



# The Midpointe

News and opinion for Southpointe Academy families

## February 18, 2010

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# UPDATES

I am pleased to update you on several matters.

## LOCKDOWN AND SAFETY

Our new police liaison officer visited us recently and addressed us on the necessity for lockdown procedures, offering examples of when the police would order a lock-down. These ranged from the incursion of a dangerous person to the need for children to avoid seeing distressing things in the event, for example, of a serious accident on the road.

We have begun to implement police requirements for we are promised an unannounced drill in the next month or so.

You will notice some of the things we have done. For example, the Starting Pointe building's external door is now locked during the school day. This is to ensure that no unauthorized person can enter. All parents and visitors have long been required to check in at the Front Office except at the beginning and end of the school day; this requirement has not changed. Parents who check in there and need access to Starting Pointe will, of course, be admitted.

I will publish a supplement to the Parent Handbook concerning our lock down procedures when they are complete, for all people on the premises will need to know what to do when lock-down is in effect.

## NEW SCHOOL UPDATE

Do not let the excitement fade! The project is making its way through the Municipal process now and all the necessary work that can be done simultaneously is being done. Things are on track and the dream grows closer.

With regard to **pledges**, please be aware that we shall require the funds by May 1<sup>st</sup>. For those who are using their RRSP's, we shall be providing personal service at the school to ensure the necessary forms are completed, so there is no need for you to act at the moment (except, perhaps, to make sure that any new investments in RRSP's before this year end that you may be making to transfer to our bonds are not locked in for a fixed term).

If you are pledging by donation, we shall be happy to receive your cheque as soon as possible.

We now have pledges to the value of \$6,314,202 (Target \$7,500,000) with 44 families still to respond.

## ENROLMENT/RE-ENROLMENT

Priority Enrolment packages for the next school year will be mailed on March 1st to all families who have pledged, and all families with students in Grade 11. The Priority Enrolment forms are due back to us on Tuesday April 1. Full details of next years' fees, dates etc. will be in the packages.

## TEACHER CHANGE

Ms. Monika Blichar, the GYP and Grade 8 French teacher, resigned her position here on Monday. We are interviewing candidates for her position as a matter of urgency and assure you that we shall not allow the students to suffer from this situation. I will keep you apprised.

## OLYMPICS

What a thrill to see our own Morgan Leung running a leg of the Torch Relay last week, and to know that we can see two students in the Closing ceremonies –more on them next week! Morgan has raised such an enormous sum for the Heart and Stroke Foundation over the years that they did not hesitate to ask her to represent them. A great honour, and we are proud of her!



## AND THE SCHOLARSHIPS JUST ADD UP!

I wrote about Kelsey Leung leading the way in scholarships some weeks ago. She has now received another major scholarship-the Chancellor's to add to the President's; her total is now \$56000 in scholarships at Queen's. She leads the pack, but is not alone, so next week we'll start our regular updates on University placement and scholarship awards.

## NEW STUDENTS

The best way by far for us to attract the new students we would welcome is by word of mouth. Our best marketing force is you, our parents, and we hope you will help us. We are preparing some promotional material to reinforce your words; if you would like to have some available to you, please let Julia Common know. Meanwhile, interested prospective parents should call Anne O'Halloran at the school. When they do, she will arrange a tour for them, part of which will be an opportunity for them to meet me and have all their questions answered.

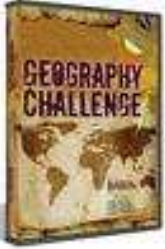
I am also prepared to meet your friends at any small gathering you may care to arrange, either in your home or over coffee somewhere. I think we have great potential for increasing our enrolment, so please help us to get the word out. Thanks.

## OLYMPIC FRIDAY

This week and next we are closed on Friday. Long ago, when we thought about the Olympics, we debated a number of options that would allow our faculty, staff and students to be part of the Olympic 'buzz'. Having the Friday's off is the result. We hope you enjoy them.

*Graham Baldwin*

## SCHOOL NEWS



### **CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE UPDATE!!**

Due to a regrettable oversight, two of our finalists in the Canadian Geography Challenge were immediately eliminated last week because they were in fact, too old (!). This then paved the way for Declan Hodgins (Grade 7JL), with only minutes to spare and totally unprepared, Declan rose bravely to the challenge and took the online qualifying test for the Provincial/Territorial Challenge.

Results should be known shortly.

Submitted by Mr. Scholefield



**"JUMP ROPE FOR HEART"** will be on Tuesday, March 2, 2010. Pledge forms have been handed out to students. We have raised \$80 000 in the 5 years we have been involved with the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Our goal for 2010 is to raise \$20 000!! Let's "Jump into the Spirit of 2010"!

Thank you for your support, the Prefects, Community Recreation 12 and Mrs. Kozlowski.

## **SPRING BREAK EUROPEAN TOURS 2010**

Our trip is only 2 weeks away! Thank you to those students who have already submitted money for the tipping, and tour expenses. The following students need to get \$72 cash or a cheque made payable to Amanda Huber, to Ms. Huber as soon as possible before **Thursday, Feb. 25th**: Arjan Dhaliwal, Prabjot Gill, Kelsey Leung, and Kelly Tutt.

Merci! Ms. Huber



# GYP NEWS



## UNIVERSITY NEWS:

Quest University is running a Summer Scholars Program. The program is a one week, interdisciplinary program for secondary students, taught by David Helfand, the President of Quest University and Toran Savjord, the Vice-President of Operations and Development. For further information, visit their website at: <http://questu.ca/academics/summerscholars.php>.

University of Waterloo, Grade 10 High School Enrichment Program, May 16 to May 21.

Vision Theme:

Students will consider the perspectives of scientists, writers, philosophers, and others as they examine the theme of vision. From eyesight to imagination and fine art to flight, Waterloo is excited about giving students the opportunity to see Vision in a whole new light.

Cost: airfare, plus program fee of \$400, plus supervised residence accommodation of \$150.00 (\$30 per night)

Application deadline: Postmarked by March 1st, 2010  
[www.unlimited.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.unlimited.uwaterloo.ca)

Submitted by Susan Kirkwood

## A SELECTION OF POEMS FROM GRADE 11 "PART 2"



The Grade 11s recently completed a poetic study of common literary motifs. Each group chose a motif and had to develop individual poems that express a theme through the motif from different voices. Our focus of study has been the power of simplicity in your writing and how individual words can carry weight and meaning. The Grade 11s were challenged to create emotion and lessons through the lyricism and rhythm of words and through playing with structure rather than depending on elaborate figurative techniques.

The next set of poems all deal with the motif Death. The students in this group all chose to play with form as a means of expression.

The first poem written by Tim Kong is a found poem, which is a poem that is created from phrases from other sources that have been arranged to create different meaning. While the phrases are not his own, the meaning is.

**Yesterday, All my Sorrows Seemed Back Again...**  
**By: Tim Kong**

(Sources used in the poem are lyrics from the works of: Akon, Basshunter, Sean Paul, Jay Sean, Wonder Girls, Adam Lambert, R.Kelly, the Beatles, Journey, Owl City, Chris Brown, Kings of Leon, Bob Marley, Taylor Swift, Cyndi Lauper, Justin Timberlake, T.I, Beyonce, and Lady Gaga)

Time after time,

I never knew your life.  
I never knew your soul.  
All I ever wanted ...  
Never to say goodbye.  
But now you're gone...  
Never could say goodbye.

Do you remember?  
Nobody wanted to see us together.  
You and me, such a bad romance,  
But I wanted nobody,  
Nobody but you.

Need a second breath,  
I won't let you down.  
"It'd be okay," I'd say,  
"Just let the record play, just dance."  
Cause I believed we could fly,

Just spread our wings and fly away.

Away  
To the misty skies.  
Into ten million fireflies.  
A disco ball hanging by a thread.  
Spread our hearts  
All over the world  
Tonight.

"It'd be okay," I said  
"Every little thing will be alright..."

You nodded  
but I knew ...

Knew you could've used somebody  
Knew you belonged with me.  
We had a love story,  
A love story,  
Just you, and me.

I found a way to let you in,  
But not a way to get you out.  
And now it's all done  
It's all over

Now you're dead and gone

Dead and gone,  
Dead and gone.

Yesterday, All my Sorrows seemed so far away,  
Today,  
They're back ...  
Again.

**Manny** is using a form of poetry called an echo poem where each line builds on itself and echoes back on itself.

Wheels Life

Manny Gill

A life that began  
Began with a kick  
A kick to become a cry  
A cry of hunger and discomfort  
Discomfort always solved, and the cry is pleased  
Pleased to know that my needs are fulfilled  
Fulfilled my life with the faces of delight  
Delight from the different colours and sounds  
Sounds that lead to curiosity  
Curiosity leads to exploration  
Exploration leads to crawling  
Crawling to see  
Seeing leads to standing  
Standing leads to words  
Words lead to questions  
Questions that always came with an answer  
An answer the would end with "That's just the way it is..."  
Wanting to know why it is  
Why is the question that would be left unanswered  
Unanswered by all,  
Why are we here  
Here to do what  
Questions in need of answers  
Life goes on and we remain living  
Living for me  
Me that had begun with we  
We that became all about me  
Me is what I wanted to be  
Be on my own  
My own, and Alone  
Alone started to change  
Change from me to we  
We that would care  
We that had shown the way to live  
Living was no longer about playing  
Playing came with learning  
Learning leads to teaching  
Teaching that began with being taught  
But still being confused about the things in life  
Love, Feelings, Change  
Change from  
standing to be  
Be my own man  
Man that had become from the loving of a mother  
A mother that had taught you to Survive  
Survive  
Survival until that last breath is spent with the ones you love,  
Love and Care about  
You've taught what you've learned, spread your thoughts  
Thoughts is all they'll remember me with  
no matter what I say or Do  
Do or not I can't change this  
This is it

A life that began with a kick  
a kick to become a cry  
a cry of hunger and discomfort  
A cry that ended it all.

**Colin Sommerfield** has written a poem that has two different meanings and can be read forward and backwards. When read forward, it has a very negative meaning, but when read backwards, it has a positive meaning. Here is the poem both forwards and backwards

**Death (read forward)**  
**Colin Sommerfield**

Isn't the scariest thing in my life  
death.  
I know that  
because of all of the experiences I've been through  
are simple lies  
the worst things I've done  
I can say without a doubt  
"no"  
is  
the answer.  
Is money the most important thing in my life  
are morals  
what I should believe  
I know that  
there will be a time where  
parents  
hate  
not  
love  
kids  
I truly believe  
the most important topic in life  
isn't family  
because of my family  
I am sure  
in debt  
I'm not  
making money  
for the first time in my life I'm  
noticeably aware of death  
I was always  
pessimistic  
I  
was  
never  
a good person  
during my time  
I was  
living a backwards lifestyle  
I hated  
going into life  
but if I decided to go back to the beginning ...

Now here is the same poem read backwards, with a very different meaning:

**Death (read backwards)**  
**Colin Sommerfield**

But if I decided to go back to the beginning ...  
going into life  
I hated  
living a backwards lifestyle  
I was  
during my time  
a good person  
never was  
I  
pessimistic  
I was always  
noticeably aware of death  
for the first time in my life I'm  
making money  
I'm not in debt  
I am sure  
because of my family  
isn't family  
the most important topic in life  
I truly believe  
kids  
love  
not  
hate  
parents  
there will be a time where  
I know that  
what I should believe  
are morals  
Is money the most important thing in my life  
the answer  
is  
"no"  
I can say without a doubt  
the worst things I've done  
are simple lies  
because all of the experience I've been through  
I know that  
death  
Isn't the scariest thing in my life

**Ammen Bains** creates a concrete poem that visually creates the journey of life

**Heartbeat**  
**Ammen Bains**

The  
child  
runs,  
and  
    plays,  
    ethics  
    and  
    come  
Born and life begins, living not afraid      of      We  
unsung

Develop in a who take  
 we do carefree to short-  
 bliss, dis cuts  
 find the or either because  
 perfect kiss But devious we are Young  
 adults we become, boo lazy  
 or

mischievous Life ticks  
 But on and  
 regardless chapter  
 we after  
 continue to chapter  
 grow and the book  
 grow is filled  
 we do. and like  
 the pastor  
 we have  
 become  
 the  
 master

are  
 brittle,  
 When  
 we  
 were  
 young  
 we  
 used  
 to  
 enjoy  
 the  
 occasional  
 skittle

We are old and our bones In the not  
 end its  
 the  
 little  
 things  
 that  
 matter,  
 as our  
 bodies  
 begin  
 to tatter

they would  
 say, I  
 must  
 dis-  
 agree  
 and  
 start to  
 pray

Life is short what My has come, and my heart shall  
 time beat for another day

## MYP NEWS



\*It all started with the Olympic Torch Relay

In Grade 6AH Social Studies, we are discussing and celebrating current events surrounding the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games. Here is a sampling of the student's thoughts so far:

### **Jennifer Heil—First Medal for Canada** By: Jody Mielcarski

Jennifer Heil, an amazing mogul skier, unsurprisingly won the first medal for Canada. This happened at Cypress Mountain on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. She was the second last skier to go down the track and at that time, she was awarded the top rank. The last skier, Hannah Kearney of the U.S., finished with a slightly better time than Jenn and was then given the gold medal, with Jenn receiving silver. Jenn is extremely proud of her accomplishment and she said, "I was standing on the shoulders of so many Canadians." Jenn is not unhappy with her fall from the top as she said she did not lose gold, she won silver.

Personally, I was extremely happy when Jenn took home the first medal for Canada. I had seen her on T.V. before her event and she seemed like a terrific person so I was very glad that she got her medal. She truly deserved her award. It feels like I can connect with it because I was watching it live. I knew the results at the same moment that she did, so it makes me feel like I was a small part of it. When this happened, it made me feel amazing because that honor couldn't have gone to a better person than Jenn. I now wonder how the audience felt because even though silver is a very impressive medal, she had the chance to win gold. All in all, I am intensely proud of Jenn Heil.



## Alexandre Bilodeau—Canada’s First Gold Medal



By: Max Kirshenblatt

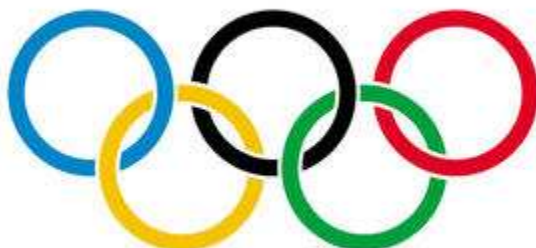
The current event that I chose for Social Studies is about Alexandre Bilodeau winning Canada’s first gold medal in the 2010 Winter Games and on Canadian soil. On Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2010 at Cypress Mountain were the men’s freestyle moguls. Alex, a 22 year old from Rosemere, Quebec, (he wore bib number 4) was there to win. Bilodeau came down second to last in the final and bumped one of his competitors, Begg-Smith, out of the leader’s position with a time 6 tenths faster, posting a total score of 26.75. This was good for 1<sup>st</sup> place. Then, he endured an excruciating final run from French man Guilbaut Colas.

After a couple of seconds (probably the longest Bilodeau has ever endured) of silence the crowd started to erupt with joy of the first place by Bilodeau. After that, he engulfed his family, showing tears of joy, and he heard the sound of the roaring crowd behind him. He clutched Frederic, his 28 year old brother who has Cerebral Palsy, (a disease of which at birth the body does not get enough oxygen leading to mental disability), whose constant cheer provides daily motivation. Bilodeau’s run consisted of a back double full on top and he landed it perfectly and flew down the rest of the course just accelerating, and accelerating. On Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2010, was the medal ceremony and Bilodeau was overjoyed with excitement when the announcer said, “And in first place, Alexander Bilodeau.”

My reaction to Bilodeau winning gold was, “Ya! Canada won their first gold! Ya!” What I really liked about when Bilodeau won was after the race, he did not go to the media, he went to his brother to give him a huge hug!

I can connect with this story because when I won my gold at skiing and when they called my name up to the top of the podium, I was overjoyed too. I also went right to my brother because he is the one who gives me advice when I need it. He is the one who wax’s and sharpens my skis for my race. He is also the one who I go to hug once I finish a race!

By: Max Kirshenblatt





## **Snowboarding: Maelle Ricker Gets Canada the Second Gold**

By: Gurjap Sidhu

On February 16, 2010 at 2:50pm Maelle Ricker got Canada the second gold medal on Cypress Mountain racing Deborah Anthonioz from France with silver (2), Olivia Nobs from Switzerland with bronze (3), and Helene Olafsen (4) in the Big Final. Not only that but she is the first woman to get a gold medal in the Winter Olympics of 2010. This is one of Maelle's big achievements, in her last Snowboard Cross for the

Winter Olympics (2006) she came in 4<sup>th</sup>. She is really proud that she pushed herself to get this far and get another gold medal for Canada.

My opinion on Maelle's win is that she has pushed herself since harder and harder every time. Also, I think that for a big accomplishment like getting gold in the Olympics is really good because she is a former ski racer but her older brother, Jorli, had converted her to snowboarding. After all, he was a competitive snowboarder himself. One of my connections is that I know how it feels to achieve a big accomplishment no matter how small it is, it is still a good feeling.

## **MYP Alternate Programming Week**

Southpointe Academy is dedicated to providing a variety of learning experiences for our students, and in keeping with this we have arranged an Alternate Programming Week (APW), where students have the opportunity to participate in a program of study that is different from their usual school day.

APW will run from Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and students can choose from a variety of intellectual, manipulative and career orientated programs such as:

**Middle School Musical**

**Early Childhood Experience / Babysitting and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Course Certification**

**Computer Animation**

**Equestrian**

**Hospitality/ Cooking / Running a Restaurant**

**Pottery / Arts**

**Reach Out**

**Discover our City**

**Sports Enthusiasts Wanted**

**Scuba Diving**

**Woodworking / Carving**

**Triple Threat Performance!**

**Formula MYP Car**

Forms have been sent home today with your child. Please fill out and return by next **Thursday, February 25, 2010.**



## THE MUSIC MAN

Rehearsals have officially begun for this year's MYP musical, the Music Man Junior. Musical Contracts have been sent back home with cast and crew as a reference. With it, a permission form for our optional field trip to Nanaimo was also sent home. This permission form needs to be returned to Ms. Huber or Ms. Kothlow by **Monday, Feb. 22nd** in order to attend. Students and parent drivers will receive free tickets to the show, provided by the South Island Musical Theatre Society.

All parents are advised to read through the musical cast or crew contract with their child thoroughly, if this has not happened already. Also, check out the musical website together, [musicman2010.wordpress.com](http://musicman2010.wordpress.com).

Also, the musical can be a memorable experience for parents to share with their child. If you are a parent of a cast or crew member and you are interested in volunteering, we can organize a commitment that suits each parent; anywhere from one hour to one hour per week. We appreciate it all! There will be a parent meeting on Monday, **February 22nd from 4:40-4:45** during rehearsal to put faces to names and speak with the director, Alysha Kothlow.

Looking forward to a great show!

The Production Team



## **SPORTS UPDATE**

### **Gymnastics at Southpointe:**

Taylor Lowe (Gr. 12) and Scott Stanger (Gr. 12) are representing Southpointe Academy in high school gymnastics this winter. They are competing in 3 meets this month - District, Regional, and Provincial. The first 2 meets were held at the Delta Gymnastics Centre right across the street from our school.

In the District Meet, Taylor competed in 4 events (floor, uneven bars, beam, and vault) and Scott competed in 6 events (floor, parallel bars, rings, vault, high bar, and pommel horse). Both students came first overall in their respective divisions!

In the second meet, which included gymnasts from all over the Fraser Valley, Scott came first in his division and Taylor finished second.

Taylor and Scott have now qualified for the Provincial Championships which take place on Vancouver Island from Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations Taylor and Scott and good luck at Provincials!



### **SENIOR BOYS & SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL SEASONS**

The Sr. Boys and Girls basketball seasons came to close last week with some exciting playoff games.

The Sr. Girls upset the # 2 seeded King David High School (in overtime) to advance to the GVISAA Final Four Championship and, although they lost both games at that tournament, the girls played well and showed significant improvement over the course of this season.

The Sr. Boys won some thrilling games down the stretch to finish first in their division and earn a first round bye in the playoffs. Unfortunately, they lost a close, quarter-final match to Deer Lake School and were unable to advance to the Final Four Tournament.

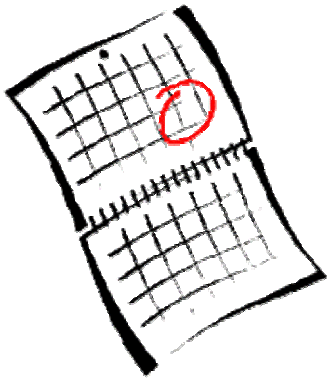
With only 1 Gr. 12 player on the Sr. Girls Team this year and 13 returning players on the Sr. Boys Team, the 2010 – 2011 basketball season looks quite promising indeed!



## ELEMENTARY BOYS BASKETBALL

The Elementary Boys Basketball Team ended their season with a **third place finish** at the ISEA Championships. The Titans came back with a strong second half effort to defeat Mulgrave in their first game, lost by a few hoops in their second game against St. George's, and won their last game in the dying seconds to take home the bronze medal. Mr. Scholefield and Mr. Levitt would like to thank all of the players who took part in the many practices and games.

Well Done, Titans!



## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**February 18 – March 5**

February 19 Friday	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR OLYMPIC HOLIDAY</b>
February 22 Monday	4:30pm – 4:45pm MYP Musical Music Man – Parent Meeting
February 25 Thursday	MYP Alternative Week Forms due!
February 26 Friday	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR OLYMPIC HOLIDAY</b>
March 1 Monday	5:30pm – 6:30pm – Grade 6 Project Discover - Parent Information Session in Studio Blue (Mrs. Fraser’s Room, North Building)
March 2 Tuesday	8:30am – 1:30pm – “Jump Rope for Heart” at the Church Gym
March 4 Thursday	Europe Trip Departs
March 5 Friday	9:00am – 2:00pm – Grade 3 Field Trip to MacMillan Space Centre in Vancouver  Grade 6 Project Discover Forms <b>Due!</b>
March 5 Friday	<b>LAST DAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK!</b>
March 22 Monday	<b>FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL</b>
EDUCAFE Monday – Friday	3.00pm to 3.30pm – There is always a hot pot of tea waiting to be shared! Why not drop by and meet Mr. Baldwin?