ROSEDALE

ROSEDALE GLOBAL HIGH SCHOOL

ROSEDALE TIMES

• FIRST EDITION • MAY 2026 •

MY LIFE IN THE OSSD

A collection of student voices, experiences and creativity across the Rosedale community.



Artwork by:
Aisha Fayyaz Hariyan
NZHS, Indonesia

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Reflections from our classmates.

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ROSEDALE PRINCIPAL'S *Editorial*

Dear Students, Staff, Families, and Members of the Rosedale Global Community,

It is with immense pride and excitement that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of Rosedale's global community newspaper.

At Rosedale Global High School, education extends far beyond borders, time zones, and classrooms. Rosedale students and staff represent a vibrant international network united by a shared commitment to academic excellence, innovation, integrity, and global citizenship. Together, we are building more than an educational programme. We are cultivating a worldwide learning community where diverse voices and perspectives come together to create something truly remarkable!



Fernando Oliveira
Principal

This first edition of our school magazine, *My Life in the OSSD*, is a reflection of that journey. It captures the experiences, achievements, and daily realities of students pursuing the Ontario Secondary School Diploma from every corner of the world. It celebrates the dedication of our educators, the resilience of our learners, and the partnerships that make our school community so unique.

As Principal, I am continually inspired by the determination, creativity, and ambition demonstrated by our students and staff. Our community proves every day that excellence knows no geographic limits. Each learner's success story contributes to the collective strength of Rosedale's mission: empowering the next generation to lead with knowledge, empathy, and purpose.

As we turn the pages of this inaugural edition, l encourage you all to take pride in how far we have come together, and feel inspired by the limitless possibilities ahead.

LEARNING THROUGH COLLABORATION AND CONNECTION

By: Isis Gatti, CERM, Brazil

The academic environment at my school during the classes is very respectful and comfortable, and it transforms the process of learning into something easy and efficient. Class is not only about absorbing facts but truly learning the content and making connections that allow us to successfully understand the course concepts and the assignments. The core principles for me to approach this are:

- Active participation: during the classes everyone interacts, reading the content together and discussing the topics. That is very important to understand “why” it happens and different points of view.
- Communication and collaboration: my classmates and I are always helping each other, mostly before a test or an assignment.
- Time management: we set deadlines with our classroom teacher, which allows everyone to be prepared and comfortable with our projects.
- Academic research: we look forward to doing research about what we learn and how to apply those skills and situations on our daily basis and the global scenario.



In conclusion, having a successful academic development is not only about your performance and grades, but also the relationship between the students and the teacher, everyone being able to share their opinions and collaborating in the classes, managing the deadlines and looking forward to using our knowledge outside of the classroom as well. These strategies are the most used by me and my colleagues, which help us to develop academically and personally.

“CLASS IS NOT ONLY ABOUT ABSORBING FACTS BUT TRULY LEARNING THE CONTENT AND MAKING CONNECTIONS.”



A Life in Two Words - My OSSD Journey

By: Devmini Gayansa Dissanayake, AIBS, Sri Lanka

Stepping out of the comfort zone and focusing: this is what inspires my daily life and academic journey, but let me be honest, carrying a dual life is not so easy!

Like many Gen Zs, I am a night owl and waking up early morning is like a disaster. But to reach the campus on time I have to get up at 6 o'clock every morning. I start my day by getting ready in around twenty minutes and then catching the bus to university. The journey itself is part of my daily routine; watching the streets come alive while listening to the upbeat of songs in my playlist and mentally preparing myself for the rest of the day.

From 8.30 in the morning to 4:30 in the evening, it's lectures. But campus life, for me, is not just about the academics. It's about the people. It's about the laughter I share with my friends, the small conversations between classes, and the moments that make even the busiest days enjoyable. Those moments remind me that learning is not only about books, it's about the connections built to last a lifetime.

By the time I head home, the day is already half spent. After a long bus ride back, I take a moment to reset, a hot shower, a deep breath, and then something I value the most: time with my family. For two to three hours, I step away from all the work and simply exist as a daughter and a sister. Whether we're talking, laughing or just sitting together, those moments mean everything to me.



Photograph by:
Zihan Yang, SHEN, China



Photograph by:
Mickaya Raside Nantenaina ,
ESAM, Madagascar

A Month of AI, Integrity & Real-World Impact

Academic Integrity Month - April 2026

Rosedale Global High School students and staff explored what it means to be truly AI-ready, building the skills, ethics, and confidence to use AI responsibly.

WHAT WE DID, WEEK BY WEEK:

Click each week to learn more

For Students!

WEEK 1
AI Literacy Explorer
Students learned the fundamentals of AI.

WEEK 2
Prompt-a-Thon
Teams solved real-world problems with AI.

For Teachers!

WEEK 3
Educator Webinar
Staff explored AI-ready teaching.

WEEK 4
AI Prompt Library
A curated prompt library for all.

🏆 Challenge Winners

Congratulations to our Prompt-a-Thon winners!

Samuel Beltrán Medin & Isabela Sofía Ruiz Romero

CCLT, Mexico

Proposed a River Conservation Alliance to address pollution in the Mololoa River, Mexico, combining their own critical thinking with AI powered-research.

AI Guidebook
See their idea creation process!

Final Presentation
View their full solution

Honourable Mentions

Click to view each final solution

Zihan (Yumi) Yang
SHEN, China
Reducing Procrastination in Students

Oghomwen Gloria Osunde & Daniella Oji Ngofa, MEAD,Nigeria
Reducing Waste at School

Shana Terry Tumba & Goodnews Onwusoro, MEAD, Nigeria
Combating Poor Time Management

Frederico Vidigal Simon, SPBS, Brazil
Created NudgeBuddy, an AI writing companion to sharpen student thinking

TRY IT NOW

We received so many creative & inspiring ideas. Thank you to **all participating teams**. You are now one step-closer to becoming an AI-Ready Graduate!

We look forward to **Academic Integrity Month 2027!**

Beyond The Screen: My Journey in OSSD

By Kyle Xorseli Kwaku Dovi, BCCO, Ghana

The decision to enter Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) program was not only a change of curriculum but also a change of identity. My past academic life involved being a passenger.
Today, I am the pilot.

The burden of the OSSD is it's responsibility. My work ethic has been redefined by the 70/30 grading system, whereby most of my success is gained through daily routine and not last-minute cramming. It has made me realize that genius comes second to practice. During the early morning at my workstation, working on intricate modules and international discussion rooms, I have learned to deal with the hardest person I will ever have to lead, and that is myself. The borderless perspective is the peculiarity of this journey.

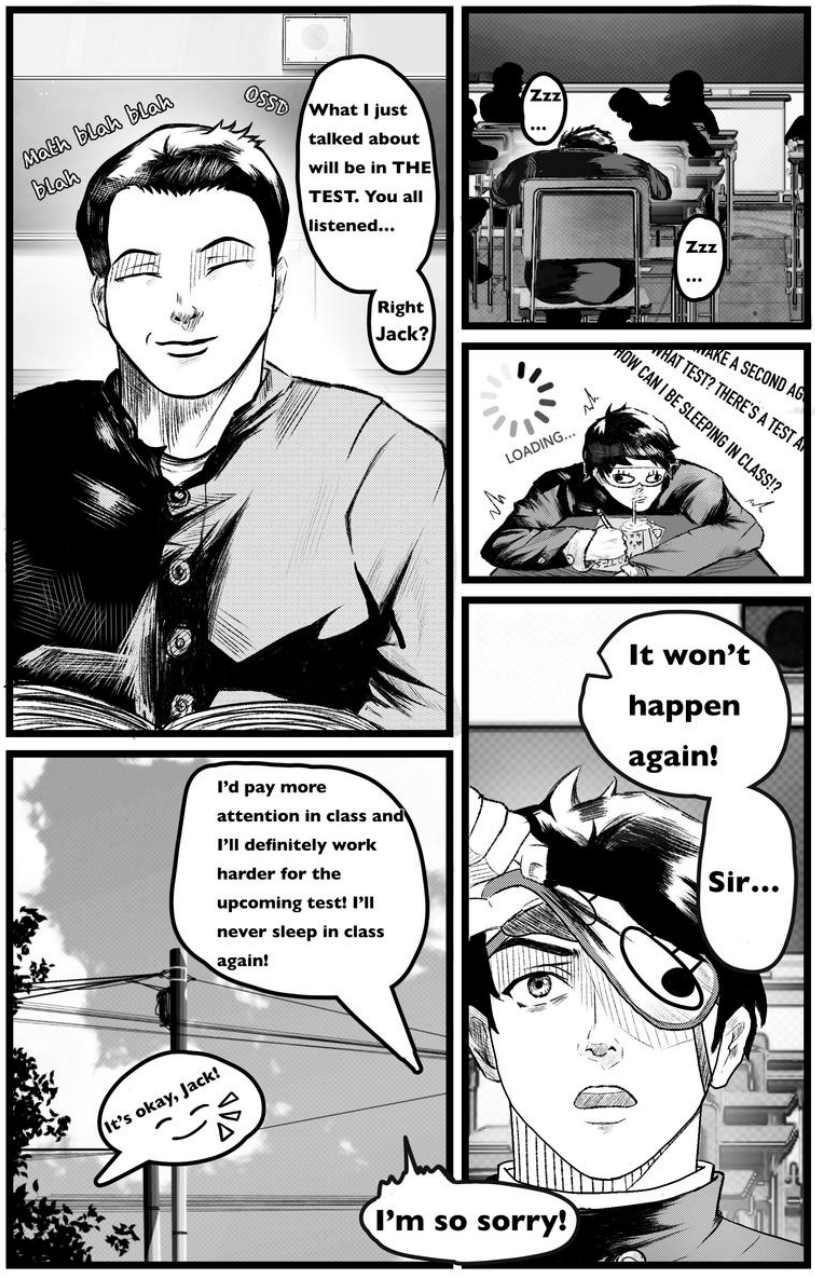
I do not have four walls in my classroom, but I have a global criterion of greatness. I am not only learning how to pass a test, but I am also learning how to analyze, how to criticize, and how to communicate in a manner that is not limited to my local community. The OSSD was a selection of a standard of excellence.

It has not been that easy all the time, yet the grit I have acquired is much more beneficial than the diploma itself. I am not simply getting a qualification, I am constructing the intellectual infrastructure of an international future.

One nap, one test, and one very important lesson

By Yihan Chen, SHEN, China

Note From the Artist: The picture tells the story of my friend accidentally falling asleep for five minutes in math class because he studied too late the previous night.



Media Arts Room Tour

By: Sonia Mosi Oguzi,
MEAD, Nigeria



Finding Success as an OSSD Student

By Chan Nyein Linn , ACIS, Myanmar

Being a student in the OSSD program has taught me that success does not come from studying longer, but from studying smarter.

One of my biggest challenges was time management, especially while adjusting to the OSSD online learning platform (LMS). At first, I found it confusing to keep track of assignments, deadlines, and course materials. Everything required more independence and self-discipline, which made me feel overwhelmed and unsure of how to organize my time effectively. To overcome this, I started creating a simple study schedule for myself. I usually study in the evening from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., and I divide this time between different subjects. This helps me
stay organized and ensures that I make progress in all my courses.
Another strategy that works well for me is breaking my study time into shorter, focused sessions. Instead of studying for hours without rest, I study for around 40 to 50 minutes and then take a short break. This method helps me maintain my concentration and prevents mental fatigue.

I also make sure to learn from the feedback given by my teachers after each assignment. Instead of only looking at my grades, I carefully read their comments and try to understand my mistakes. This helps me improve my
future work and develop better study strategies.

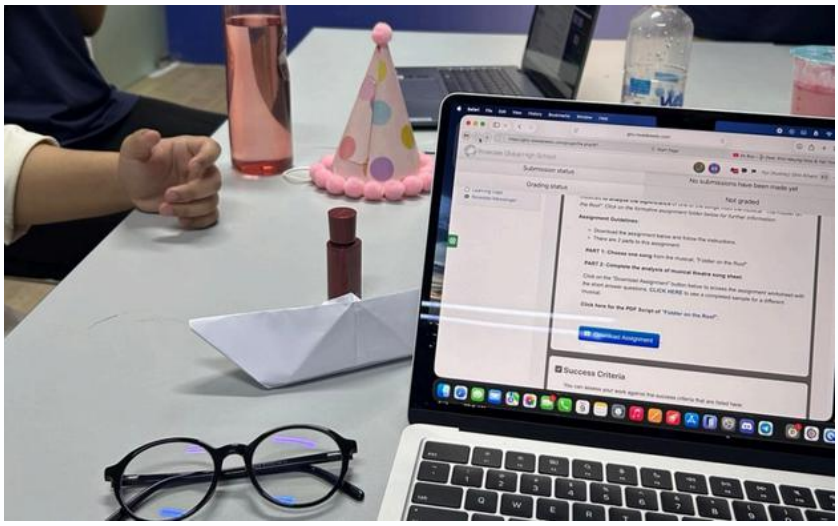
Finally, I make an effort to learn from my mistakes. Whenever I get a question wrong, I take time to understand the reason behind it. This helps me avoid repeating the same mistakes and improves my overall understanding.

By developing a routine, practicing consistently, and learning from feedback, I was able to adjust and improve. This experience has taught me that success takes time, but with consistency and effort, it is achievable.

The Heart of the Class

By: Kyi Shin Khant, ACIS, Myanmar

This is us! No textbooks, no deadlines —just a lot of laughter and a very intense game of Exploring Kittens.
This is the best part of my OSSD journey: the people I'm doing it with. We're more than just classmates; we're the team that gets each other through the long weeks.





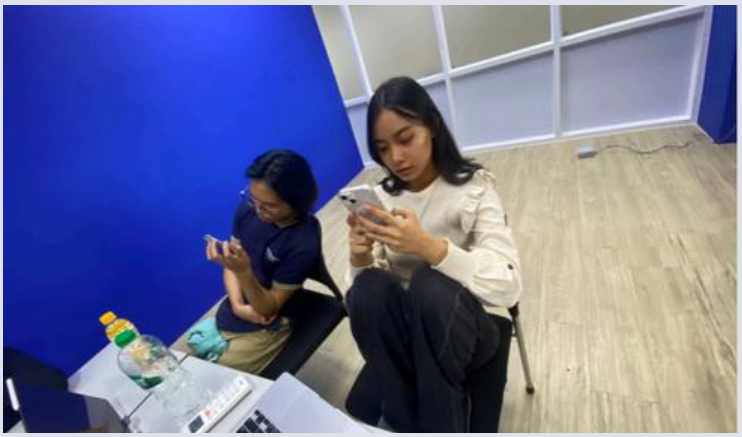
Where My Big Ideas Happen

There's something so peaceful about a rainy afternoon at my favorite café with my bestfriend.
Between the smell of fresh coffee and the hum of the city, tackling my assignments feels less like 'homework' and more like a personal mission.



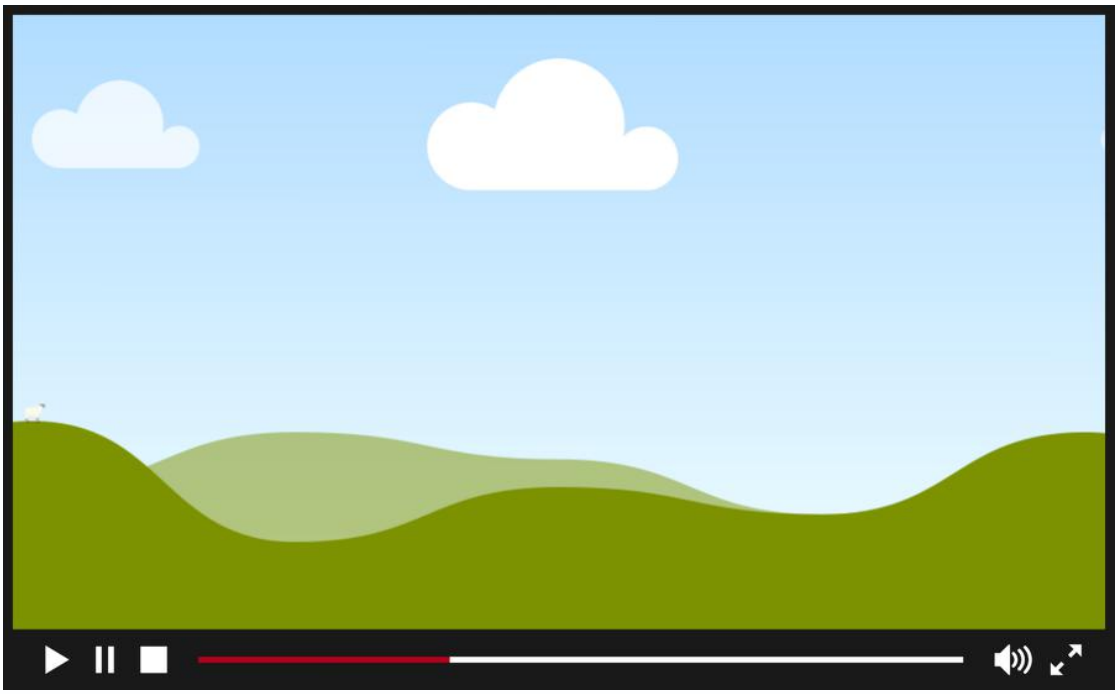
Just Being Us?

The best kind of friendship is when you can just sit in silence. After a long day of classes, we're usually found like this—just scrolling, recharging, and being in our own worlds, but always right next to each other. It's the simple, quiet moments that feel the most like home.



Rosedale Guidance Corner

Introducing BridgeU



BridgeU is a university and career exploration platform, designed for international students **just like you!**

BridgeU can help you:

- **Explore** and learn about worldwide universities
- **Discover** career pathways that fit YOUR interest, grades and goals
- **Plan** for YOUR future in Canada, the UK, Australia, or wherever you'd like to go!

Why You'll Love It

- Find university and program matches that fit **you!**
- See how **your** interests connect to real careers!
- Explore global opportunities with tools made just for **you!**

Ready to map out your future adventure?

CLICK TO CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT AND START EXPLORING!

CCLT Campus Video Tour!

By: Regina Gutiérrez Gallegos & Alonso Eduardo Acevedo Avalos, CCLT, Mexico



OSSD Study Tips

By Valentina Franco, IPNT, Brazil

Have you ever burned out and felt like everything was useless?
That used to happen a lot to me, I studied 5-6 hours per day, went to bed almost the time that I had to wake up, I could barely watch one class at school without sleeping and all of this happened because I didn't know how to work efficiently.

That's when I decided something had to change, otherwise frustration would engulf me....I did four things, so I could study less, but still understand the content, and get good grades.

The **first thing** was to pay attention to every single class, get involved in it, take notes and make questions to your teacher.

The **second thing** is, take a quick review as soon as you get home based on what you had at the day. As you took notes, and paid attention, you knew exactly what the teacher wanted you to know about it.
The **third thing** was to understand the teacher's test, the way the subject is taught, and doing exercises every day.
And the **last thing** I did was to abandon the habit of using all my free time at the cellphone, once you stop spending so much time in it, you'll see that your brain will absorb things more easily, you won't struggle to understand certain things, you'll notice how much more focused and productive you become.

I know how exasperating it is to give the best of yourself and still, don't get the results you felt you deserved. I've been in this place, but once I understood that I can't sacrifice my health, my sanity, or my sleep, but I also couldn't give up on studying, I started studying wisely.
Success doesn't come from how many hours you work, success comes from the power of working productively.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN OSSD STUDENT

By: Kyawt Hmue Eain, ACIS, Myanmar

As an OSSD student, I sometimes feel stressed because there are many assignments, deadlines, and exams to handle. Managing everything at the same time can be challenging. However, even with the pressure, my school life has been a meaningful and enjoyable experience.



My classmates play a big role in making school life enjoyable. Whether we are studying together or simply chatting during breaks, these moments make stressful days feel lighter. Sometimes we even play UNO together, which always turns into a lot of laughter and friendly competition. We also enjoy playing badminton during our free time, which helps us relax and have fun together



School is also more than just academics. We have opportunities to join activities that help us relax and discover our interests. I also enjoy spending time playing the piano with my friends, because music helps me feel calm and focused. In addition, clubs like Art Club and Science Club allow students to explore creativity and curiosity beyond the classroom.

Another memorable moment in my school life was celebrating our ENG3U teacher's birthday together as a class. It was a simple celebration, but it made our classroom feel like a small community. Moments like that remind me that school is not only just about grades but also about building connections and creating memories.



One of the things I feel most proud of during my OSSD journey is becoming more independent. Before, managing schoolwork and personal time was difficult for me. But through this experience, I have improved my time management skills and learned how to balance studying, activities, and relaxation. Looking back, my life as an OSSD studentis full of challenges, but also growth and happiness.



The friendships, activities, and experiences I have at school make every day meaningful. Even though the journey can be stressful, it is also helping me grow into a more confident and responsible person.

STUDENT ART SPOTLIGHT

Falling Into *Learning*

A STUDENT'S JOURNEY THROUGH SCHOOL LIFE



Illustration by:
Alanys Camila Huerta Castaneda
CCLT, Mexico

My Life as an OSSD Student

By: Zihan (Yumi) Yang, SHEN, China

Before I joined OSSD, I thought all school systems were pretty much the same. Since I had studied in an American curriculum before, I expected OSSD to be similar. But I soon realized that it is quite different in some ways. After experiencing both, I think both systems have their strengths, but for me, OSSD gives me more flexibility with my time.



One thing that stood out to me is how much students are encouraged to speak and share their ideas. In the past, I was used to just listening in class and following instructions. Now, I try to express my opinions and join discussions more often. My classmates and teachers are very friendly, which gradually made me feel more comfortable speaking in class. At the beginning, my teacher even gave me some chocolate when she noticed I was too nervous to speak. This small act of kindness really encouraged me, and over time, I became more confident.

Another difference is how we are evaluated. Instead of depending only on one final exam, we are graded based on assignments, projects, and daily work. This makes learning feel less stressful, because one mistake does not decide everything. It also gives me more control over my time compared to my previous experience. I also noticed a big change in myself, especially in Grade 11. The courses became harder, and I had more work to manage. I used to procrastinate a lot and leave everything until the last minute. But slowly, I started to plan my time better. Even though I still work slowly, I try to stay consistent and keep making progress. Compared to before, this is a big change for me.

Besides academics...teachers often organize activities for us outside of class to help us relax and connect with each other. For example, every autumn, we go on a one-day trip to Qipanshan, a well-known scenic area in our city. During the trip, we take part in team-based games where everyone has a role. Some students are chosen to be the team leader,some are responsible for safety, and others carry the team flag.

These activities are not just for fun—they help us learn how to work together, communicate, and take responsibility. I still remember how we had to cooperate to complete tasks, and how everyone contributed in their own way. Moments like this make school life more meaningful and help us build real teamwork and leadership skills.

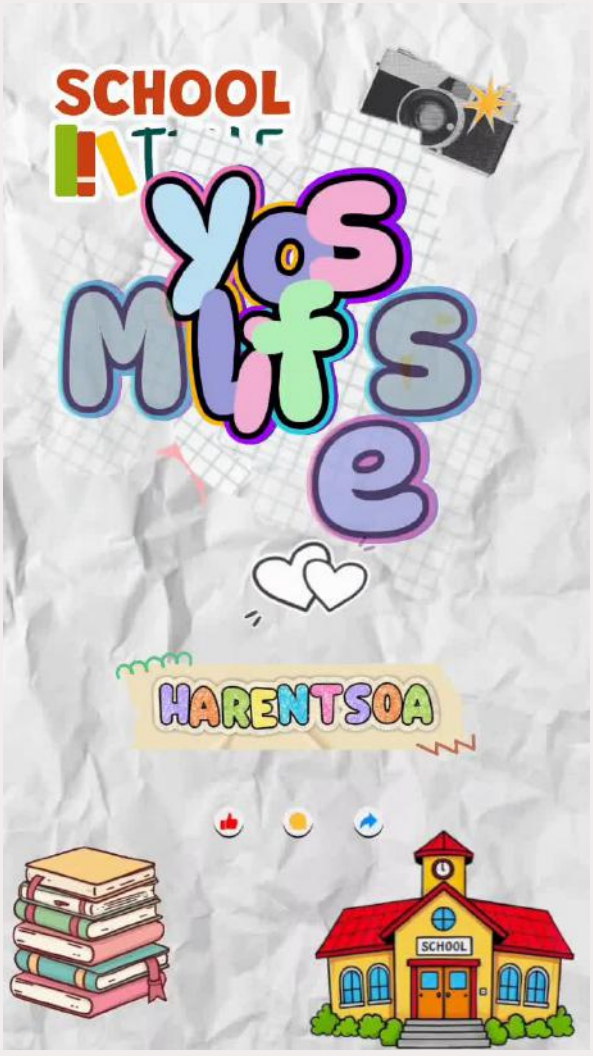
In addition, our school organizes charity events where we raise money for causes that need support. Last year, we raised funds and donated all of the money to an organization for children with autism. Participating in this event made me feel like I was contributing to something meaningful, and it taught me empathy and social responsibility. We also have annual school parties and performances, where students showcase their talents, perform skits, and celebrate together. These events create a sense of community and make school life lively and memorable.

Overall, what makes OSSD different is not just the way we study, but how we grow as students. For me, OSSD fits me better because it allows me to manage my time more effectively. It may not be perfect, but it is real, and it is helping me improve step by step.

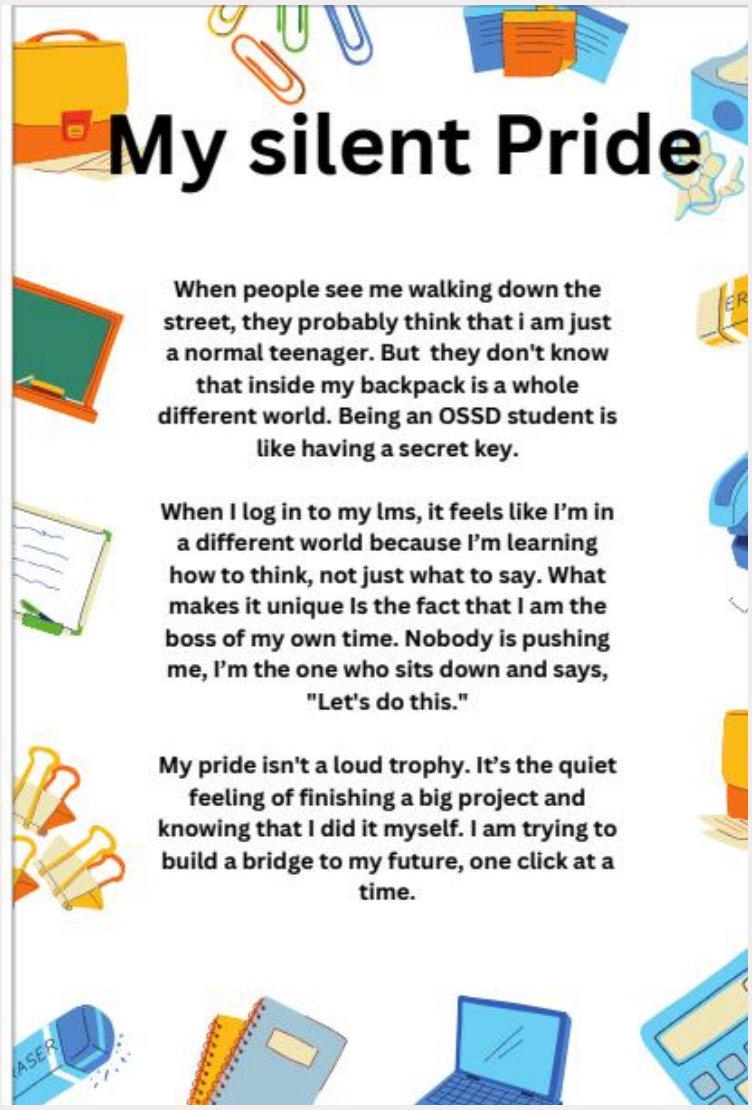


Student Multimedia Showcase

By: Harentsoa Yasirah Rakotondrabe, ESAM, Madagascar



By Fatima Tuz Zohra, OAKW, Zimbabwe



Media Arts Room!

By: Bisike Makai Okelola MEAD, Nigeria



The Lessons OSSD Taught Me Beyond the Classroom

By Yoon Thiri Zaw, AICM, Myanmar

When the topic of "school" is brought into the room, all we can think of are piled-up assignments, complicated math concepts, or even our sneaky little talks in class. But what if I say school is beyond that — would you believe me? From my perspective as a student, OSSD is not all about subject lessons and tight schedules; it offers more than what you may perceive.

Racing against time to submit an assignment worth 10% has motivated me to strengthen my time management skills. Additionally, participating in multiple community service activities for my credits has widened my perspective. It has developed my social skills and personal eagerness to do work that benefits others rather than myself.

Furthermore, English assignments involving research have further enhanced my online research skills. Even after the OSSD programme, I can continue using these useful skills in my university years to read and gain knowledge from reliable and appropriate websites.

The OSSD programme has taught me not to cram for any subjects, especially the Sciences. This notion has contributed positively to my future university years, which similarly last approximately ten months per academic year. By avoiding cramming and reviewing each day's lessons, I can strive to achieve better results.

Last but not least, taking part in various school clubs such as the arts and music clubs has taught me how to balance academics with extracurricular activities. Participating in clubs not only serves as an escape from stress, but also enhances my personal development overall.

"My journey in OSSD is not just about academics; it has taught me skills that will last a lifetime."

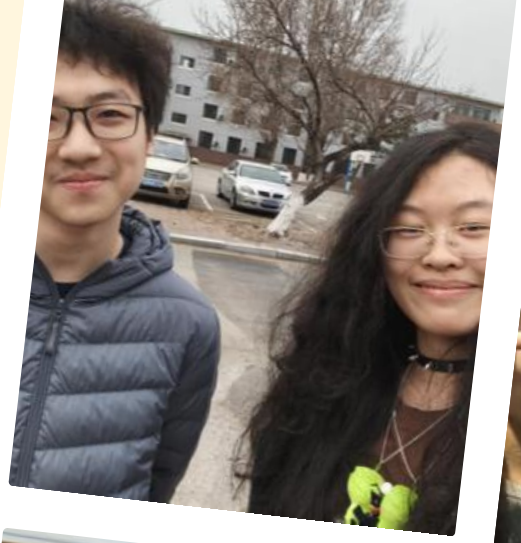
So you see, my journey in OSSD is not just about academics; it has taught me various skills that will contribute to a better "me" in the future — not just for a year or two, but for a lifetime.

How the OSSD Changed my School Life

By Matsilo Dorvan Andrianambinintsoa, ESAM, Madagascar

Today I am going to talk about my school life,the things that make me proud in the OSSD and what make the OSSD experiment good. My school life is like everyone else's school life, it's just a little less interesting. I just go to school and study.

The OSSD made my uninteresting school life more interesting because now I have something to risk. Like now I need to think about universities and if I fail in the OSSD program I fear my plans to be destroyed. I feel proud of planning my life and I am also proud of the risk that the OSSD give.





Yihan Chen,
SHEN, China



My school life is quite basic, but I like it as that. I take care to study diligently and I enjoy my time with my friends.







One of my favorite day, The Rodeo Party!

This day I did a choreography with the kids that we took days to make, I was proud when we performed it.



The Christmas show!

We organized this event for financing our field trip. It ws tiring, we worked a lot, but we mostly enjoyed.



Marine Sephora Rasolofonirina,
ESAM, Madagascar

My Life in the OSSD: A Global Classroom Experience

By Nelson Ochieng , BCCO, Ghana

The life of an OSSD student is challenging and exciting. I combine assignments, discussions, and independent studies every day and have become more responsible and disciplined. The OSSD program has provided me with one of the most important skills of being able to manage my time and study at my own pace unlike the traditional classrooms where I have no choice but to follow the schedule set by the school.



On a normal day, I finish reading the notes, do coursework, and check the grading teacher's feedback. Although it is virtual learning, I still have a sense of belonging to a global community of students. It also makes me work hard and strive to attain more when I know that I am studying the same curriculum as students in Canada.

As a Kenyan, I would say the best aspect that I am most proud of is that I have tremendously enhanced critical thinking and communication skills. The tasks also promote innovation and practice, which makes the learning process more significant. I have also been taught how to organize and keep track of deadlines which will be very helpful in university and other areas. I remember at first, I would miss deadlines and cry so hard when the grades go down and since I was very new to the system I slowly learned my lesson and adapted to it.



The fact that I am an OSSD student in my country puts me in a very special position. I have the chance to merge my experiences in the area with an international one and think on a global scale without losing touch with the community.

In general, my OSSD experience is making me a more assertive, self-reliant, and future-oriented student. It is not just about a diploma that you earn in this experience, rather, it is about equipping yourself with the opportunities that are available all over the world.

My Student Life

By Nhyune Thadar Loon, AICS, Myanmar

When I first started OSSD at Rosedale Global High School, everything felt heavy and overwhelming. My screen was always filled with assignments, deadlines felt too close, and I often sat there not knowing where to start. I struggled a lot because the workload was so unfamiliar, and time seemed to slip away from me so easily.

I still remember the sinking feeling when I failed my first ENG3U assignment. My heart dropped, and for a moment, I just stared at the result, feeling disappointed and lost.

But instead of giving up, I pushed myself to try again. I stayed up later, planned my time better, and slowly, things began to change. Now, my ENG3U grade is 96%, and it feels like proof that all that effort was worth it.

OSSD at Rosedale Global High School has taught me more than just lessons. It has taught me how to manage my time, stay strong when things get hard, and keep going even when I feel like I can't. It feels like it's preparing me for the real world beyond school.

Through it all, I'm really grateful for my classmates and teachers. Their support made the stressful days feel a little lighter, and this journey feel a lot less lonely.

STUDENT CREATIVE CORNER

Siren

You once called me a scum, a parasite, a dope,
Afraid to be what you scorn, I toiled through sleepless nights,
Now with proud strides and grades unsoiled by slope,
You hide, you're mute, you erased yourself from my sight.

I wonder how, for grades, friends become foes.
When did mere numbers split us into high and low?
When shall we learn no soul withstands life's woes—
We all age, grow frail, yield to those who grow

Grades are like Sirens calling from the shore,
Their haunting songs entice us to the fight.
We bleed and strive, yet still they yearn for more,
So, I sailed on, preserving my pride and right.

For I know Sirens' songs aren't the only gems;
Outside, there's Nightcore, Mili, and the beats of Eminem.

> *Grades are like Sirens calling from the shore.*

Written By
Qianyu Wang
BJLZ, China

BEYOND THE COMMENTS

Meet the Grading Teachers behind your feedback

Mr. Tory Cable

Lead Math Teacher
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

I'm passionate about education and supporting student growth, and I really value helping others learn and develop. I'm a huge sports fan who loves both playing and watching, especially hockey, soccer and volleyball (I'm a big fan of Haikyuu!!). I also follow hockey closely (cheering for the Colorado Avalanche to win the cup this year), and I'm especially excited for the World Cup as it will be in Canada this summer. I enjoy spending time with my dog, Dudley, a big blind standard poodle who's basically my sidekick. I even dressed up with him as the "three blind mice" for Halloween.

I love playing video games of all kinds; I'm currently looking forward to the new Diablo IV seasons and still playing League of Legends (always up to play an ARAM with my friends).
I try to travel as much as I can and one of my favorite experiences recently was snowboarding in Banff at Lake Louise Ski Resort, which was one of my first times tackling a big mountain.



Snowboarding in Banff, Alberta



Halloween as "The Three Blind Mice" with Dudley

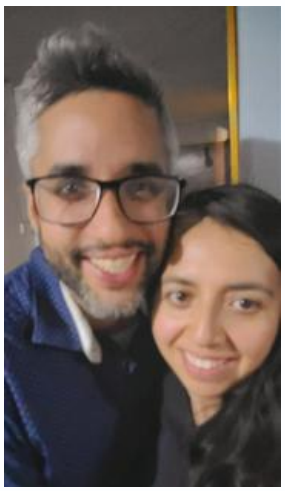
Mr. Jaymon Gomez

Physics and ESL Teacher
Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

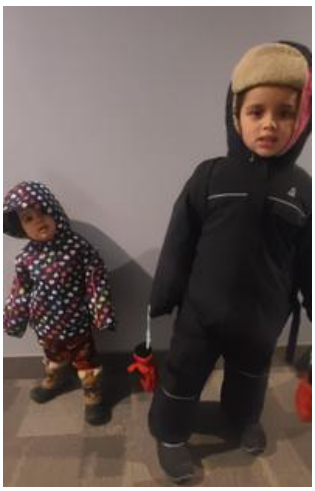
My name is Jay Gomez, I'm a big fan of music, video games, and film. I'm married to my wife Denisse, and we have two young daughters, Emily and Lily. Denisse is from Mexico, so I speak a bit of Spanish, although I understand more than I can speak.

Musically, I'm all over the place. I'll listen to almost anything if it sounds good, especially metal, electronic, pop, rap, and jazz, though country isn't really my thing. I'm also really into horror movies, with favourites like The Thing and The Empty Man.

I grew up gaming on the Super Nintendo Entertainment System, so I love platformers and pixel art games. Mega Man X is one I could play endlessly, but I also enjoy modern games on PC and PS4.
When it comes to Canada, I keep it simple. I like making snowmen, doing snow angels, and enjoying the winter. And of course, you have to try Tim Hortons and some classic poutine.



Mr. Jaymon and wife



Mr. Jaymon's Children



Classic Poutine at Smoke's Poutinerie

BEYOND THE COMMENTS

Meet the Grading Teachers behind your feedback

Mr. Calden Gibson

English Teacher
North Bay, Ontario, Canada

My name is Mr. Gibson, and I live in North Bay, Ontario. If you had the chance to read *Indian Horse* in ENG3U, you would recognize it from there!

Living in northern Ontario means dealing with snow for almost half the year. This year, we received almost 300cm of snow over the course of the winter. Many of the freshwater lakes here freeze over the winter, too. When winter comes around this year, I'd love to try ice fishing!



Lake Nipissing, Ontario



Mr. Ibrahim Etreki

Science Teacher
Laselle, Ontario, Canada

Hi everyone, my name is Ibrahim Etreki, I'm from Canada and I enjoy traveling and sightseeing, especially visiting new places and spending time outdoors. Some of my favorite activities are hiking, swimming, feeding the ducks and birds in my backyard.

I also love stopping by Tim Hortons for a small black coffee and an old fashioned donut. I am happy to be here and look forward to connecting with everyone!

Mr. Stefano Vacca

Business and Social Science Teacher
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Hobbies: Listening and playing music, painting, watching sports (I am a fan of Arsenal FC and the Toronto Blue Jays), going for walks

Scholarly advice: Enjoy and embrace each step/stage of the academic journey (assignments, lectures, exams, meeting new colleagues and instructors, etc). Remember to balance school with life and leisure

Fun Canadian things: I enjoy Tim Hortons and winter events/carnivals are usually enjoyable experiences if they're not too cold.



Rogers Center, Home of the Blue Jays, Toronto, Ontario

BEYOND THE COMMENTS

Meet the Grading Teachers behind your feedback

Ms. Shelby Bereczki

English Teacher
St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada

Hello everyone, Mrs. Bereczki here! I am excited for summer to start, and for the flowers to begin to bloom! I have been spending my free time gardening, playing with my cats Lily and Ozzie, and learning new and interesting things!

I am a bit obsessed with skill toys, and so in this nicer weather I have been spending a lot of time soaking up the sun outside and playing Kendama, juggling, and spinning poi. Growing up, I did not consider myself someone who had any hand-eye coordination, so these hobbies have been a fun challenge, and they've really taught me that you can develop any kind of skill as long as you take the time to practice it!

Recently I've been really into juggling, and I've been teaching myself new juggling tricks -- just in case the circus stops by and is missing a clown. :o) I've also challenged myself to learn how to ride a skateboard this summer. That challenge is going well, skateboarding is so much fun! It's also a lot more painful to learn than juggling; I've gotten a couple scrapes and bruises.

Maybe by next summer, I will be able to juggle and ride a skateboard at the same time! Dangerous and thrilling!



Ms. Shelby's cats, Lily (left) and Ozzie (right). With Lily, you can see some skill toys. The wooden ball/cup is Kendama, and the balls are for juggling.







Ms. Payal Goyal

Lead Science Teacher
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Based in Hamilton, I enjoy visiting Niagara Falls regularly with my family, often connecting its natural beauty to my love for science. Outside the classroom, I enjoy traveling, reading fiction and science journals, and recently began learning faux calligraphy.

I also like celebrating Halloween, which is one of Canada's most exciting festivals! My son Aarnav, now in Grade 9, especially enjoys dressing up... can you guess his costume from last year?

As both a teacher and a parent, I encourage students to stay curious, keep learning, and trust their growth; both in school and beyond.

Enjoy some pictures of Niagara Falls and Aarnav's Halloween look!

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