

CEWL Fridays is an attempt to engage students and develop their skills as innovators. CEWL stands for Connections, Engagement, Wellness and Learning. Our CEWL Friday concept targets the 21st Century Learning Skills of: critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, and collaboration, and social skills. This concept enhances the positive culture at Tofield School.

On Fridays, we have a modified schedule for three periods. In Period 1, students report to their homeroom class where they work on positive relationships, team building, as well as learning how to access various resources that will aid them in their learning journey such as the marks portals (ConnectEd and MyPass) and the career/wellness platform (MyBlueprint). This dedicated time provides an opportunity for homeroom teachers to touch base with students and hold conversations with them.

In Period 7, we have our Titan Time. This is a time where students can explore areas of interest and passion. We offer a wide variety of activities that students are able to attend during this time such as student leadership, fitness, sports analytics and management, filmmaking, music jam club, cartooning, quilting, yoga, mindfulness, improv, travel/culture, and maker spaces. Also, we invite speakers to offer insights into trades such as mechanics, welding, and construction. Additionally, our Titan Time periodically holds school-wide activities such as the Terry Fox Run.

Our Titan Time also contains projects that push students to contribute to the school and the community such as keeping a flower garden or shoveling snow for the elderly. These Titan Time sessions are often inquiry-based and students tackle projects that are eventually showcased by our school. During our Titan Time, students are able to take a collaborative and creative approach to something that they are interested in learning more about.

In Period 8, we have WIN Time (Whatever I Need). Students are able to travel to a teacher of choice for academic supports, tutorials, assignment/exam makeup, silent read, write, or dig deeper into digital technology skills. During WIN time, they can touch base with teachers about their progress and be provided with face-to-face feedback. This supplements the feedback that they are already receiving in their regular classes.

We feel that this approach to our Fridays has deepened learner engagement. Feedback from students is that they appreciate the time to work on academics and are grateful to have many choices when it comes to our positive growth activities during Titan Time. The CEWL Fridays program will contribute to our students being innovators and workplace ready as they will have many opportunities to develop critical thinking and collaborative team skills.