

Spring award ceremonies celebrate Gleneagle’s best, brightest



EMMA ROBERTS
edge columnist

Last June, Gleneagle celebrated excellence at our annual Commencement and Awards ceremonies. At the commencement ceremony in the Orpheum Theatre, seniors were recognized for their outstanding achievements in different areas.

Three graduates in particular received the three most prestigious Gleneagle awards. **Thea Ong** was the recipient of the Eagle Award for being the top all-round student. To qualify for the Eagle Award, a student must demonstrate excellence in at least four of the five categories: academics, athletics, visual and/or performing arts, leadership, and service.

Young Joo Roh received the Talon Award, which is based on extracurricular service and leadership to fellow students.

Natalie Kinloch was the recipient of the Governor-General’s award, which is presented to the top overall academic student based on the

highest grade percentages in four years of secondary. The Gleneagle Awards ceremony, which was held on Wednesday, June 20, also gave mention to many students who achieved excellence in various areas.

One student from each grade was given an award for the highest overall mark. These were awarded to **Lauren Wilson** for grade 9, **Juan Paolo Mercado** for grade 10, **Kimberley Chang** for grade 11, and **Natalie Kinloch** for grade 12.

In addition, two students from each grade were given the achievement of top academic athlete. These students were **Andrew Chang** and **Sydney Veljacic** for grade 9, **Jonathan Tan** and **Jaime McLaughlin** for grade 10, **Steven Tanaka** and **Kimberley Chang** for grade 11, and **Andrew Flood** and **Natalie Kinloch** for grade 12.

Top TALONS awards were also given out: **Liam St. Louis** for grade 9 and **Louise Hung** for grade 10, in addition to the TALONS Spirit Award, which was given to **Katie Fajber**, grade 10.

Graduate offers advice, reassurance to nervous grade nines

JAYME PEDERSEN
edge columnist

High school: it’s a big step for grade eights entering grade nine. I’ve just graduated, but I remember everything I felt when I first came through the doors of Gleneagle.

I was conflicted: dead excited but at the same time I had a knot in my stomach.

Entering high school is like a brand new adventure, like exploring a mountain: it’s full of risks and one can easily slip off a ledge or fall on his or her face... but there are thrills and excitement on the way.

It’s also like a new world, where people are older, class times have changed, and the homework load is different. The school itself intimidated me as it was much larger than my previous school, and everyone was so much older and taller when I looked around.

It made me feel small and fragile. I saw a lot of smiling faces welcoming me, but again, I could not shake off that tight feeling.

So why is it that I am telling you how I felt? I’m listing these things because some of you might be getting a little nervous, feeling just the same way I did. I want to prove that I know what some of you are feeling and that it is completely natural to feel that way. No matter how ready you think you are, you may still be suffering from a little anxiety.

This is something that you don’t have to

feel alone with, because everyone gets a little nervous when entering a new stage in his or her life, like secondary school.

Sometimes, people like me over think things and panic and therefore make high school into this HUGE thing, but really, it’s not all that big of a transition.

Sure, there are different class times and the work load is heavier, but it’s not like you are being thrown into a different dimension.

Truthfully, grade nine is actually quite fun once you get the hang of it in the first few weeks or so.

Try not to worry too much about the homework. Just do the work, and you’ll be absolutely fine.

Sometimes the work does pile up, but as long as you do it, then you aren’t going to get a horrible grade.

Also, when it comes to classes, I am sure you have already heard people tell you to take classes that YOU want to take and not just the classes your friends are taking.

Listen to this advice. Most likely you will meet people who share the same interests with you and perhaps you will become great friends.

The great thing about Gleneagle is that our school welcomes “different”. By different, I mean that it is okay to be yourself. I cannot emphasize it enough how important being you is. There is nothing more bothersome than a grade nine coming into school and acting like she or he owns the

place. We’ve seen that.

Gleneagle welcomes you to be yourself and welcomes the unique. I’m uncoordinated, foolish, and a bit geeky, but I know that people love me for it.

Being myself during my four years helped me find the group of friends I have now and helped me discover my own personal morals and values.

You may hear some comments like: “They are such niners” and “stupid grade nines”, but they are empty phases you should ignore. These comments are usually used because sometimes, grade nines come in and act like know-it-alls.

We see the mini-skirts and the too-loose baggy jeans that you so happened to buy in the summer to look like you are tough.

While on the subject... don’t act like you are Mr. Tough-Guy and purposely fail, skip classes and make other stupid choices. Calling out obnoxious comments in class and getting pulled out of the room to talk with

the teacher just makes everyone look down on you. Failing and getting into trouble is not cool; it’s just dumb.

I know there is a lot to think about, but I hope you understand that every great adventure comes with risks and tricky steps. Try to have some fun and try to smile and laugh in these four years coming up.

There will be some difficult times, yes... but it makes us stronger people to get through those with a grin. I can honestly say I am going to miss Gleneagle and high school in general, and I hope that says something to you.

I’m Jayme. I graduated from high school with the graduates of 2010. I have to say I’m very glad to have come to this school of all places and I’m dead proud to be a Gleneagle student.

The knot in my stomach untied quickly with the support and love from teachers and students here.

Welcome to Gleneagle. Have fun.



Meet our administration team: Jeremy Clarke and **Carol Coulson**, vice principals, and **Dave Matheson**, principal, greet students each morning in the foyer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 7 Photo Day

September 22 Parent Orientation 7 pm

September 24 Pro-D Day

Resources

Counselors



Caryl Nelson, guides students with last names starting from A-H.

Bindy Johal, guides students with last names starting from I-N.



Tammy Ough, guides students with last names starting from O-Z.

Library Staff



Jo-Anne LeBlonde, teacher-librarian, checks out the many novels available to Gleneagle students.

Career Centre



Tina Ahooja-Anderson, career resource facilitator, welcomes students to research their futures.

Clubs

Global Issues

Do you want to make a difference? Join Global Issues to help fundraise and raise awareness for worthwhile causes.

Con-X

Be a leader in Con-X to make new students feel welcome.

Gay/Straight Alliance

Promote awareness for acceptance, equality and unity for everyone. Take a stand against discrimination!

Green Team

If you're concerned about our earth, join the Green Team to promote environmental awareness.

Math Club

Help or get help with math at the Math Club.

Multicultural Club

Express and explore the different ethnic groups of Gleneagle's student body at the Multicultural Club!

Me to We

Education is the key to success! Help fundraise for a school to be built in Ecuador.

Art Club

Explore your artistic flair at lunch in the art room.

Graphics Club

Combine art skills and computer smarts to manipulate digital images with Gleneagle's graphic design club.

Japanese Club

Celebrate the enriched Japanese culture and heritage within our community.



Origami Club

Create intricate designs with the traditional Japanese folk art of paper-folding.

Running Club

Come out and enjoy physical activity with the Running Club.

Movie Club

Love movies? Room 111 will be showing new movies at lunch every week.

Model UN

A brand-new club this year that focuses on structured debate about international issues.

... and more!

theEdge

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The Edge is the independent voice of the students of Gleneagle Secondary produced by the Journalism 11/12 class. It conforms and adheres to the standards and style of the Canadian Press. Letters to the editor are welcome and will be printed as space allows; letters must be signed

and free of libel. *The Edge* reserves the right to edit for accuracy, spelling, and grammar. Additional articles, opinion pieces, and features may also be submitted and will be printed as space allows. *The Edge* reserves the right to edit any submitted material for brevity and style.

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International First Place Award Winner: 1999, 2003, 2009

George H. Gallup Award Winner: 2000-02, 2004-06

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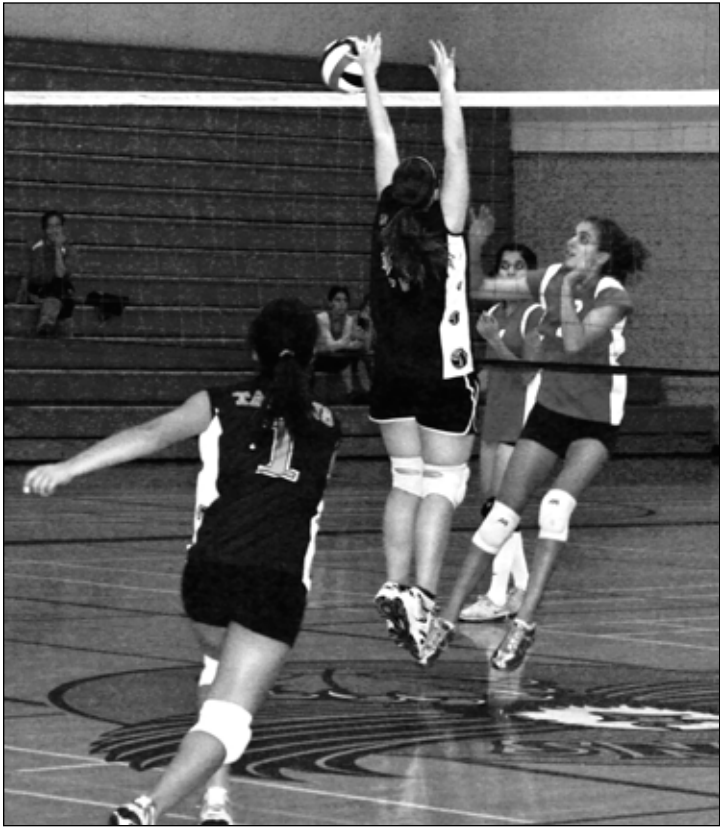


Fall
Swimming
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Soccer
Volleyball

Winter
Wrestling
Ski & Snowboard
Basketball
Gymnastics

Sports

Spring
Dragon Boating
Tennis
Badminton
Golf
Netball
Track & Field
Rugby



Programs

TALONS Program
The Academy of Learning for Outstanding, Notable Students (TALONS) program allows district-identified gifted students to work more independently, above and beyond their required course work. The program takes place in two blocks all year long, and consists of both grades 9 and 10.

COAST
The COAST program takes outdoor education to another level, blending academic requirements for grade 10, PE 10 and 11, with the great outdoors. Members participate in many activities such as kayaking, winter camping, and backpacking.

Yearbook 12
Have your say in what goes into this year's yearbook by joining the Yearbook team! Dedication required, but satisfaction guaranteed.

Journalism 11/12
Ever dreamt of being published in a newspaper or seeing your name in print? Then come and join Gleneagle's Journalism program to learn writing and layout skills for our award-winning paper, *The Edge*. Get ready to get to know your school community.

Work Experience 12
Work and learn with this unique, tailored-for-you program, which allows you to learn as you work in a field of your choice. Added bonus: you earn your 30-hours work experience requirement for Grad Transitions. See **Doug Maclean** in the Counseling office for more details.

Drama Program
Love acting? The Broken Wing Theatre performs year-round, with plays and musicals ranging from comedy to tragedy and everything in between.

Music Program
If you can sing or play an instrument, then come and join one of Gleneagle's award-winning music courses. With classes ranging from Guitar to Vocal Jazz, there is sure to be something for the musically inclined. See **Ed Trovato** in Room 133/134 to join.

Art Program
Join one of Gleneagle's prestigious art programs, which offer a wide range of mediums ensuring that there is indeed an art for everyone. For the artistically inclined there is JumpstArt 9, which integrates Humanities with Art in a one-of-a kind cohort. For more senior art students, there is Art Careers 12 and the Emily Carr program to look out for.

YOU SAID IT!

If you could invent a school course, what would it be?



Grade 9
“Equestrian 101, because I really love horses!”



Grade 10
“Bioethics, because I want to be a bio-ethicist.”

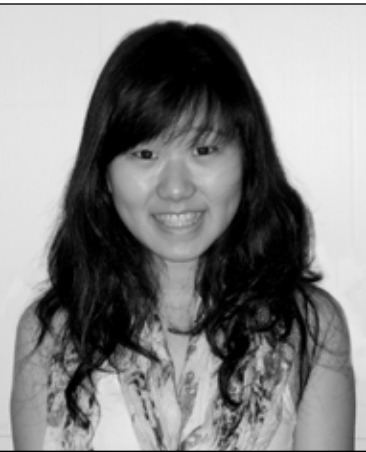


Grade 11
“A music class specifically geared towards heavy metal.”



Grade 12
“Napping 101, so I could sleep in class without getting caught.”

School spirit: showing Talon pride an essential part of the ride



CLAUDIA LEE
edge columnist

My best friend is a highly academic student, and by gazing upon his jaw-dropping report cards, it appears he’s bound to be one of the most successful out of my grad class.

He views high school as just a large hurdle he must hop over into elite universities.

I, on the other hand, have organized and advertised spirit weeks, benefit concerts, and fundraisers and my somewhat mediocre report cards got me into a decent university. Although high school is a stage I must complete to move on, I take pride in my school, something my friend lacks.

His “indifferent” view towards our school led him to miss out on my efforts to raise school spirit or my initiatives to do my part in giving back to the global community. No matter, we were still friends.

First off, let’s clarify what school spirit is. According to Wikipedia, school spirit is “the emotional support for one’s educational institution. It can be manifested in the exhibition of school colors in dress and decoration, attendance

of athletic events, or verbally in the form of chants or cheers.” I agree with Wikipedia, in describing school spirit as “emotional support.” But I think it’s more than that.

School spirit cannot be measured only by the number of clubs or teams you join, or the days you dress up for the spirit weeks. This “emotional support” is evident through how a student describes her school or conducts himself in the school and in the community.

Picking up somebody’s garbage is an exhibition of school spirit, as is planning a pep rally. It is almost impossible to host a single event that satisfies the mass population. This, however, is another reason why we need a wider cross grade representation of students involved to create and promote various school events.

We are a school that celebrates diversity. Our students may call different provinces or countries “home,” or have different learning styles or abilities. However, this school accommodates us all. We can’t be labelled solely as an arts or music or sports school, because in any subject or area, our knowledgeable staff teach beyond the textbook, and guide our students to discover the *value* of learning. Gleneagle is a place that appreciates the harmony created from the talents and interests of 1200 plus students.

Celebrating diversity not only means creating events that you believe fit Gleneagle, but also *supporting* other students’ initiatives. Many students complain about the lack of school spirit at Gleneagle. However, Gleneagle’s school spirit is students of different back-

grounds, interests and learning abilities coming together. This of course, isn’t as easy as a music school coming together for a concert, a fine arts school for a drama production or a sports school for a tournament. But when it does, and it has, it is miraculous.

In math class, you learn to add before solving algebraic equations. So start small: begin a club with friends, and host events you think other students might like, or join a team that interests you. There is no guarantee that it’ll be a success, but it could also be the most successful event of the year!

My challenge to you is to change the view of students who criticize Gleneagle spirit, and in the upcoming year, do many things that show school spirit. I guarantee it will make your time in high school more enjoyable and memorable.

[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]-[REDACTED]		
Per	“Regular” Monday to Friday	“Early Dismissal” Monday
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]
Lunch	11:35 – 12:25	11:25 – 12:10
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

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