

Kuper Academy



Kuper Academy Hosts The Honourable Brian Mulroney

This year Kuper Academy had the good fortune to host Mr. Brian Mulroney as part of the annual Kuper Academy Speaker Series. Mr. Mulroney spoke to the high school students and staff members (as well as the grade six student body) for over an hour, sharing many experiences and insights into his life and his role as Canada's Prime Minister. He used humour and storytelling to engage his audience and he urged students to work to be prepared for the opportunities that will arise in their future. "You only go to school for so long- take advantage. You want to be ready when things start to happen for you!" Mr. Mulroney also urged students not to get "too big for your britches", to approach life with a sense of humour and to work hard towards their goals, rejecting the current culture of entitlement.

During his presentation, he told the audience about his work with Presidents Regan, Bush, and Clinton with respect to the Acid Rain Treaty. He emphasized that the Prime Minister's role is to lead the government in foreign affairs and to nurture effective relationships with other countries' leaders in order to move the various mandates forward. He maintained that the ability to cooperate is an essential skill in any arena and that just because certain policies and habits have been in place for a while, that doesn't mean that leaders can't challenge the current status quo and try to make improvements within a democratic system.



Mr. Mulroney reinforced his belief that Canada remains strong as a nation because Quebec is a vital part of it. He spoke about growing up in Baie-Comeau, his delivery being both funny and engaging. He emphasized that working towards a greener world will matter to future generations, and that when in office he worked diligently towards a greener environment. He shared with his audience the dichotomy that the Prime Minister faces: with so much authority the PM has, arguably, the most powerful position in any democracy. Yet at the same time he is also the first person who is blamed when something goes awry. When asked why he stepped into the public service and remained there for so long, Mr. Mulroney claimed that he did it (and that most politicians get involved) because he had a unique opportunity to help shape the country. What was perhaps the best story was when he shared his experience focusing on making Nelson Mandela's salvation the number one priority of Canadian foreign policy. He talked about helping free Mandela as well as Mandela's subsequent visit to Ottawa after his release, where he delivered his first speech in a democratically elected country. Mulroney made it clear that in order to be successful you have to push boundaries and make way for change despite the reluctance of others to embrace it at times.

If you would like to hear more about this event, CBC Radio has a radio clip available. Click on the following link to hear the seven-minute radio clip: <http://www.cbc.ca/player/Radio/Local+Shows/Quebec/ID/2459599157/>

Kuper Elementary Experiments!

Chicks Teach Students About Life-Cycle, Anatomy, and Incubation

At Kuper, the elementary curriculum seeks to develop a foundation of competencies that will allow children to generate and communicate ideas, offering a challenging program from pre-school through the final cycle of elementary education. This year, within the science realm, we wanted to do as many different activities as possible to make sure that the students attempted first-hand experimentation to support their love and appreciation for science. During the 2013-2014 year, Kuper elementary school performed a variety of unique experiments- from foaming ghosts to learning about the water cycle through music, to building mazes for the class hamsters, to hatching chicks.

When it came to the chicks, the idea was to think of something exciting that would be inclusive all the way through from Kindergarten to grade six. Kuper teacher Mme. Gagnon borrowed an incubator and built a unit of learning that focused on understanding about the life cycle of a chick, the anatomy of a chick, the hatching process, the incubation, etc.. In addition to that, students learned a great deal about responsibility as they had to be very careful to, collectively, take care of the eggs. People started to talk about the egg incubation and the excitement about the project became a tangible school-wide activity! Everyone wanted to know how the chicks were doing and when they were going to hatch- especially when the chicks were two days past their due date!

Experiments such as this one are what makes Kuper stand out as a school that adopts new approaches to education, understanding that variety in the classroom breeds curiosity and a love for learning.



Kuper Dominates in Bantam Flag Football Competition

Kuper high school student athletes have risen to the challenge yet again this spring, winning the city championships at LCC against West Island College in a triumphant 39-0 win.



Grade Six Annual Graduation Trip. Destination: Boston



2013 -2014 H i g h S c h o o l A w a r d s



Every year, as the summer springs upon us, we end the academic term with an assembly not only to say goodbye for the summer months but to acknowledge the hard work that so many students have committed to over the last school year. The assembly is meant to honour the efforts of those students who have risen above and beyond expectations since many Kuper students excel in various ways. Each grade had one winner in the following five categories: Citizenship Award, Academic/Athletic Award, Most Improved, Highest Academic Achievement, and the Award for Community Service. The following is a list of students who have stood out from their peers:

The Community Service Award went to: Gr. 7 - Tasnym Kareh, Gr. 8 - Tiffany James, Gr. 9 - Chelsea Sahakian, & Gr. 10 - Sara Masciotra-Millstein

The Citizenship Award went to: Gr. 7 - Daniel Phillips, Gr. 8 - Tiffany James, Gr. 9 - Chelsea Sahakian & Cooper House, & Gr. 10 - Alfonso Carnevale

The Academic/Athletic Award went to: Gr. 7 - Amrit Das, Gr. 8 - Thomas Gale, Gr. 9 - Kerry Kane, & Gr. 10 - Deziray DeSousa

The Most Improved Award went to: Gr. 7 - Daniel Cao, Gr. 8 - Ron Khazan, & Gr. 9 - Heather Zsofcsin

The Highest Academic Achievement Award went to: Gr. 7 - Laura Goher, Gr. 8 - Alyssa Zucchi, Gr. 9 - Surya Valenti, & Gr. 10 - Jadelyn Leonard