



READY, MASK, SHOW!: Music teacher, **Edward Trovato**, counts in the choir as part of the rehearsal for last night's winter concert. The choir sang without a live audience. Trovato and the music program hopes that by next year, they will be able to host concerts with a live audience.

PHOTO CREDIT HERE

Edge hits stands after 20 month hiatus

SENA NAKAJIMA
Staff reporter

The Edge is back after 20 months of not being printed. After the Covid outbreak, new media classes were not able to print and hand out hard copies of the Edge newspaper in fear of the virus spreading.

Now with further knowledge about the virus, students can hand them out to others safely.

"It's exciting, because it's my first newspaper article and it allows people to see what I have written and produced out of it," said **Rodyn Rostam**, grade 10.

"I feel ecstatic to finally be able to do a print edition," said **Scott Findley**, English, new media teacher, and Edge newspaper advisor. "Now we have a high vaccination rate and low transmission in schools, we can hand [the newspapers] out safely. There is nothing like having a copy handed to you and being able to see your work in print. Students also enjoy looking for their friends in photos."



Rodyn Rostam

New media 10 has started working on this copy of the Edge since November, working as individuals and as a team to get this printed.

"I had fun writing this newspaper," said **Zoey Liu**, grade 10 one of the many 28 writers for this semester of new media 10.

"I really enjoy writing news, interviewing people, and sorting information for my article. I hope people can take a look at our newspaper and know what's going on in our school because we're all part of it."

Though the last printed copy was published on March 6, 2020, and it was stopped since then, new media classes still continued writing stories to post on the Edge in a digital version at EdgeSD43.org.

"It feels really nice to have them back," said **Katherine Chung**, science teacher. "I did read the digital version because they were emailed to us. The links were convenient but it feels better to read the hard copies."



Zoey Liu



Katherine Chung

Winter concert cozy warm up for February jazz gala

FINN PRICE & KANAMU KOBAYASHI
Staff reporter

Last night, the music department had its first Christmas concert in two years featuring five different ensembles. The vocal jazz, concert choir, jazz band, junior band and senior band each played several Christmas songs to help the audience get into the holiday spirit.

Before the concert, band director, **Edward Trovato** said "I am excited about the concert. I am looking forward to the concert as everyone was doing a great job, taking a step forward and was advancing very fast."

The concert was opened by the vocal jazz choir, followed by the concert choir, then the jazz band, next the junior band and the grand finale was a joint performance of *O Come All Ye Faithful* between the senior band and the choir.

"Things are going a lot better this year compared to last year as things are feeling more 'normal,'" said Trovato. "The next thing would be allowing a live audience, and that would make things more normal, even if we have to wear masks," said Trovato.

A live audience was not permitted this year, "The only thing would be allowing the live

audience, and basically we would be back to normal... we are anxiously waiting for a word for when we are allowed to have a live audience," said Trovato. Although there wasn't a live audience the other music students were there as an audience members and showed their support for the performers.

According to Trovato, for the concert, Yu-

with the whole band and catching up with everybody else is difficult for me."

When asked about her experience in the music program, Jaberri answered "it's been very fun, I was nervous before because I didn't know anyone in the music program but when I met, it was like a nice and big community, lots of friendship."

"I am super happy with how everything is going, everyone is catching up so quick, and I am very impressed with junior band, as a lot of those students had little to no band [experience]," said Trovato. Due to COVID-19, most students were not able to attend the music program during the last several years.

The energy and time all these students put in was appreciated. **Carter Newson**, grade 12 and vocal jazz member, said "the best part is probably the other students in it," about his experience in the music program and continued saying "they're very compassionate, they're very friendly."

The next big concert event for the department will be the jazz gala at the end of February.

"I think the band is doing very well, and it's very surprising because there are a lot of beginners too."

—**Rosa Jabari**
jr. band member, grade 10



ARTONA

Xing Lim, grade 12 and head of the Gleneagle filming club, and his team make the recording, and they mix it down and edit all the camera angles and release it a week later so people can see it. Trovato noted that Lim's team do "a really good job on that, it's fantastic."

Heading into the concert, grade 10 student **Rosa Jaberri**, junior Band member, said "I am nervous, most parts of the songs and the rhythms are very tricky for me and getting

INSIDE

INTERNATINOAL ED GINGER-BREAD HOUSES:
See how students designed the ginger bread houses!



#4

#5

VANCOUVER X-MAS MARKET:
Check out the Vancouver X-mas market!

SR. BOYS BASKETBALL:
Sr. Boys Basketball is back with tourney win



#7

ONtheCALENDAR

- DECEMBER 17** Last day in session before winter break
- DECEMBER 18** Winter break!
- DECEMBER 31** New Years Eve
- JANUARY 1** New Years Day
- JANUARY 21** Last day of sesmester one
- JANUARY 31** Pro-D - no class



Gender, sexuality discrimination concern in Canada, at Gleneagle

Society has grown and become more accepting of the LGBTQ2+ community, allowing more people to be themselves and hide neither their gender nor sexual identity.

Unfortunately, there are still some people who are not as open-minded, educated, or even aware, which is why Canada and even Gleneagle's own community still have to improve everyone's awareness and understanding.

Canada is a diverse society with many different gender and sexual identities. For example, even the LGBTQ2+ acronym can be confusing for those who are unaware that it seeks to include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, queer, questioning, two-sprited, and their allies. The key is to create an environment where everyone is respected and acknowledged.

As an article published by the BC's Fraser Health about Gender and sexual identity in schools notes that "creating an inclusive culture prevents children and youth from experiencing distress, discrimination, bullying and ultimately negative health outcomes". Discrimination towards this community still occurs in Canada and therefore in all communities to some degree, including schools, which is why change needs to be made.

Some things that can be done are using inclusive language, being welcoming and inclusive to all members of this community, spreading awareness, expand

one's vocabulary, educate oneself and others.

An article on the GLSEN website tells that an organization believes that every student has the right to have a safe, supportive, and LGBTQ-inclusive K-12 education. note that "students are most likely to reach their full educational potential in positive learning environments that are safe, secure, welcoming, and where they feel a sense of belonging.

"Research demonstrated that an affirming school climate leads to improvements in behaviors, academic, and mental health outcomes for all students. Not surprisingly, schools promoting LGBTQ-inclusive and affirming learning environments have fewer student absences and greater academic achievement across grade levels."

While Gleneagle can be a very supportive community in the hallways, classrooms, and common spaces, some students have still experienced moments where they have been mistreated or hurt by the words or actions of others.

Unfortunately, people do not realize the power of gender or sexual slurs – none of which are acceptable no matter their intent.

Just like racial slurs are no longer acceptable, neither are these gender or sexual slurs.

Sometimes people don't or choose not to use correct pronouns or don't address members of the LGBTQ2S+ in their preferred way, making them feel



devalued and isolated.

Because of this, some teenagers become insecure, self-conscious, and even become depressed.

School district 43 itself even recognized in a recent joint statement against harassment, racism, and a non-sexist environment and that all district workplaces are expected to be inclusive and not be involved in any discriminatory

practices.

If students feel like they have been either treated unfairly by any member of the Gleneagle community, there are multiple options available.

Students can speak with an adult or teacher they trust, a school counselor or youth worker, or even a school administrator.

Every school district staff

member is required to provide an inclusive environment that is both physically and emotionally safe.

Schools are supposed to be a place where students discover their likes, dislikes, make memories and make friends. It's meant to be a place where everyone feel included and welcome regardless of the colour of their skin and their gender identity.

Oceans, wildlife suffocating with profusion of plastic products

MAY SHANMEI
Edge columnist

In the past half century, especially in the past 15 years, the growth rate of plastic production is much faster than that of any other manufacturing materials.

In recent years, with the explosive growth of disposable plastic products, its impact on marine ecosystem is more significant than before.

These pollution causes the greatest damage to marine life. Every year, 100 million marine animals died from plastic waste. Nearly 1000 kinds of marine animals are affected by marine pollution. More than 500 oceanic sites have been recorded as dead zones. By 2050, the amount of plastic in the ocean will be more than fish.

269,000 tons of garbage is floating on the sea. Every year, 100,000

marine animals die because they were entangled by plastic. In the ocean, plastic bags look like jellyfish. Most marine organisms cannot distinguish food from plastic waste. Albatrosses and other birds mistaken plastic with fish eggs. They feed plastic to their chicks, so they died with organ failure and hunger. Plastic contaminants were found in 100% of turtles, 59% of whales and 36% of seals. More than 90% of seabirds have plastic fragments in their stomachs. From these shocking data, we can see that marine organisms are very likely to die due to marine pollution. This marine plastic pollution not only affected the animals in the ocean, but also affected the seabirds that feed on marine animals. If the marine plastic waste is not treated, more marine animals will be endangered in the future.

The second serious problem is

the direct pollution and damage to the ocean. The largest landfill on earth is located in the Pacific Garbage belt, with an area twice that of Texas. The North Pacific subtropical con-



If we want to solve the problem of marine plastics, we must start with the rivers. We must try our best to save the world."

May Shanmei
Edge columnist



fluence connects the eastern and Western garbage areas and becomes a highway for garbage transfer. Because of this, small pieces of garbage fall into the ocean. 20% of the garbage in the Pacific Garbage belt comes from oil drilling platforms and cargo

ships. Including 700,000 tons of fishing nets. 90% of the world's marine garbage comes from ten rivers. They are Amur River, Indus River, Pearl River, Yangtze River,

Yellow River, Ganges River, Haihe River and Mekong River, Niger, and Nile.

Coral reefs are also endangered in the sea. Coral reefs provide important fisheries and coastal defense. They urgently need to be protected from the destructive

effects of plastic waste. 159 coral reefs were investigated in the Asia Pacific region. Billions of plastic products are trapped in the reef. The more prickly the coral species, the more likely they were entangled by plastic. Plastic fragments exert pressure on corals by depriving light, releasing toxins and hypoxia, providing a foothold for pathogen invasion. Plastic waste promoted microbial colonization of pathogens in marine disease outbreaks. Scientists assessed the impact of plastic waste on the risk of reef

forming coral diseases in 124000 of 159 coral reefs in the Asia Pacific region. When coral contacts with plastic, the possibility of disease increases from 4% to 89%.

If we want to solve the problem of marine plastics, we must start with the rivers. We must try our best to save the world.

theEdge

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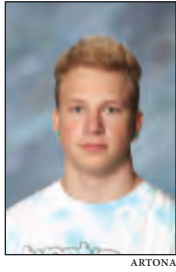
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TALONSTalk

The tamagotchi as a video game played a big role in many peoples childhood, *The Edge* asked: "What was your favourite video game growing up and why?"

“ My favorite video game growing up would be *Halo* I played that game a lot, it was the first game I finished.”
— Gabe Schiff
grade 12



“ *Grand Theft Auto V* with my brother because it's the only game we had.”
—Emma Baker
grade 10



“ My favourite video game was *Call Of Duty: Black Ops II* because the voice chat.”
—Breckyn Chekaluk
grade 12



“ My favourite game was probably *Call Of Duty: WWII* because i could play with friends when i was little.”
— Artan Shaygan
grade 10



“ My favourite video game was *Bioshock* because it was a story you can only tell in a video game.”
—Daniel Beley
teacher, librarian



“ My favourite game was probably *Fortnite* because it was popular and i enjoyed playing it.”
—Pablo Paez Rodriguez
grade 9



25 years on, Tamagotchi paved way for Pokemon, more games

LUCAS CRANDALL
Edge columnist

Just over 25 years ago, on November 23, 1996, the first Tamagotchi by Bandai came out in Japan and shocked the kids around the country.

This tiny toy was only a 32x16 pixel screen with 3 buttons in an egg-shaped plastic case, but kids went wild for them. The influence of this tiny toy is still being felt today

Tamagotchi machines contained a virtual pet that owners had to take care of by doing simple tasks such as feeding or playing a game with their pet. Fail to do these tasks and their Tamagotchi would pass away. If this happens, the machine simply showcases how young their pet was with some stars.

At the time, Tamagotchi's were one of the hottest kids toys while also being one of the smallest. These toys were not only very appealing to kids, but also to parents who's children were begging for this toy. Tamagotchis were cheap, around \$18, and the toy was released just

before Christmas time which made them a great choice for a Christmas present.

Even though this virtual pet was just 10 pixels on a tiny screen and wasn't real, kids were willing to get sent to detention just to check on their tiny friend.

“We thought it would do well,” said **Nobuhiko Momoi**, managing director and chief Tamagotchi officer at Bandai. “But we didn't expect it to be such a huge success, to the point that production could not keep up with demand.”

A big difference between Tamagotchis and many video games at the time was how Bandai tried to market this toy as both genders could enjoy.

Before Tamagotchi, video games were thought to be something that only boys were supposed to play. Bandai saw an

opportunity and made it clear how girls can have fun with this toy as well.

“After the first Tamagotchi launched in 1996, it became not just a toy fad, but a social phenomenon,” said Momoi.

Bandai sold over 82 million units of this toy since its release and still releases new models to this day.

These new models have a considerable

“ At the time, tamagotchi's were one of the hottest kids toys while also being one of the smallest.”

—Lucas Crandall
Edge columnist



increase in graphic quality and functions, while still only having 3 buttons. Graphics were fancier and extra colourful and an apartment editor was added along with a built-in camera. Owners could even connect to other

Tamagotchi's and compete in activities and play games.

This toy went on to impact how video game companies created and marketed their games.

It could be argued that Nintendo took inspiration from this toy and came up with the idea for Pokemon.

While Pokemon is different enough to not be called a copy, it still has large similarities, especially in newer titles which introduces a way to take care of Pokemon instead of just fighting with them.

In fact, a Pokemon Tamagotchi was produced in January 26, 2019.

Tamagotchi's impact on companies, kids of the era and after the era, and the whole world was astronomical. It changed how people viewed video games by telling people that girls can enjoy games just like boys.

This toy changed how companies make and sell games for kids in the present and adults who bought Tamagotchis as a kid.

Without Tamagotchis, society and definitely some collector gameplay could be vastly different than it is today.

Covid's long lasting effects on student mental health, pros, cons

ANNETTE DAVIDSON & LILY HODSON
Edge columnists

The Global Pandemic COVID-19 has become an enormous part of the lives of all, killing over 30,000 Canadians and over 5 million worldwide deaths. The ongoing virus started in China and was declared a Canadian public health emergency in January 2020, and a global pandemic in March 2020.

Quarantines took place which shut down public schools and work, which caused food and product shortages as well as financial shortages.

COVID-19's effects are still occurring today, but there are now vaccinations, masks, and physical distancing which are being used to help prevent the spread of variants and allow in-person learning to happen in schools. Yet there are still many effects on students.

During this pandemic, schooling has become even more difficult for students. If attending classes virtually was hard enough, then the return to a full six-hour school day is agonizing. The previous year went by in the blink of an eye, rushing unit by unit, having to skip through lots of content just to move onto

the next grade with only half the knowledge. This year has been and continues to be difficult for many students.

Regular and timely attendance has been a re-occurring problem, but it's recently been happening more often due to a lack of motivation.

While missing school has its benefits with being able to sleep in, it gets addicting at least skipping one day to get through the week, progressing into two days, and then into three. Until a student has a binder full of worksheets and late assignments you aren't motivated for.

But, if a student works on building connections, it makes getting out of bed and getting to school easier.

“Something that's been boosting my habits is getting to build good relationships with my teachers and something that's holding me

back is always being tired from long school days,” said **Kayleh Wheeler**, grade 11.

It doesn't always have to be negative. Learning online was quite challenging for many students considering work was done at their own pace instead of having a set schedule to get busy.

Having full school days gives students the chance to build connections with peers and teachers. As well as live through what high school is truly like, especially for the grade 10 and 11 students that didn't get to fully enjoy the standard secondary school experience.

As has been noted in many publications, COVID-19 takes toll on physical health of young Canadians

As well as mental health, physical health is equally as important, considering how this pandemic has negatively influenced people's

health and quality of life. Encouraging students to stay active during this time is ideal while respecting the necessary social distancing protocols.

Since the beginning of 2020, the public has been taking extra precautions on health in general to avoid the spread of the virus.

Students have been a lot more mindful of keeping healthy by making sure to wear masks, practicing physical distancing and washing their hands. Because of that extra precaution, not only are we preventing the transmission of COVID-19, but they are being conscious about cleanliness and limiting social exposure all-together.

Ultimately, society has completely shifted both in a physical and an emotional state.

Over the course of this pandemic, there have been plenty of drastic changes including the dynamic of how people act towards each other.

As well as bringing awareness to being mindful towards each other and our surroundings.

Overall, we have had a wide variety of pros and cons, but we are continuing doing our best to cease the spread while getting our education and staying mentally healthy.

NEWSinBrief

ICC's Santa hunt underway, ends tomorrow

PARVA POURIAMEHR
Staff reporter

Just like every year, the international community club; also referred as "ICC" planned and prepared an amazing event for Christmas. They have held an event named "Santa Hunt" from December 13 to December 17, which means students are still able to get involved in this event.



Parva
Pouriaemehr
Staff reporter

Just like every year, the international community club; also referred as "ICC" planned and prepared an amazing event for Christmas.

They have held an event named "Santa Hunt" from December 13 to December 17, which means students are still able to get involved in this event.

In this event secret Santa, which is a western Christmas tradition, is chosen between the members of a community and is assigned to give a Christmas gift to a randomly chosen person.

Students who are able to find the secret Santa of that day based on the clues that are provided every day by this club; get a special prize

This prize is followed by special Christmas cards written in different languages from all around the world; such as Korean, Mandarin, Farsi, French, Spanish, ... with the help of international students who were able to help and prepare the prizes.



Roberto Ramogida
International
coordinator

Roberto Ramogida shared his thoughts about the purpose of this event.

"The purpose of this event is to create a space for everyone to be able to connect with each other and to make every student feel welcomed no matter which country they are from or which language they speak."

"So many of our international students have never had Christmas, and we wanted everyone to experience Christmas this year" said Ramogida.

This event has also promoted all the students to enjoy, share and learn about other cultures.

As an international student, it's highly appreciated that the international community club celebrates and values the important holidays of other countries and makes them memorable for students, whether they are a part of that culture or not.

Santa Hunt!



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SWEET DECORATING: International Students decorated ginger bread house on December 8 as part of an international program event in the MPR.

Gingerbread house decorating for international students

SUBEEN LEE
Staff reporter

On December 8, the gingerbread decorating event for international students will be held in the MPR from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. For \$5, They will be able to decorate the gingerbread house and take home a turkey dinner. They can also enjoy funny Christmas hats and songs there. Applications are due on December 2nd.

Roberto Ramogida, the organizer of the event, said it would be an opportunity for international students to link up with school staff members and counselors as well as other international students.

"Like any other international student event, it's an opportunity for international students to come together and connect with one another, to potentially build friendships and relationships, not only amongst each other, but also with staff members, the counselors that are going to be supporting the event as well," said Ramogida.

He also added that the event will give them a good experience. "I don't really know what their culture is like because they come from so many different countries. However, if they don't have this kind of culture in their country, they'll have an experience they've never had before and if they decorate a gingerbread house in their hometown or have

a Turkey dinner on Christmas, they will be able to have a good time reminiscing about their memories." He said he wanted many international students to attend, but it was a disappointment that only 16 students applied.

"I decided to sign up for this event because it was so interesting and I liked decorating and making something," said **Wincy Wang**, grade 10. "I am also looking forward to the gingerbread house decorating and other events, but especially Turkey dinner. I hope that international students get to know each other and become closer through this event. Also, I wish it will be an opportunity for us to understand each other."

Daffodils planted for spring blooms by ten students



ZOEY LIU PHOTO

BULBS JUST WAITING TO BLOOM: Students planted daffodil bulbs in pots that they hope will bloom in the spring.

ZOEY LIU & SENA NAKAJIMA
Staff reporter

On December 2, ten international students voluntarily became flower "babysitters" with a daffodil planting event. **Roberto Ramogida**, international coordinator, organized for international

students.

International students were actively participating in the event, taken by Pablo Paez-Rodriguez.

"It's from the organization called 'Agriculture BC,'" said **Hunter Brian**, the English as additional language (EAL) department head. "They actually sponsor

this event. They have this program for anybody who is interested in planting the daffodils. The program is called 'Planting A Promise.'"

Each student got their own bulbs to plant in the gardens, which are near the east entrance of the school. Students will be able to watch their flowers grow and bloom in spring.

The purpose of this event is to meet other international students and brighten up the school community.

According to Ramogida, the "daffodil planning event came from" Hunter, who "usually does with his EAL classes at this time of the year... as a fun activity to be able to see the first flowers blooming [which] come springtime around Easter." Ramogida added that "It is a fun event to bring international students together at the end of the day. We did the pumpkin carving, and we haven't done anything since that, so it is a way to bring international students together to get them to connect..."

"It was fun to talk with my friends while I was planting with my friends, and I hope it will bloom nicely. I usually don't do gardening, so it was a nice change for me," commented **Sena Nakajima**, grade 11.

Lafarge lake Christmas lights shine holiday spirit



KARINA KIM PHOTO

COLOURING COQUITLAM WITH HOLIDAY CHEER: With over 1.2 kilometers of lights, the return of the Lafarge Lake light display provides a much needed boost of holiday spirit to the Coquitlam residents, and for all visitors from the surrounding communities. With over 100,000 lights and other festive displays, there's lots for everyone to see. The lights will stay lit until January 31.

KARINA KIM
Staff reporter

The holiday lights at Lafarge lake have returned this year and will stay lit until January 31. Over 100,000 lights and other festive displays, were hand-crafted by over 500 volunteers, and are placed around the lake. The decorated 1.2km path makes for photo opportunities this Christmas.

With newly installed COVID-19 restrictions in place, people can now safely enjoy the views and share the holiday spirit with others in the community.

The event was canceled last year due to the pandemic, but it is back up and running again.

Two separate walking trails and park

hosts will now be present to minimize large crowds and keep the flow moving.

"I go see the lights every year with my family and friends. I didn't go this year yet, but I will soon," said **Sally Kim**, grade 10. "The lights bond us as a community because we get together to go see the lights at the lake every winter."

The official Coquitlam website advises those planning on visiting to come before 6 p.m. and after 8 p.m. as those are considered the peak hours with trails and parking spots often are full.

"[These lights] also brings us closer together by letting everyone in the community to enjoy the attraction, as it is free and accessible," said **Nyomi Khau**, grade 10.

There was no kick-off party this year due to the pandemic, but the event is still

filled with new elements and surprises for visitors to enjoy.

"I think these things bring our community together more strongly and positively," said **Yedam Jang**, grade 11.

Wendy Wiederick, Coquitlam's parks operations manager explained that "this year, it's really for the local community to get out and to continue walking during the colder, wetter months."

This event is meant to make new memories with the ones around you and elevate the holiday cheer in the community.

"I remember going there and walking around the whole lake with my friends, which is one of my favorite memories I have with them," said Kim.

The Lafarge lake lights will continue to shine until January 31.

Christmas market comes back bigger than ever

MIRA KHANG
Staff reporter

After a one-year absence, the Vancouver Christmas market has come back bigger than ever.

The market, which was closed last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, is located at the Jack Poole Plaza in downtown Vancouver near the convention centre. The market is running until December 24.

This year the Christmas market has over 80 vendors to check out – there is even an authentic German feast.

Activities include a holiday carousel, a walk-in Christmas tree, and a scavenger hunt for kids.

Get into Christmas spirit with Christmas performances and sing-alongs that are held on the second storey of the Christmas pyramid on weekdays 4:30pm – 9:30pm and on weekends 12:00pm – 9:30pm.

To me, Christmas means spending quality time with my family and friends spreading holiday spirit together and giving gifts" says **Bahar Hariri**, grade 9, "with the Christmas market coming back I feel like it's the perfect event to spend time with my family. "Christmas to me is spending time with family, exchanging gifts, eating lots of food, and having fun" said **Hibiki Matsushima**, grade 10. "With the Christmas market



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TO MARKET, TO MARKET, TO GET SOME HOLIDAY CHEER: The return of the Vancouver Christmas market provides some much needed holiday cheer for those who missed visiting last year when it was closed due to public health restrictions.

being back I can do most of those things in one place which is very nice."

My favorite attraction there is the Christmas performances and the carousel because I they give me the most joy," said Harari.

"My favorite attraction there is the

vendors because I can buy ornaments and try different kinds of food. I'm very excited that the Christmas market is back, because I can experience holiday joy again with my family," said Matsushima.

The market is a great place to spread holiday cheer with family and friends.

NEWSinBrief

COAST meet, greet gives info to grade 9's

COAST is Gleneagle's outdoor program, with many different activities and events which takes students all over B.C and teaches them many skills. Due to the pandemic, many of the activities were cancelled. However, following the grade 9 meet and greet that happened on November 26, it seems as though teachers are confident of COAST's comeback for next year.

"Coquitlam outdoor academic school team, is an outdoor program meant to teach kids about life skill like first aid, canoeing, and kayaking. With six other formal courses which provide more traditional education for courses like Math and English," said **Madison Watt**, COAST and food studies teacher.

Students sign up for COAST in grade 9, then in the second semester of their grade 10 year they go on a variety of different trips from short day trips to longer overnight trips, finally, they go on a 10 day long final trip where everything they learn is put to the test.

On November 26, the grade 9 meet and greet happened, which, according to **Krista Bogen**, COAST and English teacher "was a chance for any grade 9 to come down and learn more about COAST."

50 grade 9 students came, with many expressing interest. Also, at the meeting were around 30 former COAST students from last year who came to tell their stories of their involvement with the program.

– Daniel Saadatmandi

Students prepare to host TEDx in February

On February 4 Gleneagle is going to be hosting a TEDx event for the fourth time in the school's history. This event is going to be held in the MPR with the presentations focused on "planting your future".

From getting a TEDx license to host the event to arranging the speakers, Con-X students, and the committee in charge have worked hard these past few months to make this event possible.

"The TEDx event at Gleneagle is a reflection of incredible student ambition and purpose" said **Adam Hayes**, socials and leadership teacher.

The speeches will be centred around the future of youth and what they can do to impact their future. There will be six speakers presenting on the night with the ratio of two students to four adults.

"Everyone get ready to plant your future" said **Leah Kyle**, grade 12 and member of the committee in charge of the event.

The event is going to be from 6pm-9pm with the capacity of the venue being at 100 people on a first come first served basis.

TEDx is an American media organization that holds talks all around the world and then distributes them on online platforms they have previously had events at Gleneagle three times before in 2016, 2017 and 2020.

To host this event Gleneagle had to apply and follow all of TEDx protocols and procedures to be able to host the event.

Although this event has Ted's name on it. It is a complete self driven and student-based effort that makes this event possible from the planning to the media work it's all been work done by students that are in charge of planning this event and that's why the entire school should be prepared for a spectacular show to watch.

– Taha Asadi

FallsportsRecap

Strong results from several teams in fall sports

IAN BAIRD
Staff reporter

Cross country

Coaches **Patty Anderson** and **Katherine Chung** were able to guide the largest contingent of Gr. 9-12 runners Gleneagle has seen in several years to a very successful season in terms of results and participation!

At the District Championships held in Mundy Park, Gleneagle's trailblazers earned the John Taylor Award for the largest contingent of participants over the course of the season and grade 12 student-athlete **Adam Crespi** took the Gail Sayers Award home for top graduating cross country runner during the season following his multiple 1st place finishes at the mini-meets.

The team also garnered team awards in several age group categories at the DCs in dominating fashion!



Adam Crespi
Grade 12

Senior volleyball

The Girls and Boys teams are nearly finished a very busy regular season schedule and playoffs are on the horizon!

Both teams have been involved in some marathon 5-set matches and the Senior Girls were involved in some tournament play outside of their schedule.

The Boys teams have recently garnered their first two wins of the season vs. Port Moody and Pinetree, and the girls are steadily improving with each game! Coaches **Madison**

Watt and **Les Lau** have been tremendous in offering these two teams a chance to succeed!



Madison Watt
coach

Junior volleyball

In similar fashion to the Senior teams, both the Girls and Boys teams have been playing into the wee hours of many evenings going 5 sets on a few occasions.

A memorable evening of volleyball occurred recently here at the school where the girls and boys went 5 sets with Charles Best, which lasted close to 5 hours in duration! It's a testament to the competitiveness of both teams!

This week, the Girls made the semi-finals of a tournament at Burnaby Mountain, while the Boys solidified 2nd place overall in the league standings, and a first round bye, ahead of league playoffs that began early November.

Some dominant play in all facets of the game at times has been the hallmark of the boys' success so far.

Thanks to Coaches **Billy Demonte** and **Shawna Smith** for their time and efforts all season long!



Billy Demonte
coach

Intramurals gives new life to lunch time for players

DANIEL JEE
Staff reporter

Intramurals, a former staple lunchtime activity, which had been suspended due to COVID-19, have now returned to the gym. It is an opportunity for students to compete against their peers in various sports.

"Intramural is a fun sports league for students outside of school," said **Cam Comeau**, physical education teacher and athletic director. "Intramurals was not possible last year because it is a sports activity that involved physical contact between participants."

Intramurals re-started on December 2 and will happen on each day 1 during lunch.

Any member of the Gleneagle community can participate, which means not only students, but also teachers can join and play.

"This year, we have various sports such as dodgeball, handball, basketball, indoor soccer, badminton, flag football, and volleyball," said Comeau, "If the weather is nice, we can even play outside."

Under the COVID-19 regulation, the capacity is limited depending on the sport and how many students participate.

Students must follow all instructions from the PE department and athletic leadership students. Students prohibited from bringing in food and beverages other than bottled water.

Upon arrival at the gym, student check in with the athletic leadership students or Comeau at the door before participating, and appropriate gym footwear is required.

The weekly schedule will be posted on Talon Talk every day.

The purpose of intramurals is to give students a chance to have outside activities.

"I think it gives an opportunity to stay active and enjoy being social during COVID-19," said Comeau.

Intramural are a way for students to interact with their friends and teachers while doing physical activities. In the past, there



BASKET DENIED: two students playing basketball fiercely during lunch time at intramurals on December 14.

have even been competitions and games with students versus teachers.

Students can get out of the classroom atmosphere, connect with the school community and make new friends.

"I think it is a really good time for

students to be with people doing fun sports activities. Sports activities with my friends always excite me, but especially Intramurals, which is between boring classes has become a very valuable time for me," said **John Jo**, a grade 11 student.

New coach played for Romanian national bball team

ASHTON VONGXAY
Staff reporter

This school year, **Dan Birsan**, student services teaching assistant, joined the coaching staff for the grade 9 boys basketball team.

Birsan used to be a captain in the Romanian army. He played basketball with the NBA's tallest player, **Gheorghe Muresan**, who was 7' 7" – Though, it wasn't that much of a height difference as Birsan is 6'7 and a half.

Birsan has many titles, including one international title and one national title. The highest level in basketball he has achieved is the European champions league, where he gained his national title.

"When I was about 15, I started playing all kinds of different sports such as European handball, fencing, and track and field, but it wasn't my cup of tea," said Birsan.

Once he finally tried basketball, he had an instant love for the sport. After winning his first tournament, he realized that there was success and a future for him in this sport. He stuck with basketball because he saw money in this career.

Later, at the age of 18, he was given the option to play basketball for the police or the army. He chose the army and played for the army from ages 18 to 32.

"I was given many basketball titles and military ranks at that time, going as far as a

players that were horrible coaches, and players that were not very good but were outstanding teachers.

Birsan said, "an English teacher was particularly good at basketball but was a phenomenal coach. The English teacher gained 12 titles in 10 years, and no one has ever done that before."

So far, the grade 9 boys basketball team is doing well for their first two games. Their first game was against Ecole Alpha Secondary School, and they won by 25 points. Their second game was against North Surrey Secondary School, and they lost by only 2-3 points.

Birsan says "they aren't too skilled fundamentally yet, but if they listen to what I have to say, they can improve drastically."

Birsan's goal for the future is "to build a team that turns into a family with a great bond, but it will take some time." The team has been working hard so far. If the team continues like this, they are going to be successful in the long run.

Birsan brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in basketball that should help the grade 9 team to elevate their game for years to come.

“When I was about 15, I started playing all kinds of different sports such as European handball, fencing, and track and field, but it wasn't my cup of tea”

—Dan Birsan
teaching assistant, jr. boys coach



captain," said Birsan.

Once Birsan moved to Canada, he saw the difference in basketball players. "The main difference in players is the physicality of the players. In America/Canada, all the players are super muscular compared to players from Romania. We were not allowed to use weights in Romania, so we all mainly focused on fundamentals and skills."

Birsan believes that his experience and skill in basketball do not give him an advantage over other coaches and teams.

He says that he has known excellent



SHAHRAD MEZERJI PHOTO

JUNIOR GIRLS: First-year coach **Katherine Bilan** with Junior girls basketball team gets ready for Candy Cane classic tournament

Jr. girls candy cane classic tourney starts today

SHAHRAD MEZERJI AND ALI SALEHI
Staff reporters

The sound of sneakers squeaking and basketballs bouncing will be filling the gym today as the junior girls host the annual Candy Cane classic tournament. The team's first game is tonight at 7 p.m. The tournament includes secondary schools Heritage Park, Seaquam, Maple Ridge, Panorama, South Delta, Delta, and Little Flower Academy.

Today, the team plays against Heritage Park to get sorted into pools. If they win their first match, they will continue and compete for first place.

The junior girls' coach, **Katherine Bilan**, math and science teacher, is also a new first-year teacher. She feels welcomed by the

school and has stated that her team is kind and committed to the game; she says the team is excited to have her.

Bilan says that the team is up to her expectations, but their numbers are underwhelming. Most basketball rosters have 12 to 18 players, while the girls only have 8 players.

Yet Bilan is confident in [the team's] athleticism and ability to work hard, some of them are new to basketball, but the whole team is very athletic."

The players feel great about their abilities and say that "although they are a small team, they have good chemistry and teamwork." Grade 10, forward **Noor Khalil** thinks "they will get far in the tournament and succeed."

Some players think that **Emily Chow**, grade 10, will be their best performer tonight. Khalil complimented Chow on her skills and said that "Emily is the team's shooter, and her skill level is very high. She is way better than (her)."

According to the coach, the two people to watch out for on the team are **Natasha Miller**, grade 10 and Chow.

The coach and the players are unsure about the other teams as it is not easy to scout them, but Bilan feels that the tournament will be a good learning experience for the team and that they might not get far but will have some gain from the competitions.

Bilan and the junior girls believe in each other, and they hope to perform well in the Candy Cane Classic.

Senior boys win tourney, set strong start to season



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM COACH ROBERTO ARCIAGA

SENIOR BOYS: Basketball team huddles during the Burnaby North Invitational Basketball Tournament.

VANSH SAHNI
Staff reporter

The senior boys' basketball team is off to a strong start having won the Burnaby North Invitational Basketball Tournament. They beat the Burnaby Central Wildcats on the final game 95 - 68 to win the championship game on December 12. The team previously beat host team Burnaby North 62-60 to advance to the finals.

Basketball for senior boys is coming back, with most players from school not having

had a school basketball season since their grade 9 or 10 year. The team consists of a mixture of grade 11 and 12s students, plus one grade 10. The senior basketball team's coaches are **Roberto Arciaga** and community based assistant coach. When COVID-19 was all over the world last year, many activities were not able to take place. But that didn't stop the senior boys basketball team as they met to practice and became better. The team took part in a tournament called, Renegades according to the senior team. The boys came third place in

the tournament. Now, the boys are getting ready for the upcoming season.

"The team is doing well! We are getting along really nicely. The leadership is there, and the guys seem to be listening to each other. This team is looking like a team," said Arciaga.

"It feels great to play again, we are ready to let the season start. We have a couple of goals to make the playoffs and the province," said **Sharif Hebrahim**, grade 12.

"We are very ready for upcoming games. Even during last year's covid's area, we were all still practicing safely. The practices were intense and that's how we got prepared for this year," said **Javier Carlos Ii Sy Quia**, grade 12.

"I think we will do good. We worked really hard in the off-season and I think it will pay off" said **Max Parnell**, grade 11.

"Everyone is improving on the team, and we are still getting better every day. Every time we practice, every game we play, we learn something from it and get better," added by Carlos Ii Sy Quia.

"The goal is to make the playoffs first. Basically, we want to do is go as far as we can. I love coaching this team and they seem to be a good brotherhood and we all are like a family," added Arciaga.

The boys have worked hard and practiced for several hours, even in times when it was hard for them to. Let's see how they do on their first regular season game on January 11, and their upcoming games.

FallsportsRecap

Strong results from several teams in fall sports

IAN BAIRD
Staff reporter

Field hockey

The 15 strong team did our school proud. After a third place in district playoffs at Maple Ridge, they came 4th in the region and achieved a respectable 8th place in the provincial championships held on 3-5 November in Duncan.

Quick shout outs for the goalie **Kaitlyn Questroo**, grade 10 for having a great season, and **Lara Zumegen**, grade 10 (German international student) for trying a sport, and sharing your international experience with us.

Boys soccer

The Senior Boys soccer team has shown a lot of heart throughout their short season, playing many games low on numbers. Although they haven't gotten the results that they would have liked, the team has battled hard game in and game out demonstrating a lot of spirit and strength. With playoffs out of reach this year, the team continues to look forward to next season building team comradery, chemistry and drive!

Thanks to Coaches **Frank Abbinante** and **Roberto Ramogida** for putting the boys in the best position to do their best all season long!



ARTONA

Abbinante Frank



ARTONA

Ramogida Roberto

Aquatics

Coach **Mark Tustin** and his team of Gr. 9-Gr. 12 swimmers experienced a much shorter season than usual due to COVID-related regulations for water-based sports.

The team participated in weekly practices starting back in September leading up to their first competition was the Fraser North Zone Championships that were held locally at the Coquitlam City Aquatic Centre, where we had numerous student-athletes garner berths in individual and team events for the Provincials held in Richmond at Watermania! in late November.

A more detailed synopsis and celebration of the myriad of achievements of the Fall season teams will occur at the Athletic Banquet to be held towards the end of this school year.

Congrats again to all teams and coaches on a job well done in the return to playing inter-school sports!



ARTONA

Tustin Mark

Virtual talent shows made happy Xmas for community seniors

STACY PARK
Staff reporter

On December 8, leadership 12 had their virtual talent show for seniors in the MPR with students who wanted to express their passion dancing, singing, playing instruments, and comedy.

This year is the ninth year for the talent show, but last year, due to Covid-19, they didn't hold the show.

The virtual talent show committee announced auditions from November 9 to 19. The audition progressed with filming a 3-6-minute short video until November 29. Many seniors shut due to Covid-19, so they organized the show to entertain the elderly this Christmas.

They posted posters, including QR codes, all over the school. They made their own Instagram page, "showing off for seniors," to give more opportunities to students.

They also got questions from Instagram direct messages. The virtual talent show committee put that kind of effort into participating in the show.

Adam Hayes, the teacher of leadership 12 class, says that the talent show is so great. Despite the challenges, the committee and others who are part of the show are still doing a talent show.

He thinks this is an actual community project because we got students from outside the leadership whether they have talent or skill.

Hayes said "They also need to be improved, but overall, it's so now we must tolerate some mistakes."



Adam Hayes
Leadership
Teacher

Cleo Chau, grade 11 who participated in the show, says she usually likes to sing, but she was too shy to sing to anyone, so she decided to appear. She always wanted to do a talent show, but she was afraid.

So, she decided to challenge herself. She also wanted to help her classmates who planned the performance.

She had high expectations for the performance, but she was a little nervous at the same time.

But when she got on practice and started singing, she wasn't scared at all, and it was natural.

In addition, the people who will participate in the talent show said that due to Covid-19, they didn't have a stage to show and express themselves, and even if they have, it was very limited.

Also, they said, they would be grateful for the opportunity to show to many people again, so they will do their best to prepare.

It is a pity that they couldn't see the seniors in person and put on an outstanding performance because it conducted online.

However, they were grateful that they could please the elderly even online.

"I will do my best for the rest of my practice and put a lot of effort into giving them a great show," Chau said.

"No Way Home" means much more Marvel mayhem

RODYN ROSTAM & GIANNA BASIT
Staff reporters

Spoiler alert: at the end credits of Marvel's 2019 film *Spider-Man: Far from Home*, Tom Holland's Peter Parker's identity was revealed by the villain Mysterio, and left fans on a cliff hanger. Today, December 16, the follow-up film *Spider-Man: No Way Home* plans to treat fans to more amazing adventures as Marvel moves further into the multi-verse they are creating.

In one of the worst kept secrets in recent movie making, Marvel is now able to use characters and the same actors who played them from previous versions of the Spider-Man franchise. This happened with creation the multiverse at the end of the first season of streaming series *Loki*.

The infinite multiverse sets up the entirety of Marvel history for any number of reconstructing of stories that the folks in charge might deem necessary. It allows current Marvel filmmakers to cherry pick what they liked from old Marvel projects and fold them into this new normal.

For the new movie opening today there are five confirmed villains from five previous Spider-Man movies. The Green Goblin, played by Willem Dafoe Doc Ock, played by Alfred Molina, and Sandman, played by Thomas Haden Church where Peter Parker was played by Tobey Maguire in three films. The Lizard, played by Rhys Ifans, and Electro, played by Jamie Foxx where Spikder-man was played by Andrew Garfield in two movies.

Other confirmed cast members are Zendaya, Jacob Batalon, J.K Simmons Jon Favreau, Marisa Tomei, Tony Revolori, Benedict Cumberbatch, and Benedict Wong.

People say this film is the worst kept secret in Hollywood history. Before any announcements of actors that will appear in the film. There were several of leaks. Before trailer one was released Molina had already provided all several secrets in an interview



RODYN ROSTAM GRAPHIC

YOU GET A SPIDER-MAN, AND YOU GET A SPIDERMAN, AND YOU GET AN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! With the latest Spider-Man movie opening today, one of the worst kept secrets in Hollywood will be on full display with the Marvel multiverse being able to re-use character and the actors that played them from the previous five Spider-Man movies.

which he was not supposed to reveal. Foxx also revealed that he was in the new Spider Man movie on October 6, 2020, on his Instagram where he showed a fan image with three Spider-Man in it. Fox basically confirmed that Maguire and Garfield would be in the movie. And Molina's comments further reinforce those leaks.

Rumored cast, apart from Maguire and Garfield, even includes Charlie Cox, who played Daredevil in three seasons on Netflix.

There are still many theories and predictions out there, but because of what happened in Disney+ series like *What If*, *WandaVision* and *Loki*, anything is possible, and we really don't know what's going to happen next.

Now that villains and heroes from

different multiverses are going to appear in the upcoming movie, it is now possible to reboot characters. While the new multiverse provides creators with endless storytelling opportunities that could expand the Marvel Cinematic Universe, it also sets up an easy out for the studios to separate the Spider-Man movies from the rest of the MCU.

Loki has made anything possible now, and who knows what the future of the MCU might look like now.

All that is really known for certain, is that fans need to be ready for one villain and story-packed adventure with *Spider-Man: No Way Home*. And since it is Marvel, still expect the unexpected right up until the very end of the credits.

Con-X's 'Con-Xmas' super successful fundraiser



BOUNTIFUL BOXES FOR FOOD BACK: Generous donations by Gleneagle students for the "Con-Xmas" fundraiser that raised \$900.

YIN SAU LAU
Staff reporter

The Con-Xmas events were held from November 29 to December 3. The five events of karaoke, gingerbread sales, the red and green and winter attire, and music concert live stream were prepared by Con-X leadership students. They also held the Con-Xmas fundraiser.

On the first day of the Con-Xmas event, karaoke was held during lunch, where students sang on the stage in the cafeteria.

"I had my lunch in the cafeteria that day, I

didn't join the karaoke, but it is really fun to listen when the others sing," said Justin Hung, grade 12. "Some students sang songs about Christmas, it let me feel like we are in the mood for Christmas. I love this event so much!" added Hung.

During the two attire days on November 30 and December 1, students wear clothes that are related to the topic. Many students participated actively, and dressed up with red and green clothes, many of them wore a Christmas hat.

Students who had pre-ordered a gingerbread house received them on the

gingerbread sales day. Some teachers also purchased gingerbread houses. All the donations go to Share Food Bank, a non-profit organization that helps the needs.

The last event of Con-Xmas was the live streamed concert on December 3 that students watched on the Gleneagle YouTube channel. There were piano and guitar players in the concert, with a lot of students participating.

A food drive was during the week of Con-Xmas. Green boxes were placed in every classroom so that students could bring in non-perishable food donations.

"I brought some canned food for donations on that day," said Jayjyn Li, grade 9. "It was a great chance for me to help the needs. I am an international student, so I want to contribute more to society and become part of it," added Li.

The Con-Xmas events raised over \$900 dollars in donations for food banks clearly showing the effort of the Con-X leadership students. They are a small group of people, planning all the events and promoting them.

"This is a meaningful event," said Adam Hayes, Con-X teacher. "We raise money while students enjoy the events. The Con-X leadership course provides opportunities to work on charity for students who want to practice their leadership. It took a great effort to achieve a successful result, they stay at school every day and do a lot of organized work. I appreciate their hard work and the events they planned," concluded Hayes.