

STORIES

from the Journey:



KCS Head of Senior School Update

06 . 28 . 2022



One year behind us. Another big one starting soon. Our third trimester included new Learning Partners, a four-day camping and canoe trip, a Grade 9 student-led Beach Clean-Up, our first annual Path Presentations of Learning and much more.

Difference-Making Through KCS By Design

Earlier issues of "Stories from the Journey" shared our students' quest to help address water pollution. They met each week for KCS By Design, a leadership program that invites students to help build the school experience. Following a design thinking process, they learned about water pollution, engaged in creative brainstorming, prepared

presentations for the Junior School, and organized a Beach Clean-Up for our grade 7s with support from Learning Partner [A Greener Future](#). The presentations took place early May. On May 18th, our grade 9s led an event where over 50 students, teachers, and Learning Partners spent two hours collecting over 2400 pieces of litter along the shores of Lake Ontario.

Camp and Canoe in Algonquin Park

KCS has long been committed to outdoor education. With the launch of our Senior School, this commitment will have students experiencing more of Canada and more of the challenge that comes with escaping the amenities of city life. Thanks to Learning Partner [ALIVE Outdoors](#), our winter trip to Camp Wanakita was our first Grade 9 outdoor education trip. Last month, our students enjoyed the second: four days in Algonquin Park for canoeing and tenting. Highlights included canoe rescues (training only), bonfires, the night sky, a moose sighting, and pride at surviving black fly season.

KCS SENIOR SCHOOL MOMENTS



1



2

[KCS G9 ARTS]

KCS Art Shop · Order Here · In Support of Water First

Welcome to the KCS Art Store!

The proceeds go towards a non-profit organization that we have been working with through the course of this year.

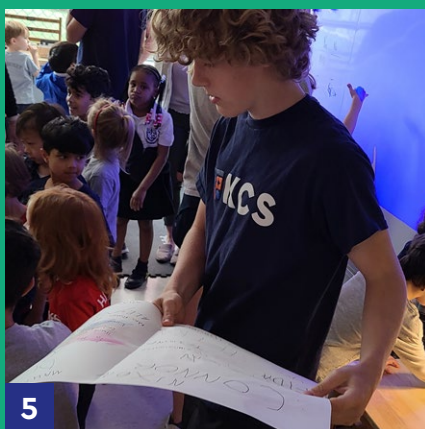
[Click me For info On Water First!](#)

3



4

"As the first class of the high school we were the first to experience camping trips, open houses, off site learning, community trips, and workshops. It was a great year."



5

- 1: 2183 Lake Shore – Updated Fitness Room Rendering;
- 2: Nurdles;
- 3: KCS Art Store Website;
- 4: Beach Cleanup;
- 5: Gr 9 students visiting our JK students to read the children's books they created for them;
- 6: Moose Sighting in Algonquin Park.



6

KCS LEARNING
PARTNERS SINCE
MARCH

40

We remain grateful to all the external experts who support enriched place-based learning at the Senior School.

In total this year our students engaged directly with 40 external experts in courses and extra-curricular offerings. Since our March update, here are the external experts our students had the fortune to learn from:

- [ALIVE Outdoors](#) Camp Leaders Mandy and Sam
- Hasina Lookman from [Explorer Hop](#)
- Jackie Burns, journalist and author of [The Condo Kids](#)
- Jeffrey, car design professional
- Marina, drama instructor from [Centauri Arts](#)
- Alex, coding instructor from [Real Programming 4 Kids](#)
- Jennifer, Fitness Executive
- Alex, Fitness Trainer
- Katie, Sport and Performance Nutritionist
- Pearce, professional movie animator
- Brandon, urban designer and social entrepreneur
- Kate, IT specialist and passion-driven Maker
- Scott, award-winning singer, songwriter, and music producer
- Patrick, pilot
- Jennifer, film producer and business owner

To learn more about KCS Learning Partners and the opportunity it brings to students and adults who want to make a difference, please visit our [Learning Community Program webpages](#).

IMPACT AS ENRICHMENT IN EVERY COURSE

Our faculty enrich student learning in multiple ways. One is by challenging students to take what they learn in every course and apply it in ways of authentic value to others.

Here are some examples of how students did so in this year's courses:

- Testing the water of Humber River to monitor e-coli, pH levels and more, with data being uploaded to a database supporting research and environmental initiatives
- Removing invasive Buckthorn trees in High Park
- Selling artwork and donating proceeds to Water First, a charity supporting clean water projects in Indigenous communities
- Creating children's books for our kindergarten students as part of the Integrated Arts course
- Collecting "nurdles" (pre-manufacturing plastic pellets that pollute the world's waterways) and uploading data to a global database to support lobbying industry for tighter controls
- Using French and leveraging social media to raise awareness of local organizations that serve the francophone community

Violence Contre Les Femmes

Les Faits

La violence contre les femmes est un problème partout dans le monde. Il y a beaucoup d'organisations qui aident promouvoir les connaissances sur la violence contre les femmes et Oasis Centre Des Femmes est une organisation qui fait ça.



1 femme sur 3 dans le monde a souffert des violences physiques et/ou sexuelles



Oasis Centre Des Femmes



Oasis Centre des Femmes est une organisation qui aide la femme Francophone qui souffre de la violence dans Grand Toronto et Hilton-Peel

- Oasis Centre des Femmes s'est ouvert en 1995
- C'est une organisation à but non lucratif
- Il y a beaucoup de ressources sur le site Internet qui aident les femmes
- l'organisation veut assurer la diversité des femmes francophones de Toronto

Cette organisation offre beaucoup de services:

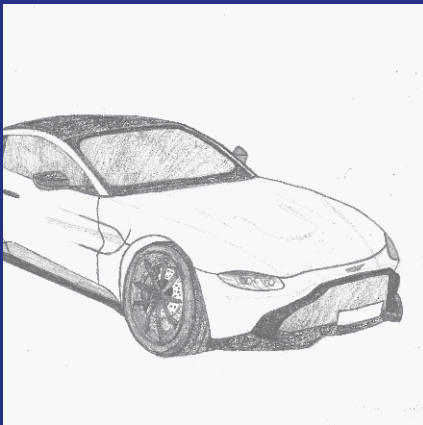
- Counselling
- Élan - Préparation à la vie dynamique
- Femmes immigrantes et réfugiées
- Appui transitoire et soutien au logement
- Soutien dans le contexte de la cour de la famille
- Liaison Communautaire Prévention et Sensibilisation



<https://www.oasisfemmes.org>

MENTORS AND MORE WITH THE KCS PATH PROGRAM

Each Wednesday afternoon includes dedicated time where students assume a lead role in their learning.



Choosing their area of greatest interest, students are challenged to learn from multiple perspectives as well as through an offsite learning experience. A Path Mentor is assigned to each student so they have an external expert who can provide tips and feedback on a personal learning journey from grade 9 to 12.

We're delighted to share that Path Mentors with the following expertise have joined our Learning Community:

- An award-winning singer, songwriter, and music producer
- A film producer and business owner
- A pilot
- An IT professional with a personal passion for tech-related 'making'
- A professional film animator
- An urban designer and social entrepreneur
- A fitness executive

Early this trimester, our students emailed their Path Mentors for the first time. They booked a virtual meeting and led an introductory interview. Learning how to engage with a professional is a life skill they

will practice many times over their years in secondary school.

The end of May included our first annual Path Presentations of Learning. Both in person and virtual, presentations were delivered to peers, teachers, KCS senior administrators, parents, and the Path Mentor. Presentations included the multiple ways in which students chose to embrace leadership in their learning, as well as reflections on the challenges, the supports, the unexpected, and next steps.

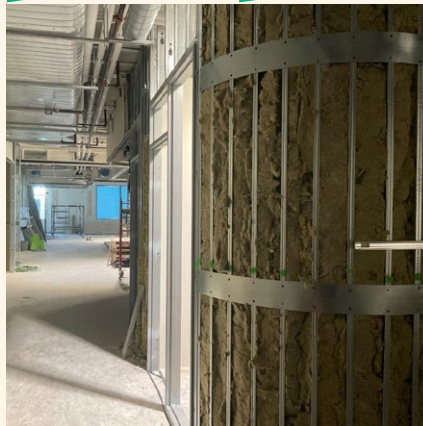
"I think path definitely went over extremely well with all the students at KCS. I also think every subject had extremely fun and interesting moments."



CONSTRUCTION AT 2183 LAKE SHORE

We look forward to
opening our doors
for new students on
September 6th.

When the story of the Senior School is written, there's no doubt the chapter on construction will be a long one. Like all other efforts that led to our launch, it has required the persistent, thoughtful effort of many. Our Project Manager, Rudy Tomaini from TriAxis Construction Ltd., brings years of experience building schools and getting them ready for the first day of school. We're grateful for the expertise from Rudy and his team at TriAxis, Oliver Beck and his team from Architecture Counsel, and the dedicated volunteers serving on our Design and Construction Committee.



Second floor central corridor



Hole for the sweeping internal staircase



Second floor vendor kiosk

IN-PERSON AGAIN

With mitigation measures easing up, another highlight of the recent months has been opportunities to gather with families, current and incoming. We look forward to many more such occasions, especially when they include our new facility.

We're still accepting applications for grades 9 and 10. Thank you for your interest and for letting others know about us. I hope you've found this collection of updates as interesting as we've found the journey. Please email if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

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