



MARCH 2011



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Editor: **Christine Clarke**

Mac Link

Home & School

Our kids are worth it!

Mac Home & School recently celebrated **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week**, supplying recess treats for everyone. Thanks for supporting us through fundraising, and the donation of treats, which were gratefully received by all!

The Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations has launched a **Family Treasures Essay Competition**. We are pleased to report that **Miss McGovern's Grade 7 enriched class** will be participating, and we wish them every success!

Our monthly meetings are open to all. Dates are listed on the Mac High website. We begin at 7 pm, and meet in the school library. **Please feel free to join us, and find out more about Home & School.** These meetings allow us to learn what's in store for the coming school year, and to keep up-to-date

on issues that involve our children.

Our meetings are most of all a forum to hear our members' ideas on where we should be spending our energy and funds to best ensure our students' success.

I hope to meet you at one of our meetings,

Casey Stilwell
President, Mac H&S

cdstilwell@videotron.ca



Big Thank You to Stephanie Charters and to Edible Arrangements for the beautiful donation for Teacher/Staff Appreciation!

Principal's Message

Dear Mac Community,

We are already past the half way mark, incredible as that might seem. So much has been happening at Mac. Where do I begin? We have so many sports teams that it seems that at any given night you can drop by the gym and catch a game. Our dedicated staff continues to give up countless hours to coach our athletes.

December was a whirlwind of activity. Our students, with your help, delivered 28 Christmas baskets to families and this made a difference in the lives of those who helped and those who received. Thank you all for your generous hearts.

From all reports, the grads had a fantastic time in Florida during the Christmas break and they were lucky enough to watch a Habs game in Tampa. The grad ski trip was a resounding success and the Europe trippers had a wonderful time in Europe.

Our robotics team under the direction of Mr. Duckworth participated in a provincial competition which included private schools and CEGEP's. I am very proud to announce that we finished second over all. Perhaps you read about this robotics competition on the school Board website and saw the new MAC3 logo designed to advertise our magnet programs.

Staff was treated to goodies by the Home and School and Leadership class during Staff Appreciation Week. Thank you for making us feel so special.

The "Connect Ed", the voice mail service I use to send out voice messages to your homes is equipped to simultaneously send the same message via e-mail and include attachments, such as forms and notices. If you have changed your e-mail address since you filled out the registration form in September, would you kindly inform the school so we can update our files. If you have never received a voice mail message from me, please contact the school.

Students were given re-registration forms in February. These forms must be signed and returned to us in order to ensure a spot at Mac for your son or daughter next year. If your child has lost the form, we will re print another one for him or her. Option forms were distributed March 8th and should be filled out and returned asap.

After 45 years of service and dedication as an educator, Mrs. Pengelley retired on February 25th. The Mac community congratulates Mrs. Pengelley and wishes her well in her retirement.

I bet March break seems like a vague memory at this point in time. I hope everyone had a good holiday. The good news is that Spring is just around the corner!

I wish everyone continued success in Term 3.

Regards,

M.A. Bindner



Guidance Office News



The **Post-Secondary Information & Orientation Evening** for parents that was held in January was very well attended. **If you were not able to attend and would like a copy of the presentation, please contact the Guidance Office.** The students received the same workshop later in the week & since that time have been coming down to ask questions & work on their plans for the coming years. At this point in the school year, students who applied to CEGEP by the March 1st deadline are waiting to see if their application was accepted. Generally, most colleges will give an initial response by mid-April. **Students who are refused in the first round, must register their second choice on the SRAM website by April 18th.** Term 2 grades will be automatically transmitted to the CEGEPs in time for consideration of the 2nd round choices.

Students who have registered or who are thinking about registering for a **Vocational (Trades) program**, should direct inquiries to **WAVE at 514-732-7766** or by visiting the website at www.pearsonskills.com. There are many different Trades programs offered in the Montreal area & elsewhere across the province, especially if one is willing to consider studying in French. For a complete listing of Vocational programs & an online registration form please go to www.srafp.com for more information. Most Grade 11 students already have the minimum pre-requisites for Trade programs & should **consider applying now, especially for high-demand programs like Electricity, Professional Cooking & Auto Mechanics.**

In other news, this winter the Guidance Department teamed up with the **West Islands Women's Centre** to offer a discussion group for 8 young women in Grades 8 and 9 focusing on the responsible use of the internet. This six-week program was co-facilitated by our Intern, **Stephanie Miller and Nika Naimi** from the WIWC.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by email afraser@lbpsb.qc.ca or by calling the main line at the school.

Andrea Fraser, c.o.
Guidance Counsellor



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COMMUNITY OFFICE

By the time you receive this, most Quebecers will be ready to come out of hibernation and stretch! Mac students, however, have **not** hibernated; they have been busy, busy, busy! Here is a short (well, not that short) recap of what Mac students have done during the most blustery time of year.



It was mentioned in the last MacLink that 200 shoeboxes were given out to be filled by students and would be sent off to Haiti. An impressive **194 boxes**

were filled and a huge Thank you goes out to **Ms. Guy and Ms. Browns' classes** for their collaborative efforts!

Remembrance Day was once again quite moving. We had an assembly with all students, 654 of them, and it was another proud moment for Mac. The students could not have been more quiet and respectful. **Elenor Arless showed true grit** when her fellow band member became sick and she had to perform both trumpet solos planned for the day. **Wow, Elenor, you are quite something!**

On December 1 we had a wonderful morning and **lunch at JFK. Thirty students prepared lunch and entertained physically and mentally challenged children** with the highlight being **our own Santa Claus (great job A.J Po-Deziel!)** paying a visit. Mac students continued in true Christmas spirit, **organizing and delivering 28 Christmas baskets to families in need.** Thank you so much to parents, staff and especially students for doing such a great job.

February was another busy month with students volunteering at the Pincourt mall selling items for the **Heart and Stroke Foundation.** We are also, once again, in the St. Patrick's Day Parade with more than 40 students having signed on, giving up an entire day to help the Irish Societies with their banners.

Grad rings will be on sale Wednesday and Thursday, **March 23 and 24...** Grads of 2012, mark the date on your calendars! Catalogues will be given out two weeks in advance. Also, the driver's ed. info session will be held in March, Grade 11's keep listening to those morning announcements for the date and time.

Our **Cover Girls** have been hard at work covering books, books and more books. **THANK YOU!**

A quick mention about tutoring; **we currently have 136 contracts of peer tutoring**, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you think your child needs a little help heading into the last term...**tutoring really does make a difference.**

Well, not that short was the truth. It is so hard to keep this message contained. We **are** busy (I won't repeat it 3 times!!) and happy to be so.

One last thing, please mark **Thursday, May 5, 6:30** on your calendars - **Mac's Multi-Cultural Food Court!** The night should be a gastronomical delight for an unbelievable price...come one come all!!!



Macdonald High School Partners with McGill University

Macdonald High School's **Grade 9 Bridge**



Program (Bridging the Gap – A Path to Success) has had the wonderful opportunity to be partnered with **McGill's "Engineers without Borders"**. **Christopher Fuzessy**, Coordinator of Student Services and **Nancy Battet**, Pearson Community Partnership Liaison, coordinated this partnership with McGill. Mc Gill Engineers visited the Bridge classroom and presented their **"Water for the World"** workshop to the students. This "hands on" activity introduced the students to many global issues and concerns around the world. Then the students along with their teacher, Jaime Guy, were invited to **spend a day at McGill** hosted by the "Engineers without Borders". The theme of the day was **"Knowledge is Power"**.



The students were give tours of the Redpath Museum, the Archaeology Lab, the various McGill libraries, the McGill Daily Student Newspaper and the Engineers Design Team's Robotics Demo. The **highlight of the day was a game of "Quiddich"** which took place on the front lawn of the Roddick Gates. The students were treated to a sustainable lunch and the day ended with a motivational "stay in school" talk given by a faculty member of McGill, **Professor Coulombe**. The students had a wonderful experience and all came back with positive comments and huge smiles on their faces.





Science Department Updates

Gr. 7s are learning about the different types of solutions and different chemical reactions. They are also learning about the importance of water in our world.

Grade 8s are learning about isometric drawings, technical drawings in 3 dimensions.

Grade 9s have been building arm models and studying the reproductive system. The unit was capped off by a trip to the Montreal Science Centre to view IMAX and the "Am I normal? – the sex exhibition." Soon they will also have McGill students visit during Brain Awareness Week.

Grade 10s are seeing the effects of static electricity and magnetism. They are also investigating electricity through building various circuits and understanding the relationship between resistance, voltage and current intensity.

The Grade 11 Physics group is exploring Newton's three laws of motion as they evaluate how forces affect our every day lives. After studying their gases, the Chemistry group has been working on the ups and downs of their energetic reactions. The Advanced Biology group made impressive boards on numerous health issues which were displayed outside the LittleTheater during Health Week.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our judges in making our Senior Science Fair last fall for the Sec III, Sec IV and Sec V students a huge success! Sec I and Sec II Science Fair projects were judged on Thursday, February 10th. **The results are as follows:**

Science Fair Winners 2010/2011

Secondary I

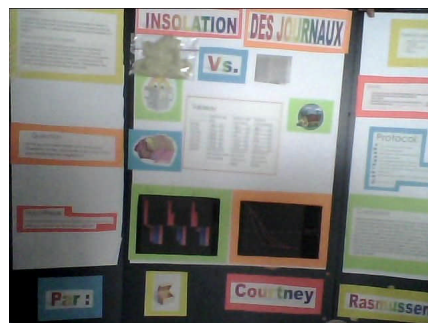
1st Place:

Arch vs. Truss Bridge by Eric Beaudoin and Sarah Reid



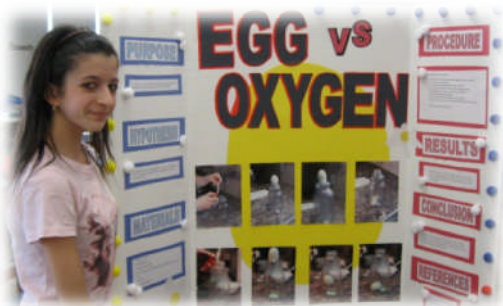
2nd Place:

La Conservation de Chaleur by Courtney Rasmussen



Crystals by Mateo Mitchell and Tobias Schelenz

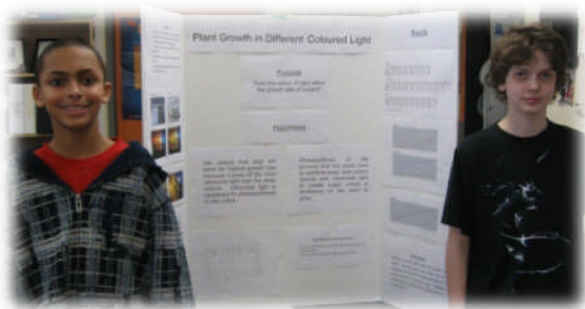
Egg vs. Oxygen by Rachel Molle



3rd Place:

Plant Growth with Different Colored Light by Liam Webb and Sean Louveris

Which Battery is More Corrosive? by Zachery Roloff



Honourable Mention:

Is the water in my dog's dish clean? by Julian Button-Wadon

Secondary II

1st Place:

Do Microorganisms Make Steele Rust? by Fintan Davidson

2nd Place:

Est-ce qu'une plante peut produire une quantité de gaz mesurable? by Dana Silerova

3rd Place:

Lait vs. Lait by Grant Patrick

Secondary III

1st Place:

Got Enzymes by Pershea Alaei, Gabrielle Hebert and Jessica Alaei

2nd Place:

Phase Transformation of Liquid and Solid Compounds by Julian Pancaldi and James Shannehan

3rd Place:

Conformity by Dany Menard and Christopher Thornicroft

Honourable Mention:

How Does the Skeleton Work by Ryan Aseltine

Optical Illusions by Ashtyn Said, Miranda Moniz and Shanel Gosselin

Does your Nose Know? by Rausha Hughes

Secondary IV

1st Place:

MOULDING by Maude Vinette

2nd Place:

BACTERI-YUCK! By Clare Fogarty, Autumn Cadorette and Samantha Martin

OUCH, THAT ICE BURNS by Ken Cave

TO PUT IT LIGHTLY by Gabrielle Perron, Kevin Brown and Aariah Leroux

3rd Place:

YOU NOSE MORE THAN YOU CAN THINK by Turell Daye and Nick Auger

VISCOSITY ON MOTOR OILS by Serena Baffour, Kirandeep Johal, Brittany Thomas

Honourable Mention:

MCDONALD'S HAMBURGERS: SHOULD WE BE 'LOVING' IT"? by Janna Katsouros

CONSERVATION OF MATTER by Shane Steszyn, Stephen Davidson

THE SHRUNKEN TRUTH by Bryan Glasgow, Julian Kane

Secondary V

1st Place:

The Shocking Truth by Alain-Joseph Po-Deziel

Magnetobiology by Jasraj Kaur and Lindsey Grant

2nd Place:

Energy Efficiency by Eric Davies, Nicholas Gosselin and Philippe Pare-Langevin

Whee! The Physics of a Roller Coaster by Lara Jenkins, Laura Heather, Kelly Donais

3rd Place:

Whatever Floats Your Boat by Allan Huot, Ben Barault and Graham Stellema

Diamagnetism by Cody Pawluk, Jonathan Vatcher-Alaei

Going the distance by Corey Davidson

Honourable Mention:

Fly Orb Fly! by Brandon Teo, Michael Andrade and Carlo Cefaloni

Where's Waldo? By Geeny Dyer, Leah Maclean

Catching a Wave by Jessie Dobie., Dominique Anthony

We will be inviting some students to present their projects to the **Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair** which is on March 27 to 29, 2011 at Concordia University.

Good-bye and Best Wishes to Mrs. Pengelley



After 45 years of dedication to the Staff and Students of Mac High the Macdonald High School Community said good-bye to Mrs. Pengelley (also affectionately known as Mrs.P)) as she officially retired on February 25th, 2011. A dinner was held in her honour at Madisons on February 17th and a large turnout of friends and colleagues attended. Many of the guests were retired teachers from Macdonald High School as well as the current staff of Mac High. On her last day Mrs. Pengelley's students presented her with roses. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Mrs. Pengelley for all her hard work and dedication and we wish her a healthy and happy retirement filled with laughter and fun.

GLOBAL AWARENESS CLUB

We have been very busy! In December the students organized a "**Santagram**" campaign. Anyone could order a candy cane to be sent to someone in the school with a personal message attached. About 150 were sold and **\$100 was raised** to donate to the **Water Project (wells in Africa)**. A small candy cane was also given to all students and staff in the school from our group.



We have had discussions about what is, and isn't happening in **Haiti** a year after the earthquake, **fair trade** and **organic farming**. **Mac's Chinese exchange students** will be coming to tell us about their life in China. It's all interesting and fun. Still looking for other people to come and **join us Thursdays at lunch in Room 234**.

Look for us wearing our blue t-shirts with the Global Awareness logo that we helped design.

BE THE CHANGE

Barbara Rich

ETHICS

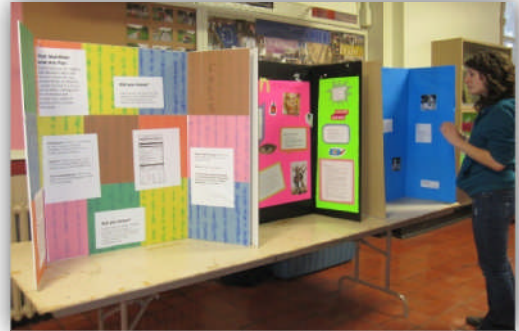
Miss Dawson's Grade 8 Ethics classes learned about **Ethical Consumerism** in Term II. We had a visiting speaker from **BEAUTY EVOLUTION** (<http://www.beautyevolution.ca/>) who spoke about CRUELTY and TOXIN FREE products that are all environmentally friendly. They gave out free samples to the students, who enjoyed the talk.

Miss Dawson's Grade 7 Ethics classes learned about child slavery and child labour, most especially about **FAIR TRADE** products. They made fantastic pamphlets and posters to share their knowledge with others. Remember to **buy Fair Trade** and **put an end to child slavery!** Please be an ethical consumer - especially at Easter! Talk to your child and let them tell you what they now know.



Health Week at Mac High

An extremely successful Health week took place at Mac High during the week of January 17th. The week kicked off with Healthy snacks of cheese sticks and clementines being delivered to all students during the homeroom period. Many activities were offered during lunch hours by the Phys-Ed and Dance Department. Also all week during the lunch hour **Ms. Zordan's Advanced Biology** students displayed their projects outside of the Little Theatre. Their topics **were "The Top Ten Foods", "Mental Health", "Preventing Food Borne Illness", "10 Easy Exercises", "Eating Disorders" and "Sun Protection"**. The **Grade 11**



Advanced Biology Students have also put together a PowerPoint of all their projects which will be distributed to the Cycle 1 teachers. The highlight of the week was the **Teacher vs Student Hockey Game** which took place during periods 3 and 4 on Wednesday January 19th. Many thanks to **Hits 94.7** who brought their hockey team to help out the staff of Mac High. It was a great game which included a snack bar and raffle prizes. Our sincere thanks to the **Macdonald High Home and School Association** who provided the clementines along with ten movie passes as raffle prizes. **Proceeds from the Hockey game were donated to the Montreal Children's Hospital in memory of a former Mac High Student, Chris Buchanan.**

The Macdonald High Community would like to take this opportunity to **thank Mac High teacher, Ms. Jaime Guy**, who took on the large task of organizing Health Week. Well done Ms. Guy!



Dance News



It's been an exciting time of dance this year...! After seeing the great **Mia Michaels** at the Rialto in November, with dance students Clare Fogarty, Kristen Vanderwee, Nicole Legault and former dance alumni Allanna Cave, the experience of seeing an **Emmy Award winning choreographer** and SYTYCD (So You Think You Can Dance) judge was absolutely awe inspiring!



A big shout out goes to the MAC DANCE TEAM for impressing LBPSB dance teachers at 2 dance workshops given by their teacher Sonia Huggins. Other schools are discovering just how talented our dance students are!!!



Our grade 10 & 7 dance class have been invited to perform in **TOPS** on **April 15th & 16th**! This event showcases the top talent in our school board. Alongside our 2 classes Amber Layne, Ariaah Leroux, Brittany Macandrew, Jacynlyn Lonsdale, Nicole Legault, Ken Cave, Luckie Fournillier, Kayla Chevalier, Michael Padilla, Danielle Pautet, Dominique, Jess Woods and Stephen Postigo are part of the TOPS PERFORMANCE TEAM AND ALL STAR DANCERS!!! **Mac High represent!**

The **5th annual dance show** will be on **May 14th & 15th** that's Friday and Saturday night beginning at 8pm. Tickets will be available by the beginning of April! This year we will feature live musicians playing for our dancers as well as a burlesque piece from the movie with the same name....and a workshop piece that will include dancers who attended our November workshop!!! And as usual a professional dance company will grace our stage with 2 young alumni dancers **Allanna Cave** and **Natalie Parmentier** who have begun their professional training in dance.

Hope to see you at the show!

Yours in dance,
Sonia Huggins

"Teaching is a work of heart"



The Mathematics Department



We have had a very busy second term. Many of our students had projects to do in their math classes. **Mr. Boyd's Science Sec. 4** class did lovely projects on the **parabola**. **Mr. Boyd's TS Grade 11** did projects on functions and the top two posters were: Happy New Year by **Bin Liang Liu and Shuang Wu** and Dream of Spring by **Mei Mei Zhu**. Ms. Iammatteo's **Science Grade 11** did projects on **conics**. **Philippe Pare Langevin's Zelda** The Conic Waker got 1st Place. **Lindsey Grant** and **J Kaur** were second with their poster Monsters Inconicated.



We also had on February 24th the **Waterloo (Fermat, Cayley, Pascal) Competition**, which was written by our grade 9-10-11 students. This competition is usually quite exciting because our students are competing with other students across Canada. Our school usually does quite well and has a good standing in these competitions.

The Math Department would like to wish our esteemed colleague Ms. Pengelley a very happy and well-deserved retirement. Ms. Pengelley has taught 45 years. She has been at MacDonald High school since the early 1970's. She will be missed by many of our students and colleagues.



Avanti

Restaurant - Terrace

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Breakfast Saturday & Sunday

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Educational Tours for Students



English Department

On February 21, 2011, we had our finals for **Story Telling**. It was an excellent competition with some amazing stories told. The Grade 7 Enriched English class voted for the best story teller of Grade 8, and the Grade 8 Enriched English class voted for the best story teller of Grade 7. The winners this year are **Logan Neeson (Grade 8)** and **Elizabeth Crevier (Grade 7)**. Both students will receive an individual plaque during the Awards Ceremony later this year, and have their names on the school trophy. **Congratulations!!**

Dog Grooming at your Doorstep

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Pooch Stylist



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lori@poochmobile.ca www.poochmobile.ca



Big Thank You to Gail Steszyn for the beautiful cake she made for Teacher Appreciation!



You are entering the final stretch of this school year and you are looking forward to a very busy time preparing, amongst other things, for your band concert and dance show. I commend you on your efforts and encourage you to persevere so you may accomplish your dreams.



L'année scolaire est presque terminée et les diverses activités de la fin de l'année font que le temps passe rapidement. Je vous encourage donc à persévérer dans vos efforts et à les intensifier, vous en obtiendrez de grandes satisfactions.

Yvon Marcoux
MNA for Vaudreuil
Vice-chair of the Committee
on Public Administration

