



# CONNECTIONS

*Connecting to Your World*

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## After the Break

Well here we go, we are in the last semester of this school year already. Where did the time go? Now we are on the downhill slope to summer holidays, even if the weather doesn't support that.

Some students are gearing up to finish up their courses and preparing to write exams in a couple of months. Some students are looking forward to graduation. Some though are just starting out. It is never too late here to be signing up. We can get you started and rolling before we close things down for the summer.

If you are thinking, "Oh I might as well wait until September to get started." DON'T! Do it now. Putting things off never works in your favour and starting school now is the right thing to do.

If you are coming to improve your reading skills, we can get you well on your way before summer. If you are coming to improve your math skills we can get you going and give you something to practice over the summer. If you want to take some credit courses and need some help to get to that level, that can be done

before and you could be working on a course over the summer or at least be ready to jump in come September.

Whatever you are looking for, we are ready to help you today. All you need to do is walk through our door at 232 Howey St or call us at 727-3207 and we will help you out. Visit our website at

[www.redlakeadultlearning.org](http://www.redlakeadultlearning.org)

## Spring Basket

Our spring basket is being hosted by the Lakeview Restaurant again.

Tickets are \$1.00 each

The draw for our basket which is valued at \$300.00 will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Red Lake District Adult Learning Centre at 2:00 pm.



## ESL

ESL (English as a Second Language) class is held every **Monday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.**

Call 727-3207 for more information.

## Literacy Myths

**Myth:** Young people entering the workforce will have the requisite skills necessary to meet the technological and literacy demands of a modern workplace, and will effectively fill the spots previously filled by the Baby Boomer.

**Fact:** Employers face a workforce with fewer young people aged 20 to 30 than in the past. Furthermore, the forecast is for a decline in the share of that age group from 32% in 1996 to 26% in 2015. Conversely, those aged 50 to 64 will increase from 14% to 21% over the same period.

Employers will need to train and retrain workers already in the labour force (\*The Economic Benefits of Improving Literacy Skills in the Workplace\*, Conference Board of Canada, 2007). Additionally, youth require upgrading, with more than one third of Canadians age 16 to 25 having low literacy (\*International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey\*, Statistics Canada, OECD, 2005)

**Myth:** The place to learn literacy skills is in school.

**Fact:** Learning can't stop after school. The opportunity to use and develop essential skills on the job can actually maintain and enhance these skills long after formal education is completed (Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters).

## Recipe Corner

### Fajita-Style Quesadillas

½ green or red sweet pepper, chopped  
 ½ onion, thinly sliced  
 1 serrano pepper thinly sliced  
 2 tsp vegetable oil  
 4 6-inch corn tortillas  
 Nonstick cooking spray  
 ½ cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese  
 2 thin slices tomato  
 1 tbsp snipped cilantro  
 Light dairy sour cream  
 Cilantro and lime wedges

In large skillet cook sweet pepper, onion, and serrano pepper in hot oil for 3-5 minutes. Remove from heat. Lightly coat one side of each tortilla with cooking spray. On the uncoated side of two of the tortillas, divide half of the cheese. Top with onion mixture, tomato slices, the 1 tbsp cilantro and the remaining cheese. Top with remaining tortillas, coated sides up.

Heat a very large skillet or griddle and cook quesadillas for 4 to 5 minutes per side or until cheese melts and tortillas are lightly browned. Cut each into 4 wedges. Serve warm and, if desired, with sour cream, additional cilantro and lime wedges.

## The History of the English Language: Part one

**Influenced by many cultures, the English language emerged as the Roman Empire collapsed**

The story of the English language begins in the 410 AD. That was the year that the last Roman soldiers and colonists left the island of “Britannia”, as they called it. Shortly after the Romans left, the rich farmland and mineral resources of the island attracted other invaders. The Anglos, Saxons, and Jutes were German tribes. They sailed across the English Channel and settled in “England”. These three similar cultures eventually merged into a broader “Anglo-Saxon” society and the language they spoke began to become distinct. Although the language is barely recognizable to modern English speakers, many words from Old English are still in use today. Words like “loaf”, “woman”, “house”, and “whale” are examples. The names we use for four of the days of the week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) were also named after Saxon pagan gods.

Vikings that invaded England between the years 600 and 1100 AD also introduced more than 2000 words from their Nordic language to Old English. Words like “give”, “take”, “drag”, “ransack”, and “thrust” all have Nordic origins.

Christian missionaries were also spreading their religion all over Europe at the time. Since all church services were spoken in Latin in those days, many words with Latin origins also made their way into the English language, including “Bishop”, “martyr”, and “font”.

The next big changes to the English language happened in 1066AD, when William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normand, defeated Harold, the last Anglo-Saxon king. Since the new King William spoke French, and the local people spoke Old English, gradually the languages began to merge together to become what is called “Middle English”.

After the Norman conquest, thousands of French words were introduced directly into the English language, such as “evidence”, “justice”, “table”, and “fruit”.

As the words from different cultures were adopted into English, over time the language began to acquire more and more synonyms, which are different words that have the same meanings. As a result, the English vocabulary became very large during the Middle English period.

Middle English is much easier to understand than Old English. The Middle English period lasted until around the time of William Shakespeare, who lived between 1564 and 1616 AD. It is during that time that the language took its next big steps to become Modern English.

***Watch for Part 2 next month: How Shakespeare and science influenced the language***

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## Sponsors for 2013/2014

### RED LAKE DISTRICT ADULT LEARNING CENTRE

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We are on the Web!

[redlakeadultlearning.org](http://redlakeadultlearning.org)

"It is not how much you give or do, but how much you put into giving or doing." ...and we are very grateful for those people in our lives.

Here is a list of this year's Corporate Sponsors.

- Balmer Motor Hotel
- Balmer Video
- Dr. Matthew Walkiewicz
- Forever Green Gift Boutique
- Gillons' Insurance Brokers Ltd.
- Harmony Centre
- Lakeview Restaurant
- Red Lake Career and Employment Services
- Red Lake District Lions Club

If you are interested in becoming a corporate sponsor for the upcoming 2014/15 year, we have an information package available to anyone interested. Please contact our office for more information.

### Writing Corner

#### A Frozen Clothesline

A favourite memory of mine  
Is the frozen clothes on a long rope line.  
The sleeves went up, the legs went out  
As the cold wind whipped them all about.  
But wooden pins secured them fast  
Till the hours of drying had gone past.  
And I was sent to bring them in,  
My special moment would begin.  
Each piece icy cold and stiff  
Gather close and sniff, sniff, sniff.  
The basket held them, piled up high.  
I took them in with my own words,  
"They're dry."  
I'm glad I remember well  
Their crunchy feel, and their fragrant smell.  
Frozen clothes on a long rope line.  
My favourite memory of mine.

....Joe Paishk



Here is a piece of graphic art done by one of our students, Kelly Strang. It is in connection with one of his favorite games, Dead Space.