

# Kuper Academy



## GMAA Halo Race A Speedy Success

The annual elementary school Halo Race- a cross-country running tournament- was held April 30th at Mount Royal, and included eighty students from grades three to six. The Kuper team won seven medals including three gold, two silver, and one bronze. Way to go team!





Halo Race Day- Mount Royal



Kuper Kids Have Fun!





## The Kuper High School Drama Club Presents...

### *“A Pillow of Lies: An Untold Feather”*

The story of West Hill High brings to life many important issues that are critical to North American high school students while also shedding light on some of the pressures that can result from the high school experience. This year's high school play focused not only on the topic of rumours and the difficulty of managing successful teenage relationships but it also encouraged students to reflect on their ability to manage their time, to dream, and to continually work towards self-improvement.

Kuper Academy works to support not only academics and sport but the creative arts as well. In that light, Kuper Academy successfully carried out its spring drama production, with students demonstrating teamwork throughout the entire creative process. From the writing of the play to the final production, students worked on acting, directing, singing, producing, costume & set design, and lighting. Every participant in the play was able to nurture a wide variety of life skills, including: the value of rehearsal, acting with confidence, critical thinking, wit, teamwork, and improvisation.

## RECENTLY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL...

The S.O.S (Supporting Our Students) classroom presentations, one component of the larger all-school S.O.S Leadership Initiative, have been carried out this spring semester for students between grades six and ten. The in-class presentations focused on body image and, where possible, the boys and girls were separated in order to encourage as much authentic and open dialogue as possible.

The students themselves selected the topic of body image, and the presentations consisted of the screening of a video (that some of the grade eleven students created), followed by group discussion and collective reflection on the topic of body image. For each of the various classroom presentations, two girls and two boys were selected to lead the discussion, and while they most certainly aimed to address age-appropriate topics, the discussions were not overly structured and the student-leaders let their peers bring up any issues that they were concerned about. The student-leaders de-briefed with each other and then met with the school counsellor with whom they shared pertinent information so that the school environment can continue to be a safe space where students feel supported and where their concerns can be discussed in an open and healthy manner.

In tangent with the above, and in order to support Kuper Academy's 'Pro-Tolerance' campaign, during the week of April 22-26, Kuper hosted several members of the "Tolerance Foundation" who delivered a variety of workshops to students from grades seven through ten. The grade seven and eight students were split by gender while the grade nine and ten students formed co-educational groups. All of the factions focused on learning about the careful and thoughtful consumption of various kinds of media, all the while keeping in mind the importance of nurturing a tolerance of differences.



**Kuper Elementary Students  
Spring Semester Smiles**



# Did You Know...

That the grade eleven students have three grad trips each year, including a trip to Europe, an annual ski trip (which also includes grade ten students), as well as an annual excursion to New York City. The Europe trip has no space constraints, which means that any student in good academic standing can attend. The annual ski trip and the NYC trip usually get filled because of the limited space on the coach busses, so ideally parents will plan their childrens' attendance on these trips at the beginning of the academic year.



The National Debate Championship is the recognized Canadian championship tournament for high school debaters. Competitors are selected by their provincial associations at provincial championships, and this year the national championship was held in British Colombia at West Point Grey Academy from May 10-12th.

Two grade nine students, Sara Masciotra-Milstein and Anthony Koch, represented Kuper at the national competition this year. Anthony Koch obtained the best provincial speaker award as well as seventh best speaker in Canada! Congratulations, Anthony and Sara for not only doing well in the competition but for representing Kuper Academy with class and style.

As a side note, the national championships were started in 1998 by Sydney Academy in partnership with debate associations and schools from Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Since then, the national championship has become recognized as the top competition in Canada each year.

On May 13th, Kuper Academy high school hosted the Gurman twins who are the co-founders of the very successful frozen yogurt chain "Yeh!". While guest lecturing to the grade eleven business classes for over an hour, John and Marvin Gurman explained their motto "You go, you get", and elaborated on many of the theories that the Kuper Academy business students have been focusing on this academic year. Not only did the twins touch upon the importance of doing what you love but they emphasized the need for solid mentorship, self-discipline, and enduring work ethic. The twins urged Kuper students to "watch the successful people around you. Be hungry. Work harder than anyone else, and remember that relationships are everything". This is yet another example of how Kuper Academy aims to deliver a blend of theory and applied learning to students of all ages, allowing them to link, in a tangible manner, what they read and hear in the classroom, with real-life experiences.

