New Directions for 2015 in Digital Photography and the Visual Arts Dept.

Teaching for Artistic behaviour (TAB) is a new direction the Visual Art Department is taking in regards to our instruction. In shifting towards TAB we hope to encourage and guide students to make authentic art that is student directed, expressive and personally meaningful. The concept, rather than the product, is the starting point and students are expected to take ownership of their own learning, letting their ideas and curiosity guide their learning. Rather than a specific project with a clear end product, students are given an overall theme or "Big Idea" to explore followed by a series of mini lessons or "Boot Camp" demonstrations where various processes and procedures are "taught". In addition, students are encouraged to explore "stations" within the art room where they can further explore and learn independently. The hope is that TAB will help have students think and create like artists and create art that is both authentic and meaningful to them.

There are four main goals in Visual Art at Collingwood:

1)   Understanding how to use the artistic process combined with'Big Ideas' (larger themes) to create personally meaningful work.
2)   Further developing skills using a variety of art materials and processes.
3)   Understanding art in both a historical and contemporary context.
4)   Fostering and environment where curiosity and critical thinking guide student learning

Our units are designed to help you learn what it is like to think like an artist, creating work using a variety of materials. Our aim is to teach you how to use the artistic process to create work that is meaningful to you. Each unit you will work through skill building exercises (in your sketchbook and elsewhere), and then use these prompts as a warm-up for your own creations. Your work will be original, and involve your own unique ideas, with a focus on interpreting and developing themes within your work. You will learn to work independently by choosing what supplies to use, and how to interpret each project.

We will use technology to research, share, and create works. You will create and maintain a blog. You will turn in your work for each unit by creating a blog post with images of your work (both finished, and in progress) along with a written reflection.

You will also participate in a critique at the end of each unit where you will be expected to share your work and develop and share opinions regarding the work of others.

 Late Work Policy
After each assigned project due date, you will no longer be allowed to work on this project during class time. Despite these deadlines, late work can be turned in at any time for full credit up until the final date of MAY 20th . Keep in mind if you wish to be considered for major awards, (including colours), your work must be submitted by the end of the term in which it was assigned. I will also except any work you wish to redo with the same deadlines applying.