



October 19, 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The purpose of this newsletter is to share information with you on a regular monthly basis so you and your teenager are aware of what is happening in their final year at Caledonia.

When is graduation?

The **GRADUATION CEREMONY** is scheduled for June 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the R.E.M. Lee theatre. Dual credit students and students who have met the requirements for their diploma will be able to walk across the stage and receive their diploma. The ceremony will be streamed on YouTube for family members and friends unable to attend the ceremony.

With Caledonia staff support, a **GRADUATION RECEPTION** will take place in our gym on June 14, 2024 from 5:30 PM – 6:30PM. The reception is open to family members and friends.

Who gets to graduate?

Throughout the school year students may request an update from their school counsellor (Ms. Shinde or Ms. Chant) to confirm they are on track to graduate. Students must have completed or in progress of completing their requirements for graduation to be eligible to graduate. If a student has not completed **50% of a required online course by April 12, 2024** (end of Term 3), then the student will be removed from the graduation list.

What are the fees for Graduates?

There are two fees to be paid, a ceremony fee and a dry grad fee. These two fees can be paid in the main office using cash, debit machine, or cheque (payable to Caledonia Secondary School).

The **CEREMONY FEE is \$120** and covers the basic expenses associated with the graduation celebration (diploma and cover, souvenirs, reception, grad cap, gown and stole rental). Students who pay their CEREMONY FEE before March 1, 2024 will receive a \$10 discount. The last day to pay the CEREMONY FEE to attend the graduation ceremony is April 12, 2024 (end of Term 3).

The **DRY-GRAD FEE is \$40** and covers all the expenses associated with the dry grad celebration event that happens after the graduation ceremony.

Students not planning on participating in the graduation ceremony may pay a **PARTIAL FEE** to receive some of the grad items such as the diploma booklet and souvenirs. If the two fee payments are a problem for any graduate, they can speak to me to make arrangements for assistance.

What do Graduates wear to the graduation ceremony?

Caledonia graduates usually wear blue gowns with white stoles and blue caps. These items will be pre-ordered based on information each graduate provides. Any student may decide to wear traditional cultural clothing instead of the blue gown.

How many guests can attend the graduation ceremony at the R.E.M. Lee theatre?

The size of the Class of 2024 determines the number of tickets each graduate can receive for the ceremony. Each graduate is given three tickets indicating assigned seating with the possibility of extra tickets if they become available. If a guest has special mobility needs such as a wheelchair or walker or difficulty with stairs please indicate this on the grad response form.

What happens after the graduation ceremony?

There will be a **DRY GRAD** celebration following the graduation ceremony on June 14, 2024. This event is organized and sponsored by a group of parent volunteers for the class of 2024 graduates. Graduates must submit to the main office a consent form along with the DRY GRAD FEE (\$40). For more information about the dry grad event contact the **DRY GRAD CHAIRPERSON Amanda Hartman (2024caledoniagrad@gmail.com)**.

What is Prom? When is Prom?

Prom is a parent run event with its own committee of parent volunteers. Tickets to the Prom will be sold in the spring. For more information about this event please contact the **PROM CO CHAIRS Andrea Komlos (akomlos@telus.net) and Melita Kriegl (melitab@hotmail.com)**. The Prom event is scheduled for June 8, 2024 at the Terrace Sportsplex (time to be determined).

When are grad portraits taken?

This year Life Touch Photography will be taking individual photos of graduates at Caledonia in the Caledonia Lecture theatre located upstairs outside of class times from November 27-December 8, 2023. Retakes will be February 20-23, 2024. You can start booking your grads appointment on November 6th online. Please use this link, **www.schedule.prestigeportraits.ca** to schedule your appointment. More information will be sent home as we receive it. Students may enter the building through the side door of the staff parking lot near portable #23. It is possible for students to arrange their own photographer and borrow graduation clothing from the main office for a **RENTAL FEE of \$50** and a refundable **DAMAGE DEPOSIT FEE of \$100**.

Does fundraising happen for the Class of 2024?

Yes. The Grad Committee's fundraising activity this year will be selling Purdy's Chocolates for Christmas. Proceeds from the Purdy's sales will support grade 12 Caledonia scholarships and the cost of school sponsored activities for the graduates not connected to the CEREMONY FEE / DRY GRAD FEE. The top three students with Purdy's sales will be exempt from paying their CEREMONY FEE (\$120 value).

What is the Grad Committee?

The **GRAD COMMITTEE** is an extra-curricular group of grade 12 students who organize activities throughout the school year specifically for the Class of 2024 graduates with planning assistance from Caledonia staff sponsors Ms. Braid and Ms. Shinde. This committee meets on an ongoing basis.

What is the Grad Response Form?

This form accompanies payments made for the **CEREMONY FEE and the DRY-GRAD FEE at the main office**. This form asks each graduate to indicate the name they want printed on the diploma that is given to them when they walk across the stage. Graduates also indicate on the form their T-shirt size and ticket preferences for the graduation ceremony.

CALEDONIA GRAD RESPONSE FORM

1. Do you plan on attending this year's graduation ceremony on June 14th, 2024 at 7PM in the R.E.M. Lee theatre?

_____ YES I will be attending the ceremony _____ NO I will NOT be attending

2. Please indicate below the name that you want to appear on your diploma.
Print clearly to show upper-case and lower-case letters as well as spacing.

3. Indicate your height below (Check your height in Ms. Chant's office located in the counselling centre.

My Height = _____ feet and _____ inches OR My Height = _____ centimetres

4. Indicate your T-shirt size for the Class of 2024 shirt. **Circle** one of the sizes listed below.

Small Medium Large X Large XX Large XXX Large

5. Each graduate will be given at least 3 tickets for the graduation ceremony. What is your ideal number of graduation ceremony tickets you hope to offer family/friends?

_____ tickets

If there are any tickets returned, Ms. Chant will have them available on a first come first serve basis during the grad reception held in the gym on June 14, 2023 prior to the ceremony.

6. Please indicate below if your guests include someone who has mobility issues.

_____ guests use a wheelchair _____ guests use a walker

_____ guests have trouble with stairs

Please return this completed form with your GRAD FEE (\$120) and DRY GRAD FEE (\$40) to the Caledonia main office by April 12, 2024 or sooner

CALEDONIA DRY GRAD CONSENT FORM

I give permission for _____
Print Name of Graduate

To participate in the Dry Grad celebration on June 14, 2024 at the Terrace Sportsplex directly after the graduation ceremony.

I understand that the Dry Grad celebration will be carried out under the supervision of parents involved with the Dry Grad Parent Committee.

I hereby accept responsibility for the conduct of _____
Print Name of Graduate

I agree to indemnify and hold the organizing committee and its volunteers harmless from any and all liability for any injury that arises from participating in any part of the Dry Grad celebration and its activities.

Full Legal Name of Graduate

Date of Birth of Graduate

Printed Name of Parent / Guardian

Telephone Number of Parent / Guardian

Signature of Parent / Guardian

Date of Signature

Printed Name of Alternate Contact

Telephone Number of Alternate Contact

Please return this completed form with your GRAD FEE (\$120) and DRY GRAD FEE (\$40) to the Caledonia main office by April 12, 2024 or sooner