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Laval Liberty HS (@LLHS_News)

April was definitely not as warm as we would have wanted it to be but our busy LLHS schedule of activities certainly kept everyone moving! It was definitely an active month! Happy Reading!!

April Review

Europe Trip 2015

Students on this year's Europe trip left on March 27th. Sec 5 students had a trip of a lifetime as they visited Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest. What this group of travellers experienced (witnessed) could not be taught in a classroom, from a textbook or over the internet. They stood on top of Hitler's bunker, visited Auschwitz, Oscar Shindler's Factory museum, Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin Wall, as well as many other sites. They were immersed in 4 different cultures and made new acquaintances and friends along the way. It was a real learning experience... Each student returned with a new perspective and a deeper appreciation of cultures that are so different from their own. A great time was had by all!



SANOFI BioGENEious Challenge Canada (SBCC)

Marjan Ghazi, Mahsa Ghasi and Anastasia Katsolis participated in the Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge Canada (SBCC) on April 2nd. It is with great pleasure that we announce that Anastasia's project: [Miracle versus entity](#) and Marjan's project: [Limitations of Beta-Blockers](#) each received a scholarship to Sherbrooke University. They now both move on to compete in the 2015 Canada-wide Science Fair taking place in Fredricton, New Brunswick from May 9th to the 16th! Good luck, girls and **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Math Competition (www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca)



Laval Liberty is pleased to congratulate our Sec 5 students who participated in this year's Fermat Math Competition. The results are in and our students ranked in 3rd place out of all 50 participating private & public schools in Quebec. The only 2 schools above ours at this level were College Laval & Bishops College School in Sherbrooke.

In addition, LLHS ranked 1st place in the 'zone competition' made up of 17 Quebec high schools. Other schools in this zone include West Island College in DDO, E. S. Felix-Leclerc, Lindsay Place H.S., St. Thomas H.S. all in Pointe-Claire, Philemon Wright H.S. in Gatineau, Laurenhill Academy in Saint-Laurent, Lester B. Pearson H.S. in Montreal-Nord, Pierrefond Comprehensive in Pierrefond, Macdonald H.S. in Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, and Beaconsfield H.S. in Beaconsfield. We have now earned the title of **Zone Team Champions!!!** (see attached)

Since 2010, selected students from Sec 3-4-5 get the opportunity to compete in the annual math competition affiliated by the University of Waterloo, one of Canada's most reputable universities for math education.

CONGRATULATIONS to the top 4 students at each level who participated:

Sec 3 Pascal Competition

- 1) Andrew MacDiarmid
- 2) George Sideris
- 3) Richard Ziegahn
- 4) Ioannis Papadopoulos

Sec 4 Cayley Competition

- 1) Badrouyk Chamlian
- 2) Gregory Aldous
- 3) Sophie Emond Lecouffe
- 4) John Michael Vourantonis

Sec 5 Fermat Competition

- 1) Jianchen Wen
- 2) Gia Han Tran
- 3) Mahad Janjua
- 4) Samantha Thibault

Leadership Day Trip to Ottawa

Advanced Student Leaders put together their year-end trip. They were in charge of coordinating all of the details as a shared learning experience. Through process elimination, they decided to go to Ottawa on April 15th for the first time this year. They spent time with some of Canada's top leaders and visited historically significant sites. It was a memorable trip full of significant moments.



Additional highlights:

- At Rideau Hall the students gained the attention of the Governor General's staff. Their quiet time of reflection on the grounds was noticed; It created waves in the form of emails sent across the country of their presence on the grounds to members of our Advanced Student Leadership family in BC, Alberta and Ontario about what they were doing.
- When the Leaders walked into the Canadian War Museum, the retired men's chorus '**Aged in Harmony**' was waiting for them. They sang '*Has Anyone Seen the Colonel*', shook the student's hands and gave them a camp mini flag. The troop came in only for the students and only to sing them a song... it was a very appreciated continuation of a deep cross generation connection.
- LCol. P. Dawe Sr. spent the day fellowshipping with the students imparting leadership knowledge and sharing his time with us; LCol. John Errington came with us to Beechwood Cemetery, Rideau Hall, Parliament and Lansdowne Park; and General P. Dawe met with the group after their visit to Parliament grounds and joined them on their visit to Lansdowne.



Music Concentration Performance

On April 16th, the LLHS Concert Band was invited to perform for a group of senior citizens celebrating the 50th anniversary of Laval at the Young Israel of Chomedey Synagogue. The band performed a selection of music representing varied repertoire they had learnt throughout the year, from popular film tunes to music originally composed for concert band that they had presented at the MusicFest Quebec Music Festival in March where judges awarded them a Silver Standard. This was the second time that Laval Liberty had been invited to entertain this group and the musicians were very pleased to represent their school for such an appreciative audience. In attendance were Jean-Claude Gobé, City of Laval's official leader of the opposition and Aglaia Revelakis, City Councillor representing Chomedey.



Lieutenant Governor Awards

For the 4th year in a row, LLHS hosted a prestigious evening in our auditorium on Saturday, April 18th. A selected number of high school, college, university and nominated citizens from the Laval & Montreal regions were awarded the Lieutenant Governor Medal of Honor by the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec, Mr. Pierre Duchesne. Two of our very own, Anastasia Katsolis & Nicolas Dimitrakopoulos were presented with this medal. Anastasia was in absentia as she was presenting at the Provincial Science Fair in Gatineau over the weekend.

CONGRATULATIONS to both students!



Cheerleading Competition

CONGRATULATIONS to Laval Liberty/Laurier Senior's Cheerleading team which competed in the Scholastic Division (Level 1) of Canadian Cheerleading Championship on Saturday, April 18th, 2015 in Trois-Rivières. Our students returned with the winning trophy and gold medals!!



2015 SWLSB Poppy Campaign

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Rossi, Mr. Johnson and advanced Student Leaders from Laval Liberty High School, Elias Polyzos and Corey-Ann Westlake who were honoured by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 251 on April 11th for their work as lead coordinators for the SWLSB poppy campaign for participating schools in Laval. Together, the SWLSB Laval schools raised over \$5,000 dollars.

New York Grad Trip



The Grad trip to the Big Apple was a success! It began with a walking tour of beautiful Central Park, followed by a terrific view of the city from the Top of the Rock. Several neighbourhoods were visited, including Times Square, Little Italy, SoHo, and Chinatown. In addition, a two-hour bus tour permitted students to see many other parts of the city. They were visited several museums and attractions, including Madam Tussaud's, the Museum of Natural History, and the Metropolitan Museum. They also took in the fantastic Broadway show, "An American in Paris". A great time had by all!



Student Assemblies

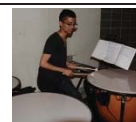
On April 22, 2015, Laval Liberty Secondary IV and V students attended an assembly on the commemoration of the centenary of the Armenian and Pontian Greek genocides perpetrated by the Ottoman Turks during which 1.5 million Armenians and 353 000 Pontians perished. The event was organized by Ms. Gosdanian with the help of Ms. Tzotzis and a group of dedicated students. Adam Leal, Richard Habib & Alyssa Camide presented the historical background of the Ottoman Empire's Pan-Turanian policy which led to the persecution and systematic elimination of its Armenian, Pontian and Assyrian minorities. They reported on documents gathered by historians and shared letters written by the American ambassador to Turkey, Henry Morgenthau. Eleni Parigoris, Michael Koutouzis, and Pagona Karastogiannis presented excerpts from witness accounts of the atrocities committed towards the Pontians. Dikran Missirian and Badrouyk Chamlian shared the stories of their great-grandparents who had survived the Armenian Genocide. Thun Carl meticulously worked on all aspects of the audiovisual elements of the presentation. The occasion was a solemn one and made the students reflect on the grand-scale consequences of intolerance and hate.

Caisse Desjardins de Chomedey Awards

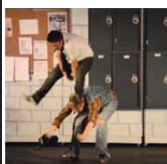


On April 27th, Caisse Desjardins de Chomedey held their 69th Annual General Assembly. During this meeting, their Board of Directors proudly invests in community youth by awarding them for their educational achievements. **CONGRATULATIONS** go to Laval Liberty students Nicolas Dimitrakopoulos, Marjan Ghazi, Anastasia Katsolis and Gajanan Velupillai each who received a \$250 bursary for their excellence in academics from Daniel Rousseau, President of the Board of Directors and Hrair Ketchedjian, Director General of the Caisse. Mrs. Côté proudly attended the presentation.

2015 MUSICAL THEATRE



What a wonderful performance by all Theatre & Music Concentration students who presented Laval Liberty's final musical *Footloose* for 3 evenings straight in the auditorium on April 29th, 30th & May 1st! The show had it all... great acting, impressive sets, entertaining choreographies, smooth scene transitions, and an accompanying orchestra which brought many audience members back to the '80s! Great appreciation goes to Ms. Gasparini, Ms. Karamalis, Mrs. Thomas, & Ms. Tzotzis for their dedication and guidance in putting this production together! It was a pleasure to watch our talented students in action!



& spring has finally sprung!!



LLHS/LSHS Comedy Night Fundraiser

This is it!!!! Laval Liberty & Laurier Senior's PPOs is now hosting our 3rd Annual Comedy Night on Friday, May 8th beginning at 7pm. The show is called "The Bankruptcy Show" & the comedians scheduled to appear alongside our host Franco Taddeo are Nick Brazao, Pantelis and Guido Cocomello. Tickets that were purchased for the original show will be honoured on the evening of May 8th. A much needed evening of laughter for all! Tickets are \$20 each. Please contact Betty Aliftiras at 450-688-2911 ext. 8226 in order to purchase your ticket(s) even at the last minute. Proceeds raised benefit student activities, events and programs. Your PPO is looking forward to your support! Tickets can also be purchased at the door. Additional information can be found on our school's website.

Pedagogical Days

Please note that May 1st, 15th & 29th are pedagogical days. No classes will be held on these days. May 18th is a holiday and the school will be closed.

Annual Track & Field Competition

Once again, Parc Marcel-Laurin is the venue for the regional track & field competition. The girls preliminary round took place on May 6th. The boys preliminary round takes place on May 12th. Girls whose results take them to finals will compete on May 20th followed by the boys finals on May 21st.

PPO Meeting

On Monday, May 11th, our PPO will be holding their monthly meeting in the library beginning at 6pm. All volunteers are welcome.

Wake-Over

LLHS will be hosting its first ever Wake-Over! It will run from 4:30pm on May 22nd to 7am May 23rd. Please note that the doors will be locked for the evening as of 10pm. The objective of the Wake-Over is to raise awareness and money for cancer research by staying awake all night. During this period of time, organizers will provide a series of events and activities that will promote the participants to stay awake. In order to attend the Wake-Over, students need to have raised and submit a minimum of \$50 by May 20th to Mr. Papadeas, Ms. Gasparini, or Ms. Tzotzis.

Governing Board Meeting

As noted on our website, our Governing Board meeting scheduled for May has been canceled. LLHS's final Governing Board will take place on Tuesday, June 2nd in the library beginning at 7pm. This meeting is open to the public.

Attendance and Sign-outs

In preparation & to promote success, daily & punctual presence is mandatory for all students. Review sessions are presently in progress in classes. **Please note that there are only 18 school days left leading up to our blocked exam period in June.** As we approach end of year exam period and as the weather turns into summer, it may be tempting for students to want to be out of class as much as possible. Please support your child to be in the best academic position at this critical time of the school year for exams by being in class working, reviewing and preparing.

In addition, it is important to know that some courses will be starting year end exams at different times for each grade level so it is important that each and every student remains in school for the day.

Therefore, we also strongly recommend that students **NOT** be signed out for different periods of the school day unless they have a doctor's, dentist appointment, family emergency or to attend an appointment with a professional.

As always, students who are signed out can **NOT** remain in school or on school property. Also as per usual, students who are caught skipping will serve a **1-day suspension**.

Final Exams

Please note that in some classes, final exams began as early as May 5th. Attendance is mandatory and must be punctual. During exams, justified absences can only be validated by an official/original doctor's note. The full schedule of exams can be found on our school's website as well <https://llhs.schoolqc.ca/>

School Fees

As stated in the student agenda (page 9), all fees must be paid before students are granted permission to participate in field trips or activities. Please contact Mrs. Côté (principal) or Filia Koutsos (school secretary ext.9015) to make arrangements as soon as possible.

Sec 5 Prom

All parents of Sec 5 students who have unpaid school fees must make arrangement to pay them by June 8th in order to permit their child's participation to the June 25th evening.

Payment Method

Please note that effective immediately school fee payments can only be made by credit card and payment of all other activities can only be made in cash. Please do not send in checks.

Library – Overdue Fees

Letters have been sent home to students who have overdue books. All payments must be given to Mrs. Dubé, our school's librarian, by June 4th.

La Ronde Trip



To commemorate the end of Laval Liberty as a school and the beginning of a new senior high school, both Laval Liberty & Laurier Senior will be going to LaRonde on Friday June 5th. Students will be travelling with their respective school's designated buses but will be enjoying the day at the park together. Departure is set for 9:45am – return to LLHS is expected by 6:30pm.

Dress Code

As the weather warms up, please note the school's dress code policy on p.10 of the student agenda. Students must follow the dress code at all times. This includes exam period as well.

The following is considered to be inappropriate for both males and females:

- Torn or ripped clothing
 - Bare midriffs and bare navels
 - Visible underwear (or lack thereof)
 - Spaghetti strap camisoles
 - Armless camisoles/Sleeveless tops
 - Tights/Leggings/Leotards**
 - Vulgar, racial or political slurs on clothing
 - Pants resting below waist level
 - Transparent or see through clothing
 - Visible cleavage or bare chests
 - Coats or jackets in the classroom
 - Army boots
 - Hats, head coverings (other than religious head coverings) or bandanas in school (confiscation)
 - Clothing that advertises or promotes alcohol, drugs or tobacco products, gang affiliations
 - Clothing promoting skulls and/or weapons of any kind.
- ** Tights/Leggings/Leotards must be accompanied by shorts or a skirt below arm's length.

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, May 13th:** LLHS Music Concert beginning at 7pm in the auditorium.
- Friday, May 22nd:** LLHS Wakeover supporting Breast Cancer Research from 4:30pm to 7am.
- Monday, May 25th:** 10th Annual AAA Awards Ceremony for A.T.O.M.S, Leadership, Music, Theater and Art Concentration students beginning at 7pm in the auditorium.
- Tuesday, May 26th:** 10th Annual AAA Awards Ceremony for Football, Soccer, and Hockey Concentration students beginning at 7pm in the auditorium.
- Thursday, May 28th:** 2015 SWLSB Laurier Gala & StarFest - Red carpet beginning at 6pm.
- Thursday, June 4th:** 6th Annual Citizenship Honours Ceremony beginning at 7pm Colossus.
- Friday, June 5th:** School-wide trip to La Ronde from 9:45am to 6:15pm (permission slip required)
- Thursday, June 11th:** SWLSB Foundation Lobster-Fest beginning at 6pm at Embassy Plaza, 1003 Cure-Labelle Blvd, Laval, H7V 2V6.
More info at www.fondationlaurier.com
- Thursday, June 25th:** Sec 5 Prom at Palace Reception Hall - Cocktails begin at 6:30pm.

Looking forward to a strong and positive academic finish for all our students,



to all celebrating this special day on Sunday !!

Yours in education,

Mrs. Josée Côté, Principal

Mrs. Helen Kalipolidis, Vice-Principal