

# The Linden Letter

Spring 2007

## Inside:



1,000 Cranes	3
Dave Azzi of the Argos Visits Linden	4
Science Fair	5
Spirit Week '07	6
International Women's Day	7
Sports	8
Grade 1/2 Profile	9
Drama	10
Music	11
Career Day	12
Black History Month	13
Space Sleepover	13
City Project	14
Event Reminders	14
Grade 8 Speeches	15
Calendar	16



## Linden's New Principals

### Who are we?

**Dawn's** professional experience is an on-going journey that started with her volunteer work with inner city girls during university. Her love for the sciences and helping others initially inspired a potential career in medicine, but after mentoring and providing leadership training to primary girls in some of the poorest areas of the city and loving it, she immediately enrolled to obtain her certification in teaching.

That life-changing volunteer experience eventually led Dawn to develop a leadership programme for challenged and at-risk youth (eventually adopted by a rural public school board) and she focused her efforts on teaching in an inner city setting, which was heavily populated by immigrant students. She was recognized for her early teaching work as one of ten new teachers from across the U.S. awarded Radio Shack's Teacher of the Year award. It is in these experiences in both university and early on in her teaching career that she realized her passion in working with children from marginalized populations as well as her interest in leadership development for young adults.

The traveling bug brought her to Toronto and her interest in how girls learn and her understanding of the unique Linden experience prompted her to apply for her

“Our experiences during years of teaching and counseling here ... have crystalized our strong commitment to the values, culture and traditions unique to Linden.”



# Linden's New Principals

current position as a middle school and senior science teacher. Her experiences at Linden have confirmed her keen interest in developing pedagogically sound science curricula and she loves the enthusiasm with which her students readily take on all of the challenges she presents to them. The school's emphasis on social justice, equity and empowerment are also values with which she was able to easily identify and which she holds dear to her heart.

An Ontario-certified teacher, **Ina** has taught (and learned) arts and language, math, and the social sciences to students in grades K- 12 for over ten years. Her professional experiences include teaching and counseling at public and independent schools in Ontario, Texas, and São Paulo, Brazil. Galvanized by her feminist-inspired education at Smith College and the University of Texas at Austin—and by becoming the parent of a daughter—she remains firmly committed to and passionate about the education of girls and women.

**Ina** has spent the majority of her career working with students in grades 7 and 8. Based on copious research and hands-on experience, she developed extensive curricula and programmes designed to address and reflect the unique needs and challenges facing students in the "middle years". She is currently conducting informal research on girls' relationships in the middle years, focusing especially on patterns of aggression, stress management, and identity formation. A highlight of **Ina's** career occurred in her third year of teaching (1998), when students in grades 6 - 8 chose her as Teacher of the Year.



**Ina** has had ample opportunity to hone her leadership skills through her roles as course and grade-level coordinator, Intermediate division head, guidance counselor, and most recently as admissions coordinator at Linden. She has also led several student excursions into the hills and caves of southern Texas and northern Mexico!

**Alana's** experience in education includes teaching and tutoring English from the primary to university level. Her earliest teaching experience was as a piano teacher for primary students. Her piano students consisted of a core group of five girls from the same extended family

whom she taught over the four years she attended Trent University. Looking back, she realizes the seeds of her feminist pedagogy were planted in that environment. The girls learned better when the activities were fun and collaborative, and they perceived **Alana** as a friend learning with them.

**"Our model of leadership is an extension of our joint commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and the strength of collaborative work."**

After completing her B.A. Hons. in English at Trent, her interest in life writing led **Alana** to Hawai'i, where she completed her M.A. and Ph.D. coursework and exams at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Along with a focus on women's auto/

biography, and links between music and literature, **Alana** studied pedagogy at both the M.A. and Ph.D. level, and completed a Ph.D. area exam focusing in feminist pedagogy, pedagogy for the multi-cultural classroom, and assessment. As a graduate assistant in the University of Hawai'i English department, **Alana** planned and taught numerous courses in writing, world literature, and the novel, and worked extensively in the writing workshop. Her four years' experience as a graduate assistant combined with her studies in pedagogy gave her both the practical and theoretical basis to develop and crystalize her ideas about teaching. She had always been interested in the potential for education to address issues of diversity, equity, and social justice, and was interested to become



# Linden's New Principals

familiar with the body of research supporting this pedagogy and to see its potential borne out in the classroom.

Alana returned to Toronto in 2003 to do research on her dissertation and soon learned about The Linden School. She was surprised and excited to find a school so closely aligned with the beliefs about education that she had developed over the previous several years. She was hired as an intermediate/senior English teacher in 2003, and has been inspired and fulfilled by her work with Linden students and the entire Linden community ever since.

## Our vision

Our choice to use a collaborative leadership model is rooted in our belief in The Linden School's mission. Our model of leadership is an extension of our joint commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and the strength of collaborative work—we truly do believe (as our students teach us every day) that three heads are better than one! There is also a practical aspect to our model: the expertise and unique skills that we each bring to the position will enable us to lead the school into its next stage of development.

Our experiences during years of teaching and counseling here—in addition to the process of applying for the co-principalship itself—have crystalized our strong commitment to the values, culture and traditions unique to Linden. Though we are moving into administration, we are classroom teachers first. We value the voices and experiences of our students, and intend to continue to listen and respond to them directly and compassionately as co-principals. In collaboration with the Board of Trustees, preserving the Linden mission and culture while managing the fiscal health of the school will be another paramount priority. We will continue to gather information about how girls learn best and infuse it into daily practice within our curricula and our community interactions. We will strive to maintain our high academic standards, and foster continual growth and innovation in the areas of interdisciplinary collaboration and service learning. We also envision the creation of further support networks—through mentoring programmes, for example—for all members of our community. Finally, in the area of business and development, we will continue to extend our marketing strategies and investigate new ways to increase school efficiency and garner additional revenue and resources. Establishing new networks with the educational and surrounding communities will be a joint effort in both admissions and development.



## 1,000 Cranes at Linden

On February 28, the Linden community folded, in 35 all-school minutes, 790 small and large cranes – sweet and colourful. Everybody loved doing it. It was inspiring to see students and teachers calmly following volunteers' instructions to fold the paper birds. And afterwards people could not stop doing it, so by now we have over 1,000 of these small works of art.

The origami cranes will be assembled as an installation for the May Art Show. It should be beautiful: a collective installation of the Linden School as a fundraiser for Amnesty International! So far, we have collected approximately \$150 and are working to increase that sum, which we shall send to the Ottawa Amnesty International office by the end of March.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to make this event such a success.



# We Hear From Our Grads

## Siye, TLS '98

Has moved to Alberta to start something new. Siye writes: "I was kind of tired of the same old things in Toronto, so I spread my wings and went westward to the tundra of Edmonton."

I believe that the first graduating class is approaching its tenth anniversary, and I think that we need to have some kind of get together to commemorate this.

I would love to contribute in some way to your last official Celebration to Greet the Summer.

## Andrea Brent, TLS '98

Andrea writes: "I am still living in Toronto and I graduated (on the dean's list) from York University last year, finally, with a B.A. in Fine Arts Cultural Studies."

For the past five years I have been working for the Koffler Gallery as a part-time gallery assistant and for the past two years I have been working as their publications editor for catalogues, essays and financial grants. When I am not working on gallery projects I also focus my attention on academic journalism, essay and thesis editing for graduate students, but that is more of a word of mouth venture for the time being."

Lara, TLS '98 and Leahora, TLS '98 acted as bridesmaids/MCs when Andrea married.

## Anne Michelson, TLS '99

Anne writes: "Surprise! I'm coming into town next week with the tour of The Phantom of the Opera. Congratulations on this next wonderful step for The Linden School!"

## Jessica (Waterloo), Dana (McGill) and Kaitlyn (Dalhousie) TLS '05 write from Halifax:

"First of all, we wanted to congratulate you on your wise choice of principals and we're glad that things seem to be going well at Linden. We miss everyone and can't wait to catch up when we get back in May. Please give our congratulations to Alana, Dawn and Ina and say hi to Andy and Nasrin for us. We are so excited to be a part of the Celebration to Greet the Summer!"

## Chelsea (York) TLS '06 writes:

"I am glad to hear that you found such suitable people to become co-principals. Excellent choices."

Design is going so fantastically I can't even articulate it. It is so wonderful. A lot of work at times, but I'm used to it. I love every part of the Design programme and although I am excited for a break, I am equally excited for the start-up of a new year with new courses and so much more to learn."

## We need your up-to-date e-mail addresses and news.

Eleanor and Diane are so pleased that many of you have indicated that you will be at this years' Celebration To Greet The Summer -- A wonderful gathering for their last official graduation!

Do let us know if you would like to be a part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Linden reunion!

## Toronto Argonauts player visits The Linden School, by Chiku, Grade 8

On March 6th, during Spirit Week, a Canadian Football League player named David Azzi came to visit our school to talk to the grades 6 - 12 about nutrition and fitness. He plays wide receiver for the Toronto Argonauts. We all thought it was interesting to meet a professional football player. He told us how he started in football and how he overcame many obstacles to play eventually in the U.S. College League and then the CFL. A really good point he made was that it was not enough to have the physical skill to play football, but he also had to maintain good grades. After his talk, he stayed to sign autographs and take some pictures. It was great to meet him and learn some health tips from a professional athlete.



## 2007 Science Fair, by Odette, Grade 12



A few weeks ago all of the girls at The Linden School were working fervently on their science fair projects in anticipation of Science Fair. Even though the weeks leading up to Science Fair can be pretty scary and more than a little stressful, there is no better feeling than standing in front of your project on the night of Science Fair ready to blow your willing listeners away with your project. On the day of Science Fair I saw that look of pride and accomplishment on the faces of every girl stationed around the school. Seeing this made me remember that Science Fair is a magical time of the year and everyone can be proud of not only their own efforts, but also the efforts of their peers. It is a truly amazing thing to be involved in Science Fair (I know that all you students reading this are rolling your eyes, but just wait till you're in grade 12, you'll know what I mean). This was my last Science Fair at The Linden School and I can honestly say that it makes me very sad to know that I won't have that familiar experience next year right after the Winter Break.



Congratulations are in order for every student who worked so hard; everyone did amazing work. We also cannot forget the parents, siblings, friends, teachers and everyone else who made Science Fair possible and manageable for all the Linden girls. Even though my Science Fair days are now over, I look forward to seeing all the future projects that are waiting to be created in the coming years of Science Fair.



# Spirit Week



# International Women's Day

## What does it mean to be a woman?

The grade 12 class surveyed several groups of women who ranged in age from three years old up to and including women in their seventies. The Linden seniors asked the same question to each of the groups. What does it mean to be a woman at the age of....? The following are the answers the class discovered.

- 3 to 6:
  - To be different than a man.
  - To have equal rights.
  - Having a voice and a choice.
  - Being able to have a baby someday.
- 7 to 12:
  - We are able to support other women and girls.
  - Being able to have great friends.
  - Being able to have a great Linden education.
- 13 to 16:
  - Being powerful, influential, and confident.
  - Never doubting yourself and striving to love our bodies AND minds.
- at 20:
  - Learning how to occupy a female identity and be an individual.
  - Having an open mind.
- at 30:
  - Being able to exercise our freedoms, which previous women fought to secure for us.
  - Understanding that we are all connected to each other, so we should support one another.
- at 40:
  - Having strength and being able to hold a family together.
  - Being in control of my own body.
- at 50:
  - Being a daughter, a sister, a wife and a mother.
  - Being able to balance career with family.
  - Learn to deal with the death of a parent.
- at 60:
  - Feeling beautiful and empowered.
  - Feeling a part of the world around me.
- at 70:
  - Feeling on top of the world.
  - Being able to see the generations that follow me in the eyes of my grandchildren.



# Winter Sports Update

## Volleyball

The Winter Athletics programme was the biggest and most successful season ever at Linden!

Both junior and senior volleyball teams placed third to take spots in the tournament playoffs.

The junior team improved dramatically over the regular season games and was able to communicate and execute effectively during game play. However, on tournament day, the team serves and nerves seemed to prove difficult. But once again refs and coaches both commented on the team's excellent behaviour and sportsmanship throughout the season, and, as a coach, that's what makes me most proud!

Kat and the senior team are still awaiting playoffs as the ice storm postponed the tournament until April. Good luck seniors!

## Ski/Snowboard Team

The Linden Ski/Snowboard team was also extremely successful at this year's event at Snow Valley. We had many individual medals and placed third out of nine other schools. Great job Michelle and team!



## Swim Team

Another Linden Athletics first, a swim team! And once again Linden had numerous individual and team medal standings, with coach Michelle encouraging and swimming with them. Great job girls, get ready for next year!

## Boxing Club -- Fight Factory

This year, as an addition to the PE programme, boxing was introduced. And it has been a real HIT! The girls requested a school club after the classroom exposure and it has been a wonderful way to increase strength and empower these young women. Both staff and students participate in a variety of core building exercises and then don gloves and hand pads to work on coordinated routines. At the International Women's Day celebration, some of the girls and teachers performed a routine to show the Linden community what they had learned. Having Savoy "Kapow" Howe as an instructor has been an amazing experience, she is a motivator and inspirational leader for the club. In fact, the second session of the boxing club will start April 3! Sign up now!



## Spring Sports Coming...

Look ahead for lots of Linden teams in the spring season. We start with

senior and junior ball hockey teams, senior and junior outdoor soccer teams, as well as junior and senior track and field. So come on out and join the fun!



# From the Grade One/Two Room

## Acrostic Poems

JULIANNE CROSBIE

### ELEPHANTS

EVERY  
LOVELY  
ELEPHANT  
PLANTS  
HARDLY  
ANY  
NEWT  
TEA  
SADLY

### RAIN

RAKES  
ARE  
IN  
NOODLES

CHLOE THOMSON

### TONJA

TRAGIC  
ONIONS  
NEVER  
JUGGLE  
ANYTHING

### FRIENDS

FURRY  
RUBBER  
ILLNESS  
ECHOES  
NEVER  
DID  
SOUP

SAMANTHA PENG

### SPRING

SNAKES  
PREPARE  
RAKES  
IN  
NICE  
GARDENS

### BABY

BABY  
ANTS  
BAKE  
YOGURT

MARTINE DUFFY

### BRAIN

BABY  
RABBITS  
ARE  
ILL  
NOW

### LEMONS

LOVELY  
ELEPHANTS  
MAKE  
OCTOPUS  
NEWS  
STANDS

## *Fancy Pevil's Magic Stick, by Samantha, Grade 2*

Once there was a devil named Fancy Pevil. She was an unusual devil. She wasn't mean. She was good. She lived in a magic castle by the riverbank. Across the river where Fancy Pevil lived, there was a clown named Clowny Frown. He was very, very sad. He was never happy. Not even in the circus. He was also unusual. He was never silly!

One day, Fancy Pevils' Grandma gave her a magic stick for her birthday. When it was night she put the stick on the table. When she woke up the stick was gone! She was not happy. She called her Grandma and told her about the missing stick. So her Grandma got her a new one. It was even better then the first one. And for Clowny Frown he found a wife and he was happy. How did he turn happy? Only he knows. THE END

## *Pizza Party, by Katerina, Grade 2*

When we made pizza we used liquids and solids. Our liquids we used were water and oil. Our solids were yeast, flour, salt, and sugar. This is how we made it:

First, we mixed water and sugar. Then we added yeast to it and then we mixed the dry ingredients. We mixed it together and kneaded it. We waited for it to rise and put sauce and cheese on it. We put it in the oven for ten minutes at 425 Fahrenheit.

When it was cooked, we ate it! It tasted very good! Yum-Yum!



## *Drama Night Extravaganza, by Nicole, Grade 7*

At 6:30pm, on February 28th, the gym was a frenzy of excited parents and nervous students. The air hummed with anticipation for the grade 6/7 Drama Night. While guests munched on pizza in one part of the gym, the students were busy organizing the backstage area on the other side. Sets, costumes, and equipment were all in place.

After the grade 6 students brilliantly performed their plays on modern day fairytales, the grade 7's sprang into action to present an abridged version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The characters were each played by several different players. To avoid confusion over who was who, each character wore a distinctive costume, such as a pink dress or green cape. In my opinion, everyone exceeded expectations in the acting department. One girl, for example, raised her voice to an audible volume for the first time! Despite a few mistakes, the grade 6/7 Drama Night was a complete success and I look forward to the drama night for this class next year.



## *High School Drama Trip to Second City, by Deb Singer*

On Wednesday, March 7th, both high school drama classes faced the cold to head downtown to the Second City for a workshop on improvisation. The two hours flew by as the girls explored their voices and movement. We gave gifts, created one-word stories, became experts on such topics as eyebrows and shook out the nerves. We also explored the foundation of creating interesting improv scenes.

The girls learned a very important lesson, saying "yes" leads to more success than saying "no" and the cardinal rule of improv, no blocking!

Everyone enjoyed the outing, with many cries of "that was so fun!" Who knows, maybe we have a future SCTV star in our midst.



## *The Kiwanis Festival, by Ian Guenther*

February has come and gone and so has the Kiwanis Music Festival 2007. Thousands of students participated in the two-week celebration of music and speech arts in locations all over the GTA.

The Linden Strings, grades 6 - 8, played very well and earned a strong third place mark of 83%. They had a chance to hear other student-musicians of the same age and playing level.

The Linden Band played in its thirteenth appearance and was once again awarded a first place finish!

Both groups received very positive comments from the adjudicators. I am very proud of all of their efforts.

We are now working towards the Celebration to Greet the summer. See you then!

## *Grade 6/7 Choir, by Sarah Jerrom*

The Grade 6/7 Vocal Music Class Choir traveled to the Armenian Youth Centre in Scarborough to participate in the Kiwanis Festival on February 13th. Our choir was entered into a non-competitive category and performed "Siyahamba". We also had the great opportunity to watch other school choirs perform in various classes that afternoon; the adjudications were a learning experience for everyone in the room. The Linden School choir received wonderfully constructive feedback from the adjudicator as well, and we look forward to returning to the festival next year with this new experience under our belts! Many thanks to Gail Strachan and Gillian Cummings who helped out with rides out to Scarborough. Congratulations to the choir on a job well done!

## *The Linden School choir, by Chantler, Grade 6*

On February 13th, 2007, The Linden School choir attended the 2007 Kiwanis Music Festival. The choir preformed an African song called "Siyahamba". It was a great experience and three younger grades came and performed other songs. The adjudicator gave us feedback on how to improve our performance (like adding movement). I thought it was a very short performance to practise so hard for. For some people it was the first Kiwanis festival they had been to. It was great to go to the Kiwanis festival and I found it really enjoyable and I definitely think it's worth doing it again, and if it was so much fun doing non-competitive, why not do competitive next year? It would probably be a lot of fun.

## *Linden Pans, by Kyrie, Grade 11*

The Linden Pan Program has been around ever since I can remember (and I have been around for a while). We are a small but solid group of people and I like to think that we add a little something special to our community.

We've had an exciting year so far. In September, we formed three full pan groups (barely fitting in all the students who wanted to join). I handed over the sticks to a new teacher, Gabe, who now teaches the Beginner and Advanced Groups. This allowed me to resume playing with the Advanced group, a welcome challenge, while still teaching the Tuesday morning group. In December, the Advanced Band did some busking in the neighbourhood and raised money for the Senior Trip. We raised over a hundred and fifty dollars at this time, a testament to the inspiring quality of either the pan playing or the season (we like to think talent had something to do with it). We also held two sessions of Adult Workshops which were quite a success. Both the students and the teachers at this event had a great time. The girls of Linden are not the only talents in our community!

Thank-you so much to those of you who have contributed to our fundraising events. We also appreciate those who make a point of telling us that they enjoy our playing. It is rewarding to find people who are as excited about music as we are.



# Career Day

## *Career Day 2007, by Ina Székely*

Students in grades 7 – 12 were given their annual opportunity to listen to and speak with an impressively wide range of professionals on Wednesday, January 31st from 8:50 – 11:45 am. The day began aptly with a keynote address by Mark Franklin, a career consultant and radio show host, who posed several thoughtful questions for the students to consider in their exploration of possible careers. The morning's speakers included the following:

Samantha Munn, small animal veterinarian

Joseph Hoffman, international development

Janet Murchison, occupational therapist

Mark Franklin, career consultant and radio show host

Catherine Annau and Christa Singer, film and television producers

Jenni Huntly, midwife

Sylvia Fazzolari, Vice President—corporate and commercial banking

Susan Ruptash, architect

Jill Presser, criminal lawyer

John Duffy, public affairs consultant

Abby Simons, textile designer

Tracy Bierstock Wilder, client services—advertising

Emily White, lawyer (constitutional law)

Linda Wrong, environmental geologist

Judy Mungovan, lawyer (public policy)

Lesley Barber, film composer



We thank our speakers for the gift of their time and energy, and our extended Linden community for ensuring that Career Day continues to be successful year after year.



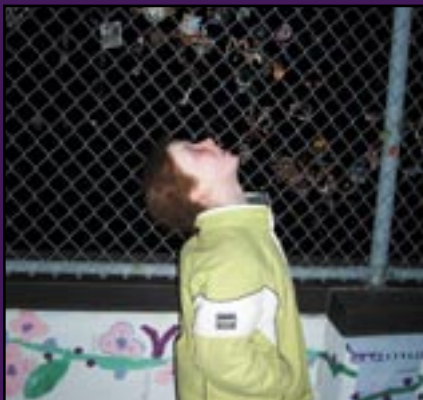
## ***Black History Month All-School***

The Linden students had the pleasure of having the Ijo Vudu African Dance Company come to an all-school in February to help celebrate Black History month. "Ijo Vudu", pronounced "ee-joh-vooodoo". means the "spirit in dance" from the Yoruba people in Africa. The artistic director Sani-Abu led a series of traditional dances and musical interludes for the enjoyment of the students and staff. The girls had an opportunity to learn and participate in some of the dances, as well.

The instructor explained that the drumming and the dances themselves each tell a story. It was a great way to learn about African culture and enjoy some great music at the same time. Ijo Vudu gave a powerful performance!



## ***Space Sleepover, by Soomin, Grade 6***



On February 23, the Grade 6 class had a space sleepover at school. It felt weird that I was still at school with my friends and with two teachers, Beth and Maureen. It was not an ordinary sleepover. It was fantastic because we got to do a class sleepover! When after-care was finished we ate our dinner, which was pizza. We called it "space pie". We also learned how astronauts eat in space. They need special food because there is almost no gravity when they leave Earth's atmosphere.

Next, we did some activities to learn the order of the solar system and also how far the planets are from one another. We also went up to the roof to see the actual constellations. I couldn't believe that I actually saw constellations we had learned about, like Orion! Before it was time to go to bed, we watched a movie called "Star Wars". It was more like a fun movie, but the story did discuss adventures in space.

The next morning we ate pancakes that Beth and Maureen made. We called them "Moon pancakes". After that we made glow in the dark magnets. It worked very well. It was a prize for each of us.



## *Create a City Project, by Nora and Katie, Grade 7*

During this chapter in geography, we have studied global warming and its effects. We were assigned the project of making our own city. We had to pretend that we were mayors of the city and explain how our city contributed to global warming and what our city could do to reduce the amount of fossil fuels being burned. We also had to show the location of our city on a world map using latitude. We had to do this project in order to demonstrate that we understood why the temperature was what it was and why the precipitation levels were what they were. We have learned that being close to a body of water and mountains affects the precipitation levels. We have also learned that altitude and a city's position relative to the equator affect the temperature. This was a very enjoyable project for all of us and, speaking for the class, we learned a lot while having fun.



## *Summer String Program Alert!*

This is a reminder for Linden string students and their parents. Once again I am running my Downtown Summer Strings Camp. The program is weekday mornings, exclusively in the month of July.

Session #1: July 3 to July 13  
Session #2: July 16 to July 27

We are located at Lord Lansdowne Public School, 33 Robert Street, near College and Spadina. Students arrive at 8:30AM for tuning and music begins at 9AM. Our high-energy morning concludes at noon.

For more information, flyers for DTSS will be on Nancy's desk.

## *Reminders:*

Grade 7 parents please join us on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 to 6:00pm for our information night. We will be discussing high school course options and more. PLUS! Stay and enjoy an evening of French Drama by our Grade 6, 7 and 8 students at 7:00pm. A full night packed with fun!

The **Annual Art Show** will be on May 3rd, 2007 from 6pm to 8pm.

## *Linden Summer Day Camp!*

The Linden Summer Camp will be back in June from the 15th-29th for girls in grades 1-6. Keep your eyes peeled for more information about our exciting program!

## *Our Earth, Our Planet, Our Homes, by Annabel, Grade 8*



By 2065 there will be no ice in the water around the Arctic. With this, higher ocean levels will arise, causing 40% of the world's population to move to higher ground. The human race seems to be turning a blind eye to global warming.

In a Globe and Mail poll, 78% of the people expressed that they did notice the effects of global warming and the same number said that they fear it will affect future generations. And yet these same people expect the government to deal with it. Can you imagine Toronto after it has lost 1/3 of its plant life? What will it take for us to open our eyes to see it is OUR problem?

Our government does need to act, but it will take more than a bit of melting ice to get it to take action. We need to take responsibility for our actions too. We should all make steps to help save our environment. Even a small percentage of people who change the way they live could make a world of difference.

David Suzuki, a famous environmentalist, says that to help reduce greenhouse emissions we should all drive hybrid cars. I would go even further to say that we should try to live without cars, altogether. You might say this is impossible, but I know it can be done. My family has lived without a car my whole life. My parents are not environmentalists, but they raised us and managed to find ways to conserve energy, recycle, use public transportation, and not affect or change our quality of life at all. For those who still insist on using cars, reducing usage by one time a week can shrink greenhouse emissions in Toronto by 15%.

We can all make a difference if we try. I do not mean that you should live in a house without electricity or without a car. If you can get one person to change by spreading the word about things like turning off unneeded lights or biking to school, it will make a big difference. It would be one less person living naïvely about their influence on global warming. It is important to have kids and parents talk about this subject because it is the generation of tomorrow that they are affecting.

## *Arts or No Arts: That is the Question! by Merrit, Grade 8*

Of 17 nations surveyed for science achievement in eighth- and ninth-graders, which nation do you think ranked first? The answer may surprise you. No, it is not the U.S., which actually ranked 14th. In fact, it was Hungary. The reason may also surprise you. Researchers believe it's because Hungary has one of the most intensive school music programmes in the world.

Many schools in North America are expanding time for math, science, and language studies by minimizing or eliminating time for the arts. By the arts I mean music, visual arts, dance, and drama. So-called reformers think that emphasis on academics will produce higher test scores and therefore more successful students. But, the research proves otherwise.

Many studies have shown that, on nearly every measure, students with high levels of arts participation -- whether music, dance, drama or visual arts -- outperform those who do not participate. As research has proven, learning occurs through the arts. And, as Kenneth Clark, a famous British historian claimed, civilizations will not be known by the book of their laws but rather by the book of their arts.



# Admission Update:



## Open House

April 13, 2007  
9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
Co-Principals' Presentation at 9:30 AM

## Admission Guidelines

Applications are invited for Grades 1 to 12.

Prospective families should:

- complete The Linden School application form with the non-refundable application fee.
- enclose copies of final school reports for the previous two years including any reports from the current year.
- request a teacher who has taught the applicant recently to complete and mail to us The Linden School's confidential reference form.

## Applicant Interviews

Once the application form is received, we will contact you to arrange a school visit and interview, and schedule the academic assessment.

## Academic Assessment

Students applying to Grades 4-12 are required to write The Linden School's academic assessment, which will be written on the same day as the admission interview, on weekdays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon.

## Contact Information

Email: [admissions@lindenschool.ca](mailto:admissions@lindenschool.ca)  
Tel: 416-966-4406  
Web: [www.lindenschool.ca](http://www.lindenschool.ca)



## Calendar of Events

For updates and permission forms, please visit:  
[www.lindenschool.ca](http://www.lindenschool.ca)

### APRIL 2007

- 3 Passover (no classes)
- 6 - 9 Good Friday and Easter Monday (no classes)
- 13 Open House 9:00 - 12:00 noon
- 16 Euclid Math Contest Gr. 12
- 18 Fryer ( Gr. 9 ) , Galois (Gr.10) Math contests
- 25 French Drama Night (Grades 9 - 12)
- 26 Grades 7 & 8 Take Your Daughter To Work Day
- 27 Breakfast with the new co-principals from 7:45 - 8:45 am, for parents of students in grades 1 - 7. Please R.S.V.P. by April 23 to [guidance@lindenschool.ca](mailto:guidance@lindenschool.ca)

### MAY 2007

- 3 Linden School Art Show, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
- 9 French Drama Grades 6,7,8, at 7:00 PM
- 16 Gauss Math Contest Gr. 7 & 8
- 21 Victoria Day ( no classes)
- 23 Senior Drama Evening at 7:00 PM

### JUNE 2007

- 5 - 12 End of Year Examinations Grades 7-12  
(Not all grades begin the same day)
- 6 Drama: Grade 1-5 at 4:00PM
- 11 Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony at 2:30
- 13 Celebration to Greet the Summer at 5:00 PM  
Lorraine Kimsa Theatre For Young People
- 14 Used Text Book Buy Back by Squibb's Stationers, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Linden Gym)
- 15 - 29 Summer Day Camp (Grades 1-6) 8:30- 5:00PM