

RWA



News

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NOVEMBER 2019

## A Word From The Administration

Ms. Angela Vaudry, Principal

Mr. Steven Manstavich, Vice-Principal

Ms. Christy Tannous, Vice-Principal

Ms. Andrea Dillon, Vice-Principal (interim)

### Recent changes

There have been a few recent changes to the Royal West Academy community. Ms. C. Juhasz, vice-principal at Royal West Academy since 2014, has recently been named interim principal of Edinburgh Elementary School for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year. Ms. Juhasz has been an integral part of the fabric of the RWA community over the last five years. Her passion, dedication, and care for the well-being and success of our students has shone through during her tenure here. We are very excited for her and wish her all the best in this new adventure at Edinburgh.

Ms. A. Dillon has been named interim vice-principal and has taken over the day-to-day responsibilities of Ms. Juhasz, including overseeing the portion of the student alphabet that she was previously in charge of (students whose last names are from A–F).



Meanwhile, Ms. E. Paquet has taken over Ms. Dillon's classes; Ms. A. Le Templier is replacing Mr. J. Guay; and lastly, Mr. M. Pomenti has joined us as an histoire teacher.

### Cérémonies du Jour du Souvenir

Le 7 novembre, notre école a fait preuve de respect envers ceux qui ont servi notre pays en participant aux cérémonies du Jour du Souvenir dirigées par Mme C. Juhasz. Notre invité spécial était l'un des

nôtres, M. D. Linton, qui a fortement impressionné nos étudiants en nous demandant de penser à tous ceux qui se sont battus pour notre liberté au fil des ans (*voir détails en page 5*).

### Bardolators

The month began with the Bardolators' performance of *Shake Up, Shake Down* (see page 4 for details), featuring a selection of scenes both comical and tragic from *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Macbeth*. The performances, which took place October 28–November 1, were very well attended and well received. Royal West Academy is proud of all our budding thespians who worked very hard to put on an amazing performance. A special thank you to Mr. D. Floen, Ms. G. Koyounian, Ms. S. Westlake, and Ms. T. Kaiser for their hard work in helping to prepare the students for this event.

### Rencontre de parents

Notre première rencontre de parents s'est déroulée le 21 novembre, avec un achalandage habituel. Nous rappelons aux parents qu'ils peuvent contacter avec les enseignants par courriel. Vous trouverez leurs adresses électroniques sur les plans de cours distribués en classe en début d'année, ou encore sur notre site web.

### Cyber-bullying play

On November 18, all Secondary I and II students attended a cyber-bullying and intimidation play which was presented by *Stuck in the net!*—Théâtre Parminou in collaboration with the SPVM. The purpose of this play was to help our students understand how to recognize cyber-bullying, how to protect themselves, and what to do if they suspect someone they know is being cyber-bullied. Thank you to officer Vincent De Angelis and the performers from Théâtre Parminou.

### Carte-repas

Un rappel aux parents que vous avez l'option d'acheter des cartes-repas (meal cards) au travers de la commission scolaire, à utiliser à la cafétéria de RWA.



Une carte-repas est un bon moyen pour votre enfant d'éviter de se promener avec de l'argent dans ses poches. C'est aussi une façon pour vous de vous assurer que votre enfant mange un bon repas chaud et bien équilibré. Pour plus d'informations et pour acheter une carte-repas, allez au

[https://leminibistro.emsb.qc.ca/ui/s\\_public/meal-card-info.aspx](https://leminibistro.emsb.qc.ca/ui/s_public/meal-card-info.aspx)

### Lockdown drill

In an effort to improve the safety and security of our students and staff, Royal West Academy will be holding a lockdown drill prior to the December holiday break. Parents should not be alarmed by this drill. This exercise is carried out at least once every year in EMSB schools.

### Admissions 2020–2021

Les mois d'octobre et novembre nous tiennent bien occupés à Royal West Academy avec le processus d'admission. Environ 80 élèves ont reçu une offre d'admission anticipée basée sur leurs résultats d'examens d'admission ainsi que leurs bulletins. Plus de 300 élèves ont été invités à passer une entrevue dans le but de combler les 180 places disponibles en secondaire I. Le processus se terminera vers la fin du mois de décembre 2019. Félicitations à tous nos futurs élèves qui ont choisi de faire partie de l'équipe RWA. Nous tenons à remercier mesdames François, Spencer, Skyers, Reece, Di Pietro, Schreiber, Klisouris, et McDougall ainsi que messieurs Mateus et Floen pour leur aide indispensable aux examens et aux entrevues.

### Robert Alfred Peck Prize

Nous tenons à féliciter Roxana Barin, Allison Engo, Alessandro Ferraro, Ronit Bathsheba Gelbart, et Jesse Sutherland. Ces cinq élèves ont reçu le Robert Alfred Peck Prize for Excellence in French 2019 pour avoir obtenu un score de 100% à leur examen ministériel de

français langue seconde. Cet honneur leur a été décerné lors d'une cérémonie à la commission scolaire où les élèves ont été récompensés par une médaille et un chèque d'une valeur de \$150. Félicitations!

### Uniform in winter

The cold days of winter are definitely here. Parents and students are reminded that students must come to and leave school in uniform. Students may not wear jeans or any other pants with their skirts or over their school pants; they may only wear their physical education jogging pants, if necessary, or appropriate external winter apparel.

Enjoy the snow and get the family to build snowmen together!

## SHARING THE STAGE WITH YOU.

By: Mr. Mitchell White, RWA Foundation  
President

Once again, the Royal West Academy Foundation's Big Super Raffle was an incredible success, thanks to all of you who supported the fundraising initiative by buying tickets.

The draw took place on November 18 at our *Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About RWA But Were Afraid To Ask* evening. Congratulations to our lucky winners, some of whom purchased their tickets online and some of whom did so in person:

Winners of one pair each of **great seats** to see the Jonas Brothers concert:

- Eric Bettan
- Theresa Manuel

Winners of one pair each of **great seats** to see *AXEL* by Cirque du Soleil:

- Heather Barton
- Diane Bouchard

The raffle raised more than \$2100 for the Foundation, funds that will go toward our current *Sharing the Stage with You* capital campaign, which seeks to provide the school with a new state-of-the-art performing arts facility within the next few years.



As we gear up for another holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported, and continue to support, our efforts to improve the school experience for our students. Not only does your generosity benefit your own children during their time at RWA, you are creating a legacy for future generations of RWA students. RWA is one of the best, if not **the** best, secondary schools in Quebec. Students from all across the greater Montreal area are invited to apply for admission, but only the best and brightest are offered a spot. Let's make sure that the facilities match the calibre of our past, current, and future students. Your support at any level—whether it's buying a \$10 raffle ticket, buying a chair in your grad's name for the auditorium, or pledging an annual donation to the campaign—makes a difference.

So do our committee of volunteers, who have worked tirelessly this fall to make the raffle and our November 18 parent event the successes they were. I would like to thank secretary Ian Swain, treasurer Robert Cerminara, and directors Andre Asch, Lori Chazonoff, Kim Darlington, Giulio de Tedesco, AnilaErindi, Jennifer Nemeth Styles, Pat Nolan, and Jimmy Roussos for their dedication over the past few months. In addition, none of our efforts would be successful without the collaboration and support of the school administration, particularly Ms. A. Vaudry, Mr. S. Manstavich, and Ms. C. Juhasz, to whom we wish all the best in her new school.

Our last meeting was on December 9, everyone was spoiled by a holiday potluck event while we shared news of what the Foundation has in store for the school in 2020.

All the best to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season!

## A Debating Opportunity

By Jesse Sutherland

Recently the Royal West Academy Debate Team has been very successful at the competitive level. On September 28, senior debaters Cameron O'Hare and Adelka Felcarek-Hope won third place at the Selwyn House School tournament, and participated in the open final round.

For anyone interested in trying out debating and being part of the RWA team, the annual Debating Seminar is the perfect opportunity! It is a great way to introduce



new debaters to the world of debating as well as for more experienced members to develop their skills—and it is open to everybody!

This year the seminar took place on October 12 at RWA. Throughout the event, participants had the chance to listen to a variety of seminars, debate in multiple practice rounds, and watch a show round—which was a very exciting feature of the event. We got to watch a debate between two teams of experienced debaters, who graduated from RWA and had come back for the event. It offered entertainment for the end of the day, watching skilled debaters clash, and it gave us an idea of what a high level of debating looks like.

The most enriching part of the day was the various seminars given by the graduate debaters. They were very helpful to me as a debater, since it allowed me to expand my bank of techniques, with advice on refutation and summary rebuttals as well as questions to ask ourselves when trying to come up with arguments, and a presentation on logical fallacies.

Finally, the Debating Seminar is a worthwhile social experience. Simon Radhakrishna, a Secondary V student, said that the “many debates [he had] in one day allow[ed him] to bond with other debaters.”

If you are interested in debating, I suggest you participate in the Debate Seminar next year!

## Banding Together At Orford

By Sofia McVetty

From October 18 to October 20, Royal West Academy's Honour Band was at the Orford Music Academy in the Eastern Townships. The annual retreat gave the young musicians the opportunity to not only improve their musical skills, but also form meaningful bonds with their fellow bandmates.







As a member of Honour Band myself, I got to witness firsthand the amazing weekend, made possible by our beloved band director Ms. G. Purdy as well as the parent chaperones and the band executives.

Shortly after arriving, the students got ready for a full band rehearsal with the one and only Mr. P. Murtha! Mr. Murtha, an American composer, arranger, and music teacher, conducted the band with one of his original pieces, giving advice, and helping us perfect it. The students then participated in games organized by the executive so that we could get to know each other better. This first evening, especially the icebreaker activities, truly set the stage for a weekend filled with learning opportunities as well as loads of enjoyment.

The following day, the band was divided into sections and sent off to work with specialized instrument coaches, giving the musicians a chance to work on pieces that posed a challenge for their instrument. The coaches also helped the musicians work on general skills that could be applied to any future pieces they play, such as tone and blending. After a long day of hard work, the students were rewarded with some free time and a campfire with s'mores.

That weekend, the Quebec Band Association (QBA) also held their annual conference at the Orford Music Academy. This meant that the students were able to attend various workshops organized by the QBA, including a jazz improvisation workshop led by Mr. Murtha and a djembe workshop. Flute section leader Jiamei Wang said, "I was surprised at the offer of workshops this year, but I signed up for the Jazz improvisation workshop just to get a glimpse of a genre we never really interact with. Working and listening to Mr. Murtha was actually really fun! I realized through

this experience that jazz was not as intimidating as I thought it was."

The next morning, the entire band got together for a rehearsal where each section had the opportunity to showcase the progress they had made. This was followed by the first marching rehearsal of the season.

All in all, although the weekend was centred around music, it was truly about so much more than that. The students improved their musical skills, but they also formed friendships with each other and created some wonderful memories. This weekend was a great start to what I believe will be a great year for Honour Band.

## From Boy To Bard And From Play To Perfection

By Nathan Bokobza

### The Story of William Shakespeare in a Review of the Bardolators' *Shake Up, Shake Down*

I have been reading the plays of William Shakespeare ever since I was in sixth grade and I've always loved them. However, despite being some of the most amazing stories in the English language, my time watching the plays of the Royal West Academy Bardolators truly brought those stories to life—I will explain how.

Their fall production *Shake Up, Shake Down* was a great way to bring some of William Shakespeare's most iconic scenes to the stage. From the mocking attitudes of Sir Toby and his friends, to the tragic end of *Romeo and Juliet*, and from comedy to tragedy, this play truly embodies the genius of William Shakespeare. Linking the scenes together felt very fluid with the help of

Ms. G. Koyounian and Mr. D. Floen's incredible custom narrations. These few sentences in between scenes were very helpful in explaining the context, the tone, and what we should expect from the next scene.

As always, the wonderful talent of the actors was what truly brought the scene to the stage in front of us. The actors were very clearly determined to put on a great show and they each refused to break character until the curtain fell.

Even if you aren't a big fan of Shakespeare, they truly made it a great show with fluid fight scenes, touching tears, and lovable laughter. One of my favourite aspects of the play is the fact that the stage is actually three dimensional, with a row passing in between the audience. This touch adds so much depth to an already great production and makes it feel so much more real than standard plays.

So in conclusion, *Shake Up, Shake Down* was easily one of the RWA Bards' best plays. If you are reading this, then please spare a few dollars to watch these plays—the Bardolators deserve the largest audience we can find!

## Music Update

By Ms. Ginette Purdy

What an exciting year this is turning out to be!

We have record numbers of students enrolled in instrumental music. In fact, we have had to scramble to ensure that each student has their own instrument. We are stretched to the limit and bursting at the seams. We love it!

Traditionally we combined all the music classes of the same grade so they can perform together as one band on one stage. With 120 Secondary II music students, we can no longer do this as our stage is simply not big enough—in all fairness, most stages aren't! To remedy this space issue, we are now holding two separate Winter Concerts in January and two separate Spring Concerts in May. Students registered in the music classes have been told which evening they are performing and they are required to be present for that concert. Extra-curricular ensembles will perform one or both evenings, depending on the ensemble, so there is the possibility that your child will perform both evenings.

Our Winter Concerts will take place January 15 and 16, 2020, at 7 PM. The Spring Concerts will take place May 6 and 7, 2020, at 7 PM. Tickets will be sold by the music department the week prior to the concert, and at the door. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Exact change or cheques are most appreciated!

Your support is so important to us. Since we can no longer charge instrument rentals fees, the music department is suffering some financial strain. We hope to see you out in large numbers at all our concerts this year!

## The Value Of Sacrifice

By: Malcolm MacInnis

Imagine a world where, when your car breaks down during a snowstorm and someone random, a complete stranger, gets out of their car and goes out of their way to help you, spending precious minutes when they could be inside their own car or home being warm, decides to help you, a random stranger. Now imagine if everyone did that. It would be a pretty nice place—maybe not the best, but at least a little bit warmer.

A few weeks ago on November 7, the day of Royal West Academy's Remembrance Day assemblies, I had the privilege of being on stage as a member of the school's Honour Band. We played the national anthem and a few other pieces. Then one of the teachers, Mr. D. Linton, spoke of his experiences in the Canadian armed forces. He spoke passionately about the value of sacrifice and what it meant a hundred years ago in the first World War. He spoke of how the sacrifice of the brave Canadians in the armed forces gave us the world we have today. It was a powerful speech because it left the question in our heads: what place does sacrifice have on young people today?

I had the pleasure of interviewing him November 20, about that very same topic. He spoke of how, in this day and age, we place high stock on individualism—not that he's against individualism, but lately it's been a lot more about people doing only what benefits themselves.

"Sacrifice is about putting yourself in a position of loss to benefit someone else and it begins with empathy." Now this Mr. Linton said was crucial because you cannot honestly sacrifice for someone else if you don't understand their feelings. "Imagine if your house caught fire, wouldn't you want someone to put it out? Going to war to fight for your country is noble, throughout





history martyrdom was treated as something to aspire to in some cases. But you can still put yourself in a position of loss without giving up your life, why not volunteer at a homeless shelter, or go take out the garbage for your parents without being asked? These are all ways you can sacrifice everyday."

He told me how sacrifice is something young people can learn to practice every day; it can be one form of self-improvement in many ways. Mr. Linton then pulled out this big book, called his execution book. Here he would evaluate himself every six months and write down concrete things he could do to make the world around him a little brighter.

I think it's important to not only look at Mr. Linton's example but also to examine how our greatest sacrifices are through action, through doing something good for someone else without being asked, without expecting recognition. If we want this world to be a little warmer, we have to make it.

## *Hello, Dolly!* Musical

By Jessica Looper

Every year, Royal West Academy puts on a memorable musical production right before the holidays. This

December, we will be performing the musical *Hello, Dolly!* by Michael Stewart. It tells the story of Dolly Levi who has set up Horace Vandergelder and Irene Molloy to get married. Mr. Vandergelder travels to New York to meet the millineress, leaving Cornelius and Barnaby in charge of his hay and feed business, who then decide to go on an adventure of their own.

The auditions and casting all took place during the spring so at the beginning of September we were ready to start rehearsals. We began by practicing twice a week, once to rehearse music with our musical director, Chris Barillaro, and once working on the dances with our choreographer, Jenny Rizzo. This classic Broadway musical has many big dance numbers which we sing in three- to four-part harmony. During the month of November more rehearsals are added to go through all the acting and staging with our director, Douglas Floen. Then, everything is added together at the end of November through December (show dates are December 16–19, 2020, at 7:30 PM).

Ms. E. Kuch is the teacher in charge of the musical and also takes care of our costuming. This play is set in the 1890s so we have big poofy dresses, suspenders, and lots of fun hats. For our set (created by Mr. J. Bateman) we are using a balcony to give different levels, screens



that we can move around, and sets on wheels that we can spin because of the numerous locations. Our entire cast is very excited and can't wait for opening night. This is a very funny and family friendly show that will be a great start to your holiday. Hope to see you there!

## HELLO, DOLLY!

### CAST LIST

<b>DOLLY LEVI</b>	Ella Deutsch, Megan Edelstein
<b>HORACE VANDERGELDER</b>	Joseph Oberfeld, Jackson McCunn
<b>IRENE MOLLOY</b>	Alyssa Mirarchi, Jessica Looper
<b>CORNELIUS</b>	Max Taffert
<b>BARNABY</b>	Trent Deschamps-Coinner
<b>MINNIE</b>	Sofia Iarocci, Sahana Dunkley
<b>ERMENGARDE</b>	Dalia Tobenstein, Olivia Helguero
<b>ERNESTINA</b>	Maya Moryoussef
<b>AMBROSE</b>	Evan de la Rua
<b>RUDOLPH</b>	Elliot Million-Lovett, Ella Barakett
<b>MRS. ROSE</b>	Kaleska Rolston-Fredes
<b>STANLEY</b>	Sam Jemus
<b>JUDGE</b>	Emma Rhodes
<b>COURT CLERK</b>	Sophia Marshment
<b>FIRST COOK</b>	Kayla Friedland-Yust
<b>SECOND COOK</b>	Jesse Sutherland
<b>POLICEMAN</b>	Yasmine Assi

### TOWNSPEOPLE OF NEW YORK

Hanako Brierly  
Molly Deutsch  
Leah Knecht  
Katia Kieran  
Zoé Cajelait-Asch  
Magali Shimotakahara  
Eneida Kati  
Erica Eiley  
Emma Jemus  
Chloe Zheng

## Ho! Ho! Ho! It's The Santa Claus Parade!

By: Hou Wen Yao

Christmas time isn't around the corner just yet, but it sure feels like it! On November 16, our school's Honour Band went marching in the 48th annual Santa Claus Parade in Cornwall ON. We were led by drum major Casey and our director Ms. G. Purdy, who has been director for the past 20 years. Our festively decorated band showered the audience with well-known Christmas tunes and brought home the Best Visiting Band award. Way to go for us!

The Royal West Academy Honour Band is an extracurricular band consisting of students from

Secondary I to V who are selected through an audition process. Our school is the only one in Montreal that boasts a high school marching band. As an annual tradition, we participate in numerous parades and events, proudly representing our school, in the Ontario and Montreal regions—often receiving various awards.

This is my second and final year in Honour Band and to spice things up, I played the bell lyra. In concert band, I usually play the French horn but I chose to try out the lyra; an instrument that produces a bell sound and that's similar to a xylophone but with metal bars. It ended up being a really enjoyable experience!

Considering that the parade took place in the evening and at a low temperature of -16°C, I'd like to congratulate the band for keeping the enthusiasm high all the way through! At the past few parades, we've had brass instruments getting their valves stuck due to the cold. However, this year was one of the warmer years at Cornwall! Ms. Purdy made a comment about the weather, saying it was "warmer, much warmer than in the past, so it was pleasant. We had less instruments freeze this year." Fortunately, parades like these are always a joy to the performers, thanks to the town's wonderful reception. Cornwall's citizens are always so welcoming and they show their enthusiasm. While I was playing, I noticed some parents guiding their children to lift their knees, left-right-left, as if they were marching along with us! Some lively children were even eagerly marching on the spot on their own. It was such an endearing sight to see!

The whole band played together for three sequences, featuring percussion cadences in between, but my favourite part was when the only two bell lyras played *Deck the Halls*. Our solo was happily received by the audience members. During our feature, we would hear collective gasps and a few oohs and aahs. After all, seeing the happy faces made me feel proud of being





able to march and play in such a parade.

The season is off to a good start! Our Band makes our next appearance at the Santa Claus Parade in Morrisburg ON, taking place the morning of December 7. To see the Honour Band perform up close, come join us at the Saint-Patrick's Day Parade next spring in downtown Montreal!

### Canoe Camping Trip

By Brandon Ciccarello

This past September I decided to go on Royal West Academy's annual Canoe camping trip. Going into it I really wasn't sure what to expect, I had heard from the students that went on the trip the previous year that it was an incredible experience and that I would not be disappointed, so I decided to see it for myself.

The eight-hour bus drive from Royal West Academy to Algonquin Provincial Park can be best described as long and painful which, to be honest, was a trend that persisted throughout the entire trip. When we finally arrived at the park, we immediately got to work unloading the bus and bringing the canoes to the water. After a brief canoeing lesson from Evan Frankel (an RWA alumnus) we went out on the lake and were immediately greeted by crystal clear water and fresh air.

As we continued with the trip we were constantly presented with new challenges, whether it was an 800 metre portage or trying to cook a nutritious breakfast before we set out on the water in the mornings, we always worked as a group to overcome them. One of the most memorable parts of the trip for me was when my two friends and I flipped our canoe.

The water was cold and we were scared but just as quickly as we hit the water, two canoes full of our friends were there ready to help us. We loaded their canoes with our bags, immediately started a T-rescue, and as quickly as it started it was over. When we got to the shore, we were offered clothes by multiple people and were warm and cozy on our bus ride back to Montreal.

To sum up this trip I would say that all the 30+ students that participated experienced difficulties and were at one point uncomfortable, but we all learned how much easier these uncomfortable times are if we have a helping hand.

## Upcoming Concerts

By: Daniel Drozhzhin

It is once again that time of the year when the first snow begins to fall and everyone starts counting down the days until those two glorious weeks of fun and rest. But what kind of pleasant winter would it be without pleasant music? This is where the music department proudly presents the first two of its four annual concerts.

The Holiday Concert already took place the evening of December 5. It featured performances of various festive holiday pieces from the Royal West Academy Winds, A Capella Choir, and Honour Band. Additionally, certain senior music students in Secondary IV and V played chamber music.

In January, 2020, we will have our curricular Winter Concert featuring band pieces that the Secondary II and III music students have been preparing as well as Jazz Band, Choir, Honour Band, and more chamber music from the seniors. However, due to a surge in the number of music students this year, the concert will take place over the course of two evenings: January 15 and 16, 2020.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. All proceeds from ticket sales will go toward maintaining the quality of the music program through instrument purchase, repair and maintenance as well as the purchase of sheet music, stands and other essential supplies.





Special thanks to Ms. G. Purdy, Ms. S. Macleod, and Mr. A. Van Alphen, for organizing these events and conducting the ensembles to make all of this possible.

The music students and teachers have been working very hard in preparation for these performances. We hope to see you there!

## Our World, One Crisis, 500,000 People

By Melanie Segev

September 27, 2019, is a day to be remembered. It will be in the history books for future generations. Our grandchildren will learn about what we were fighting for—not only the cause, but the start of a revolution.

Greta Thunberg, a girl from Sweden, who is only 16 years old, created a worldwide movement. When nobody believed in her, she still pursued her dream. Every Friday, she sat in front of the Swedish parliament demanding the government's help for our environmental crisis. Finally, people started to listen.

In the year of 2019, protests supporting the environment took place in Bolivia, Canada, France, Germany, Ghana, and many other countries. All of these protests were inspired by Greta.

The mayor of Montreal, Valérie Plante, made public transportation free on the September 27, which encouraged people to reduce their carbon footprint and made the big event accessible to all. Metros, trains, and buses were packed in the morning with people, eager to attend the protest starting at noon at the George-Étienne Cartier Monument. Many schools cancelled their classes on this day, encouraging students to attend.

Five hundred thousand people walked in one large group with decorative signs chanting and singing with musical instruments down the streets of downtown Montreal. All were in the hopes of breathing clean air and have a planet to live on in the future.

Children, teenagers, adults, and seniors all united as one to fight for a greener planet. We walked side-by-side with strangers, knowing nothing about each other yet feeling a sense of support and understanding for one another.

At four o'clock that afternoon, people gathered around a stage to hear Greta speak. She spoke about our moral



duties to save the one thing keeping us all alive: our Earth. Everyone could see the impact she has had in our society, and the twinkle in everybody's eyes. The crowd applauded and saw their inspirational hero up close.

Royal West Academy students participated in this event, expressing their hopes for a greener planet. By being in the Environment Committee, I have noticed the lifestyle changes many students have pledged in order to reduce our carbon footprint. So many people now go thrift shopping instead of contributing to fast fashion and use reusable water bottles instead of plastic ones, which take 450 years to decompose in landfills. All in all, our hopes for a greener future have yet to be realized, and Royal West Academy supports our aspirations.

"I shouldn't be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet, you all come to us young people for hope. How dare you? You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. Yet, I am one of the lucky ones. People are suffering." — Greta Thunberg, UN Climate Action Summit, September 23, 2019.

That day made a change in everyone's lives. Not just the protesters, but to the rest of the world. We must change our ways of living. If not, we will no longer be able to live.

## The Governing Board Report

By Ms. Jacqueline Stein-Elman, Vice Chair

The second Governing Board meeting was held on November 25. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Bill 40 presentation and update
- Budget update

- Review of Criteria for Principal Selection – first draft in progress

Meetings take place in the school library at 7 PM—all are welcome. Hope to see you at our next meeting, but in case you miss us, the minutes are posted on the Royal West Academy website.

## USED UNIFORMS

### ACCEPTED ALL YEAR!

Home & School accepts used uniforms all year long. If you have used uniforms to donate to the Used Uniform Sale in June, you or your child can drop items off at the school store on all regular school days during the lunch hour, or at the main office during regular school hours.

## 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!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 3	Home & School meeting @ 7:30 PM
Dec 2–6	Food and Toy Drive week
December 5	Holiday Concert @ 7 PM
December 9	RWA Foundation meeting @ 7 PM
Dec 9–13	MindPOP Science
Dec 9–13	Tyndale Week
December 12	Technology Expo
Dec 16–19	Musical Production: <i>Hello, Dolly!</i>
Dec 23–Jan 3	Holidays
January 6	Pedagogical Day
January 10	Variety Show @ 7 PM
Jan 13–17	MEES Supplemental Exams
Jan 13–17	MindPOP Histoire
January 14	Home & School meeting @ 7:30 PM
January 15	Winter Concert @ 7 PM
January 20	Sec I Parents Seminar @ 7 PM
January 23	Governing Board meeting @ 7 PM
January 21	Winter Carnival
Jan 27–31	Mid-Year Exams



**A NICOTINE-FREE  
VAPE IS NOT  
A WORRY-FREE  
VAPE.**

Vapes can expose you to toxic chemicals like formaldehyde and acrolein, even if they don't have nicotine.

 **FDA** U.S. FOOD & DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION

**RWA**



**News**

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ROYAL WEST ACADEMY PRESENTS/PRÉSENTE



BOOK BY / LIVRET DE

**MICHAEL STEWART**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY  
MUSIQUE ET PAROLES DE

**JERRY HERMAN**

BASED ON THE PLAY "THE MATCHMAKER" BY  
BASÉ SUR LA PIÈCE DE THÉÂTRE "THE MATCHMAKER" DE

**THORNTON WILDER**

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY  
PRODUCTION ORIGINALE DIRIGÉE ET CHORÉGRAPHIÉE PAR

**GOWER  
CHAMPION**

PRODUCED FOR THE BROADWAY STAGE BY  
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CHORÉGRAPHIES SUPPLÉMENTAIRES DE

**CLARA CHEMTOV**

COSTUME AND SET CO-ORDINATOR, PRODUCER, FACULTY ADVISOR  
COORDINATRICE DE DÉCOR ET COSTUMES, PRODUCTRICE, CONSEILLÈRE DE FACULTÉ

**ERIKA KUCH**

**DECEMBER  
DÉCEMBRE 16**

**5\$ 10\$ 15\$**

STUDENTS  
ÉTUDIANTS   SENIORS  
ÂGE D'OR   ADULTS  
ADULTES

7:30 PM | 19H30

**17 18**

**10\$ 15\$**

SENIORS & STUDENTS  
ÂGE D'OR ET ÉTUDIANTS   ADULTS  
ADULTES

**19 WINE & CHEESE  
VIN ET FROMAGE**

**15\$ 20\$**

STUDENTS  
ÉTUDIANTS   ADULTS & SENIORS  
ADULTES ET ÂGE D'OR

6:45 PM | 18H45

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