



CAPS OFF TO CLASS OF '22: The commencement ceremony on June 1, ended with the celebratory tossing of the graduation caps. This ceremony was the first one to be held in person in a large gathering since 2019.

Commencement caps off face-to-face events

DANIEL JEE
Staff reporter

As the social impact of Covid-19 diminished, the 24th graduation ceremony regained its former self in Orpheum theatre with no restrictions on June 1, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

297 attendees out of 315 graduates, families and staff gathered at the 95-year-old Orpheum theater on Granville street to celebrate their graduation in a formal atmosphere.

"The commencement was fine. It was... it was good. It was nice to go to the commencement because I am graduating. So, it's nice to have ceremony for the grade 12s," said **Angel Gantulga**, grade 12.

Staff speeches, medal presentations, and celebrations were held as normal as before the pandemic in front of a large crowd.

COVID-19 update of BC federal government

According to British Columbia federal government, there were no official regulations on organized gatherings and events, but the general safety measures such as wearing mask were still recommended.

"You could bring a mask if you wanted to, but that was optional," said Angel.

Due to the pandemic, official events such as graduation ceremonies were limited.

In 2021, the graduation ceremony was held with students gathered in the parking lot and a limited number of people entering MPR, attended by only five staff and each family members.

The previous year was even more limited. In 2020, the graduation ceremony was organized with a video posted online reading the student's name along with the picture of them and a photo booth installed in Lafarge lake.

But people's daily lives are gradually recovering as the impact of COVID-19, which has plagued countless people, decreases.

Getting back to normal life after pandemic

Events such as graduation ceremonies began to take place normally again, creating precious memories for students.

"I was relieved, I was very happy that we will be able to get commencement because there was like no clear indication if we would have the commencement or not because of the pandemic," said Angel.

The most ideal future that everyone hopes would be for precious moments in each life to be unspotted by social epidemics.

It is a world where technology has made it possible to meet online anytime, anywhere, but still, gathering in person is something special for people that even such the advanced technology cannot fulfill.



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GLEEFUL GRADS: 2022 graduates were able for the first time in three years to toss their caps to the rafters at the Orpheum theatre on June 1.

Dinner, dance set for June 17 celebration

ANNIE HE
Staff reporter

The grad dinner and dance is back this year after COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. The event will be held on June 17 at the Vancouver convention center from 6 to 11 p.m. No guests are allowed to participate, and every graduating attendee must dress formally as well as be a student in "good standing," thus meaning they have paid all fees, and generally have done everything required of them by their school fulfilling all their obligations.

"The grad dinner and dance is one of the beautiful and elegant events of young persons' life and also the last school event for the student body to hang out with each other. They will enjoy the great dinner and beautiful dance that night," said **Mark Liao**, science teacher and event leader.

Over 240 of the 315 grade 12 students have already registered to attend. **Allen Li**, grade 12, believed the event would be appealing, exciting, and meaningful for all the grads.

"I really appreciated that we can have the dinner and dance to help us relax and have fun this year, and I also look forward to seeing my friends in formal clothing instead of casual wear," said **Alissa Xiang**, grade 12. "It will be unforgettable to all of us."

For the past two years, there was no dinner and dance offered to students due to the pandemic. Gleneagle 2021 alumni, **Zoe Zheng**, said "I'm very glad that everything is returning to normal and happy to hear that this year's students will have a fuller graduation experience."

"It is time to celebrate their achievements and struggles, successes and failures, tears and laughter, and all the things that help make them today," added Zheng.

The event is still in preparation, with several changes were made compared to the past, and teachers are trying to hire a DJ, food, and equipment. "It is a massive work to do because we haven't done it for a couple of years, but we will work hard to make sure that it is going to be a great event for all the grads," said Liao.

The school will also provide students transportation because of the remote location. According to the Talon Talk, participants who want to take the school bus can go to the office to see **Lisa Chan**, the school accountant, to make purchases and reservations.

"I really wish every grad takes advantage for pictures, to talk to other grads to say goodbye and farewell and to wish everyone the best of the luck as they move forward in a new adventure and next part of their lives," said **Kelly Zimmer**, vice principal.

INSIDE

GLENEAGLE BLOOD DRIVE:
On May 25, 16 students generously donated blood at an event hosted by Canadian Blood Services.

#4



#3

BEARS ON CAMPUS:
On May 18, a bear was found on campus, with students upset about lockdown.



GIRL'S RUGBY:
From June 1-4, the team ranked fourth place at the BC provincials

#7



ONtheCALENDAR

- JUNE 14 Smash Bros. tournament
- JUNE 15 Year-end concert
- JUNE 17 Grad Dinner Dance
- JUNE 17 - 18 After Grad Event
- JUNE 19 Father's Day
- JUNE 24 Last day of regular classes
- JUNE 29 Final grades posted to MyEd



BC decriminalizing drugs first step to fixing addiction shame

Canada’s government announced on May 31, that it will allow the province of British Columbia to remove criminal penalties for people who possess a small amount of certain illicit substances for personal use. This temporary exemption experiment will start on January 31, 2023 and run until January 31, 2026.

This exemption is an important step forward in reducing drug stigma and deaths from overdoses. According to the report, over 2,200 people died in B.C. in 2021 due to illicit-drug overdoses, with half of those happening in a private home, often when people are alone. Last year was the deadliest year on record for suspected illicit drug toxicity overdoses in the province, with 2,224 deaths, an increase of 26 percent from 2020.

“The shocking number of lives lost to the overdose crisis requires bold actions and significant policy change,” said **Carolyn Bennett**, federal Minister of mental health and addictions and associate Minister of Health. “Eliminating criminal penalties for those

carrying small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use will reduce stigma and harm and provide another tool for British Columbia to end the overdose crisis.”

The drug problem in B.C. has become very serious and it needs to be addressed as soon as possible. The stigma of addiction and the fear of criminalization causes many addicts to hide their addiction and use drugs alone.

The Canadian government’s decision to honour the request from the provincial BC government to this temporary decriminalization helps push these drugs’ usage to become a health issue and not a criminal one, which greatly reduces the stigma for addicts. If addicts don’t hide their drug use any more, the number of overdose deaths would probably decrease significantly.

According to the article, mothers who are drug addicts have had their children taken away, as they are thought to be unfit mothers. These women have a hard time getting jobs because employers might not want to hire someone who they believe are drug addicts.



Decriminalizing some drugs is a groundbreaking way to give more tolerance and care to drug addicts to reduce their stigma, and then overdose deaths would also decrease.

Bennett said it could serve as a

template for other jurisdictions across Canada. “This time-limited exemption is the first of its kind in Canada,” she said. “Real-time adjustments will be made upon receiving analysis of any data that indicates a need to change.”

Generally speaking, it is very meaningful for Canada if this first attempt is successful, and other jurisdictions will have a good example of how to address the drug problem.

Abortion basic human right protects women, babies, those at risk

PATRICK MA
Edge columnist

Throughout history, certain countries have neglected to enact access to abortion laws, or have instead repealed them, or have made or kept them illegal as their governments and their people believe that it is immoral to abort an unborn fetus.

The absence of these laws endanger the health and well being of women and children.

The American Supreme Court is deliberating over whether to overturn the 1973 landmark legal case, *Roe v. Wade* — a monumental legal case that guarantees a woman’s right to a safe abortion. This potential removal of this law is causing panic across the United States and Canada.

According to an article released by the Guttmacher Institute by **Elizabeth Nash** and **Lauren Cross** entitled, “if *Roe* were overturned or fundamentally weakened, 22 states have laws or constitutional amendments already in place that would make them certain to attempt to ban abortion as quickly as possible.”

If *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, it will set a disturbing precedent and may effect other countries’ stances

on abortion.

However, Canadians do not need to worry. On May 11, Health Canada released a statement saying the “Government of Canada firmly believes that everyone should have access to safe and consistent reproductive health services, including abortion.”

Abortion is a common and essential medical procedure. When governments decide to criminalize abortion, it causes people to turn to unsafe methods.

According to the American National Health Institute article published by **Lisa**

Haddad and **Nawal Nour** “every year, worldwide, about 42 million women with unintended pregnancies choose abortion, and nearly half of these procedures, 20 million, are unsafe.”

According to the above article, “Some 68,000 women die of unsafe abortion annually, making it one of the leading causes of maternal mortality (13%). Of the women who survive unsafe abortions,

5 million will suffer long-term health complications,” those long-term consequences include, “poor wound healing, infertility, consequences of internal organ injury, loss of productivity and psychological damage.”

An Amnesty International article titled “Key Facts On Abortion,”

“If a women’s pregnancy is life threatening and causes her immense pain, being unable to provide a safe abortion would violate her right to life, health, and to be free of violence, torture, or cruel, inhumane treatment.”

Patrick Ma
Edge columnist



ARTONA

states that “preventing women and girls from accessing an abortion does not mean they stop needing one. That’s why attempts to ban or restrict abortions do nothing to reduce the number of abortions, it only forces people to seek out unsafe abortions.”

The act of criminalizing abortion does not go without consequences, and furthermore, this shows that a governments efforts to restrict

access to abortions are made in vain and force females to turn to unsafe methods of abortion.

As reported by the WHO article titled “Abortion,” “developing countries bear the burden of 97% of all unsafe abortions,” and that “regulations that force women to travel to attain legal care, or require mandatory counselling or waiting periods, lead to loss of income and other financial costs, and can make a b o r t i o n i n a c c e s s i b l e to women with low resources.”

The lack of access to safe abortion disproportionately affects poorer countries.

If the person affected is already in poor financial standing, the financial burden of seeking a safe abortion may put a women in a more dire financial situation or prevent them from seeking treatment altogether.

According to the Amnesty International article “Key Facts On Abortion,” claims that,

“Under international human rights law, everyone has a right to life, a right to health, and a right to be free from violence, discrimination, and torture or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.” As such “human rights law clearly spells out that decisions about your body are yours alone – this is what is known as bodily autonomy. Forcing someone to carry on an unwanted pregnancy, or forcing them to seek out an unsafe abortion, is a violation of their human rights, including the rights to privacy and bodily autonomy.”

If a woman’s pregnancy is life threatening and causes her immense pain, being unable to provide a safe abortion would violate her right to life, health, and to be free from violence, torture or cruel, inhumane treatment.

The lack of mandatory abortion laws in certain countries violates human rights, causes unnecessary pain, suffering, and death. Moreover, it places financial, physical, and psychological burdens on not only the one seeking the abortion but the people around them.

If a women is in pain, unable to financially support a child, or if the pregnancy is life threatening, they have the right to choose what happens to their baby.

TALONSTalk With the various negative and positive potential effects of peer pressure, The Edge asked: “How does peer pressure affect you?”

“It has affected me in different stages throughout my life. For now, I’m more comfortable with who I am and decisions I make.”
—Michelle Bennett chemistry teacher



“Seeing my peers having high achievements motivates me to work harder. However, peer pressure can lead me in a bad direction.”
—Irene Hu grade 11



“I don’t get affected by peer pressure as much. I understand that I am in charge of my own actions, and I rarely bend to other people’s will.”
—Grace Lee grade 11



“I do believe that peer pressure affect me sometimes, but we have to know how to follow instincts and set ourselves a curfew.”
—Iryna Shyshkina grade 12



“It does affect me, it depends on the situation like if we’re all doing math or something I wouldn’t do it just because everyone else is.”
—Graham Mcrobbie grade 11



“When both my friend and I are in the same project, I see my friend has achieved a great progress but I’m not, that will start having an impact on me.”
—Peter He grade 11



Negative, positive effects of peer pressure for teenagers both important

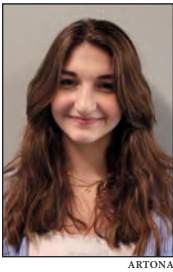
ANNA TOSUN
Edge columnist

Pressure to conform is a by-product of the natural desire to belong. Whether it is in schools or anywhere in the rest of the world, the desire to belong or be part of society is natural part of what many people feel. People always tend to conform both because it’s more convenient, but also because it is a human nature. Going with the flow makes people feel safe and right. After all, everyone does it. After all, that is what is peer pressure. Numerous psychological experiments have already been able to prove that the human tendency to agree extends to self-denial. Forced, identical thinking and acting, on the other hand, sometimes leads to rather stupid results and decisions. Serge Moscovici, a Romanian-born French social psychologist, conducted an experiment where he showed test subjects coloured slides, all of them with blue areas.

He then had the test participants name the colour that the slides showed. But, what the subjects didn’t know, was that there were two initiated ‘troublemakers’, or conspirators, in their group who vehemently claimed that the slide was not blue, yet was instead green. And indeed, after that, the number of people in the group, who were not the conspirators, who said the slide was actually green instead of blue, increased significantly with a total of 8.4 percent of all answers were green. 32 percent of the subjects stated at least once that they had seen a green slide — although the colour vision of all participants had previously been tested as completely normal and

the images were clearly blue. Some teenagers literally adjust their lives by putting themselves into peer pressure situations.

“If someone is selective, peer pressure can actually result in a positive change in a personal path of life.”
—Anna Tosun Edge columnist



Peer pressure can lead to a loss of individuality. Extreme peer pressure will lead someone to follow what their peers are feeling. That pressure can force someone to go through everything they think right. They tend to blindly imitate the crowds; they record their preferences of fashion, clothing,

hair, music and general living conditions. Peer pressure can actually cause one to lose their taste for life and empower them to start liking what someone else wants. Peer pressure is the human tendency to join the bandwagon in which, man loses his original way of looking at life. However, peer pressure isn’t always bad. It can help a person to analyze and look at themselves on their personal life path. Some of the practices that the masses follow can actually teach someone a better way of life. A person can change themselves for the better. Looking at what others are doing can help bring about a positive shift in their thinking. If some one is selective, peer pressure can actually result in a positive change in personal path in life. For most people peer pressure plays a big role in their lives and they can’t ignore peer pressure. It has already existed for a long time and there are negative and positive effects but the important thing is to minimize the negative effects and try to look at the positive effects.

Bears on campus, consequences for people, bears means new focus



BEAR IN MY BACKYARD: On May 18, a shelter in place emergency response occurred when a bear was in the back staff parking lot (pictured above). These visitations are concern that needs to be addressed to help protect the bears.

JAN FISCHER
Edge columnist

On May 18, in the middle of period 1, Gleneagle was put into a shelter in place emergency response, yet this time is was not a drill – instead it was because there was a

bear on campus. The specific reason for the bear’s visit was not really clear but it was probably looking for food as it was largely staying in the back parking lot near the garbage dumpster. When a bear is seen on campus, the shelter in place emergency procedure applies,

which is used when it is necessary to secure a school from an emergency situation occurring outside the school that does not pose a threat to those in the building. The exterior doors are locked and monitored to allow students and staff to enter. This time the bear was unfortunately on the campus during lunchtime, therefore students had to stay in school and were not allowed to leave school, which included being able to go to the local malls, including 7-Eleven. For the majority of students, this was not a problem. But for others, these inability to go off campus was incomprehensible as some student could not understand why they had to stay in the building and were actually upset about it. As much as it was a problem for some students — or maybe even staff — the consequences for bears are much worse. The government of British Columbia writes that “every year hundreds, and in some years over a thousand, bears are destroyed as a result of conflicts between people and bears.” According to scientists, bears that enter urban areas face a number of threats, including traffic danger and the possibility of being euthanized or killed due to public danger. Some also die from other urban factors, like accidental poisoning or vehicle strikes.

In the case of the bear being on campus on May 18, a British Columbia conservation officer came to the school. This is a person who handles the situation and decides if the bear is not dangerous or whether it has to be tranquilized and brought back to the local forests. When nothing helps and the bear is extremely aggressive, it has to be killed. Now the question arises, how to prevent the bears from coming on the campus? “Just put the garbage in trash cans!” said Jaedin Rajoo, grade 12. All around the Gleneagle campus there are several bear resistant trash cans provided so that trash can’t just lay around, yet unfortunately some students do not always use them to dispose of their garbage whether its during the school day or after classes have ended. Bears have found the Tri-Cities especially welcoming and there are several reasons why bears are coming. Many have been forced out of their natural habitat by development, an abundance of easily available food due, and a lack of predators make cities a good home. Everyone’s goal should be to put garbage away properly, because a bear that comes too often to the school gets killed. In the end, everyone has a responsibility to protect the bears and a duty to care for this land.

After grad set for final celebration

SEAN ZHANG
Staff reporter

After two years absence due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Aftergrad party is coming back. The event will run from June 17 at 11:30 p.m. to June 18 – 3 p.m. at Gleneagle. As the last event for all the grade 12, there will be games, a hypnotist, a DJ, and prizes. “The tickets are selling at a record pace and it promises to be a wonderful event,” said vice principal **Kelly Zimmer**.

This event is a parent run committee and school staff are not involved. Parents volunteered to take charge of everything of this event, including decoration, purchasing foods and beverages, and setting up the schedule. The administration will be there, yet parents will run the event all night. “I’ll definitely go for it as this may be the last chance that I can meet so many people in my high school where I spent my most precious time in my life at. It is my first time, the last time, and the only time to do so,” said **Hongming Huang**, grade 12. “And I’m really thankful for the parents who were willing to devote their own time for us to manage this amazing event.”

Compared to the challenging experience for the grads of 2020 and 2021, it is appreciated for grads to celebrate in the way they are familiar with, according to Zimmer.

“I’d like to bid the best farewell to my high school life through this event,” said **Sharif Hebrahim**, grade 12. “I’m looking forward to hearing the announcement of the end of this final event on the night of June 18, that’s the end of my youth as well.”

“Students are giving back more than ever, and many of them talk about what is really important to them – and of course, family and friends are always top of their list. So this year I see and sense a lot of hope from the Grads – while the world has changed – they are persistent, resilient and they will be successful!” concluded Zimmer.

Jr. leadership runs Scott Creek sports day

KEVIN WANG
Staff reporter

The junior leadership group organized a sports day event at Scott Creek on May 27. Events included a tug of war, giant volleyball and other team building exercises. The sports day was planned, organized and directed by the junior leadership class, a course taken outside of the regular timetable. It’s been over three years since Gleneagle was able to hold such an event at its number one feeder school. The event had support from Scott Creek staff and received positive feedback from students. Scott Creek classes took turns visiting stations set up by junior leadership throughout the day. “It was awesome to see the interaction of the high schoolers with the middle schoolers,” said **Adam Hayes**, socials and leadership teacher. “It was lovely to see the reactions of people participating and even the teachers’ reactions and involvement,” said **Poppy Elcock**, grade 9. “It was exciting seeing the end result as we got to see what months of planning and hard work looked like,” added Elcock.

The event was a tremendous learning opportunity for the junior leadership class to step out of their comfort zones and grow confidence. “I think something we took away from this was how important preparation is for large scale events,” said **Aiden Lee**, grade 10

16 students open a vein, support blood drive



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BLEEDING FOR A GOOD CAUSE: 16 students took part in a recent blood drive event hosted by Canadian Blood services. Just one blood donation can help save up to three lives, so the 16 students’ donations can help almost 50 different people.

JOON LEE
Staff reporter

On May 25, 16 students made the decision to save someone’s life as they donated blood at an event hosted by Canadian Blood Services

“Donating blood is a wonderful thing. People who donated blood can feel proud and proud that they did a good deed, and donated blood can save lives, which has a positive impact on society as well,” said **Minjun Kim**, grade 9. The conditions for donating blood at this

event are that students must be over 17 years old and not over 23 years old. A student’s weight must also exceed a specified weight by height ratio, and this is also applied only when a person is in good health.

Not only should there be no history of traveling abroad to a dangerous country within a year, but there are also numerous conditions. Only after all conditions are met, can blood be donated.

“I thought it would be a good chance to do some good especially because I have a blood type that is in demand,” said **Peter Jung**, grade 12. “Just do it! It’s a great opportunity to help others.”

To donate blood need a lot of courage. Someone is afraid to draw their blood, and others feel that donating blood is not important. Therefore, donating blood is an honour and should be respected.

“Donating blood makes become a hero to some people. It is a chance to be a person who can draw some other people’s future with blood donation,” said **Jun Sohn**, grade 11 “I also hope that one day I can save the lives of others through blood donation.”

Canadian Blood Services said, “A big thank you goes to our 16 brave students who generously rolled up their sleeves to make a difference in the community.”

To save the lives of others through blood donations, visit blood.ca to find out where your nearest blood donation location is.



Minjun Kim
grade 9



Peter Jung
grade 12



Jun Sohn
grade 11



Puzzling Addition to Library

PUZZLING PENCIL CRAYONS: There is a new addition to the library, with several tables and locations with sets of jigsaw puzzles now available for use. There are now over ten puzzles for any student to pick up and work on, with up to six students at the table at a time. The inspiration for the puzzling stations in the library came from **Val Eaton**, librarian, who noted that jigsaw puzzles, and puzzles in general, have proven benefits according to the Baylor College of Medicine, including improving cognition awareness and visual-spatial reasoning our ability to tell where objects are subconsciously, as well as improving short-term memory.



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PLANTING THE LANDING: Students, staff, and presenters line up on the MPR stage at the end of the fourth TEDx Event that happened on June 3. This is first time in three years that the event has been able to be held at full capacity

TEDx event urged student to ‘plant their future’

SAMANTHA LI
Staff reporter

On June 3, the fourth TEDx Gleneagle secondary event titled “Planting Your Future” happened in the MPR, organized by the Con-X leadership committee. The event was conducted at full capacity, and lasted for three hours from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. with seats almost all filled with participants composed of students, parents and teachers. A total of five special speakers with distinct backgrounds were featured, including **Ariana Irfan**, grade 11 from Terry Fox secondary, **Elaine Xiao**, first-year science student from McGill University, **Sophia Guan** and **Jay Hamidova**, Gleneagle alumni from 2020 and both in their second year in UBC, and **Samuel Rosam**, an adjunct professor at the NYIT Vancouver campus. Concentrated around the theme “Plant Your Future,” the committee wished to help students who were graduating or any teenagers that were struggling in life or study, especially towards the end of the school year. All speeches were unfolded by giving youth suggestions, visions, and insights for

their future planning. Irfan shared the importance of a refreshed mindset and her own ‘three-step methods’; while Xiao touched on the concept of honouring life over romanticizing it. Guan suggested ways to sustain happiness

“I really enjoyed how each speaker approached the theme from their own angle and gave really constructive ideas about how I can possibly plant my future.”

Irene Hu
grade 11



after things change in life based on a psychological concept. Hamidova spoke about how the practice of integrity can make us feel whole. Rostam introduced opportunities that digital transformations brought and how to take them. “I think the biggest thing now is a lot of teenagers don’t think about planning their own futures, and a lot of times we have a lot of negative self-talk. I wish to help them through my talk and help them to build up their ‘personal shield,’” said Irfan. To both the school and students, the event was a huge success, inspirations and ideas

were shared and a majority of participants were giving positive feedback. **Irene Hu**, grade 11 and audience member, said “as a student entering grade 12 next year, I really enjoyed how each speaker approached the theme from their own angle and gave really constructive ideas about how I can possibly plant my future. It was definitely worth watching and I can say that I now start to have something in mind for my next year.” “I am so proud for this year’s team for the really successful event that they pulled off. As a speaker, I felt very welcomed, the team was so prepared and they helped me make sure that I have a fun time doing it,” said Guan. The committee was also very happy with the result, all of the members were thankful for the effort that each member put in since the start of the year. **Alexis Nguyen**, a student organizer of the event in grade 11, commented “I thought the event ran as smoothly as possible, and it was great to see everyone had a good time. It was awesome to be a part of such an amazing team of people to plan and execute such a large event that will leave a legacy at Gleneagle,” concluded Nguyen.

Student council election results

JOSHUA LI
Staff reporter

Student council had their election to determine their president and vice-president on June 3, which was the first school-wide election in the past decade. The process began with each candidate giving a speech on June 2, and a voting day on June 3. The two students who ran for president of student council were **Jafar Jeffrey** and **Gyu Min Jang**, both grade 11, with Jang winning. “Because we’re coming out of a pandemic school spirit is really important next year and getting the whole community involved,” Jang said. “I think it’s time we bring back the sense of fellowship and communion within the school,” Jang added. Jeffrey believes “the students’ votes are what mattered most.” The students who ran for vice-president of the student council were **Skylar Smith** and **Grace Lee**, both grade 11, with Lee winning. Lee has been a Korean IC executive in the student council and has connections with international students. Lee aims to “bring back the wild spirit events Gleneagle was once known for,” and adds that next year’s student council “will be a supportive community focusing on the growth of all the members.” Lee sees the younger students of Gleneagle as the “future leaders” of the school and plans to “support them with the resources they need to achieve their future goals.” “I am confident [Jang & Lee] will be able to pick up the torch and carry on the student council culture and much needed spirit next year,” said **Yu-Xing Lim**, grade 12.



Gyu Min Jang
grade 11



Jafar Jeffrey
grade 11



Grace Lee
grade 11



Skylar Smith
grade 11

StuCo spring carnival set for this afternoon by MPR, west parking lot



DERRICK WU
Staff reporter

The first school-wide spring carnival is set for today, June 9, from 12:35 PM to 5 PM, with different clubs leading different events. All clubs will have their own booths, and each will have a different games or activities for students to enjoy through the event. “The anime club is planning on [a] video

games console tryout,” said **Leo Zhou**, president of the anime club. “The club will bring a console to school for students to play on it with some great games on it.” Business club, believe leadership club, and to-do-it club, on the other hand, will co-host a water gun fight for students to participate in during the event. Due to the pandemic, students have been unable to attend any form of assembly as the

semester draws to a close. The last time the school held an in-person assembly was nearly two years ago. This year’s spring carnival will be the biggest event for all students, and it will hopefully be a sign of more events to come once students return from summer break in September. Student council had initially intended to have a dunk tank, yet had to switch to a sponge toss due to costs. Student council has not yet revealed the Gleneagle staff members that will be participating in having wet sponges tossed at them. For grade 12 students, this will be one of the biggest event happening in June besides commencement and the grad dinner and dance. The spring carnival also has a special value for grade 12 because it is the last school-wide event that they will be able to participate in with the rest of the pupils. “Honestly, I don’t expect this event to be a huge

success because it’s the first one we’ve had since COVID,” said Zhou, “As long as the event goes smoothly and students are enjoying it, it’s basically a win.” The event was first proposed in February, and the student council held their first brainstorming meeting in April. It’s finally ready for students to enjoy after two months of planning and organizing. With the initial planning that happened two months ago, the spring carnival will finally be facing students today after lunch. The student council and school clubs have put in a tremendous lot of effort to make this event a success. This will be the ideal event for student council to fulfill their goal of creating events to boost school spirit and foster community. The spring carnival has finally arrived, and students will be able to enjoy it this afternoon.

End of year school brings retirements, teacher departures

ALEXIS NGUYEN & SELIN HEKIMOGLU
Staff reporters

As the school year reaches its end, it is also time to say goodbye to some staff who will be leaving Gleneagle. While some staff members will be packing up their things and heading to another school, others will be leaving their careers behind and retiring.



Brian Unger
Socials teacher

Many staff expressed their sadness about having to leave Gleneagle, however some hope to be able to return in the future. Among those leaving Gleneagle is vice-principal **Kelly Zimmer**, who is leaving at the end of the school year to take the position of vice-principal at Pinetree secondary in the fall. Some of her favorite memories included attending several different school events and being able to make so many connections with students, teachers, and parents within the community.

“Gleneagle is a special place with a wonderfully supportive community where the teachers care enormously about the student’s success, in and out of the classroom,” said Zimmer. “Everybody should know that teachers become teachers because we enjoy our students and want to contribute to making the world a better place.”

Zubin Sundar, skills development department head, will be leaving Gleneagle at the end of June after being here for two years. His favorite memories at Gleneagle were doing Christmas activities with students and playing video games with others during lunch.



Janelle Lee
Math teacher

“What I’ll miss the most is the students I work with, that would be the biggest thing. A very close second would be the student services team at Gleneagle, I will miss them a lot too,” said Sundar.

Janelle Lee, math teacher, and **Kathryn Wasstrom**, TALONS, food, and learning services teacher will also miss being around their students and building connections with them.

Also leaving are **Alex Campbell**, English teacher, **Sean Landers**, English and visual arts teacher, **Jordyn McDonogh**, art teacher, and **Dan Birsan**, who works in the student services department.



Jordyn McDonogh
Art teacher

Lori Gregory, a former CLE and peer tutoring teacher, retired at the end of April, while **Brian Unger**, a former social studies teacher, retired at the end of semester one. A teacher also retiring at the end of the school year is **Quirien Mulder ten Kate**, the TALONS program teacher.

Information on other staff retirements was unavailable at the time of publication but will be made available at a later date. To those leaving Gleneagle, best wishes, and to those retiring, enjoy the time off.

Track, field, Fraser north tourney leads to provincials



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TALONS FIGHT FOR FRASER NORTH TOURNEY: **Sharif Hebrahim**, grade 12, jumped for eighth in the Fraser North track and field competition. Tomorrow and Saturday, students from across BC will be competing in the provincials. **Tae Hyun Kim**, grade 12, will complete in the high jump event tomorrow.

EVAN OWENS
Staff reporter

On Friday, June 10, **Tae Hyun Kim**, grade 12, will compete in high jump at the track and field provincials, marking an end to this year’s track and field season, which started back in March.

The provincials start today, June 9, and run until Saturday and take place at the McLeod Athletic Park in Langley.

Kim, the only Gleneagle athlete to qualify, did so after finishing third place in high jump at the Fraser North Championships on May 25, clearing a height of 1.70 meters.

“The Fraser Norths went well. It was fun, and I ended up qualifying for provincials,” Kim said, before adding, “I jumped the highest I could have that day.”

At the Fraser Norths, which took place at the Percy Perry stadium in Coquitlam town center over May 24 and 25, nine Gleneagle students competed in a variety of events.

For long distance, **Marie Ebeling**, grade 10, placed sixth in the 1500-meter race, and eighth in the 800-meter race. **Abril Guerrero**, grade 12, placed eighth in the 1500-meter race. **Malin Folkers**, grade 11, placed fifth in the 3000-meter race.

For short distance, **Haewon Park**, grade 11, finished thirteenth in the 100-meter sprint, and eighth in the 200-meter sprint. **Madeline Rutherford**, grade 12, placed fifteenth in the 100-meter race.

In long jump, **Jonathan Pione**, grade 12, placed tenth, **Alexandra Barvanova**, grade 10, placed ninth with a personal best score, according to **Billy Demonte**, and

Sharif Hebrahim, grade 12, placed eighth. Hebrahim also placed 5th in Javelin.

“The Fraser Norths went pretty ok,” said Hebrahim, who struggled with jumper’s knee during the competition. “I got 28 meters in javelin, which was good for me, because [it] was my second time ever throwing [javelin] in my career.”



Tae Hyun Kim
Grade 12

Demonte thought the Fraser Norths went well. “I think the [students] did great. Some of them had their personal bests,” she said. “There were a few kids who could not attend due to prior commitments, who I thought would do well, which was a bit disappointing, but for the most part it went well,” she added.

Prior to the Fraser Norths, Gleneagle students competed in the regionals at Town Centre on May 11 and 12.

With the season wrapping up, Demonte acknowledged it had its challenges. “There was a great turnout originally, but with life and other obligations, the numbers dropped which was kind of disappointing.” For next season, she hopes to increase the numbers. “[Track and field] is one of the few [sports] where everyone makes the team, [and] everyone gets to compete.”



Billy Demonte
PE teacher

Regardless of the difficulties, Demonte still thought the season was a success. “It was a great season,” she said. “[I am] looking forward to an even more successful season next year.”

Kim agreed. “Overall, I had a really fun time, and I am glad I got to finish off my Grade 12 year competing in an event I like,” he said.

For now, Kim is focusing on the provincials. “[my goal] is get top eight [in high jump], so if I could maybe clear 1.75 or 1.8 meters, I think that would be very good, but we will see.”

Intramurals, open gym at lunch bring students together



SEAN ZHANG & ANNIE HE

OPEN FOR FUN BUSINESS: The open gym and intramurals provide physical activities including volleyball, badminton, handball, and basketball for students who want to stay active during lunch.

PAULA LOCHTE
Staff reporter

During lunch, students have the opportunity to go to the gym and play sports with their friends in both intramurals and the open gym.

At the open gym “you can practice your skills and have fun with friends,” said **Jayden Ahn**, grade 9.

The open gym is for everyone and takes place on days when no intramurals are happening. The days for the open gym are shown on Talons talk, or on the video screen above

the cafeteria door.

“Everyone is really nice to each other” and it is “easy to be friends and train together” said **Tae Kim**, grade 12.

Kim usually comes to the open gym when volleyball gets played. “I love the sport and love to play with friends” he said.

There are different sports played during lunch, like volleyball or badminton. Basketball is played almost every day.

“I am trying to offer to the gym every day” said **Cam. Comeau**, PE teacher and intramural coordinator.

Unlike intramurals, it is not needed to be registered in advance at the open gym. Students can come and go whenever they want.

The intramurals and the open gym have begun running again since February.

“Intramurals, is organized sport within the school day at lunch.” Said Cam. Comeau.

So far, three different sports have been played at the intramurals: handball, basketball, and badminton.

The final league for the school year will be spikeball and begins today, June 9.

Opening the gym during the lunch break is a way to give students the space to move and exercise.

“It is a good opportunity being active even though I do not have PE.” said Kim.



PHOTO PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF JULE TOM DIECK
FRASER NORTH CHAMPIONSHIPS: Members of the Rugby team pose for a team photo after winning the Fraser North Championships. The girls rugby team would go on to a fourth place finish in the BC provincials held in Abbotsford from June 1 to 4.

Girls rugby season ends with fourth place finish

VICTORIA MUNDELL
Staff reporter

The girl’s rugby team finished in fourth place at the BC provincials’ competition out of eight schools.

“I’m feeling good [about the results], we put a lot of effort into the season, and it showed throughout our games,” said **Hailey Mynott**, grade 11. “They were very physical, and we didn’t have a lot of subs, so we did a good job with what we had.”

The girl’s rugby provincials were held in Abbotsford at the Rotary stadium from June 1-4, where the team faced an easy first round against Earl Marriott secondary school as Mynott described. They won with a score of 48-10 and continued on into the competition to lose to Yale secondary and W.J. Mouat secondary in later games.

They fought hard considering their circumstances as Mynott explained “Doing three games in one week was very

physically tough, I could see it in a lot of the girls; all of us were limping and holding our heads. For most games, we would have a week or so to recover but having it Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday in a row was really hard.”

The girl’s rugby team came to BCs in

“We started out a little confused because there were a lot of new players, but we grew really strong.”

Caspian Lou
grade 10



From each player’s hard work and with the support of coaches Quinto and **Peter Jones**, the team grew massively according to **Caspian Lou**, grade 10.

“We started out a little confused because there were a lot of new players, but we grew really strong.” Lou continued.

Most of the players were new to the team this year, with only four having played rugby before, but despite these factors, they solidified their place as a top-four team in BC.

“Going from a team of people who had never touched a rugby ball in their life to provincials’ bound was amazing, so I’m really proud of us,” said Mynott.

Now that the season has come to an end there won’t be any more official competitions, but there are possible exhibition games in the future, so for the time being there will continue to be practices on Monday-Wednesday from 3:45p.m.-5:15p.m.

fourth place with only having lost two games in the entire season.

“The season has gone better than I expected,” said team coach **Simon Quinto**. “We had it really tough; we had practices where we didn’t have full teams and we had very low numbers in the beginning.”

Athletic banquet honours talented Talon teams

ELIAS WORTIG
Staff reporter

Last night, June 8, the athletic banquet was held for the first time since 2019 The event, which honours athletes across all grade levels and sports, has not been able to be held for the past three years due to the global pandemic and mandated provincial health and safety protocols.

Now, with restrictions gone and return of regular season and matches, the banquet is back.

All Gleneagle athletes were invited, and the ceremony was hosted by **Cam Comeau**, Gleneagle PE teacher, who also held a speech about the things the athletes achieved and the amazing results that happened throughout the season.

“We need to be proud of being a Gleneagle Talon,” said Comeau. After that, there was dinner made by the chefs **Frank Abbinante** and **Roberto Arciaga** and their culinary

arts class who spent the whole day preparing and cooking.

After dinner it was time for the awards. The biggest award is the “Tri-Talon” award which is being given to grade 12 students. This award has multiple criteria a student must fulfill to earn it. Each grade has a male

“I am glad that we had an athletic banquet this year. Not only because of the awards but because of the whole community and the people there.”

Jacob Goroza
grade 11

and female award for students that achieve on both academic and athletic teams. The award was given to the male and the female students of each grade who had the

highest grade-point-average (gpa) and played sports. And then there was the newest award the “Top-International-Student” award given to the best of the many international students at Gleneagle who are part of the athletics team.

“I am glad that we had an Athletic Banquet this year. Not only because of the awards but because of the whole community and the people there,” said **Jacob Goroza**, grade 11, when asked what he thinks about the return of the banquet. “After three years it feels good and right to have all your team members and friends around you, celebrating the end of a successful season.” Goroza is part of the Boys Rugby team where he played as the captain most of the times and led the team to fabulous victories against Dr. Charles Best Secondary and more.

The return of the banquet is in many eyes, a great success and a very big step back towards normality within the Gleneagle community.

Tennis team shows strong finish at Victoria tourney

CONNOR LEACH
Staff reporter

With the tennis season coming to an end, Gleneagle’s tennis team has gone through a learning experience of a season.

On May 13 Gleneagle earned second place to Pinetree secondary in the AAA Fraser North tennis championship, consisting of Tri-Cities, New Westminster, and Burnaby. With this victory, Gleneagle moved forward into the provincial tourney, in Victoria on May 25-28. In the end, out of twelve amazing teams, Gleneagle came in seventh place overall in the provincial tournament.

Through a fun and memorable time, Gleneagle had a rough time at the beginning of the tourney. “With our Team, consisting of a lot of first years, making it to the provincials was already a win for us,” said education assistant teacher and coach **Yamada Etsuko**. “It was all of our first time going to provincials, so it was lots of fun!” said **Hanson Zhou**, grade 10.



Hanson Zhou
grade 10

The team had a memorable time in Victoria, “I loved the ocean view from our bnb and playing hide and seek in the dark!” said **Corinna Zenger**, grade 10.

The team came back optimistically with their results, “Now that we know the expectations of what it takes and how the season goes, we will have great preparation for next year” Yamada added, “It was a really good experience for us, for a team with new players, we will come back stronger next year” said **Nicole Tang**, grade 9.

After the tournament, the team is still together practicing as a team and as a group of friends! “When we played together, we felt and communicated more like friends, than just a team!” added Hanson.

Malin Falkers grade 11 Grade 11 ended it with, “We are searching for more players for next year’s team!”

Golf ends season teeing up for future success

SAM WANG
Staff reporter

The Gleneagle golf team had their first season since 2019 between March and May this year. The coronavirus pandemic has not affected their games.

“This year the players are all new ... we are trying to gain experience this season,” said coach **Cam Comeau**, PE teacher .

“I felt excited to play for Gleneagle’s golf team because golf is one of my favourite hobbies and I also wanted to get better at it. I thought it was a great opportunity for me to play golf and make some new friends,” said **Eunice Roh**, a grade 9 team member.

The golf team doesn’t practice as a group, but each team memeber plays at least two 4-5 hours sessions per week.

“I haven’t gone to the driving range in around three months because of my training with tennis and other activities. So, I would say it is very difficult to make time to do both things,” said Roh. “I definitely want to practice more to be ready for the next season. I want to work on my swing a lot this offseason.”

Final music concert brings end to performance year with full capacity

CHRISTIAN CLEMENT
Staff reporter

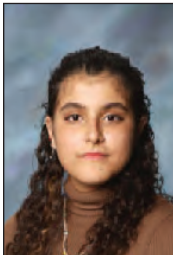
After a successful spring concert in March, all of Gleneagle’s bands and performance groups, led by **Edward Trovato**, music teacher, are back on June 15 in the MPR with the year-end concert.



Edward Trovato
music teacher

The junior and senior concert bands, concert choir, vocal jazz and jazz band are going to perform a variety of music for the audience. Everything from classic big band tunes to pop tunes and more. There will also be the Mission Impossible and Spider-man themes.

The performers can enjoy a 100% capacity audience this summer, after two years since COVID-19. There are no more COVID-19 restrictions which could limit the concert and the audience.



Sarina Samadi
Grade 10

The last concert in March had a 50% capacity, but now everyone can enjoy an evening full of music. “I’m very excited for the concert. I love the concerts. It’s always so much fun to play with my friends on stage,” said **Sarina Samadi**, grade 10,

who has been in the choir since last September. “Especially now that covid is getting better and people can watch us live.”

After the last spring concert in March, which was a big success, Trovato and the students think the yearend concert is also going to be a success.



Tida Ghorbani
Grade 10

“It is going to be a success; it’s always been a success; even if it’s not, we don’t care, what matters is that we gain the experience we needed and we just had fun with our friends playing,” said Sarina.

The school year is coming to an end; everyone gets excited for the summer break and for the upcoming events.

“The junior band’s been working hard and making great progress. I’m looking forward to seeing all the groups perform,” said **Tida Ghorbani**, grade 10.

Also, Trovato thinks that the students are working hard.

“I’ve noticed that the students are getting excited. We’re just a couple weeks away and I’m starting to see energy and excitement,” said Trovato. “The students are ready.”

Trovato hopes that they will have a completely sold out audience for the year-end concert and that everyone involved has an enjoyable time.



READY TO RUMBLE: 16 students are set to play a Nintendo Super Smash Brothers tournament on June 14.

IMAGE FROM NINTENDO

Students set to smash it with Smash Bros. tourney

JACKSON TAIT
Staff reporter

Gleneagle is having a Super Smash Bros Ultimate tournament on June 14 which is being organized by **Danial Beley**, **Lucas Crandle**, and **Roberto Ramogida**

“There was an Esports club prior to COVID and there are now many students in the school who play games which has created a higher demand for this sort of thing,” said Ramogida.

There will be 16 contestants and the tournament will be played on the Nintendo Switch console and they will be playing the newest edition called Super Smash Bros Ultimate.

The winner of the tournament will be getting a bunch of Gleneagle swag including a custom-made smash bros t-shirt.

The event organizers had a signup and general information meeting at lunch on May 31 in room 201.

Some students have been doing a lot of practicing in preparation for the tournament including **Ethan Lee**, grade 12 who will be using Cloud as his character of choice and has been playing for almost two years.

“I have a solid 10% confidence in winning because I mostly play rhythm games,” said Lee.

Teagan Yung, grade 12, is a newcomer to the game but is especially excited for the

tournament because of the free pizza and fun.

“I’ve been taking in a lot of knowledge from YouTube and re-establishing that information by teaching other people,” said Yung.

Yung has chosen Captain Falcon as his main character and has roughly 40 hours of experience in game.

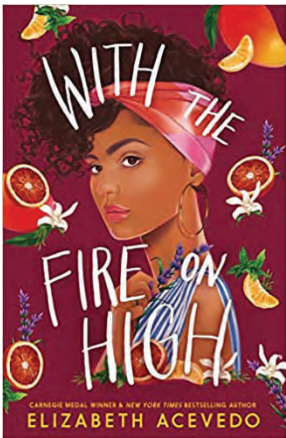
“I have fairly low confidence in winning the tournament because I have to watch out for **Tae Kim** but I’m just playing for fun.”

All the players in the tournament are looking excited to show off their smash bros skills and hopefully win some new Gleneagle swag so wish all the contestant’s luck with their smash bros journey.

“With the Fire on High” novel shows perseverance, trust leads to success

ALEXIS NGUYEN
Edge columnist

Being a high school student is as hard it can be right now, especially with extracurriculars and part-time jobs, but what if you had to do all that while raising a child? *With the Fire on High* by **Elizabeth Acevedo** teaches some big life lessons while taking a journey with the main character’s self-reflection and



allows readers to make connections within their own lives.

Emoni Santiago is a high school student who has a huge passion for cooking and wishes to be a chef someday. However, being a 17-year-old still in high school struggling to keep her grades up, throw in raising a two-year-old daughter into the mix, and her dream is starting to feel out of reach.

Schomburg Charter School adds a new elective that catches Emoni’s eye, Culinary Arts with Spanish Immersion. She takes the class, thinking she can put her talent and creativity to good use while working with like-minded people.

That turns out not to be the case since instructor Chef Ayden pushes her and her

classmates to stick to strict guidelines for the class with next to zero opportunities to step outside of the box.

As a trip to Spain approaches, Emoni starts to resent the class, until Chef gives her a leadership role, letting her organize the fundraisers. With grown confidence, Emoni realizes her own potential, both as a chef and as a person, even if there are bumps in the road with co-parenting, and a new student that keeps hanging around her, leaving her with conflicting feelings.

With the Fire on High gives a glimpse into family situations many teens will not see, with an emphasis on teen parenthood. The way teen pregnancy and parenthood are portrayed seem very realistic and explains Emoni’s experiences of being a pregnant teen in high school, while breaking down the stereotypes that come with it.

While Emoni and her daughter Emma are the main focuses of the story, Acevedo also touches on losing a parent you have never met, and not being raised by the one still around, instead being raised by a grandparent.

A topic touched on that can relate to today’s teens is the ability to trust yourself and others. While Emoni goes through her senior year, it is obvious her trust must go a long way, since the fundraisers for her class trip is in her hands and leaving her kid in the hands of her ex-boyfriend, Tyrone, as they still try to navigate co-parenting. Trust is something many teens have difficulty practicing due to bad experiences with family or friends, however taking the risk of letting someone into your life is just a first step. The book

expresses the difficulties or trusting, and how to slowly overcome them no matter how big the hurdles end up being.

Similarly, navigating teenagerhood can be a complicated journey for many, and *With the Fire on High* likes to outline the different struggles teens might have in their life, including heavy courses loads, balancing extracurriculars and jobs, university applications and adjusting to new lifestyles. Those are all very real issues that are seen in many students, allowing a sense of connection and relatability to the characters mentioned in the story.

Acevedo wrote the chapters so it would alternate between the story Emoni is currently going through, and parts of her backstory that bring more context to the present-day experiences. Chapters are shorter, and sure to keep readers hooked in the story the entire time with the changing topics.

Though many parts of the book are written with detail and well explained, there were topics that seemed lightly touched on then never returned to, like being able to learn in different forms and through experiences, which is a good point since many feel textbooks are not as effective learning tools. Conclusions were able to be drawn from reading future parts of the book but required more thinking to draw them.

Overall, Emoni’s story is a good representation of the difficulties of high school many students go through, combined with her experiences as a teen mother. Anyone who is looking for a read that goes deep into relatable topics and added humour every now and then, *With the Fire on High* is for you.