



Hooked on School!

Staying in School is Everybody's Business!



Galt recently held a Piper Pride logo contest. Above is the winning design by Roxanne Dube-Paixao.

By: EH 306-21 (Ms. Brown's Homeroom)

February 15th through February 19th, 2010 Galt will be joining with the efforts of other schools in the Eastern Townships region presenting the first edition of Hooked on School Days. One in three youth in Quebec quit school without a diploma so it is essential that students realize and address this situation for themselves. As a class, we believe that students will be more likely to stick around and actually graduate if they feel like they belong, and that school is a positive place to be. Students who are involved with school activities and events are more likely to feel good about their school. Galt has a lot to offer (see articles below). Having Option courses - like Home Economics, Drama, Band, Art, Dance, EH & CWL, Spanish, Woodworking, the list goes on—and events like the school play, sports teams, concerts, Science Fairs, guest speakers (like Gwynne Dyer), all contribute to students staying in school. A number of special awareness activities are taking place all this week beginning Monday February 15th.

Trees in the Cafeteria - Positive Messages

Ms Sigal Hirshfeld-Gandey and her student teacher Ms Amanda Eaton, with the help of Tyler Lasenba, Dylan Gaudette, Summer Smith, Jimmy Tessier and Alexander Sangster, have created 2 beautiful trees, yellow for Cycle One & blue for Cycle Two, on which students can place positive messages written on green leaves provided by their homeroom teachers. The trees are painted on the large windows in the cafeteria; other material used by these young artists was tissue paper, cellophane, and papier-mâché paste.

Along with the trees will be displayed the winning Safe School Logo, along with posters of the runner-up entries. Over 200 entries to the contest were received, and these too will be displayed. The Grand Prize winner was Roxanne Dube-Paixao. The runners-up were: Nadia Blouin & Sandra Gagnon,

Samantha Gagne & Annie Bourdon, Joannie Auger, and Sarah Jacques. The logo will also be printed on the Piper Pride Cards (Pride, Integrity, Perseverance, Empathy, and Respect), which encourage more acts of kindness in school.

Student Radio Broadcasts & Essay Contest

Marie Thibault & Galt Radio will be playing music in the cafeteria all next week in order to create a positive atmosphere among students. All week long, in conjunction with Literacy in Action, the 5 winning essays on the theme the importance of education ("Why I Want a High School Diploma") will be published in the Student Bulletin. These essays will hopefully be published in the Sherbrooke Record, as well as read aloud on the local radio station CJMQ. Each winning essay will receive a \$50 prize provided by Literacy in Action.

Haiti Fundraising at A.G.R.H.S. By: Trent Schoolcraft & Sean Lumley

Alexander Galt has been doing some fundraising to support the Canadian Red Cross so they can help the victims of the damage caused by the earthquake in Haiti. Activities were organized which students had to pay \$1 to see - such as "Teacher vs. Student Council" dodge ball and teacher karaoke. These two activities combined raised around \$500. The Learning Center had two bake sales which raised \$277 combined. Also, the Learning Center sold pizza, which raised more than \$1070.

Galt still has more fundraising to come, such as the Penny Race, a Carnival Activity where the team with the most pennies wins. This year all the proceeds are to go to Haiti. Over \$1600 was raised through this event.

Galt's Got Talent

By: Casey Johann & Caitlin Burton

This December, Mr. Obermier's Alexander Galt band students went to different elementary schools in the Eastern Townships to play Christmas songs for the students. The level 5-band class went to Ayer's Cliff, level 4-band class went to Sawyerville, and level 3-band class went to Bury. Shelby Fournier Cross and Cassandra Gilmour accompanied the band students; they sang so the kids could follow and participate in the singing.

Mr. Obermier took with him student volunteers to play the tambourine, bells and maracas, who also introduced all the instruments to the elementary school students. The kids really enjoyed it and were very thankful the band students took their time to spread some Christmas cheer. Other up-coming

Band concerts include a visit to Sherbrooke Elementary on February 25th, Princess Elizabeth in March, RRHS in April, and in May the Band will perform at the Lieutenant Governor General Medals Awards Ceremony. The annual Band concert is on Friday May 28th.

On December 10th, Galt also held its annual Talent Show. The night was filled with singing, dancing and the latest sensation - juggling. There were performers from the Dance class, and a variety of other students, who wanted to strut their stuff. All proceeds were given to the Prom Committee.

Many thanks to Mme Catherine Nadon who organized the event, and to all the students who took the time to prepare and present. Many thanks also go to parents and those in the community who supported our school by coming to watch.

Cycle One Science Fair By: Samantha Holmes, Arielle Robinson & Caitlin Burton

During the last week of January, Alexander Galt held its 3rd annual Science Fair. There was a record amount of 355 Cycle One students who participated. No specific theme was given for the projects, but there was an environmental awareness to most entries.

Mr. Marc Proulx, the coordinator, believes that the Science Fair is a great opportunity for the kids to express themselves. As some kids have sports, others have science. He believes that the students become more aware of the world around them, and that science is not just reserved for the classroom.

There were special guests at the Fair, such as the grade 6 students from Lennoxville Elementary, and judges from Bishop's University.

From the point of view of 2 participants, "The Science Fair was a fun way to be creative. It was a little difficult at first to think of a project, but after the idea was found, it was fun to create the actual project. It was also fun to design the look of our presentation."

In the end the 2 first place winners were, from Level 1, Rosalie Wubbolts

& Jennily Crook for their project on Hand washing, and from Level 2, Christopher Murphy for his project on De-Icers. However, these were just first place winners, prizes were also awarded for second and third place - and there were 3 tying entries. There will also be prizes awarded at the Regional Finals, including a scholarship to Bishop's University & the University of Sherbrooke. In all, it was another great success for Alexander Galt.

Gwynne Dyer Speaks on Climate Change

By: English 306-21

History teacher Morgan Quinn recently arranged for journalist Gwynne Dyer to come to Galt to speak to the Enriched English History Secondary 4, and the Secondary 5 English classes on January 29th in the Library.

Mr. Dyer gave a very interesting talk on climate change, and the politics involved in this global issue. He encouraged our senior class, as soon to be voters, to become educated about this issue and the possible devastating impact it will have on their future.

His overall message was overall a positive one. "Are we doomed? No, there is a way out," Dyer stated in his closing words, before list 3 different possible technological solutions. "Act now, or beware of what you will inherit. Help the natural systems restore themselves."

Student council president, Patrick Wang, on behalf of all Galt students, thanked Mr. Dyer for his important and inspiring message.

Important Community Notice

A major survey will be undertaken to find out about the needs and concerns of English-speaking people in the province of Québec in matters such as health and social services, education and employment. CROP will be calling thousands of Anglophones in all regions of Québec over the next few weeks and if you are called we urge you to accept to participate in the survey.

Community Health and Social Services Network is an organization dedicated to improving access to health and social services in English for Québec's English-speaking communities

CHSSN

If you have questions about the survey, please don't hesitate to call Tracey (418) 684 2289