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APRIL 2009

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Editor: **Christine Clarke**

# Mac Link

## Home & School

### *Our kids are worth it!*

Every year, the Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations presents Unsung Hero Awards to outstanding in-school volunteers who have made valuable contributions to everyday school life.

Macdonald High Home & School is pleased to announce the winners of this year's QFHSA Unsung Hero Awards: **Mr. Ted Duckworth and Mrs. Cathy Hart-Noble.**

Mr. Duckworth is being recognized for his dedication to the robotics program – his tireless efforts and enthusiasm have not gone unnoticed! Mrs. Hart-Noble was a valued contributor to the Mac community for many years. She is being recognized for the work she undertook in her capacity as PPO Chair, including the Anti-Bullying campaign and getting feedback for school uniforms, among the many other things she did!

Mac Home & School recently held a coffee and bake sale

at the Mac Talent Show. It was a wonderful event, with the students and staff, too, showing off their great talents! Thanks to everyone for your continued support of Mac H&S by providing baking, and enjoying a snack during the show. All monies raised by Mac H&S are put back into the school for our students.

The last two Home & School meetings for this year will take place May 4, and June 1, 2009, at 7:00 pm. It isn't too late to join us, come and share your ideas on how to make Mac High the best it can be – for all our students!

Happy Spring!

Casey Stilwell  
President, Mac H&S  
[cdstilwell@videotron.ca](mailto:cdstilwell@videotron.ca)

### Note from editor:

**GRADS please see inside for \$5.00 COUPON from Studio Sandra for Prom Night.**



## Parent Participation Organization

As our 6<sup>th</sup> free Family Matters Workshop, which was held on February 18<sup>th</sup> on the subject of Drug Awareness was a success, we are currently organizing another workshop to take place in October 2009 (details to follow). The subject will be on Communicating with Your Teen, which was a requested important topic from the feedback we received from the parents. Remember everyone is welcome, including students, parents and community members.

If you have any subjects you would like to be addressed in a workshop, please let us know by sending an email to [macppo@gmail.com](mailto:macppo@gmail.com). We are always looking for new ideas.

We are also very proud to announce we nominated **Cathy Noble** for the **Unsung Hero Award** and she has been chosen as one of this year's award winners. Cathy was the original chairperson of the PPO when it first started at Mac several years ago. She dedicated her time to Macdonald High and the PPO through many workshops, school uniform review, Anti-Bullying campaigns, and many other important functions which promoted our school by ensuring we continued to be the best that we all could be. Congratulations Cathy – well deserved!

We also want to extend our congratulations to our teacher **Mr. Ted Duckworth**, on his winning of this award, as he certainly has gone above and beyond in his dedication to our very successful Robotics team!

We are continuing to put together the information for the annual **"Stroll Down Mac Lane"** publication that is provided at the end of the school year. This issue includes all student sports, functions, activities, etc. that have taken place at Mac over the course of the 2008-09 school year. We are still **in need of input from**

**all involved teachers, parents and students** to ensure that we include all information; after all, we are very proud of Mac and its student life! Please forward all information to the Mac PPO email ([macppo@gmail.com](mailto:macppo@gmail.com)).

Remember that you can still forward your email address to Macdonald High School ([macppo@gmail.com](mailto:macppo@gmail.com)) for another effective way to receive information on what is happening at your teen's school.

The PPO door is always open and welcomes new members (no experience necessary)! Our meeting schedule is as follows (7:00 pm in the Macdonald High School Library):

- April 14
- May 12
- June 9

Debbie Boutin  
PPO Chair

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## Mac's Annual Talent Show

The Gym was filled to capacity...**What an awesome spectacle!**



**Mac's Annual Talent Show** was the place to be for entertainment from start to finish.

**Impressive was the word** that came to mind for the many talented Mac students who took to the stage where most of us fear to tread!

### **Congratulations on your fine performances!**

Showing their "wild side", musically & dance-wise, were some of Mac's staff. What a joy to see them show their hidden talents. A student comment of "I didn't know they could do that!" proved to me that they made quite a good impression.

I can't wait for next year's show!

Also, **a big thank you to all who supported the H&S's bake table.**

Linda Gibson  
V-P, Mac H&S

**"Ensemble on travaille vers le même but...VOUS !!"**



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COMMERCIALE / COMMERCIAL \_\_\_\_\_

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Wow! Miss.Binet, her leadership class and student council have been unbelievably busy Term 3. Here's a glimpse of all the activities that happened and/or worked on:

- MAC Camp planning: Dr.Seuss, Helping/Caring/Friendship/Sharing

- Fashion Show Labels and Love: happening Friday, April 17, lots of practices and stores called.



- Balloon drop

- Caretaker appreciation week was from January 12 to 16

- Yummy Rice Krispy squares and their partner, the hot chocolate on January 15

- MAC Idol top 10 was decided on January 15

- Don't Forget the Lyrics on January 16

- Sock fight and Winter Wonderland Dance January 30



- New Zealand exchange students had so much fun at MAC

- Mega Day and Cotillion

- Staff student hockey game with 94.7 hits FM for the Chris Buchannan Fund

- LBPSB camp planning

- Youth humanitarian week at St-Thomas

- Congratulations to Jodeci Malixi for going on to Pearson Idol

- Ice cream eating contest- ouch, brain freeze!



- Staff vs Students basketball and volleyball games

All this and the student council still managed to find time to meet every Tuesday at lunch.

Looking forward to so much more to top off this wonderful school year in Term 4.

KATHERINE PITRE

# GRADS

There is only one term left to the 2009 grad year, but there are many fun activities to come... On



Thursday, April 9, the grads were invited to **La Sucrierie Lavigne in Rigaud** for a night of all you can eat sugar shack

treats and some dancing as well. There is also a **Go Kart** outing that is in the works for the month of May. Last, but not least, the **Grad Ball will**

**be taking place Friday, June 19.** It will begin at **6:30 PM in Gym 1** with a small cocktail, the father/daughter or mother/son dance and short speeches. The party will continue at **Le Living Room** in Montreal starting with a cocktail, a four course meal and a night of dancing and fun activities. The grads will then take some Coach buses for a well deserved rest back to school where a yummy breakfast will be awaiting them in the cafeteria courtesy of Mrs Tuff.

# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2009 GRADS



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## NOTES (🎵) FROM THE MUSIC

### DEPARTMENT



Greetings!

Well, things haven't changed much... This *is* a very busy year!

Before I start my long list of recent and upcoming events, I'd like to remind everyone that the **2009 Music Concert will be on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**. Tickets will only be available at the door for the very reasonable price of 5\$!

The students have handed in their compositions! Their hard work has paid off! Your children may have 'bugged' you for permission to install a small piece of software, Finale Notepad, on your home computer this term. It's a legal free version of the industry leading music notation software Finale used to write and edit music. It has been provided and tested by our consultants and the School Board and is totally safe. Although many students chose to use this software to write the final good copy of their composition(s), only grade 10 and 11 students were required to do so this year. This long term project will be used to evaluate the Term 3 Subject Competency 'Creates Musical Works'.

This year's **Talent Show**, Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>, was a huge success, featuring many Music students '*showing off their stuff*' for the fans!

Before going on, this might be a good time to remind everyone again that the **2009 Music Concert will be on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm!**



On April 1<sup>st</sup> Mac's Music department hosted the amazing **Alex Coté Quintet**, the first band to perform for our students as part of our new Lunchtime **Jazz Concert series**. Music as well as Jazz History and Culture students learn about Jazz, try to play Jazz, listen to recordings of Jazz artists and watch Jazz videos, but they never get to hear **REAL LIVE JAZZ**. So, every 6 to 8 weeks professional Jazz musicians will come in to perform at lunch for the Mac community. To help fund these events, tickets are sold at the price of 2\$. I already have a few artists lined up for May and next year, but if you know of a professional Jazz musician, who might be interested in coming

in to perform, feel free to drop me an email: [screte@lbpearson.qc.ca](mailto:screte@lbpearson.qc.ca).

*Have I mentioned that the 2009 Music Concert will be on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm?*

I am presently 'lobbying' to get our very own **Mac Senior Jazz Band** to play on a float during next year's **St. Patrick's Day parade** downtown. Cross your fingers!

Oh, by the way, the concert will be on... OK, OK, you all know it by heart by now! (*That was the plan, you know...!*)



To finish off with more 'technologically inclined' news, with the strong support of the School Board, I am presently working on 2 personal projects. The first is a Mac Music Department web site where students will have access to class documents and various media files, a blog and interactive forum, and our community at large will have access to news and events regarding our music students, sound clips and videos of rehearsals and performances, as well as relevant news pertaining to the Jazz world at large. It's still under construction, but once it's running the web address will be [www.MacJazz.ca](http://www.MacJazz.ca), which will automatically redirect you to the site hosted on the School Board server. The second project is to find a cost efficient way to record our amazing students while they play. A Board consultant has been testing equipment in class. We are close to a solution!

If it hasn't been done already, child may be bringing home a consent form for you to sign giving me permission to put pictures, sound clips and video on the above mentioned site as well as the one I am also creating for the Pearson Music Teachers site. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this form please use my above mentioned email address to reach me. I will be happy to help.

Thanks again for you time and support.  
Remember our concert!

Rhythmically yours,

Stephane Crete





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# -The Spark-

MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL

ISSUE 3, 2008 - 2009

## Team Gravity...

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The robotics team had a huge term three. Not only did we enter two teams into the CRC Robotics Competition, but also participated in a major fundraiser for our program, gave presentations to the various science classes in the school as well as participating in the Bell Regional Science Fair.

Finished with our courses on basic electronics, tool safety and usage, fabrication



techniques, welding and drafting, we moved on to participating in the CRC Robotics competition. A competition between over twenty private and public high schools and colleges in the Montreal area, it is designed to promote an interest in science and technology and how to work professionally.



The competition requires each school to build a robot made to meet a certain standard challenge, create a display/workshop kiosk, and a video, website and journal each in bilingual format, talking about our school, the robot and the competition. This is a truly cross curricular project and involves all grades and parts of the school in some way.

This year we were required to work with other teams to collect tennis balls dropped



into our robot, to drive across the playing field, to open garage doors and shoot the tennis balls into the appropriate doors for points. This required a lot of cooperation with other schools at the competition.

Due to our larger size and increased skills and experience this year, we decided to enter not one, but TWO teams into the competition. This called for us to produce two of each aspect of the competition, including two separate robots, kiosks, websites, videos and journals. This was a lot of work, but paid off for us in the end.



# Two Crews, One Team

[www.macrobotics.ca](http://www.macrobotics.ca)

## ...and Team Ozone!



Twenty-five students represented the team and school in Chateaugay from Feb. 19-21. Aside from having an amazing experience and reveling in bringing professionally completed elements to the competition, both teams did extremely well. Winning four awards between them, our students clearly demonstrated through their hard work that although they were two crews, they were one team.



Team Gravity's robot was unanimously voted by the engineering judges as the best robot at the competition, while Team Ozone's robot tied for third place for design. Both teams were in

the finals for the actual game, and Team Gravity finished second by only one hundred points on over three thousand. Our teams finished fifth and sixth overall in the competition this year (taking into account the kiosk, video, journal, website, robot design, the game and sportsmanship), a huge im-



provement over their twentieth place finish last year.

Not resting on their laurels, the team capped off their impressive performance at the competition by participating in a fundraising campaign at Maxi Pincourt. Fifteen students bagged groceries from March 6-8, during their March break no less, and raised three thousand dollars for their program in the process while representing the school impeccably. Following the March break, members of the team were



involved in presenting their robots and program to the various science classes in the school. They took their demonstrations one step further by attending the Bell Regional Science Fair at Marionopolis College on March 22, capturing highlight reel time on CTV news in the process.

The robotics team has not been idle following the competition, are already preparing elements for next year and are clearly taking ownership and responsibility for their time here at Mac. They have a lot to be proud of. Stay tuned for more updates!

This project was made possible by a grant from the Pearson Educational Foundation. Thank you for your support!



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# Science Fair Winners 2008/2009

## Secondary I

### 1st Place:

***The Spectrum*** by: Dany Menard and Sam Gaudreault



### 2nd Place:

***Triops*** by: Julian Pancaldi

***Which Rechargeable batteries Last Longest?***  
by: Justin Jaguith

***Insulation*** by: Christopher Burkinshaw

### 3rd Place:

***Maigre Moyen: Machine de siege*** by: Inderpal Singh

***Say Cheese*** by: Pershea Alaei and Jessica Alaei

### Honourable Mention:

***L'eau and Sel= L'oeuf qui flotte?*** by: Michael Padilla and Charles Layne

***Tampon vs. Serviettes Sanitaires*** by: Taylor Desbois and Lauren Gardner

## Secondary II

### 1st Place:

***Can You see it?*** by: Clare Fogarty and Samantha Deeley



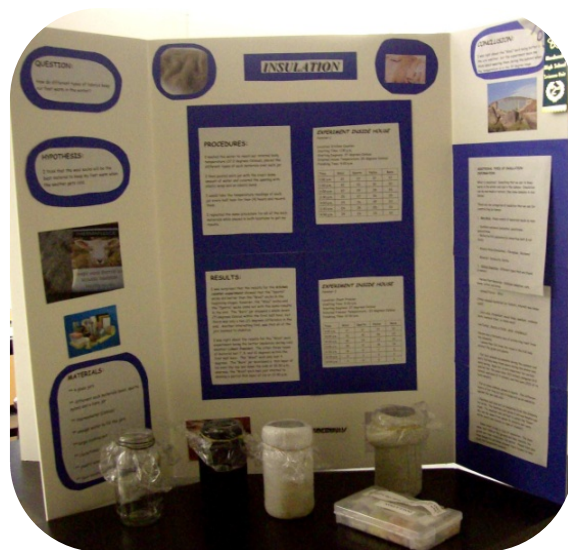
### 2nd Place:

***Test de vision avec de Illusios*** by: Maude Vinette

***L'Effect de lumiere*** by: Kirandeep Johal

### 3rd Place:

***La Vitesse de Patinge*** by: Nick Auger, Kevin Brown and Justin Madden Riles





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## COMMUNITY OFFICE

**Wow! We did it!** We survived what has to be one of the longest and coldest (not to mention windiest!) winters that I can remember! Luckily, Mac High students were so busy, time passed quickly and we are now happily enjoying the sunny days of spring! **Yeh!** Please keep reading as you'll be pleased to hear how Mac students wintered the last few months.

We had a very successful **Valentine's Day** thanks to the hard work and extreme determination of **Naomi Desjarlais and Nicole Hulse! Great work Ladies!** All students received a Valentine and more than 50 roses were sold and over 40+ helium balloons delivered to home room classes. Love was truly in the air! Six teams of students worked the entire weekend, January 30, through to February 1, at the Pincourt Mall, **raising over \$600 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Thank you, all volunteers!** One of our very best groups of students took part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March with supervisors, **Elizabeth Verni and Scott McFarlane** giving their all and showing what leadership is all about! **Daffodils will be sold for the Canadian Cancer Society** the week of March 23, again affirming that winter has finally passed and spring is here!



Spring also is a signal for **Driver's Ed to begin**, a meeting will be held in late March, students should listen to the announcements for date and time. A vocational education

tour will take place on April 1; over 65 of our grade ten and eleven students will be visiting all of the LBPSB Voc. Ed. centers. **Good Luck to Nicholas Buonvino** who will be off to **Forum For Young Canadians** in early April, spending a week in parliament; take notes Nic! **Good Luck also to Olivia Hollenbeck**, Mac's AVON Scholarship applicant! **We are proud of you, Olivia!** Grad ring catalogues, for the class of 2009/2010, will be distributed on March 31 and the **"ring man" will be in on April 16 and 17.**



April 22 will have twenty six students visiting the Volunteer Bureau in Ste. Anne's to host a **Spring Tea** and April 29th will

be our **Clean-Up Ste. Anne's Day**. On that note, **congratulations to Nicholas Ladd**, one of Ms. Ellah's grade 10 students, for **winning the Ste. Anne's Environment Committee poster contest**. Keep watch for Nic's work on the overpass entrance into Ste. Anne de Bellevue! **Denim Day** will be held in mid-May and our **Multi-Cultural Food Court is on Thursday, May 7, doors will open at 6:30...don't miss this chance to enjoy the gastronomic delights of 25 different countries!**



Well, we've done it again, spent much time together, accomplishing many things. I hope it doesn't sound too corny, but **I am so very proud to be a part of Macdonald High School**. Our parents, staff and especially our students create a community school that is to be envied! **Good Job everyone!!**

Sue Tuff

# Avanti

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## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Senior Math teachers and students are slowly adapting to the teaching methodology and the evaluation criteria of Curriculum Reform.

The **Waterloo Competition for Grades 9, 10 & 11** took place on **February 18, 2009**.

Option Forms for all grades went home at the end of February. Although Sec. IV and Sec. V students were asked to select their preferred mathematics option (CST, TS and S) on the option form, the **final placement of each student will be established by the Math Department in conjunction with Administration.**

As a department, we would like to remind parents and students that **success in Mathematics is determined by the student's work ethics.** All students should be spending between 30 to 60 minutes on Math homework and/or study every evening of the school week.

Marie-Antoinette Iammatteo



### Quote of the Day:

*If we had not Winter, Spring would not be so Pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.*

Anne Bradstreet



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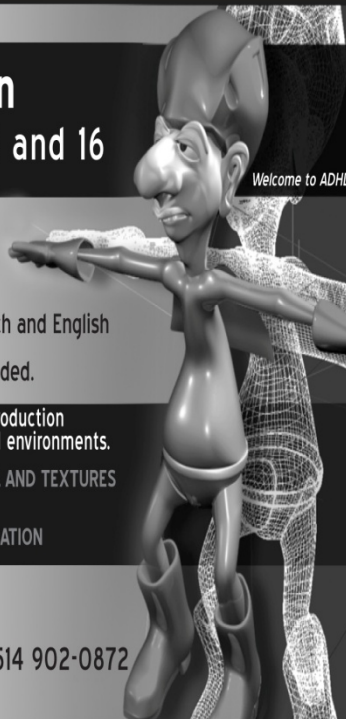
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# DANCE DEPARTMENT

Our dance students are well on their way towards our year end **Dance show May 14th and 15th**. In the meantime our dancers are hard at work learning new choreography every day. This year's show will showcase the accomplishments and achievements of the dance program and its dancers since its inception 5 years ago. This year's dance show will feature breathtaking **lyrical jazz pieces** coupled with **old school hip hop jams** and of course dance team who now have a repertoire of 6 dance choreographies. Of course our **guest artists will be Studio A dance company, 2 Marvellous productions,** and a group of young dancers called **The Bratz** from Montreal Nord. Tickets will be on sale by the middle of April. Each class will be performing 2 choreographies, except **Dance team which will be doing 3**. Hope to see you at the 5th Annual Mac High Dance Show!

## Talent Show-March 27

This year's talent show saw our grade 7, 8 dance classes and Dance Team performing some of our old and new dance pieces. They were well received by everyone! **Thanks to all the dancers who performed!!**

## T.O.P.S. Show

Coming soon.....the best talent in the school board show! Once again the following students who make up Mac High's Dance Team: **Ariah Leroux, Stephanie Chicoine, Laura Heather, Zachary Dopson, Rebecca Contrino, Natalie Pamentier, Allana Cave, Alyssa Crawford, Vicky Gaudreau and Michael Peterson** were chosen to perform in this very prestigious show at **Lakeside Academy on April 24th & 25th**. They will debut a new lyrical piece! **Everyone is invited to attend.**

*Dance is alive and well at Macdonald High* and we hope to see you all at the Dance Show in May!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Dance,

Sonia Huggins



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## Essence of Europe

This was the most intense and exciting trip ever. We spent **17 days traveling through the major cities of Europe.** Although we had a few inconveniences along the way, Lala Rasulovala, our EF Tour Director, immediately resolved the problems and made our mishaps irrelevant. The following travel students wanted to share their reflections of the trip!

### **Munich, Dachau**

Going to the concentration camp in **Dachau** was a very moving experience for us. We learned firsthand about the living situations of the World War II prisoners, and **the atmosphere at the camp was very powerful.**

**Sean Thomson**

### **Innsbruck**

We were very sad to leave Germany but when we were nearing the mountains we were all very happy. On the way to Innsbruck we stopped at the Swarovski factory to go to the bathroom and to look at the beautiful fountain that had a sort of safari theme. Not long after we arrived in **Innsbruck which was the most quaint,**

**tiny little town that I had ever seen.** All the houses had adorable colors and were very close together. We went on a tour around a church and some traditional sights and we ended the tour at the Swarovski store where I did my interview with Elizabeth Vinh. Elizabeth was born in China and has been working in Customer Service for two years.

**Chelsea Flynn**



### **Venice**

We stepped off the boat onto the island of Venice to be greeted by rain, thus changing our original plan of a walking tour of the city. We entered the historic marvel that **is Doges Palace** and were amazed with the artwork and architecture. When we next set foot outside, we were surprised by the sun shining down on the beautiful city. Our horizons were broadened after lace and glass blowing demonstrations. We took a romantic gondola ride and we were impressed with the gondolier's ability to steer and smoke in perfect unison. Afterwards we were able to take Lala's advice and 'get lost', seeing the city on our own. **Venice was an incredible city to visit.** Its charming cobblestone streets, unique water roadways and old stone buildings left us in awe.

**Martha Evans-Hanna**

### **Colmar**

After spending the day in the beautiful and quiet town of Colmar we headed back to the hotel for some fun. Following supper we had one hour to get ready for our **European fashion show.** When we were ready, we began to "strut down the cat walk," the music started playing and the cameras were ready. Some of us dressed "chiky-miky" & others as the opposite sex. All in all, after the laughs and smiles, the show turned out to be a memorable experience.

**Natasha Gaudet**



### **Florence**

After spending two nights in Venice, we traveled to the spectacular city of Florence. There we received a very detailed tour by our excellent city tour guide. Shortly after, we paid a visit to the leather factory, where we were shown how all the leather goods in Florence were made. After spending a good amount of our pocket money on souvenirs for ourselves and our friends and

families, we were given free time to take in all of the sights the city had to offer. Later that night, after a quick, but delicious supper, we set out of the Disco. After dancing the night away, we returned to the hotel, too tired to do anything else. The next day, **we woke up to hear that our bus had been stolen!** After much confusion, our bus driver, Lazlo set out to find our bus. It was thanks to him, and our excellent tour guide Lala, that we were able to continue with our wonderful trip. We are very thankful to the both of them, the trip itself was excellent, but they made it all the better.

**Skye Burns**

### Lucerne

The **Mountain Pilatus** was very pretty. I couldn't believe all the mountains. The Swiss food was really good. The people at the hotel were really nice; I couldn't believe that they offer you more food. However, when you want to cross from the pedestrian's sidewalk, the cars would actually stop. I was really amazed about that.

**Shanelle Goyer**



### Paris

I absolutely loved Paris! The shopping was amazing. Those entire high-end fashion stores we dream about; they're all there. You can find all sorts of monuments all through the streets of Paris. Our first night

in Paris, we went to see the Notre Dame Cathedral. Seeing Paris by night is something special. While we were at the cathedral, a random group came up to us asked us if we wanted to be in a music video. All we had to do was clap and cheer. It was a lot of fun. **The Louvre was huge!** But we got to see paintings, statues and artefacts from all over the world. I even got my picture taken with the Mona Lisa. Driving through Paris in the early morning, seeing all the pretty parks and French styled buildings fascinated me. I'd say **my favourite part about Paris would have to be the crepes with Nutella and the Eiffel tower at night.** Going up the Eiffel tower was spectacular. It was the perfect night: clear sky, full moon and the whole city lit up. It was breath taking! I loved it so much I wish I could have stayed up there forever. You don't realize how high up you are until you look down at the moving cars that look like the size of ants. Paris is an amazing city! I only wish we could have had more time there. I'm definitely going back someday!

**Jenna Miller**

### London

London was a beautiful city and good times were had. The day interchanged between sunny and cloudy but the always changing weather did not dampen our spirits. The city nightlife was beautiful and **our experience at the theatre is one we will always remember.** I know I've gained a new philosophy of "Dancing through Life"! Oh and the food was amazing too!

**Marc-Olivier Hamel**



**"Travel, in the younger sort, is a part of education; in the elder, a part of experience."**

*Francis Bacon*



## Munich City Tour Guide Interview

In Munich, our group of travellers were lucky enough to have a city tour guide to show us the sights. Her name was **Monika** and she was originally **from Germany**. She currently resides in Weimar-Schindler. Her job title officially is a **city tour guide**, a job she's been doing **since 1972**. Before that, Monika used to do long distance tours but preferred to be close to home. She has always had a love for history and really got into the city tour business thanks to the **Olympics**. She was hired to give tours and never left. Monika gives tours up to three times a week in the summer, their peak season, and less often in the winter. Her tour routes change a little bit each time, depending on age, nationality and the length of the tour, as well as plenty of other factors. Monika says her **favourite thing about history is how it influences time as well as the puzzles it brings us**.



## Tour Director Interview

Our excited group of travellers was exceedingly lucky to get such a wonderful tour guide. Her name is **Lala Rasulova** and grew up in **Baku-Azerbaijan**, in the Cocas Mountains. Currently living in Berlin, Lala has been a Tour Director for approximately 16 years now and is **fluent in several languages such as Russian, English, German, Chinese, Turkish and plenty more**.

**Her tours cover most of Europe**, with emphasis on Central and Eastern Europe. She works both with EF tours and Go Ahead from the end of February to mid November. The main months being March through June, they get a lot of schools as well as adult trips. Lala revealed that from February to April she would have approximately 7 days off, that's how busy she is! She also tends to choose the shorter trips over the long ones, so we were very lucky to get her. She did admit, however, that our trip got better as it went along. **Lala was especially proud of Kevan, who listened well and stayed in touch with the group for the duration of the trip**. She also enjoyed learning about the Colossus mascara by Maybeline, a secret some girls were kind enough to share with her. As she predicted on the third day of our trip, **Lala loved Venice**. Its unpredictable, mysterious air was quite enjoyable! Our group was very lucky to have gotten such a guide, one who knows her history and made sure everything moved along smoothly. **I doubt our trip would have been the same without Lala!**

Emily Spence



**Serge St-Denis**, B.Sc.Ph.m.  
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## Visual Arts Department

It has been a very busy year here at Mac in the **Visual Arts Department!**

Latest projects have had the **Grade 11's** power-sanding, priming and **designing a new look for personal wooden chairs**. They have been hard at painting their designs and **they are all original and beautiful** to look at. Next up is oversized wall murals to update the main halls.

**Grades 10s** have learned about combine paintings and how to incorporate sculpture, collage, drawing and paint into one very interesting looking piece of artwork. **Themed pieces have been adorning the art hallway** for some time, and have captured passersby on a daily basis.

The **Grade 9s** got to feel what it was like to be a sailor at sea, **etching and carving into fake whalebone**. The process is called **scrimshaw** and we used ivory coloured switchplates to scart into and then instead of whale blubber and soot we used ink to create the effect desired. **What an amazing project done by all!**

In the **Grade 9** classes they were paired up with someone they may not have known as a close friend and interviewed each other to start. **A dual person portrait** was created out of the info and the students were allowed to be the inventors of a new person, created life size out of mixed media but with one twist. It had to possess traits and appearances that represented both of them...a learning exercise that produced some interesting looking characters.

Lastly a huge congratulations goes out to my **Grade 10** class, in particular **Nicholas Ladd**. The entire class participated in the Ste. Anne's recycle, compost and beautification poster contest, which Nicholas won by creating an amazing **Captain Recycle superhero** . . . complete with green tights! **Please look for Nicholas's work on banners and signs throughout the spring in Ste. Anne's.**

**Keep inspiring artistically Mac High!** You have captured all of our creative attention!

**SHANNON ELLAH**

**108, BOUL. CARDINAL LEGER, PINCOURT**

Restaurant  
**l'étoile**  
de PINCOURT

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## Library

Over the past few months the library has been a busy place at recess and lunch time, with students looking for a warm place to read or work. Now as the warm weather comes, we expect a slight decrease in numbers but the avid readers will still visit to get the latest novels. During a February professional day the librarian took five avid readers shopping for library books. A good time was had by all and the perk for those students is knowing that they can be first to take out their chosen books.

In February, books on Black history were on display; in March green books were featured. In April the theme will be censorship and books. A guest author, Charles Montpetit, will lead a workshop on the topic during our **Literacy Week** which will take place from April 20 to 24. This will be just one of many activities to encourage reading.

As always **many thanks to all student monitors and adult volunteers** who have worked in the library this year and helped to keep things running smoothly. **Your help is invaluable!**

## **Most Popular Books Currently**

***Twilight*** series by Stephenie Meyer  
***House of Night*** series by P.C. Cast  
***Shopaholic*** and all the sequels by Sophie Kinsella  
***Uglies*** and sequels by Scott Westerfeld  
***Crank*** and sequels by Ellen Hopkins  
***The ranger's apprentice*** series by John Flanagan  
***Demonata*** series by Darren Shan  
***Gossip girls*** series and ***It girls*** series by Cecily Von Ziegesar

## **Highly Recommended**

***The Hunger Games*** by Suzanne Collins  
***Unwind*** by Neal Shusterman  
***Tunnels*** by Roderick Gordon  
***Maximum : The Angel Experiment*** by James Patterson  
***The Lightning Thief*** by Rick Riordan

**There are so many wonderful books so let's keep reading!**

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## **Resource Department– Life Skills Classes**

Our students have been busy learning about morals and values, and the impact their decisions have on their own lives and those around them. **Work study placements are also underway**, giving students a practical, hands-on approach to beginning their careers. This has proven to be a very successful program over the years, often leading to paid employment for the students.

We will be enhancing the cultural development of the Life Skills students' by attending a **Charles Dickens play at the John Abbott Theatre, called "The Tale of Drood"**, in April. A week later, the students will get the chance to go on a special backstage visit to see the inner workings of the lighting, props and costume department.



Toward the end of the year, look for our students to be selling **Exam Packages!** For a small cost, all students can **pre-order items such as pens, pencils, erasers, calculators, etc.** Then we'll package and deliver the order to the students so they're all set for their June exams! **Morning announcements will advise students as to how and when they can go about ordering the packages.**

**Wishing you a happy spring!**

The Resource Department

*PAYSAGISTE*

*PROULX*

*LANDSCAPING*

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Renseignez-vous sur notre forfait d'entretien à l'année!  
Ask about our yearly maintenance package!

SERVICES OFFERTS

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- TONDAGE DE PELOUSE
- RAMASSAGE D'EXCRÉMENTS ANIMAUX
- NETTOYAGE AUTOMNAL
- PAYSAGEMENT
- NETTOYAGE DE GOUSSIÈRES
- PAVÉ-UNI
- DÉNEIGEMENT DE PASSERELLE
- DÉNEIGEMENT DE TOIT

SERVICES OFFERED

- INDUSTRIAL
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- LAWN WEEDING
- CUTTING
- ANIMAL CLEAN UP
- FALL CLEAN UP
- LANDSCAPING
- CLEANING OF GUTTERS
- UNI-STONE
- ROOF SNOW REMOVAL



You are entering the final stretch of this school year and you are looking forward to a very busy time preparing, amongst other things, your band concert, dance show and school play. 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

