



Trojan Times

December Issue

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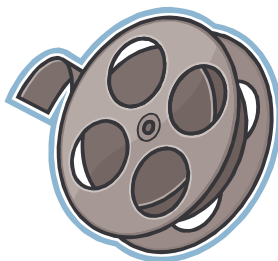
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Food Drive

Every year our school does the "TAG Food Drive Challenge," where our proceeds go to those less fortunate. We raised a total 1966 perishable food items. The TAG winner was Ms. Laverdiere.

To benefit the food drive we had other activities like the school movie night and "Crazy for KD". The school movie night was great because not only were you benefiting yourself but you were giving someone less fortunate two perishable food items. "Crazy for KD" was originally only for grads but then opened up to the whole school; you spent one dollar for a

chance to win a prom ticket or hockey tickets but at the same time that dollar was going to a box of KD. It's a win-win situation that makes everyone happy! Great job guys, let's shatter this record next year!



Interview with Mr. Nahas

By: Alexander Burrows, teacher-student liaison reporter

John Nahas, a newbie at Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School is well mannered, respectful and classy. Once again Alex "Black Cat" Burrows is here to find out the scoop on our latest teacher Mr. Nahas.

-Q: Where were you born & raised?

A: "I was born at St. Mary's Hospital. I spent my early years downtown, and later on stayed more in the West Island."

-Q: Who has been your idol for most of your life?

A: "I would have to say my father & an artist who goes by Tom Waits."

-Q: What do you think of P.C.H.S. so far?

A: "I think it's a great school; I really like the students and I feel that P.C has a great learning environment."

-Q: Other than teaching, what jobs would you like to pursue?

A: "Once I get my band back on track, I would like to pursue a singing career. Being a DJ as well would be fun or anything that would involve music."

-Q: What do you plan on doing 5 years from now?

A: "Not to sound too religious, but I believe that wherever God takes me should be wherever I'm needed."

-Q: What do you enjoy doing on your spare time?

A: "Listening/making music, and most importantly spending time with my friends and family."

-Q: If you had anywhere to go in the world, where would it be & why?

A: "I would have to say Lebanon, a beautiful place, where I can be with my family."

-Q: What is your all time favourite Disney Movie?

A: "To be honest I have two, both classics: Dumbo and Fantasia."

-Q: What is your favourite professional sport?

A: "Soccer! Hands down."

-Q: If you had any animal to protect you in combat what would it be & why?

A: "I would start off with a mouse to make my opponent laugh, and finish the job with a Doberman because they are probably the most vicious animal."

-Q: If you had one thing to change about the world what would it be?

A: "Colonialism"

-Q: Are you an underground gamer at home, if so what games do you enjoy playing?

A: "To be honest, I used to love playing video games regularly. Counter Strike & World Craft were my kind of games."

-Q: Do you have any dance moves on the dance floor, if so what's your signature move?

A: "I have been known to break it down on the dance floor; my signature move would have to be the Rocket Launcher."

-Q: What was your favorite Christmas movie growing up as a kid?

A: "A Christmas Story"

-Q: For the year 2010 do you have any New Year's resolutions that would like to achieve?

A: "I have a few actually; firstly I would like to be able to complete my thesis secondly I would like to get my band ready for a gig, thirdly, being able to learn more about the Arabic language."

Wanting to pursue his dreams of working in the music business, also wanting to learn more Arabic, Mr. Nahas is without a question a talented young man. I "Black Cat" got a chance to learn more about Mr. Nahas, which I am very grateful for. As I said before he is well mannered, respectful and any man who happens to know how to break it down on the dance floor is on positive terms in my book.

To students of P.C "Peace & Love",

Black Cat signing out!!

So You Think You Can Dance P.C.H.S?

By: Shanice Bowrin

Some may know about the So You Think You Can Dance P.C.H.S. For those who don't, it's an activity that was done in Mrs. Freeman's dance class. To shed a little more light on the subject, I personally had a one on one interview to learn more about this event.

So what was so you Think You Can Dance P.C.H.S?

Mrs. Freeman: "It was a small class assignment but, I hope in a few years time it'll become a school ritual."

How did you come up with the idea?

Mrs. Freeman: "Well I mostly got the idea from the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance Canada." "While watching the show I thought the idea was cool and would make a great freelance assignment."

What was your favourite part of the activity?

Mrs. Freeman: "My favourite parts were watching the dance progressing, seeing kids showing each ideas and different moves." "Another favourite is watching the final dance and all the creativity come together."

What was your least favourite part of the activity?

Mrs. Freeman: "I found it very frustrating when students weren't participating and just sat around all through class. They weren't motivated or were too lazy."

Were there any problems in the activity?

Mrs. Freeman: "There weren't many problems but, the only big problem was sharing the stereos, because everyone had their own genre of music and we only had one stereo."

What types of dances did you see in the activity?

Mrs. Freeman: "I mostly saw Hip-Hop and there were some individuals who chose to do contemporary dance and another one of my students did lyrical dance."



Sports News:

THE FLAME IS BACK IN TOWN!!

Despite the extraordinarily cold weather, and being in school for 6am, the ten students picked to represent **PCHS** for **GMAA** at the Olympic Torch Relay at the Olympic Stadium in Montreal, had an incredible time at this once in a lifetime opportunity. This is something that these students would cherish forever.

The weather did not stop the athletes and teachers Mr. Nathan and Mr. Tondino from running this... Even with a major snow storm above their heads, and wind blowing heavily in their faces, everyone still ran a good kilometre with the flame in clear sight, besides the falling snow.

Nearing the end, the runners got together to watch the Olympic flame be lit for its return to Montreal. This was an intense moment of happiness from the crowds around the blocks, as well as the athletes running with the flame. **THE OLYMPIC FLAME HAS BEEN LIT AGAIN IN MONTREAL!** Many people, like the Mayor of Montreal Gérald Tremblay, gave touching speeches to the crowd, for this incredible event coming soon to Vancouver! **GO CANADIAN ATHLETES! VANCOUVER 2010!**

Dylan Salkovic

Holiday Concert

By: Paul Moniodis and Anisha Sivasubramaniam

“You’ve got to love the sound of that music”, thought all the parents and teachers who came to see the Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 3rd, 2009. It all started at seven o’clock when Mr. Litschauer, the Master of Ceremonies,

announced the beginning of the concert. Players got up on stage and waited for the arrival of the conductors. Michael Richardson, a student conductor, was the first to get on stage followed by Ms. Cianci, the lead conductor. When the conductors

got on stage, the beautiful sound started immediately. Some songs that were played were Superstition, Frankenstein, Evil Ways, Ain't No Mountain High Enough, Wrap It Up, and many more. As every song concluded, parents and students were astonished with every note. The students were very impressed themselves; you saw a smile on their faces when each song was done. After an hour, there was halftime. Many people were too excited to leave the auditorium for a break and stayed in admiring the well decorated stage with the colourful lights. Almost everybody hurried out to eat their snacks from the snack bar because they couldn't wait to go back and hear the mind blowing saxophones, trumpets and trombones. After those agonizing twenty minutes, people rushed in

the auditorium like a swarm of bees entering a hive. Everybody was too excited so there was a need for a low tempo song. Hotel California was sung and played by the rhythm section but people were still jumping off the walls. More songs were played but the audience knew all this had to come to an end. As the end of concert slowly approached, the audience was cheering louder than ever before knowing they will not be hearing this wonderful music again until May. The concert came to an end and slowly the audience dispersed and left, all the while commenting on all the hard work students put into it. The next concert will be coming fast and it will definitely be bigger and better than this one! Happy Holidays!



Grad Semi Formal

by: Amanda Simoni

The Grad Semi Formal was themed Havana Nights on December 4th, 2009. The dress code was red and black; everyone looked fabulous. You couldn't even recognize our own cafeteria; the first section was the casino area where you had teachers hosting different

games such as Texas Hold'em, blackjack, under & over etc. Then you had the dance area where you had the nightclub vibe. The final section was the cocktail area. To end the night we had the prizes and the grad polls were announced by Mr. Bedic.

GRAD POLL WINNERS!!!

NICEST EYES MALE: BRENT ROGERS

NICEST EYES FEMALE: REBEKAH
DOLMAT

NICEST SMILE MALE: ALEX
BURROWS

NICEST SMILE FEMALE: SARA DANA

MOST LIKELY TO BE ON THE COVER
OF GQ: MIKE SOUCI

MOST LIKELY TO BE ON THE COVER
OF VOGUE: KRISTINA CIROI

MOST LIKELY TO BE A MILLIONAIRE
LEGALLY MALE: MICHAEL
RICHARDSON

MOST LIKELY TO BE A MILLIONAIRE
LEGALLY FEMALE: MELISSA
CANALES

MOST LIKELY TO BE A MILLIONAIRE
ILLEGALLY MALE: GEOFFREY G

MOST LIKELY TO BE A MILLIONAIRE
ILLEGALLY FEMALE: DINA A

CUTEST COUPLE: MICHELLE
GAURON & FABIO COLIAS

BEST LEADER MALE: JORDAN
MARTEL

BEST LEADER FEMALE: AMANDA
SIMONI

FUNNIEST MALE: ALEX KAMAL

FUNNIEST FEMALE: EMILY PREVOST

BEST HAIR MALE: MATTHEW
PASQUARELLI

BEST HAIR FEMALE: SARA M

BEST ATHLETE MALE: FABIO COLIAS

BEST ATHLETE FEMALE: LINDSAY
FRASIER-NOEL

MOST SARCASTIC MALE: MUNEEB
KHAN

MOST SARCASTIC FEMALE: JESSICA
CONTI

LOUDEST LAUGH MALE: JEMMIS V

LOUDEST LAUGH FEMALE: NATASHA F

FASHIONISTA MALE: CARMINE F

FASHIONISTA FEMALE: AUDREY FERRI

BIGGEST FLIRT MALE: PJ

BIGGEST FLIRT FEMALE: MELISSA CONOLLY

LOUDEST MALE: DANIEL M

LOUDEST FEMALE: SAMANTHA M

MOST GULLIBLE MALE: KEVIN C

MOST GULLIBLE FEMALE: TANYA S

MOST BUSH MALE: BRYAN B

MOST BUSH FEMALE: TILIANNA P

Great and BAD Gift Ideas

By: Izabella Amico

No clue what to get your loved ones this holiday season? Let us tip you off with a gift idea they'll love...and a gift to stay away from.

Mom

Great

A Picture Frame (She'll love to place her favourite family photo in it)

Bad

"Swiffer" Products (Those moms on commercials *only* look happy!)

Dad

Great

A GPS System (Now he has an excuse for *not* asking for directions)

Bad

Scented Bath Oils (Great job making him feel womanly!)

Sister

Great

Movies (This gift lasts forever!!! And you can benefit from it too)

Bad

A Whoopee Cushion (Though you think it's funny, it won't be appreciated)

Brother

Great

Video Games (He'll love it for hours!)

Bad

Socks (They're boring)

Girlfriend

Great

Jewelry (This definitely won't get you in trouble..)

Bad

A Scale (... But this definitely will)

Boyfriend

Great

Ipod Speakers (Who doesn't love music?)

Bad

"I LOVE MY GF" T-shirt (Do you really want to see it in the trash?)

Best Friend:

Great:

Anything you would love

Bad:

Anything you would hate

When in doubt: GIFT CARDS!

But Don't Forget,

It's the Thought that counts.

Holiday Log Cake

By Izabella Amico

Ingredients

Cake

3 eggs
1 c. sugar
1/3 Cup of water
1 tsp Vanilla
3/4 cup flour
¼ cup of salt

1 tsp baking powder

Filling

2 Cups of whipping cream
½ cup of cocoa
½ cup of sugar
¼ cup of raspberry syrup
1 tsp. vanilla

Icing

¼ cup of butter
½ cup of chocolate chips
2 ½ cups of icing sugar
½ cup of buttermilk
½ tsp. of vanilla

Directions

Cake

1. Heat oven to 375°. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Spray with non-stick cooking spray.
2. Beat eggs on high for 5 minutes or until thick and yellow. Slowly beat in sugar, water and vanilla.
3. Slowly add flour, baking powder and salt. Beat until batter is smooth. Pour onto pan. Use a spatula to smooth out and make cake even.

Filling

1. Add all ingredients to a large bowl. Beat until light and fluffy.

Frosting

1. Melt butter and chocolate chips in small saucepan.

4. Place in oven for 10-20 minutes until it is sponge-like and toothpick comes out clean.
5. While in oven, prepare 2nd sheet of parchment paper that is dusted with icing sugar to prevent sticking.
6. Take cake out of oven, carefully flip onto parchment paper and roll. Place on cooling rack for 30 minutes until completely cool.

2. Chill.

2. Remove from heat and cool.
3. In a bowl add icing sugar, milk and vanilla.

4. Add cooled chocolate.

6. Chill.

5. Beat until light fluffy. If too liquidy, add more icing sugar.

Putting it all together

-Once cake has completely cooled, gently unroll and spread filling over cake.

-Use a fork to make squiggly lines on cake to resemble outside of a log.

-Gently re-roll cake so filling is on the inside.

-Cut off ends.

-Cover outside of cake with frosting.

-Refrigerate for an hour.

Et Voila!

Perogies

By Amanda Lenko

Ingredients

DOUGH

1 1/2 tsp salt
1 1/2 tsp baking powder
1 egg
1/2 cup cold water

2 cup flour

FILLING:

3-4 potatoes
1 onion
1 tsp pepper
1/4 cup milk

DIRECTIONS

1. Place flour in a mixing bowl, make well in the middle of flour, and add salt, baking powder, egg and water.

6. Place boiled potatoes in bowl with minced onions, salt, pepper and milk. Mash and set aside.

2. Mix flour into wet ingredients until it forms a ball.

7. Place more flour on cutting board.

3. Flour a cutting board, knead dough until elastic.

8. Roll dough into a large rectangle

4. Set aside for 10 minutes.

9. Cut dough into circles using a cookie cutter or the rim of a clean cup.

5. Prepare filling: remove skin from potatoes and boil.

10. Add 1 tsp of filling to dough. Fold in half to make a half circle.

11. Pinch ends closed using fingers and water.

(Make sure that it's closed properly, you can pinch really hard)

12. Bring a pot of water to boil.

13. Place pierogies in boiling water. Add in a pinch of salt (to the water)

14. Allow pierogies to boil for 3-5 minutes or

until it floats to the top.

15. Remove from water using slotted spoon.

16. Eat as is or if you really want to, fry in frying pan with a little butter until golden brown.

17. Serve with sour cream :)

Short Story

By: Shanice Bowrin

Ben was a good man. He worked at a very progressive truck delivery service. But unfortunately, he had to deliver things from other states maybe even in a different country so Ben didn't have much spare time on his hands to be with his family. Ben was happily married with 2 daughters. Their names were Chloe and Ana. All through the years, Ben missed out on all the vitally important parts of his kids childhood. Like their first birthday, their first loose tooth and so on. But not this time. Ben was planning on coming home on Christmas day to finally have a memory with his family.

It was December 24th, Christmas eve. The roads were slippery but Ben didn't care. He was about 3 hours away from home and was determined to get there on time. But while Ben was driving his truck a weather report on the radio announced that a major snow storm was going to hit where Ben was. Ben decided to ignore the radio broadcast and to not pullover and keep driving. Within an hour, snow was swishing heavily on the windshield. The sky was black and even with high beams on the truck, Ben could only see about 15 meters farther.

When the storm was too bearable to drive in, Ben gave up so he parked his truck along the side of the highway to wait out the storm. Ben turned up the radio "this storm will be hitting for the next 24 hours!" they screeched in a static voice. 24 hours! Ben felt disappointed, he was trying so hard to spend at least one holiday with his family and now he has to spend Christmas Eve alone in his empty truck.

To pass the time, Ben was reading books. He called his wife to notify her that he won't be able to make it for Christmas. He could hear the sadness and disappointment in her voice. The last thing he wanted was to let his wife, and especially his kids down.

After several hours of reading, Ben heard a sharp knock on your window. He looked at the clock. It was 11:50 pm. "who could be outside at this hour?" He thought to himself. He looked through the window, a man was there. His face was shadowed so Ben couldn't see what he looked like. Ben felt bad for the mysterious man who was in the cold and had let him inside.

The man stepped into the light and Ben got a god look at his face. He was young but not too young around his late 20's or early 30's. His hair was mocha brown and messy. He had a plain complexion, freckles, a straight nose and a wide white grin. "Thanks for letting me in, it's freezing out there!" his voice was hoarse but mysteriously distant. Maybe he was cold from being outside and it affected his voice thought Ben.

The man introduced himself. "Hi my name is Seth." He said in a hoarse whisper. He smiled and greeted Ben with a handshake. His hands were cold as ice but clearly he must have been outside so long he probably would've frozen the death if it weren't for me. Ben wondered.

For the rest of the night, Seth had explained to Ben why he was on the highway so late, he too was in a hurry to see his wife whom he married two years ago but he spun out and had to look for somewhere else to stay. The men talked all night, Ben made a new best friend. Ben gave his information to the man and he accepted it. They were like old high school pals.

Several hours later, the men fell asleep. When morning came, the storm had subsided. Ben woke up, stood up and looked at the bunk bed above him. It was empty. It was neatly cleaned, just like Ben left it before he met Seth. There were no jacket, shoes, wallets, it seemed that Seth disappeared. Ben looked down on the counter, his contact cards were still there.

Depressed that his new friend left him he slowly went to his driver seat and turned the truck on and went on the road back home. A few minutes after driving, Ben saw a car that seem to have crashed in to a ditch. It was a navy Blue minivan, police and ambulance were surrounded around the vehicle. Ben felt a pang of suspicion and worry so he parked the truck and walked toward the scene. "Step, back sir, this is dangerous" a police man ordered as the paramedics went into the car. Behind the officer it seemed that they were pulling out a body of some sort then Ben had to ask. "What was the name of the victim?" "That's none of your business" the police officer snapped "Officer, this is important, I think I know that man!" "Fine." said the officer. "The name of the man is Seth Cooper and he tragically died of his injuries in the car crash about 24 hours ago." "That can't be! I was talking to Seth just last night!" Ben screamed. It couldn't be! Seth wasn't dead; he talked to just a few hours ago! Then it hit him. The cold skin, the hoarse voice, Seth WAS dead but Ben was talking to his spirit. Ben had a flashback, when he was talking to Seth he had looked in the mirror. There was no reflection. Ben was talking to no one. There was no Seth.

Ben then thought of something. Maybe Seth did talk to Ben for a reason. Ben was in his truck alone and needing someone on Christmas Eve. Seth was his angel, his helper. And so Ben realized this was a truly gifted Christmas.