Laurier drama troupe for seven Thames Valley secondary schools. The main issues in this play are social bullying and electronic bullying. By watching the play, students will recognize the importance of taking action to prevent all forms of bullying and sexual harassment. Students will take part in follow-up activities and discussion after the play.

Date	School	Grade	Presentation Time
Tues., April 7	Medway	10	9:45
Tues., April 15	Ingersoll		9:45
Thurs., April 17	Woodstock C.I.	9/10	12:00
Tues., April 22	Glencoe	9/10	10:25
Thurs., April 24	Laurier	10	8:30
Mon., April 28	Strathroy D.C.I.	9	10:00

**“Wheels on the Bus” - Elementary (Grades 7 & 8)**

This play was written by Deighton Thomas, a drama teacher at Saunders Secondary School. This semester, it will be performed by Strathroy District Collegiate Institute and will be directed by Rebecca Patkau. Secondary schools will host the play for elementary feeder schools. The focus of this drama presentation is bullying in many different forms. Through follow-up discussion and activities lead by secondary school leadership classes, students will learn about the importance of enlisting the support of the bystander in order to stop bullying and have a more respectful and safe school environment.

Date	School	Grade	Presentation Time
Wed., April 9	Banting	7/8	9:30
Thurs., April 10	North Middlesex	7/8	9:50
Wed., April 16	Strathroy D.C.I.	7/8	10:00
Thurs., April 24	West Elgin	7/8	10:30

**“Douglas Dane” - A Survivor’s Story - Violence Awareness - Secondary  
(Grades 9 - 12)**

This is a one hour presentation given by Douglas Dane describing his survival of physical, sexual and psychological abuse. His message surrounds awareness of different types of violence and provides hope for individuals involved. Douglas will make presentations at ten TVDSB high schools this semester.

Date	School	Grade	Presentation Time
Wed., April 2	Central	11/12	9:40
Wed., April 2	Beal	9/10	12:15
Fri., April 25	Oakridge	11	9:45
Fri., April 25	Clarke Rd	12	12:00
Tues., April 29	Parkside		8:30
Tues., April 29	Arthur Voaden		12:00
Tues., May 6	Lucas	12	9:40
Tues., May 6	Strathroy D.C.I.	12	1:00
May 8	East Elgin	12	10:20
Thurs., May 8	Woodstock C.I.	11/12	1:10

**“Eva Olsson” - A Holocaust Survivor’s Story of Tolerance - (Grade 7 - 8)**

This is a one hour presentation given by Eva Olsson describing her story of survival during the holocaust. Her message is one of tolerance, compassion and respect for others and she believes that change begins with the education of young people. Eva will make presentations at 10 elementary schools during May 2008.

DATE	SCHOOL	GRADES	PRESENTATION TIME
Monday, May 5	Jack Chambers PS	7-8	9:30 AM
Monday, May 5	Northridge PS	7-8	1:00 PM
Tuesday, May 6	Kensal Park French Immersion PS	7-8	9:30 AM
Tuesday, May 6	Princess Anne French Immersion PS	7-8	1:00 PM

Wednesday, May 7	Victoria PS	7-8	9:30 AM
Wednesday, May 7	Sir Issac Brock PS	7-8	1:00 PM
Thursday, May 8	W. Sherwood Fox	7-8	9:30 AM
Thursday, May 8	Westmount PS	7-8	1:00 PM
Friday, May 9	Ryerson PS	7-8	9:30 AM
Friday, May 9	Bishop Townshend PS	7-8	1:00 PM

Media are invited to attend any of the above performances. Please check in at the main school office upon arrival.

\*For further information regarding these initiatives, please contact:

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