

RWA



News

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MAY 2015

A Word From The Administration

Mr. Tony Pita, Principal

Mme Nathalie Cheff, Vice-Principal

Ms. Chantal Juhasz, Vice-Principal



It's hard to believe but another amazing school year has come and is almost done! Royal West Academy students, parents, and staff, have all contributed to making the 2014–2015 school year a truly unforgettable experience.

Students and staff are hard at work preparing for end-of-year exams. Parents should review the exam schedule carefully with their child. As per Ministry regulations, anyone who arrives more than 30 minutes late for an exam will not be permitted to write the exam—thus receiving an unjustified absence. Parents are reminded that students are required to be in full uniform, including shoes, until June 5, 2015. After that date, students may choose to wear their Physical Education uniform for exams. Grad apparel is also permitted.

On June 2–4, 2015, there will be a modified schedule of five shortened periods (refer to the schedule below) and exams or remediation in the afternoon, beginning at 12:30 PM. Students who do not have exams or remediation scheduled are free to leave school or remain in the library.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| • 8:30–8:50 AM | Homeroom |
| • 8:53–9:18 AM | Period 1 |
| • 9:21–9:46 AM | Period 2 |
| • 9:49–10:14 AM | Period 3 |
| • 10:14–10:24 AM | Recess |
| • 10:24–10:49 AM | Period 4 |
| • 10:52–11:17 AM | Period 5 |
| • 11:17 AM–12:30 PM | Lunch |

Students in Secondary I–IV are expected to empty their lockers by June 4, 2015, at which time locks must be returned to their homeroom teacher. Secondary V students are expected to have their lockers emptied and locks returned to homeroom teachers by June 3. Any unreturned locks will incur a cost of \$8.50, which must be paid prior to receiving June report cards. Please note that the cafeteria closed on May 29. The regular exam schedule begins on June 8 and runs through to June 19. Students need only report to school if an exam is scheduled.

In early May, the administration distributed transportation allowance cheques to students. Only students that live in the territory of the EMSB and at least 2.4 km from Royal West Academy are eligible for this subsidy. If you qualify, please ensure that your child delivers your cheque to you.

On May 8, students in Secondary I–IV elected RWA's new Student Life Association for the 2014–2015 school year (*see page 17 for details*). Congratulations to the entire slate listed below:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Co-Presidents: | Chloe Ginsberg and Karley McIlwaine |
| • Treasurer: | Matthew Kis |
| • Secretary: | Charles Taylor |
| • Secondary V Rep.: | Leah Tracey |
| • Secondary IV Rep.: | Hope Burko |



- Secondary III Rep.: Jillian Loth
- Secondary II Rep.: Katie Gassios

Finally, I would like to thank the many volunteers that help RWA provide an enriching educational experience for our students. In particular, I would like to thank Mr. Ronald Pau, volunteer editor of RWA News, for his efforts in producing a wonderful newsletter that keeps the Royal West Academy community informed and showcases the amazing accomplishments and talents of our students and staff. Special thanks to Mr. Pau's trusted assistant Benjamin Vigny-Pau (Secondary III) for his efforts in advertising and soliciting articles for RWA News on a monthly basis and to our two student newsletter editors: Sophie Sun and Yi Sen Wang. On behalf of the entire RWA community, thank you for a great publication!

Start Of The Year #2!

By Mr. Kirk Kelly, Chair,
Governing Board & Director,
RWA Foundation

Another great year draws to an
end ... and a new one begins
with a party!



After last year's successful launch, the party is back with many lessons learned and a whole lot of new ideas.

September 11, 2015, at 3 PM kicks off the Start of the Year party #2. This is **the** party that starts the year. If you're a new parent, don't miss it—come meet old friends, make new ones, and celebrate the incredible institution that your daughter or son is joining. If you've already been a parent at Royal West Academy, you know that getting together with other RWA families is a whole lot of fun. Bring the whole family. We're also inviting our Montreal West neighbours to join us.

The rides last year were a big hit, so we've doubled down this year with the inclusion of two brand new games: a 1200 square foot totally enclosed maze where you can play Laser Tag, and a super new attraction called Jump Off, if you dare.

Food and beverages are back, as are displays and performances by our talented students highlighting some of the incredible achievements of the last year.

Pie the Pita will likely be back and we're still negotiating with Jeff's talent agency to see if we can do a rerun of Bait the Bateman.

Royal West Academy already has lots of communities—there are families who support the sports teams, Honour Band, Jazz Band, choir, and the whole music program; the Bardolators and the musicals; robotics, the exchanges, Environment Committee, and on and on and on. The Start of the Year party brings all those communities together to make one Royal West Academy community.

So please mark your calendars: **Friday, September 11, 2015, rain or shine—the second annual Royal West Academy Start of the Year Party.** Look for more details of the event in your summer information packages and on the school and Foundation websites.

By the way, we're sending a special invitation to our sister EMSB schools: Edinburgh Elementary School, Elizabeth Ballantyne School, and Saint Monica Bilingual School. The English Montreal School Board has a lot to be proud of in the quality of its schools and its success in graduating the citizens of tomorrow.

So let's celebrate!

Mental Health Awareness Week

By Rohan Rustom



"We all have mental health, just as we all have physical health. Mental health is more than the absence of mental illness. It's a state of well-being."—Canadian Mental Health Association.

Mental health is a very significant and concerning subject particularly in high schools. Mental health is a key to our well-being and can affect our daily lives. Students are the most common victims to diminished mental health and it is understandable as high school is considered the start of stress as it is where you have to have an idea for your path for the future.

Mental Health Awareness Week is an annual nation-wide event which occurs in the first week of May. It is designed to encourage people to engage and listen to others on issues centering on mental health. This year,

many school boards have placed Mental Health Awareness Week as a priority.

This year, the EMSB has cooperated with Royal West Academy to help spread the awareness here in our school. The people who had the task of leading Mental Health Awareness Week in RWA were four of our student services personnel: Mr. Mateus, Mr. Wineberg, Ms. Clark, and Ms. Leech-Pepin. Various activities were planned for the week concerning mental health.

After each recess during the week, a Mindful Moment took place. These are exercises that would include

getting a good body posture, letting air flow in and out, and 30 seconds of silence, so students could have a peace of mind. Teachers also joined on the exercises as students are not the only ones who could use a breather now and then.

"Feel Good Songs" were being played on the second floor west wing during lunchtime. These songs contained motivational, positive, and stirring messages and, if students or staff would want to request a song, they could write the name of a song along with their

SHARING THE STAGE WITH YOU.

Win a pair of tickets to see One Direction!

Good news! The deadline has been extended to June 30, 2015 to sell four Royal West Academy Foundation raffle tickets and be entered to win a pair of tickets to One Direction on September 5, 2015. All students and their families who sell four tickets by the deadline are eligible. Sell eight tickets and double your chances to win!

Money raised from the raffle will go to installing air conditioning in our 80-year-old auditorium. If each student sells four tickets, we will raise \$140,000. Just imagine, next year your child could be writing their final exams in a cool, comfortable auditorium instead of sweating it out in a hot, sticky one.

We are asking all families to help sell tickets between now and September 11, 2015. Using the vouchers that were given to each student simplifies selling tickets. Simply complete the stub with the buyer's info and return it along with the \$40 payment (cash or cheque payable to RWA Foundation) to the school office (the buyer keeps the right-hand portion). The ticket(s) will then be sent directly to the buyer.

Buy one ticket for your family and sell three more to family members, colleagues, neighbours, and friends—it really is that easy!

If you have already sold four or more tickets, we thank you very much! You're off the hook, but if you can sell more, all the power to you! We would be so very grateful!

Now you can like us on Facebook: RWA Foundation Montréal Canadiens Raffle. Then share us with all your friends!

Congrats to our winner Patrizia Zullo, Dante Meldrum's mom, who won the two 3-day passes for Osheaga 2015!! Enjoy Montreal's best outdoor indie rock festival!

You can play a part!

We are always looking for volunteers to join the RWA Foundation. No matter your experience or time available, everyone can play a role. If you have any questions or fundraising ideas, contact Jasmin Uhthoff, Vice-President, at rwafoundation@gmail.com or visit us at <http://rwaf.ca>.

Make a donation! Just go to our website at <http://rwaf.ca> and give what you can. Every donation takes us closer to transforming our 80-year-old auditorium into a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Centre for our children.



artist and place in the guidance box, which was also located on the second floor west wing.

In addition, students could fill in a “gratitude graffiti board”—a mural where they could indicate people and things they are grateful for. Also, there was a “wellness wall” where students could indicate how they stay well. And finally, students could also colour or create a mandala (a spiritual symbol in Hinduism and Buddhism which symbolizes radial balance) which is very relaxing.

Mental Health Awareness Week was an important event and it also helped relieve stress of the upcoming exams. It did its job by making people aware that mental health is a serious issue. Let’s all stay healthy, physically and mentally!

Bike Trip

By Leela Shamash

Royal West Academy’s annual bike trip took place over the Victoria Day long weekend. Seventeen students and a handful of our favourite teachers got up at the crack of dawn on the Saturday and took a bus to Lennoxville, Quebec. We then spent the next three days pedaling all the way home, stopping to pitch tents and camp out at night.



Why did we challenge ourselves to travel over 200 kilometres by bicycle? I mean like ... that’s crazy? Well, by proving that we could, we showed that cycling is not only a great way to get active and reduce your carbon emissions, but also an effective mode of

transportation. We did it to breathe fresh air, get in touch with nature, and soak up the sunshine. We discovered new parts of our own province and were reminded that this city isn’t the centre of the world. Mostly, though, we did it for the magical experience and lasting warm memories it provided.



photo: Simon Germain

While this kind of activity does present some inherent risk, we felt safe and taken care of the entire time. There were always adults nearby, and we were shadowed by a U-Haul truck that contained first-aid supplies (as well as groceries and all of our baggage). Our chaperones were qualified and responsible (as well as fun and supportive) and they handled every issue perfectly. We all made it back alive and in one piece!

Knowing we were safe meant that we were able to enjoy the trip. Some highlights include the sense of accomplishment that comes with making it up hill after hill, the silly riddles we solved and songs we sang, and the endless jokes we made while riding. It was special to forge unlikely friendships with people across grade levels, and nothing has ever felt more satisfying than stopping in charming towns along the way for hydration breaks and ice cream cones. We ate delicious, nutritious meals like porridge and vegetarian curry, and roasted marshmallows over a campfire. We cooled off in a freezing lake, played many variations of hide-and-seek, climbed playgrounds, and gazed at the stars. The very best part, definitely, was lying down in my sleeping bag at night and, once we were finally done chatting, falling asleep knowing that I’d overcome all of my own doubts about whether I would even be able to do this.

I gained so much from the Bike Trip. I came back looking tan and toned, feeling refreshed and more



photo: Simon Germain

motivated than ever to take my bike *everywhere*. In fact, when we arrived at RWA, I insisted on going the final 15 kilometres to my front door by bicycle, even though my incredibly thoughtful mother had come to pick me up with a car and a bike rack. I still had momentum the very next morning and rode to school, delighted to find that I'd shaved a full 20 minutes off the time it normally took me to get there. I also signed up for Montreal's Tour de l'Île—I can't get enough!

My friend Romy Roussel-Lustgarten was similarly infected by the adventure. We were both so enchanted by the rush of cruising down country paths that we fantasized about founding an institution (tentatively named Wanderlust Cycle School) that would essentially be an extended Bike Trip. Here's the concept: students would embark on a year-long bicycle journey around North America. We would be accompanied by teachers with expertise in various fields who would provide us with hands-on learning sessions, like a geology unit at the Grand Canyon, science chapter at a hydroelectric dam, English lessons in a pretty meadow, or a visual arts photography hike up a mountain. We would rest one day a week, staying somewhere comfortable where we could shave, watch some movies, and get our Internet fix. (Contact me if you're interested or to talk sponsorship!)

Bike Trip left me inspired to pursue all my dreams and be my best self, and I know that anyone who wants to do it definitely can. See you on the bike path!

Marine Biology Trip

By Aris Zimakas & Liam Pantis



On April 28, fifty Royal West Academy students departed from the school for a journey of a lifetime to the Huntsman Marine Science Centre in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. These students were able to experience a taste of what it's like to work as a marine biologist over a five-day period. Whether it was looking for crabs on a beach, watching two seals feed, or experiencing a boat ride adventure, the marine biology trip was an absolute hit!

On the first day of this trip, once we arrived in New Brunswick, we were able to unwind from a long bus ride and head out to the quaint town of St. Andrews by foot, where we really witnessed what a true small town was like.

On the second day after a quality breakfast spread, we went out to the Huntsman Centre and were able to examine and hold many different sea organisms at their petting zoo. This was an eye opening experience where we got to see the intricacies of each organism. The second awesome experience was being able to go out to a large beach in St. Andrews and collect tons of



different animals like starfish, sea urchins, and crabs by hand. It was very interesting to see how many different organisms could live under just one rock.

The third day was quite the adventure. We were able to go out into the Bay of Fundy on a boat and collect many different animals from the sea. On the boat, we were able to examine and collect some of these animals for labs that we completed later in the day. In the afternoon, we went out to Holey Point Beach and collected our data for our big project at the end of the trip called “zonation”. The project consisted of determining where certain organisms lived and explaining why they chose these conditions. This was a great correlation-causation experiment, and allowed us to come to logical conclusions as to why certain species were found in certain areas, and gave us insight as to what life is like for those species.

Our fourth day consisted mainly of working on our projects and collecting green crabs for the science centre. Green crabs are an invasive species to New Brunswick and the Passamaquoddy Bay, and the marine centre allowed us to help in their study of the species. The amount of crabs found and their sizes would be marked down and sent away to help with studies being done on overpopulation of organisms.

On our fifth and final day we presented our projects to the teachers, hopped on the bus, and headed back home.

This trip was by far the most incredible experience any of the students could have asked for. It was filled with great views, great people, and great experiences. These memories will last me a lifetime and I will cherish this trip for the rest of my life.

I’d like to thank Ms. Darouach, Mr. Zigby, Ms. Zuccaro, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Northey, and all of those at the Huntsman Marine Science Centre for making this trip possible.

Breast Cancer Concert

By Jake Rappaport



This year, Jayme Rothstein and Miranda Lalla made a big difference in our school. They got us a Breast Cancer Committee. Not only did the committee unite students from every grade, but raised over \$2200 for the Cedars Cancer Foundation throughout the year.

But that’s only the tip of the iceberg.

On April 2, Royal West Academy hosted its first ever Breast Cancer Concert. The concert included a raffle with excellent prizes to be won, a bake sale, a heartwarming video of a breast cancer survivor speaking about the effect her illness had on her family, and students of all ages singing in front of 200 people. The show was around two hours long and there was never a dull moment. It was definitely a beautiful show



to see. One pair of students had even written their own song!

Jayne, Miranda, and the rest of the committee couldn't have accomplished everything without the help of their three amazing teacher advisors: Ms. Fogel, Mme Goudreau, and Ms. Colannino. They had sacrificed a lot of their time, and the entire committee gives their thanks to them.



From left: Mme Goudreau, Jayme Rothstein, Ms. Colannino

It is safe to say that the concert was a huge success. Our school did a fantastic job spreading awareness for the cause and I am proud to say that RWA is part of the breast cancer movement.

Dance Show: *Zirka*

By Tali Friedman

Royal West Academy's biggest production, Dance Show, was held this year on March 20. This year's show was called *Zirka*, which was a play on the word "circus", the main theme of the production. Every year, the show is organized by six Execs (three from Secondary V and three from Secondary IV). Under the supervision of Mr. Zigby, the students of RWA put together a two-hour long show composed of over 20 dance scenes. Each scene, choreographed by either a student or a returning RWA alumni, presents its own unique style of dance. These include hip-hop, ballet, contemporary, dance hall, salsa, traditional Greek, Bollywood, breakdancing, and many more. The dancers of each individual scene hold two-hour practices once a week after school from the end of September until the week of the show. On top of learning and/or creating the choreography, the students also produce short videos that are played between the scenes and focus on the show's theme.

Despite all their efforts put into perfecting their dances, Dance Show means more to its 96 cast members than just a performance. All the proceeds go towards a cause. Over \$1000 was raised for the RWA Foundation this year, and more than \$6000 was donated to Dans la Rue, a Montreal-based organization devoted to helping



photo: Andre Knox



teens get off the streets. “We choose this particular charity every year because it hits close to home,” says Emma Lalonde, one of the producers of this year’s show. “As teenagers, we all face difficulties, and unfortunately some of us find ourselves in more difficult situations than others. Dans la Rue focuses on kids like us, who just need a bit of extra help. The cast of Dance Show wants to provide them with the help that they need.”

All cast members are required to raise at least \$60 for Dans la Rue in order to be a part of the show. “It is a small price that goes a long way for many kids, and unfortunately we tend to forget that sometimes,” says Gen Shemie, another producer of this year’s show.

Dance Show also gives back to those who participate in it. Coming into this school in Secondary I, I didn’t really know what I was getting myself into when I first tried out. Being a part of such a big production made me feel like I was part of a community. I made tons of friends who shared a common passion with me, and I also grew a lot as a dancer. I loved it so much that I continued to perform in the show every year that followed, until finally I became an Exec myself.

All of a sudden, I had this huge responsibility thrust upon me. Countless hours were spent choreographing, coordinating, organizing, fundraising, and problem solving, things I had never encountered before. Sleep

was lost. Tears were shed. But words cannot describe the feeling of getting up onstage in front of hundreds of people, family, friends, and strangers alike. The rush I felt putting countless hours of hard work into one single moment. Absolutely nothing can replace the feeling of standing onstage after the show was over, staring at the faces of all the people who had made it possible, and sharing a mutual feeling of pride.

I have learned so much this past year from my cast mates, my fellow execs, and Mr. Zigby. Finding new ways to collaborate, communicate, and create something so amazing was an experience that I wouldn’t trade for anything. Whether you want to experience the same thing that I have, or you simply love to dance, I strongly encourage you to try out for next year’s show. I promise, you won’t regret it!

The Friendship Circle

By Emma Fishman

This year, I discovered a place filled with boundless love, laughter, and more fun than I ever knew was possible. A safe haven where every individual is appreciated for who they are, regardless of any personal obstacles or limitations they are facing.



This magical place, located at 4585 Bourret Avenue in Montreal, is called The Friendship Circle. The mission of this non-profit organization is to unite teenagers such as myself with special needs children in a mutually rewarding friendship. Each volunteer is placed with a buddy, partaking weekly in a wide range of innovative and interactive activities such as cooking, art, yoga, karate, and monthly community-wide events. These unique programs provide the volunteers with a greater sense of empowerment and satisfaction, while also changing the reality of the special needs children, which can sometimes be quite lonely.



Since joining The Friendship Circle in September, which I visited every Monday from 5–7 PM, I have definitely grown both as an individual and as an active community member. This was a very meaningful experience for me that changed my life for the better. I strongly recommend this new ECA to anyone who is willing to commit their time and open their hearts.

“Friendship Circle, facing challenges with pride and joy.” —Musky Paris, Volunteer Coordinator.

John Grant Volunteer Program

By Mina Khan



John Grant High School is a school in Côte Saint-Luc. On its website, it mainly describes itself as having the goal to “help students who are struggling academically in the regular program as well as students with mild to severe learning difficulties”.

Recently, I participated in a program that was offered to Royal West Academy students to volunteer as helpers at this school. I helped the kids out with math and

reading, helped the teachers organize activities, and mingled with the students.

What made my time at John Grant remarkable was how different it was from RWA. All of my high school experience has taken place here, at RWA, where all of the students are focused on academic excellence, many having big plans for themselves in the future. It is mind-opening to meet people who don’t fit in the school system as easily as we do, but who are nonetheless just as smart.

For me, the John Grant Volunteer Program was a colourful experience that allowed me to interact with people whom I’ve realized are so under-represented—and misunderstood—in our society. It was an insightful experience to interact with people who think differently than and who are different from me, and it was this very characteristic that made it such a delightful learning experience.

I would do it again in a heartbeat.

Why Not Volunteer At The Mackay Centre?

By Marina Boni



This past school year, a handful of students from Royal West Academy had the opportunity to volunteer at the Mackay Centre School in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. I was lucky enough to be one of these students.

The children at the Mackay Centre face handicaps ranging from motor impairments to hearing impairments as well as multiple others. Because of this, they need more help in the classroom—this is where the volunteers come in!

As a volunteer at the Mackay Centre, your main job is to help the students with their schoolwork as well as to offer your friendship and encouragement. Before class and sometimes during recess, you may also get the chance to play with them in the gym. When the children are being tested or are not in need of extra help, helping your assigned teacher with their paperwork and organization is also a part of the job. All in all, the amount of work you are being asked to do as a volunteer is very little, especially considering how rewarding the program is.

Personally, my experience at Mackay was one I will never forget: I was assigned to a class consisting of ten wonderful fourth grade students. Their spirit, their kindness, and their eagerness to learn was unforgettable and incredibly refreshing. By the end of the ten weeks I spent there, I was truly sad to be leaving them. "My experience at Mackay was one I will never forget. I appreciate every second I spent there," said Yasmine Champagne, a fellow volunteer.

If any of the aforementioned is of interest to you, I would strongly suggest signing up—especially if you enjoy working with young children, or plan on doing so in the future! If this sounds like something you would like to be doing but you would rather not miss half a day of school every week in the fall, then you might be interested in volunteering for them this summer. The Mackay Centre is looking for people to volunteer at their summer day camp.

The sign up for the 2015–2016 volunteer program, organized by Ms. Di Pietro and Ms. Faye Schipper, will be early in the next school year (September–October). Please see Ms. Di Pietro in Room 225 for more details!

As someone who has volunteered there before, I can affirm that it would be a wonderful learning experience and you will not regret it for a second.

Volunteering At The Mackay Centre

By Victoria Iannotti



Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Mackay Centre School. The Mackay Centre is a school that provides a safe and caring environment for students who are deaf or have other disabilities. I went to the Mackay Centre for half a day every Tuesday for a period of ten weeks. I decided to sign up for the Mackay volunteering because I really enjoy working with kids and helping in a classroom setting.

From the first time I entered the Mackay Centre, I fell in love with the atmosphere. Everyone that was working there was very kind and welcoming, and all of the teachers and other volunteers were always smiling.

I really enjoyed working with the kids. These kids all have special needs and must depend on others for so

much. Every week, I would bring my flute to play familiar tunes for them such as *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* and *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*. I would also help them with their daily routines, which included putting away their coats and school bags and other small tasks. Sometimes, I would help the students with their work, which consisted mainly of activities to improve vocabulary and motor skills.

With the class that I was helping, you never knew whether it would be a good day or a bad day with the kids. Some days, they would act up a lot and were not cooperative at all. On other days, it was the complete opposite. However, no matter how the day was going for the kids, the teachers would remain positive. They were very inspiring because of the passion that they had for their jobs.

The teachers and other volunteers are very important to the kids. Since the kids depend so much on others, they play a very prominent role in their lives because the kids are with them a lot and the teachers teach them skills that they need in their everyday lives. I was able to learn a lot about what it means to work in a classroom with kids with special needs, such as how to react quickly and correctly to different situations and how to ensure the children's safety. I was even able to learn a little about braille.

Overall, I had an amazing experience, and when my tenth session came along, I was devastated to be leaving the kids with whom I had established a special relationship with—they even made me a beautiful card.

I will never forget the people that I met along the way and everything I learnt. I am very grateful to have had this opportunity.



Social Justice Club

By Matthew Boudreau

The Royal West Academy Social Justice Club holds meetings every Tuesday at lunch in Room 212. Throughout the entire school year, students from every grade can join in and discuss major social issues happening worldwide and even locally. Topics such as the homeless, animal rights, and drug use are largely discussed throughout the whole year. "Our goal is to have engaging discussions about topics that really matter," says member KC Tsiolis. "It is important for teenagers to be informed and I think that Social Justice Club is a great forum in which students can be informed."

The club is run by its student members who all have an equal say in the club discussions and fundraisers. There is also an executive committee that proposes a weekly topic to the group and organizes group events such as a toiletry drive for the women at Chez Doris at Christmas time.



One of the more important things that the Social Justice Club does is the annual fundraiser. At the beginning of each year, we choose a specific cause or charity which we support by fundraising with our activities. These include our samosa sales where we sell samosas every other Thursday during recess and lunch, and our annual Rice and Water fundraiser where students can receive a credit by fasting solely on two cups of rice and two litres of water for 24 hours.

This year, we were successful in raising over \$2500 for Médecins Sans Frontières. In past years, the Social Justice club has raised money to help with the constructions of multiple wells in places such as small villages in Malawi.

On what to look forward to next year, KC says, "I think that we have the capacity to make a difference locally and abroad with our fundraising activities. I want us to raise as much as money as possible to help people in need, whether it be here in Montreal with Dans la Rue, for example, or in Malawi with the Theresa Foundation, another organization we have worked with in the past."

Drama Department Production: *The Audition*

By Ms. Freda Segal

Students in the junior grades created a production called *The Audition*, which included skits, dance, piano, and singing. Though we had only a short time to rehearse because we needed to fit the play in after the musical and before exams, the students came through brilliantly, were totally responsible, and made the play a success.

We are fortunate to have such dedicated students in our school.

April Madness

By Laetitia Raposo de Oliveira

On May 15, homeroom 107 enjoyed a well-deserved pizza lunch after winning April Madness, which took place April 6–24. April Madness is an event organized by Royal West Academy's Student Life Association (SLA) to raise money for charity. Over those three weeks, students in each homeroom got together to solve daily riddles, find Pac-Men around the school, and bring in non-perishable food items (which were donated to Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre, whose aim is to help develop the community of Little Burgundy).

On the May 1, it was announced that the results were a tie and that homerooms 107 and 201 would have to compete in a tiebreaker that day to earn their pizza lunch. For the tiebreaker, SLA member Matthew Kis was chosen to dress up in a panda costume throughout



the whole day. The objective was to capture an original and creative picture with the panda—the best picture would win April Madness and get the pizza lunch. It was a close call, but someone had to win!

“I was so happy to know that we won, because we worked hard and it was nice to see all our effort paying off! The pizza lunch was good but the best part was seeing our homeroom get together to accomplish

something as a team,” says Lori Blond of homeroom 107.

All homerooms should participate in April Madness because it gives to a good cause and it’s a lot of fun! This event encourages the whole school to work together to accomplish a goal and promotes school spirit. Plus, the pizza lunch is definitely worth it.

Spring Is In The Air—And So Is The Trash

By Tegvir Singh Boora & Evan Kaklamanos

As spring is finally in the air, Royal West Academy students gathered for the annual Spring Cleaning. This extracurricular activity took place the May 26–27. Most people do a spring cleaning of their house. Here at RWA, we decided to clean up our environment instead.

Spring cleaning is an ECA organized by RWA teacher Mr. Diacoumacous. Its purpose is for students to collect garbage and litter surrounding the school and its environs, such as nearby parks, streets, or in the surrounding vegetation.

Royal West Academy is known to be a very environmentally friendly school. Not only does this ECA help with the environment but it also helps clean up the Montreal-West community. One city patrol officer even thanked a group of students cleaning the sidewalk, saying, “Thanks guys, I’m sure everyone here really appreciates what you’re doing!”

Not only does this ECA clean up the area, it also instills a sense of responsibility in students to keep our environment clean. This is important because, on average, a teenager litters more than an adult. Spring cleaning also help students with the hands-on approach to cleaning up the environment. Many people believe in preserving the environment but are not willing to actually help out and throw out someone’s else’s litter. During Spring Cleaning, students physically pick up garbage with their hands while wearing gloves and are told not to pick up dangerous things such as glass, showing them that a hands-on approach isn’t as hard or “gross” as they thought.

Royal West Academy is also near many parks, so most of the garbage comes accumulates there. Many students eat their lunch in parks during the warmer parts of the year as a way to enjoy the nearby greenery and get some fresh air rather than stay inside all day. By cleaning it up, students are creating a better and cleaner environment to eat in peace without trash and litter.

In the end, the main goal of this activity is to not only ensure a clean environment, but to instill a sense of

environmentalism in students as well. Students are the future of our country and world and it will be up to them to deal with issues such as global warming and litter ruining our natural environments. It is important for them to know that they can make a difference in their community and that it is not that difficult to clean up the environment.

Inner Peace At School

By Katelyn Dobbs

Royal West Academy is known for its extremely hard working and over-achieving students, but with all accomplishments comes an enormous amount of stress. Stress is a completely natural reaction to all of the homework, projects, orals, and studying that RWA students must do in order to succeed. If you or someone that you know is having a hard time dealing with this stress, one way to help deal with it is to sign up for the Royal West Academy yoga class!

Yoga is extremely beneficial for every single student! Not only does it reduce stress by an unbelievable amount, it has also been proven to make you happier and help you focus better. Another great benefit that yoga has for students is the fact that it can help you sleep better and deeper!

The RWA yoga class is instructed by Ms. Zuccaro. She has many years of experience with yoga and she knows exactly what she is doing. I have personally attended the classes this year and I can honestly say that it is very relaxing and the environment is very soothing. Each class is held during lunchtime in Room 103 on every Day 3. It is a very open class and anyone who is willing to join is able to! The RWA yoga class challenges the body and helps relax the mind, all while lasting only 30 minutes. As current RWA student Leah Tracey says, “It is a fantastic way to get a nice break in between classes.”



Leah Tracey

If you would like to take advantage of all of these benefits, I suggest you sign up for yoga class next year! It is a guaranteed stress reliever, you're bound to have a great time, and it is amazing for your health. The Royal West Academy yoga class is a great way to spend your lunch hour!

Finding The Balance

By Nicholas Cardone



Royal West Academy is considered to be one of the top academic schools in Montreal. As everyone knows, RWA receives plenty of applicants every year who wish to attend the school, however approximately 175 are selected.

Once you're in, the students are under pressure as the RWA program is intense and the students are expected to perform at the highest levels. It's a lot of hard work as the students take home a good two hours of homework every night. Royal West Academy students are amongst the smartest students in Montreal. Royal West Academy's academic program has set the bar very high for other schools trying to displace them for these high standings. Speaking of the cream of the crop, my brother's graduating class had around 80% of students receiving the honour cord at their graduation ceremony.

You'll see many of the students spending countless hours in the morning, at lunch, after school, and on weekends, studying and completing assignments which require extensive thought and time management. In short, even if you had nothing else to do but just Royal West Academy, it would be a huge challenge.

Now imagine juggling RWA with playing hockey at the highest levels. That takes one heck of a magician, actually a person with incredible focus, perseverance, and the determination to succeed. My days are intense and extremely charged. Hockey requires me to practice at least three nights a week for four hours, and then two games on the weekend. It also requires me to travel to remote locations in Quebec several times during the season. While travelling I must find time to complete my homework and to deliver all my assignments. As the Montréal Canadiens mantra says: No excuses. On top of this, Secondary IV is a very

important school year as the transcript from this academic year is used in CEGEP applications, so it is important to succeed.

So far in hockey I have achieved the number one ranking in Quebec for Midget Espoir players and was also chosen as the only Espoir player for Quebec at the 2015 QMJHL Combine. Forty players were selected from Quebec and I am proud to say I was one of those forty. I am also ranked in the first four rounds of the upcoming QMJHL Draft—players from all of Quebec and from the Maritimes are eligible for the draft.

So far at school, I had a tough first semester as it wasn't easy to find the balance between hockey and school. After my first semester, I realized I had to find more time for my studies. Now I have improved during the second part of the year and I hope to close out final exams on a high note. It's a huge sacrifice of my personal time to accomplish success at one of the best schools in Montreal while achieving elite status in the hockey circles of Quebec. Although a very difficult task, it is very rewarding and is a great example of how focus and time management are essential to achieve success.

How To Properly Prepare For Exams

By Breanna Pevec

As much as we all hate to admit it, exams are nearly among us. Exams can be a great source of stress and this can end up affecting our grades in a negative way. I believe that it is very beneficial to reduce stress before, after, and during an exam!

The best way to get rid of anxiety is to be well prepared. Try to plan a study schedule in advance. This way, you can do a little bit of studying every day, rather than doing it all at once the night before the exam. Also, try your best to get rid of distractions such as your phone or iPod. You can try to leave your electronics in a different room, put it them in a drawer or even give them to a parent or sibling if you really don't trust yourself. It is very important to set little goals and to give yourself breaks. Try studying for 30 to 45 minutes and then taking a 10- to 15-minute break. This will allow you to work harder because you will know that you only have a certain amount of time to get your work done.

It is super important to remain calm, cool, and collected during the examination as well. Do not start freaking out if you don't understand because it will prevent you from thinking properly. If you don't know how to answer a question, put a star next to it and come back to it later—just don't forget to come back to it! It is also very important to reread and check over your exam at least once before handing it in. Personally, I find the best method is just to relax. Take 30 seconds at the beginning of the exam just to focus on your breathing. Take another 30 seconds whenever your mind starts to get clogged up with stress.

Finally, once the exam is over and done with, **don't worry about it anymore!** At this point, there will be nothing that you can do to change your results. There is really no point in worrying in something that you can't fix. Also, remember that your marks do not define you as a person and they will not affect your future as much as you think they will—but this does not mean that you shouldn't try hard! Just realize that there are much more important things in life than exams. You should never be discouraged if you gave it your all and tried your hardest.

In conclusion, the best way to limit stress and anxiety for an exam is to plan your time, study hard, and stay as calm as possible. Good luck everyone!

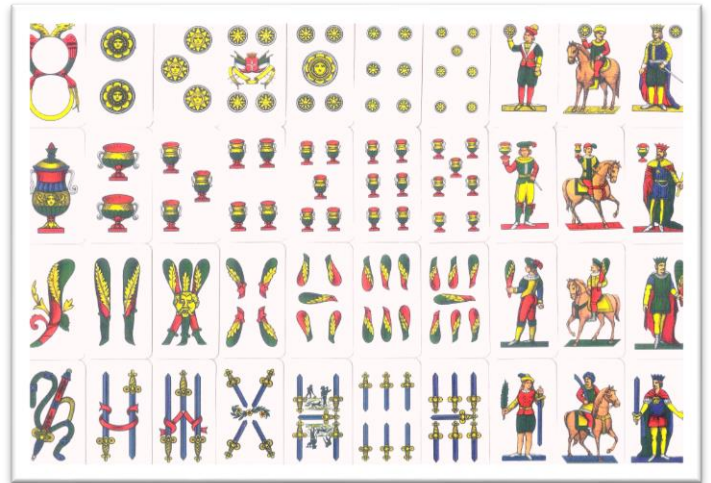
Italian Cards Club

By Antonio Palucci

Culture is defined as the collective attitudes, beliefs, and customs that separate one group of people from another. Although you may not realize it, culture is omnipresent in our constantly evolving and technological society. Culture may be represented through art, literature, music, food, fashion, architecture, language, and even sports.

Throughout history many different ethnic and cultural groups have created their own cultural games for entertainment, a very popular one being playing cards. At Italian Cards Club, various traditional Italian card games like Briscola and Scopa, which have been around since the 14th century, are taught and played. By learning and playing these games, students learn a little about Italian culture. For instance, each region in Italy

has its own design of cards—by playing these games students can see the different artistic styles from each part of Italy.



It may seem that Italian Cards Club is only for Italian students, but this is definitely not the case. One of the founders of the club, Mr. Aiken, is not a single part Italian, and after being asked why he started the club at the end of 2012 he stated, "After having learned these games in high school and CEGEP, I wanted to bring together things that I had enjoyed doing with something that I thought would be popular at Royal West Academy and fun for people that didn't already know how to play."

Although everybody is encouraged and welcome to join, the majority of the students that show up regularly every Thursday are of Italian descent. After having only joined the club this year, non-Italian student Jonathan Teitelbaum had this to say, "In Italian cards Club, I learned how to play my new favourite card game, Briscola, which brings me an incredible amount of joy with each hand played."

So although the competition may get heated, join us on Thursdays in the cafeteria at 3–4 PM for some old-fashioned fun!

Italian Cards Club: *Briscola*

By Matteo Pannunzio

We all know and love our classic card games, whether it be President, Go Fish, Texas Hold'em, or even Crazy Eights. But wouldn't it be cool to learn a different kind

of game, where new cards are used with new rules? Wouldn't it be fun to try something different?



Italian cards are simple and similar to the cards you already know and love, along with a new kind of game! Italian cards are easy to understand. There are four suits: cups, swords, suns, and clubs. Similar to regular cards, there are specific values to each, with the Ace being the highest, followed by the King, Jack, Queen, 7, 6, 5, all the way to 2.

The game played primarily in Italian cards club is called Briscola. Briscola (or Brisk for short) is an easy fun-to-play game that gets more and more exciting the better you get at it. The premise is easy: whoever gets the most points wins. In Brisk, the cards have slightly different values. The Ace is still the highest, but the 3 is the second highest followed by the rest in the order shown before. Only certain cards can score you points, however. The Ace is worth eleven points, the 3 is worth ten points, the king is four points, the jack is three points, and the queen is two. The trick to this game is that there is a trump suit. When the three cards are dealt to each player, the last card becomes the trump suit. Any cards of that suit can beat any other suits, unless someone plays a trump card higher than yours. For example if the trump suit is clubs and I play a king of cups, someone who plays a 2 of clubs can beat me, yet if someone plays a club higher than that 2 then he wins the round. The game can be played one against one or in teams, and as you play more and more the strategies

become more and more interesting. Fun, easy, and addictive, Brisk is the perfect game to play with friends.

So instead of going home and fretting about tests or looking for things to do, why not come to Italian Cards Club (and get your cultural credit at the same time)? The meetings are every Thursday after school in the cafeteria and everyone is welcome. We hope to see you there!

Game Room

By Jordan Hum

Game Room is an amazing activity hosted by M. Edery in Room 112. Game Room is an activity where students can go and enjoy themselves every Day 1 at lunchtime. To receive either a cultural or community credit, you must sign in at least seven times. The purpose of Game Room is to have students interact with each other, be sociable, and have fun.

In Game Room, students are given the opportunity to play board games. M. Edery would supply the students with many different games such as Monopoly, Sorry!, and even Snakes & Ladders. Now, if board games are not your thing, M. Edery also provides playing cards so we can play poker, blackjack, and so much more. If playing cards or board games are still not your cup of tea, students are allowed to talk with friends and enjoy a nice lunch together. There is usually a couple of students that are sitting together, talking, and maybe sometimes studying for a test.

I personally very much enjoyed my experience with this club. I enjoyed playing all the different board games that were supplied. My personal favourite was Sorry!, because my friends would always send me back to the start and I would get very competitive and attempt to beat them. I was able to play poker and blackjack with many of my friends as well. This club has helped me be more sociable and talk to students from different grades. M. Edery is very welcoming to every newcomer and invites them to try different activities. Every week, there were always more and more students walking in and having fun.

I would like to thank M. Edery for hosting such an amazing activity and hope he will host it again next

year. If you like to play board games and play cards, then this is an activity for you!

SLA Elections

By Jenna Kenton



During the month of May, the students of Royal West Academy voted for their Student Life Association presidents. Student Life Association (SLA) is a student organization run by two co-presidents that are elected by the school and its supervisor Mr. Zigby each year.

This year, there were three candidate slates—**Delta**, **Choice**, and **YOU**—each of which included two co-presidents, one secretary and one treasurer. **Delta** was comprised of co-presidents Chloe Ginsberg and Karley McIlwaine, treasurer Matthew Kis, and secretary Charles Taylor. **Choice** consisted of co-presidents Justin Abrams and Max Taylor, treasurer Jennifer Lynch, and secretary Alex Harboun. **YOU** was composed of co-presidents Sydney Wasserman and Jennifer Mashaal, treasurer Yianni Stroumbakis, and secretary Lemuel Campbell. All three groups put in weeks of hard work preparing speeches, approving ideas with the administration, and campaigning by hanging up posters, handing out pins, etc.



From left: Charles Taylor, Karley McIlwaine, Chloe Ginsberg, Matthew Kis

On May 8, there was an assembly held for students from Secondary I to IV. These students had the opportunity to listen to the three slates pitch their ideas for the upcoming school year and had the chance to vote for the slate that they thought would best represent the students of Royal West Academy. After tallying the votes, it was announced that the winners of

the SLA elections for the 2015–2016 school year was **Delta**!

“We want to thank all the students who supported us and we are so excited to be representing the students of Royal West Academy for the 2015–2016 school year”, said Chloe Ginsberg, newly voted co-president of SLA.

Tomorrowland Dance: Behind the Scenes



By Chloe Ginsberg

During every school year, Student Life Association (SLA) hosts three dances. These dances are held in our Royal West Academy auditorium and surrounding hallways, where SLA completely transforms them into a themed wonderland where students are able to enjoy great music and great company in the comfort of their very own school.

For the final dance this year, SLA chose the theme of Tomorrowland. Tomorrowland is the largest annual electronic music festival held in the world and is known for its vibrant colours and decorations. This dance theme seemed extremely suitable for this time of the year and SLA was super excited about it.

Planning and preparing for the dance is no easy task and requires a lot of commitment from the group. Firstly, SLA is responsible for selling tickets to the student body during homeroom, and in the foyer at lunch and after school. Additionally, each member is required to stay after school and dedicate several lunch periods to making the beautiful decorations that are hung around the school.

All this hard work and devotion led up to one night: May 22. Students of all grade levels entered each wearing their biggest smiles and their finest dance attire. Each and every individual was prepared for a night they wouldn't forget. The DJ played exceptionally enjoyable music that everyone was able to sing and dance along to.

After an exhausting day and electrifying night, it was finally time for the dance to come to an end. Student Life Association stayed after everyone left, and together cleaned the area, making sure no trace was left for school next Monday morning.

"The dance was a huge success and I'm really proud of what SLA accomplished for my final dance at Royal West Academy!" says Mikaela Mailly.

Add SLA On Snapchat!

By Cindy Moreno, SLA member



The Student Life Association at Royal West Academy would like to get the word out that we have officially created a *Snapchat* account!

For those of you who don't know, *Snapchat* is a wildly popular social media application available on any smartphone or tablet. It allows users to broadcast short video clips and pictures to its followers. The account is private, meaning that it is only available to RWA students, and is only accessible by SLA members. We feel that a *Snapchat* account is a great forward-thinking idea that is going to have major benefits for both the SLA and the students, and we are extremely excited to be launching it!

The *Snapchat* account will be used as a new platform for SLA to relay information to the student body pertaining to any upcoming events and activities as well as projects we are working on. It will feature promotional videos for upcoming dances and events in order to create more buzz and excitement as well as a stronger sense of school spirit among the students. This new *Snapchat* account will also give insight into what SLA does and what it's about to the students, by showing behind-the-scenes footage of what we do.

We encourage every student to add SLA on *Snapchat* at **SLA_2015** for a cool, convenient, and new way to stay in the loop. Come on and get engaged in SLA activities! That being said, SLA announcements will of course still be broadcast via the intercom and SLA homeroom representatives as usual.

Beyond The Classroom: Badminton

By Tyler Di Fiore



In Secondary III, the students of Royal West Academy are given a course selection sheet for Secondary IV and one of the popular subjects is Leadership. This class consists of teaching students how

to be a good leader, thus the name of the class. In this class you are taught this characteristic using units such as organizing tournaments, first-aid certification, how to be a teacher, and experiences beyond the classroom.

The biggest assignment we are required to do is "beyond the classroom". This project entails the students to expand their horizons by helping or coaching a sports team at the school or even outside. The point of this assignment is to help you become a better leader and teacher while aiding others that need your assistance as well as giving back to the community. This assignment is carried out through the entire year.

For my assignment, I teamed up with my pal, who is also in Leadership, to help Mr. Dufault coach the bantam badminton team. We were tasked with making the schedules for the practices and games, going to every practice and setting everything up, and helping out the players on the team by giving them pointers to improve upon their technique.

Leadership class taught me various tools to become a better leader and to help others. These skills helped me through many obstacles, such as the first tryouts. Our coach wasn't there, so my pal and I were in charge of running the tryouts all by ourselves. We were able to run the tryouts in an organized and disciplined fashion thanks to everything taught in our Leadership class. We were able to better help the coach throughout the season using these same skills.

This assignment had a positive impact on both myself and the students we were working with. It helped me with my patience, my personal discipline, and my assertiveness, since I had to help other players with various levels of abilities. Overall it made me into a better leader. It felt good giving back to the community and made me feel proud of myself for helping future athletes who seemed to appreciate my help. The experience helped me be able to assert myself as someone who knows what they're doing and how to apply it. Some kids who I helped along the way ended up having a pretty successful season with the team. I think that having someone to look up to who is a leader and is skilled in the sport helped the kids strive for better as well as establishing a friendly rapport.

I recommend this course to all students who are currently wondering what they should take. It gives you many opportunities to better yourself and to become a better leader, thanks to assignments such as “beyond the classroom”.

Reach For The Top

By Ms. Nancy McDougall, Coach

Well, sadly we’ve come to the end of the school year as well as another year for Royal West Academy’s terrific Reach for the Top team.

At this point I’d like to congratulate and embrace the four members of our team, who managed to stay in first place throughout the regular season in what was a hard-fought series of competitions. I salute the total commitment of our four team members: Aaron Sossin, Liam Castonguay, Jerry Huang, and Russell Valerio. This talented crew had a very impressive year in stiff competition against Dawson College, Marianopolis College, Lower Canada College, and Trafalgar School for Girls.

Although the team was ultimately defeated in a battle royale of semi-finals versus LCC, they lost only in the last dying moments of the game, having had the lead till then. It was a tough way to lose, but it’s even tougher for a long-time coach of this devoted foursome to be saying goodbye to a team that played with so much skill, dedication, spirit, and such a generous display of sportsmanship throughout all their matches. All of them have been terrific ambassadors for RWA, exhibiting at all times the stellar qualities of what make our students so very special. I could not have been more proud of any team I’ve been privileged to coach.

With three of the team members graduating, Russell Valerio, the sole remaining member of this talented foursome, will be needing three new teammates to support him next year.

Let me end, then, with a special call for all those who love trivia and spirited competition to turn out next fall for tryouts at the start of the year. You will be guaranteed both fun times and a serious mental workout. Bring your strengths and love of competitive spirit. We’ll take care of the rest.

Boys Badminton Individual Championships

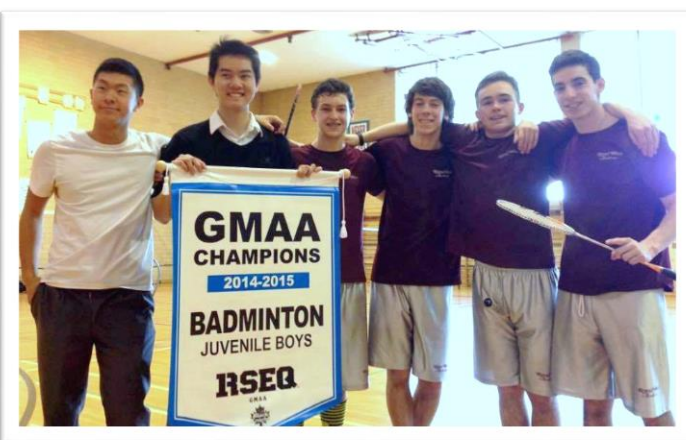
By Josh Hum



It is truly an amazing feeling when you represent your school in a city-wide badminton tournament that only happens once a year. The Badminton Boys Individual Championships is a tournament that takes the top players of each school from different badminton divisions and places them head-to-head in some intense and breathtaking matchups. The ultimate goal is to hopefully leave with a medal.

This year, I was fortunate to experience this once-in-a-lifetime experience and I can assure you that it was a great feeling. During each game there was tension in the air and rivalries were created every match. The atmosphere was nerve-wracking and the stress level was high.

The tournament was held at LaurenHill Academy on April 22. The best teams in the GMAA were assembled in one big hot gym. The schools present varied from John Rennie High School to Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School to Marymount Academy, in addition to a variety of other top schools. All schools played extremely well and it was great to see all of the amazing talent that each school possessed. For both bantam singles and doubles, Royal West Academy came in first. For midget singles, RWA also came in first; and for doubles, RWA came in fourth. For juvenile doubles, RWA came in first place.



Although badminton is not the most known sport in high school, it brings players together as a team, builds

confidence, and is a great and amazing sport to play. Badminton will continue to grow in our school thanks to the talent in our bantam and younger midget players and I am very excited for next year's tournament.

Congratulations to all the players that participated in this year's Individual Championships!

Junior Robotics Competition

By Mr. Stephan Nemeth

This year's Junior Robotics competition was a huge success for Royal West Academy. Students built robots to perform a series of different tasks.



first place in the Mystery Challenge, a race along a track that the students created in live time. **Error 404** also won third place in the Pentathlon.

Congratulations to all the competitors, including Teams Savi Bots, Scorpions, and Nova! All the participants demonstrated great sportsmanship and enthusiasm, and this was an excellent team building experience!

Boys Outdoor Track and Field

By Jude Victoria

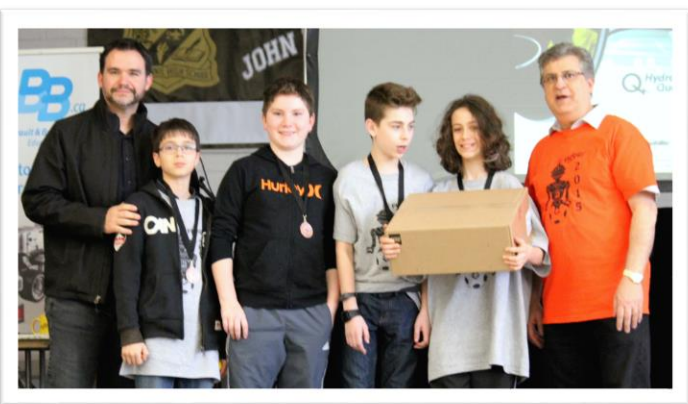
On May 12, boys from Royal West Academy were at the GMAA's annual outdoor track and field competition. The event took place at Piste d'athlétisme Ben-Leduc in the borough of Saint-Laurent. Many schools from the island of Montreal participated in this event and everyone did their best.

The entire RWA track and field team—coached by Ms. O'Neil—consisted of 20 boys. There were ten boys in the bantam division, three boys in the midget division, and seven boys in the juvenile division. All of the athletes had trained hard for this competition since the month of March during the day and sometimes in the morning. During practices the team would do a warm-up jog, then intensive training which consisted of a jog with some power exercises or some sprinting with some more jogging. Then to end each practice they would do a cool-down walk and then some stretches.

The weather on May 12 was possibly the worst anyone could wish for. It was a mix of very heavy rain, cold, and even some hail. In between the heavy rains were small moments of sunshine. Because of the bad weather, events were constantly delayed, but nevertheless the athletes still kept competing and pushing themselves. The athletes were allowed to participate in only five



Team **Terminators**, made up of Janvi Patel, Amanda Tam, and Alicia Shen, received first place in the Soccer Competition.



Meanwhile, Team **Stark**, with Noah Kestenbaum, Jordan Marcus, John Valerio, and Luca Valerio, placed third in the same event.

Team **Error 404**, with William Lumsden, Devon Bradshaw, Louis Yoon, and Yuan Ding, received

events and two relays. Every event at the competition was represented by at least one boy from our bantam division including relay. The midget team, being the smallest with only three boys, could only participate in certain events, most of them being sprinting events and a long distance event, but no relays. The juvenile boys had a participant for each event but they mostly did field events.



From left: Cedric Gravel-Switzman, Jude Victoria, Peter Delis

The competition was tough but we did our best. The bantam boys took 14th place out of 20 other schools. The midget boys were 21st out of 23 schools. The juvenile boys were 10th out of 18 schools. Sadly we couldn't win the banner for any of our divisions this year but several boys won ribbons for qualifying for championships and doing the best in their event.

In conclusion, the track and field competition was great even though we didn't win the banner. Many athletes will be leaving due to graduation. So remember that the track and field team is open to anyone of any age. All you need is a passion to run and to remember that you must always try your best. So see you next year at the competition.

Tennis Team

By Oliver Jean & Bruce Say

After a brief 20-minute tryout, a total of six Royal West Academy boys participated in the GMAA



tennis tournament on April 29. We had two singles players and two doubles teams. We played against many schools and we did well, considering that some of the schools had practices multiple times a week at the same courts we were playing at.



Paul Xie serves from the far court

Paul Xie, our #1 singles player, won enough games to make it to the playoffs. So did both our doubles teams. Although only RWA's #1 doubles team made it to round two in the playoffs, we had fun competing against other schools. We played in the juvenile levels even though only one of our players was in Secondary V, while the rest were in Secondary IV. We also had two Leadership students who were there to support our players.

We all enjoyed our time at the tournament and met very friendly and sportsman-like opponents. We would like to thank Mr. Bateman and the two Leadership students who supported and cheered us on throughout the entire tournament.

Beyond The Classroom: Coaching Flag Football

By Cameron Wilson



Entering Secondary IV, students have the choice to select Leadership as an elective. As I was entering Secondary IV, I was one of those students.

Almost as soon as we started classes, Mr. Bateman (the Leadership teacher) introduced us to a project that we would have to complete at some point during the year. It was called "Beyond the Classroom". This project consists of coaching—or managing—a sports team here at our beloved school. Mr. Bateman informed us that it would be worth approximately 30% of our year, and



would be handed in with a portfolio to accompany it and provide our progress.

As the end of the year approached, and still me without having completed this project, I engaged in coaching the bantam girls flag football team. I have played football for nine seasons with my local youth organization, so I figured it would be the smartest choice of sport for me. Along with two of my fellow classmates, Karl Hunger and Michael Hamilton, we jumped right in. Thoughts like it would be more “for fun” or “just to complete the project” were definitely the first two things that crossed my mind.

Little did I know, the rollercoaster ride had begun. Not only did we have to organize signups, tryouts, and all the equipment necessary, but we had to coach the team as well! So there it was. We had 60 girls at tryouts, and had to cut it down to 22 as the final team. Along with great effort from the girls and some coaching from us three, we had a successful season. Finishing with six wins and one loss definitely surpassed our expectations as coaches. Although we lost in the semi-finals, it was an incredible experience.

This assignment opened me up to so many things. First off, it showed me what it was like to be on the receiving end of being a coach. It definitely is harder than it looks to manage a team. Making plays, running practice, and making game plans was difficult at times. The project also had its positives. It taught me a new way of

learning the game and a new way to appreciate it. Watching the girls play their hearts out was something amazing. Day in and day out they gave it their all and we couldn’t have asked for more as coaches.

To any future Leadership student, I highly encourage you to give it your all for this assignment. Not only do you learn new things, but it gives you the opportunity to be on the coaching side, and a wonderful side at that.

As for me, this project was a breathtaking experience. Nervous at times, it brought me tremendous excitement with every curve that came. I look to engage myself in coaching in the future thanks to Beyond the Classroom.

Bantam Girls Flag Football

By Karl Hunger



The 2015 bantam girls flag football season was a rollercoaster of thrills.

At the tryouts in early March, there were almost 60 girls from Secondary I and II with speed, all around athleticism, throwing power, and drive. It was a very difficult task for the three coaches—Cameron Wilson, Michael Hamilton, and me—to cut 38 of them for a final team of 22 hardworking girls.

With Cameron and Michael leading the girls on offense, I was taking care of my eight players who made the final cut for defense. At first, most of the girls did not have much experience with the game. That is why it was clearly a great fit to put Cameron with them. With his nine years of high-level football knowledge and Western Patriots AAA starting quarterback skills, he was an enormous factor in the growth of our young quarterback's skill. On the other hand, Michael, who has past experience playing as a wide receiver at Collège de Montréal for two years, helped with the pass routes that the girls ran and with their catching abilities.

On defense, the young Wildcats were lead by an experienced safety, Paula Rossi, and an extremely athletic cornerback, Kelly Lyver. These two girls ended up with total domination of the other team's offense, often scoring more points in a game then our very own offense!

The start of the season was decent. In the first three games, the girls had a 2–1 record, winning their first game, 12–6 against Collège de LaSalle, losing their next game 7–6 in overtime against École Secondaire Dorval-Jean XXIII, and then winning against Riverdale High School with a score of 12–0. They coasted throughout the rest of the regular season, winning 19–6, 32–0, 35–0, and 7–0 against Vincent Massey High School, Trafalgar School for Girls, Lauren Hill Academy, and Bialik High School, respectively.

The biggest highlight of the season was when RWA played Trafalgar, not only winning 32–0, but with Kelly, who was on defense, scoring 19 points. With three interceptions for touchdowns and one punt for a single point, she was named definite player of the game, and stood out as not only a great player to her teammates, but also as another leader on defense.

Finally, when it came to the playoffs, RWA was in second with a record of six wins and one loss after the regular season. With captains Chloe Ginsberg (starting quarterback) and Paula Rossi (safety) leading the charge, they were set to play Vincent Massey on May 26. After leading since the start of the game, they unfortunately brought their season to an end by losing 14–13 because of a last-minute safety while on their own three-yard line.

I must say that this was more than just a Leadership assignment for me. Every win, every loss, every missed flag, and every touchdown gave me a rush of emotion because I really did care about this team. I am very glad to have seen the girls' progress throughout the season and I hope all of them continue to pursue this sport in their coming years at Royal West Academy. If you are interested in this extracurricular activity for next year, you can sign up around March wherever the organizers for the activity say so. Check the bulletin!

I would also recommend any future leadership students to choose this sport to coach; I know that I enjoyed every moment of it. Go Wildcats Go!

Girls Rugby Tournament

By Shalee Walsh



On May 8, the Royal West Academy girls rugby team participated in a sevens tournament. The tournament's games were modified to be played with seven players on the field instead of the usual fifteen. For the first time in years, the girls rugby team generated too low of a turnout to make a regular season a possibility. A group of dedicated players, however, continued to train in order to compete in a day of competition.



For many girls, the day of the tournament was their first time playing an actual game of rugby. The team celebrated a victory over its first game, though it lost the next two. All in all, both the wins and losses made the day an incredible experience for the girls.



This year marked RWA's first time participating in this particular tournament, and what will surely be the first of many. Hopefully, next year, the tournament will be just one day of many in a full-fledged rugby season.

The team practiced from March to May during the school year. Practices take place on the backfield after the school day. Any and all girls, no matter the age or rugby experience, are welcome to join. Hope to see you out on the field next year!

Chess Club

By Victoria Ianotti & Alissa Luxembourg

On May 5, Royal West Academy participated in the Game of Thrones chess tournament that took place at Lester B. Pearson High School. This was an opportunity for students in various grades to put their chess skills to the test.

There were twelve students participating from Royal West Academy, four of whom made it to the final round of the tournament. Aaron Sossin placed fourth, Alissa Luxembourg placed third, William Lumsden placed second, and finally Chris Zhang won first place.



The experience was memorable and we were able to meet many new people. It was a very sociable and amicable event that was fun for everyone there, win or lose. The tournament took place in the library at the school, where there were chess tables set up along with water bottles for each player. Besides the beautiful setup, there was also delicious food, such as party sandwiches and cookies. The long drive to Lester B. Pearson was definitely worth it. The tournament organizers could not have done a better job. In addition, each chess player was given a t-shirt, three key chains with their name on them, and a certificate of participation signed by the organizers of this very special event. The support of the players by the organizers was truly wonderful and deserves full recognition.

This was a great day for chess players because it was the battle of all battles, filled with scrumptious treats, socializing with students from a different school who also love chess, and rewards for all of the students' hard work. Hopefully, Game of Thrones will carry on in the years ahead because if there is one tournament to be at, this is the one.

It was extremely encouraging for the RWA students to have the support of their teachers, Mr. Nemeth and Mr. Zigby, as well as the support of the teachers working at Lester B. Pearson. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who dedicated their precious time to organize this very special event that brought all sorts of students and teachers together.

"Every Pawn is a potential Queen."—James Mason.

Hockey Team

By Nathan Johnston



The Royal West Academy hockey team is a sports team and club that I very much enjoyed being a part of. It was an amazing experience that I would recommend to anyone who plays the sport and would like to join a group of people that all enjoy hockey and want to represent RWA, part of which includes being a part of the coaching staff as well.

I really enjoyed training, practicing, playing, and later on even coaching alongside friends who, like me, love hockey. There are obvious benefits to playing hockey for the RWA team, such as playing alongside your friends and classmates, something you may otherwise not get the opportunity to do outside of school.

Getting to represent my school and competing against other schools were only two of the many things I really enjoyed about playing for the RWA Wildcats. Another obvious benefit was getting to play more hockey; if you love hockey as much as I do, you know that playing a few games with your friends after school is time well spent.

There are less obvious benefits about joining the RWA hockey team as well, like getting to know other people and making new friends who have similar hobbies and interests. It also helps to instill discipline and commitment to a goal. According to team head coach Mr. Bateman, "Any student that wishes to be considered for a position on the school team must be prepared to commit to his or her teammates and the philosophy and system set down by the coaches. A school team can be a very rewarding experience, but their needs to be a commitment to make it so."

I believe that joining the RWA hockey team would be a great experience for any student hockey player and something that everyone would enjoy. So why not show up to tryouts next year and try to be a part of a great team and club to represent this great school!

Grads vs Teachers Basketball

By Chazz Yeargans



On April 17, a few of the Secondary V Wildcats basketball players challenged the teachers to a friendly game in the New Gym at lunch. After a quick warm-up, the game tipped-off at 12:43 PM in front of a large and lively crowd, with Eshwar Ganesan, a Secondary III Wildcat and me, Chazz Yeargans, a Secondary IV Wildcat, officiating.

The game was certain to be exciting and did not disappoint. As Charlotte Ouimet said after the game, "The basketball game was one to remember. It was really special to play against all the teachers, even the ones that had no experience. But what made it great was all the people who came out to support us."



Being a wildcat player myself, I can personally say that our games aren't attended by many and it was certainly different seeing the gym so packed and hearing the crowd being so loud and enthusiastic.

The game itself and the quality of basketball wasn't necessarily the best, but it was really the atmosphere of the game and anticipation for the game that made it so

much fun. With a lot of hope for Wildcat star Matthew Daly to dunk, he did not disappoint and threw down a few two-handed slams. The grads ended up winning the game by a lot, but the energy level of both teams and the crowd was fantastic throughout.

The gym just kept filling up as the game went on. From my perspective it was beautiful to see, students from Secondary I to Secondary V, united to support their fellow schoolmates. Near the end of the game there were people standing in the hall outside the New Gym because there were just so many people.

It was really a great moment for the school and the grads. The crowd, a majority of them grads, often broke into chants of “Grads ‘15” and everyone joined in. They inspired future students to keep this tradition of Grads vs Teachers basketball games going.

“The game was super enjoyable even if it wasn’t extremely competitive because of the discrepancy in skill level. Both the teachers and the students took the game pretty lightly and didn’t turn it into something more serious than it needed to be—the goal was to have fun and that’s exactly what happened. It was a great way to end my five years of basketball here at Royal West Academy with the rest of the grads who love to play ball as much as I do. Playing that one last time in front of the students of RWA was a very special opportunity that I was lucky to have and it was amazing to be able to put on that Wildcats jersey so many times throughout high school.”—Nicholas Kudo.

Ultimate Frisbee Club

By Jamie Wiseman

If you don’t have your sports credit by the time May comes around or if you are simply looking to have a great time and enjoy the weather, you should join the Ultimate Frisbee Club that Royal West Academy offers.

This club, which is run by the Physical Education teacher Mr. Aiken and several Leadership students, meets every Friday in the New Gym before heading to out to the front field. Sign-up, which is also in the New Gym, begins a few weeks prior to the starting date.

In the first session you will find out the members of your team of which you will be a part for the next four

sessions. Attending four out of five sessions in May is mandatory in order to obtain your credit. However, you should make an effort to attend all sessions to avoid letting your team down.

Before each game, one of the Leadership students reads out the matchups on each field. Then the fun begins! Each session starts around 3:15 PM and ends around 4:45 PM. During each round, there are six out of ten teams spread out on fields numbered one to three. Each game lasts seven minutes.

For those of you who aren’t familiar with this sport, the rules are simple. At the beginning of each game, the defending team must throw the disc (frisbee) to the offensive team. The offensive team must pass around the disc until they complete a pass into the end zone for a touchdown. Whenever a pass is incomplete, the defending team can take possession of it. After the offensive team gets a touchdown, those defending previously must run to the other side and await the throw-off. Lastly, there is no physical contact between the players.

The game of Ultimate is a highly exciting game played worldwide. Although the Ultimate Frisbee Club at RWA offers sports credit, you can come even if you already have all your credits. There are many students that attend simply because they enjoy the game.

Don’t be afraid to come! Even if you don’t know how to play you will learn quickly. There is no required skill set, and it’s just for fun!

Once again, if May has come around and you are without a sports credit or looking to have some fun, I suggest coming to the Ultimate Frisbee Club at RWA.



Boys Rugby: A Winning Coach And Team

By Mr. Kirk Kelly



Rugby has been played at Royal West Academy since the school's founding. According to Wikipedia, the game began in the mid-19th century at a school called (wait for it) Rugby. The rest of the Wikipedia article is about the difference between the two types of rugby and makes the game no clearer than watching one for the first time. Having said that, rugby is great fun to watch and, judging from the enthusiasm of the RWA players, tremendous fun to play.

Mr. Lapierre has been the rugby coach for the last 18 years ever since his arrival at RWA. He started playing rugby in Secondary I and continued right through his university years at McGill University. At this point, he's played adult rugby for at least 20 years.

When asked what makes the game special, Mr. Lapierre answered, "It's a confrontational game that has room for players of all sizes, speeds, and skills. You need to be fit and playing rugby will make you much fitter. The teams become very tight knit because of the reliance of each player on the skills of their teammates."



photo: Perry Koziris

There are usually two captains on the field at the same time. This year, Justin Savoy-Davies and Andrew Augoustus are co-captains, although Colin Frost has been co-captain since Andrew injured his leg. The team practices every day except in preseason training in April, when they practice twice a day. The boys do a

fitness session at 7:30 AM, and do rugby skills at 3:15 in the afternoon.

Last year's RWA team won the championship. In fact, Mr. Lapierre pointed out that this year's graduating players have not lost a rugby game since Secondary II.



photo: Perry Koziris

This year's team was undefeated this season. On June 1, they played for the championship against Laurentian Regional High School, who were also undefeated in its division. Royal West Academy managed to win 20-7 in a very hard-fought game, scoring with their last kick in the final second.

If you've never seen a rugby game, look for them next year starting in May. It's unlike any sport you have ever watched before.

Friday Goodies

By Jillian Kifell



It's a homeroom phenomenon.

Once a week, it makes our mornings very sweet.

This is what Royal West Academy likes to call "Friday Goodies". On Fridays, a student is selected to bring in homemade goods for the homeroom they are part of. When it comes to walking into homeroom at 8:30 in the morning, there's no better feeling than seeing a nice big bowl of cookies or brownies waiting for us.

A lot of the time, students aren't quite sure what to bring because they aren't sure of the preferences of their fellow classmates. To help you struggling students (and parents), I have a few tips to share after having participated in the phenomenon for the past four years.

First, many students love homemade brownies. For example, Secondary IV student Cindy Moreno prefers them and says they “brighten up my mornings”. For those of you without a recipe, that’s no longer an excuse. A recipe for some delicious brownies is included below. I would also recommend chocolate chip cookies as they aren’t too filling or too hard to make, but are just enough to fill you until recess. Don’t forget to take into consideration students with food allergies likes nuts/peanuts either, so that they can enjoy the goodies as well.

Homemade goodies are not only a preference but a healthier choice in comparison to boxed Oreos. Though sweets aren’t particularly healthy, when you prepare homemade goodies, they don’t contain any preservatives, which are quite unhealthy. If you do feel that Friday Goodies aren’t healthy, then change it up a little! Bring in some bran muffins or even oatmeal cookies. There are tons of ideas on the Internet that

can really benefit you and your homeroom. “Something as simple as goodies can really positively affect your day. It gives us something to look forward to!” says Cindy.

Cindy isn’t the only one who feels so strongly about this treat. This tradition brings the homeroom together. I believe that this tradition should be taken more seriously. Some students can’t afford or may not even have time to eat in the mornings as RWA students come from near and far. The fact that there will be something to snack on in the morning at least once a week is better than nothing. Because it is a weekly tradition, we don’t get tired of homemade goods and our health isn’t really at stake here because sweets are okay in moderation.

Friday Goodies are a delicious start to a new day. They also keep us going through the week as we look forward to this treat!

INGREDIENTS

Nutrition

DIRECTIONS

SERVINGS 10

UNITS US

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup vegetable oil

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

2 large eggs

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon baking powder

$\frac{1}{3}$ cup cocoa powder

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup flour

Preheat oven to 350°.

Mix oil and sugar until well blended.

Add eggs and vanilla; stir just until blended.

Mix all dry ingredients in a separate bowl.

Stir dry ingredients into the oil/sugar mixture.

Pour into greased 9 x 9 square pan.

Bake for 20 minutes or until sides just start to pull away from the pan.

Cool completely before cutting.

Note: I usually double the recipe and bake in a 9 x 13 pan. If you double the recipe, you will need to cook longer than 20 minutes.

To The Honour Band Grads

By Matthew Brady



This year was one of the Royal West Academy Honour Band's best. There were laughs and cheers; we all had a great time. However, there are a few people who are going to be unforgettable. That would be the executive group, consisting of Chris Iannotti, Arielle "Mermaid" Sadaka, Jared "Batman" Fried, and Maddy Lawler. These people worked all year long with no reward waiting for them at the end.

Lastly, a message to all the grads. On behalf of the undergraduate members of the band, we hope that you all enjoy your endeavours in the upcoming years. We gladly receive the torch from you and will hold it high above our heads. In the years to come, we hope that you will look back on this experience and remember all the good times we had together in the Band. It was an honour to play alongside you and we hope to see you in the future.

The Governing Board Report

By Mr. Kirk Kelly, Chair, Governing Board

Meeting of May 25, 2015

First off, next year's annual general assembly, where parents are elected as representatives to the Governing Board, will be held on September 28, 2015, at 7 PM in the Royal West Academy auditorium. I encourage you to attend and vote—the meeting includes an annual report on the previous year's activities and the election of new parent representatives. There will be five open parent positions this fall. If you are interested in being a parent rep, I advise you to come prepared to explain why you should be chosen (i.e., loving your children and wanting to contribute to the school won't help you stand out much).

The seventh regular meeting of the year was held May 25, later than usual in hopes that the school's budget would be ready for discussion. Unfortunately nothing was received from the EMSB so we proceeded with what was already a very long agenda.

The meeting started off with the presentation of a report by the Portal Sub-Committee. Their mandate

was to take the results of the extensive consultation that was done with students, teachers, and parents in 2013–2014 around technology in the school, and recommend a possible portal solution. A portal is an online gateway, restricted in access to school stakeholders, that allows for communication, sharing of materials, posting of results, and showcasing of resources that might benefit our students in their scholarly endeavours.

The sub-committee consisted of three parents: Michael Delis as chair, Gabrielle Krim, and Ryan Ortiz, plus myself in the role of observer. Both Michael and Ryan are members of the governing board and seasoned IT professionals (Michael as a project manager on large scale implementations and Ryan as head of customer service for IT at McGill University). Gabrielle is an RWA parent who was kind enough to donate her time, and is also an IT professional with 20 years experience as a programmer/developer, software product manager, and instructional designer. We were very lucky to have three extremely competent people working on the sub-committee, who worked very hard and came up with five recommendations:

1. Implement a pilot project based on a standardized (free) portal solution (Schoolology at www.schoolology.com, check it out) that will help build an RWA portal Community of Practice on portal best-practices.
2. Continued evaluation of an enterprise-level (fee-based) solution and consideration of various funding options.
3. Formal participation by RWA in the EMSB's planning for the implementation of Microsoft Office365.
4. Extend the mandate of the RWA Portal Sub-Committee to provide ongoing support and guidance for RWA's portal initiative and serve as a link to the Governing Board.
5. Contingent on the outcome of the Schoolology pilot, ongoing progress of the RWA Community of Practice, and guidance of the Portal Sub-Committee, RWA should endorse a single portal solution and encourage all teachers to use the same tool.

Their report was accepted as presented to the Board and the recommendations were adopted unanimously.

We then saluted the newly elected presidents of the Student Life Association, Karley McIlwaine and Chloe Ginsberg, and thanked the outgoing presidents, Rachel Copnick and Mikaela Mailly, for their contributions to the work of the Board and for their insights that helped us shape a number of important decisions.

The Board officially adopted the exam schedule that was finally provided by the EMSB even though exams had actually started almost a month before. We also asked that the EMSB consider a way to produce the schedule in a more timely fashion. Students at RWA want to do well (a goal shared by their parents) and having an exam schedule arrive a month late is not designed to reduce student stress or allow for an optimal study plan.

We discussed the possibility of a Life Skills course for next year and were disappointed that no way forward was apparent. By life skills, we mean teaching students about budgeting, banking, credit, and a variety of other skills that are necessary to thrive. We looked at three alternatives: creating a new course, incorporating the material into an existing course, or creating an ECA. While the last is the easiest and still possible, it will require some students to come forward next year and request the creation of the ECA. Maybe your child will be one of them?

The Board made a variety of changes to the proposed school calendar for next year and approved about 15 trips while also passing a motion asking for the RWA School Council to bring forward some recommendations to simplify trips and to cut down the number of class days that are missed by travelling students. The exchange trips were subject to particularly heavy criticism as students were out of class for nine days. The consequences fall heavily on the teachers who have to give up their lunchtime and add time to the school day to help students who have been away to catch up. You may think that this time is negligible—after all, that's what teachers are paid to do. But let me personally assure you that RWA teachers go far above and beyond what is required of them every day and that this is an added burden.

There was a general discussion of the survey proposed by the Central Parents Committee and currently blocked for distribution by the EMSB. There isn't enough room in this newsletter to elaborate—details can be found in the Montreal Gazette and in community newspapers like The Suburban. Suffice it to say that the controversy has not helped the reputation of English public schools.

An eighth meeting has been scheduled for June 10, 2015, to pass the budget. Hopefully, it will have arrived by then.

Hope you have found these governing board reports useful. Have a great summer and don't forget the Start of the Year Party on September 11, 2015, starting at 3 PM and running to 8 PM (*see pages 2 & 32 for details*).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| May 7–Jun 19 | Exams |
| May 27–Jun 1 | Art Vernissage |
| June 1 | Last full day of classes |
| June 1 | Farewell Barbeque |
| June 2 | RWA Foundation meeting @ 7 PM |
| June 3 | Governing Board: Volunteer Appreciation @ 7 PM |
| June 4 | Graduation Ceremony @ 7 PM |
| June 5 | Pedagogical Day |
| June 8 | USED Uniform Sale @ 7–8 PM |
| June 9 | NEW Uniform Sale @ 2–8 PM |
| June 10 | NEW Uniform Sale @ 3–8 PM |
| June 23 | Prom |
| June 24 | Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day |
| June 24–30 | Bardolators England Trip |
| Jun 24–Jul 26 | Ireland Bike Trip |
| June 25–30 | Pedagogical Days |
| July 1 | Canada Day |
| August 27 | New Student Orientation |
| August 31 | First day of classes |
| September 7 | Labour Day |
| September 11 | Start of the Year party @ 3–8 PM |





RWA USED UNIFORM SALE

Organized by RWA Home & School Association

Monday, June 8, 2015 @ 7 PM–8 PM

In the school cafeteria (cash or cheques only)

Donations of any (clean) RWA uniforms may be dropped off at the school office no later than Friday, June 5, 2015.



RWA NEW UNIFORM SALE

Organized by RWA Home & School Association

Tuesday, June 9, 2015 @ 2 PM–8 PM

Wednesday, June 10, 2015 @ 3 PM–8 PM

In the school cafeteria (cash or cheques only)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RWA UNIFORM SALES!

RWA Home & School is looking for volunteers to help out at the annual RWA uniform sales in the following capacities:

- June 8, 2015 @ 5:30–8 PM: move stock into cafeteria
- June 9, 2015 @ 1:30–8 PM: before, during, and after sale
- June 10, 2015 @ 2:30–9 PM: move boxes back into store and complete inventory

Please contact us at RWAHSA@gmail.com if you are interested—our volunteer in charge of scheduling will confirm a date and time with you!



LOST AND FOUND POLICY

Please be advised that the Lost and Found boxes are cleaned out on the 15th of each month. While labeled items are returned to their owners, several bags of unclaimed unlabeled items are removed and donated to charity every month. So if you are looking for lost items, make sure to look for them before the 15th!

The Lost and Found bins are located in three areas at Royal West Academy:

- outside the new gym
- outside the guidance office
- in the main office under the teachers' mailboxes

In the meantime, please label all your belongings!

RWA



News

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Assistant Editor

Junior Assistant Editor

Staff Advisor

Ronald Pau (RWA parent)

Sophie Sun (Secondary V student)

Yi Sen Wang (Secondary IV student)

Tony Pita (Principal)

RWA News is published during the academic year (from September to May) on the Royal West Academy website at www.royalwestacademy.com. Articles, comments, and suggestions may be directed to the editor at rwanews@gmail.com.





MARK THE DATE

**Friday 11 September
15h-20h**

Start Of the Year

Did we mention a **1200 sq ft Laser Runner maze?**
Or Jump Off (if you dare)?
Or BeaverTails?



**Royal
West
Academy**

Parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, siblings, students,
teachers, staff -- Everyone Welcome!

More games, more rides, more food, more fun.
Pie the Pita.
Bait the Bateman.

