



News from the Nest

November 13 - November 17 – Parent



Spotlight on Learning: Final Reflection

Student Choice Research Paper

Presented by: Courtney Irwin Hopaluk

Course: English 12



TEACHER REFLECTION: This assessment functioned as a final assessment as well as being a tool for deeper learning. The main core competencies meant to be a focus in this assessment were critical thinking & communication. Students were to pick a research topic of their choice, narrow it down, find credible & reliable sources, create notes based on their sources, create an essay outline, write a first draft with citations, build a works cited page, finalize a final copy of their paper (with proper formatting), and then turn in their paper. After handing in their paper, they prepare to present their topic and their findings in a group research panel, where they would address their peers, share about their research and answer questions. Lastly, students completed a self-reflection on the learning process. Students were guided through the research process, as it was chunked out, aspects were modeled to the class, worked on in small groups (such as peer editing). They were also provided explicit & direct criteria for all curricular expectations.

STUDENT REFLECTION: For the Final Research Paper and Presentation, I constructed an essay that displayed the core competencies of Creative and Critical Thinking. Being given the opportunity to choose our own topics for this assignment, it allowed me to express my creative and artistic expression through my writing. For this project, I chose to discuss an author, Dazai Osamu, and his incorporation of his life experiences within his literary works, such as *No Longer Human*, which discuss prevalent issues that reside within society. Speaking on this topic, I wanted to show that in literature, there are much more connections within the work and its author, and that personal experiences in life can affect what we write in these pieces. In accordance with Dazai Osamu, his own experiences with depression and self-alienation was displayed through his work through his creative tone and symbolism. Through this research topic, I was able to discuss these topics that individuals around me may experience in their own life. Understanding that, I was not only able to research on a topic that I found interest in, but I was also able to connect my own personal experiences to this literary piece. Additionally, being able to present my work through a panel presentation, it gave students a chance to present their works and reflect on their research through questions. I was able to display my research through expressing what my topic was about, and it created for more experience in the future, where panel presentations may become more prominent. Working on this project, I am also able to apply my new skills in creative thinking through future events where problems may arise in my work. I am grateful for the freedom in choosing my own topic, and it was able to display my growth in Creative and Critical Thinking within this English Studies 12 course.

RESPONSIBILITY

Taking responsibility means being accountable for your actions, your words and your obligations.

How it can look when put into action:

- Attending regularly and being on time.
- Admitting mistakes and making amends.
- Setting and pursuing goals; taking initiative for self-improvement
- Working diligently.
- Communicating clearly and honestly; listening carefully.
- Showing courage.
- Being persistent.
- Planning ahead and using time wisely.



Parent Evening Series

Together, the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) and the school district regularly host parent evening sessions. Intended to empower parents/caregivers with practical insights that can enhance their understanding and ability to guide their children through the complexities of today's world, we've partnered to bring in high-quality speakers and industry leaders for the 2023/24 school year.

Join us for our November parent evening series! This month's session will focus on Youth Substance Abuse.

- Date: November 27, 2023
- Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM
- Location: W.J. Mouat Secondary (32355 Mouat Drive)

Parents/caregivers will gain insights into the complex issue of youth substance abuse. Hosted by Regional Community Health Specialists from Fraser Health, Nicci Allen and Lindsey Butterworth will lead the discussion for attendees. This session aims to empower parents with knowledge, recognize early signs of youth substance abuse and learn practical strategies to support their children.

Your WJ Mouat Admin Team

Self-Care Mondays

November

November 20:

This week's self-care tip is about word searches as a brain break!!!

Several studies have shown that regular brain-breaks across the school day enhance students' cognitive functioning and ability to sustain focus. While these brain breaks take only a little amount of time in the classroom, the benefits of increased engagement and cognitive functioning have been shown to increase school performance significantly. All that to say, **BRAIN BREAKS HELP WITH LEARNING!**

So, on that note, try a Word Search as a brain break today!

Information:

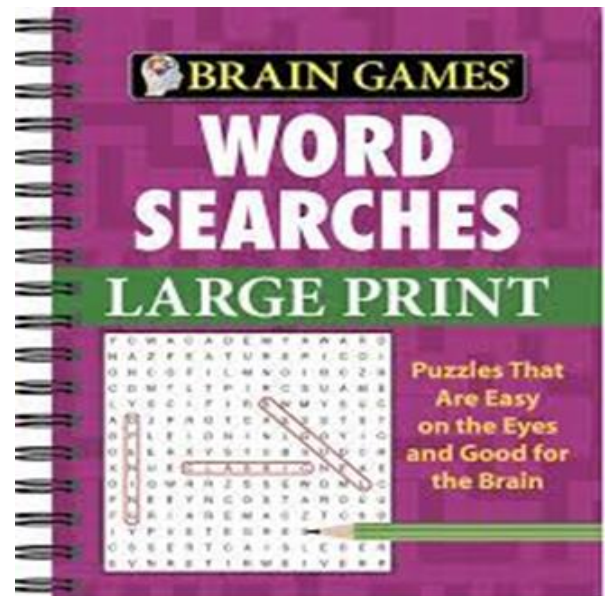
<https://www.edtechreview.in/trends-insights/insights/what-are-brain-breaks-why-is-it-necessary-for-students/>

Activity: Teachers, put it up on your screen. Take 5 minutes and try and locate the words.

<https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/183/fruits/>

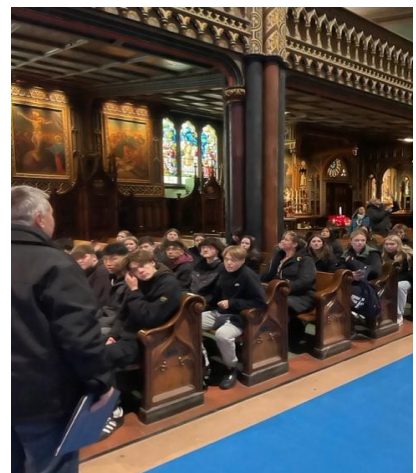
en français

<https://www.wordsearchwhiz.com/french/index.shtml>



Quebec Cultural Exchange

A group of 30 French Immersion had the opportunity to participate in French Canadian culture during a week long trip to Québec and Montréal. Students were able to explore many of Canadian's historical sites including infamous Notre-Dame-de-Montréal and le Château Frontenac. It was also an incredible experience for students to speak and hear the French Language throughout the entire week.



PAC Meeting

The next PAC meeting will be in the library learning commons this coming Monday, November 20 at 7 PM. All are welcome to attend.

Purdys Chocolate Fundraiser

If you are interested in knocking off some Christmas shopping, the music program has their Purdy's Christmas Fundraiser up and going now. There is an attachment with deadlines and delivery dates and more information.

If you are interested, follow this link to order: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1804766-112451>. You WILL have to make an account and pay online.

Coming Up Next Week
November 20- November 24
November is Hindu Heritage
Month

Monday, November 20

- ABCD
- Girls Volleyball Large Gym 3-7 pm
- PAC Meeting (7 to 8 pm)

Tuesday, November 21

- CDBA
- Girls Volleyball Large Gym 3-5 pm

Wednesday, November 22

- BADC
- Girls Volleyball Large Gym 3 - 7 pm

Thursday, November 23

- DCAB
- Girls Volleyball Large Gym – 3 – 5 pm

Friday, November 24

- ABCD
- SLO Day