

Kuper Academy

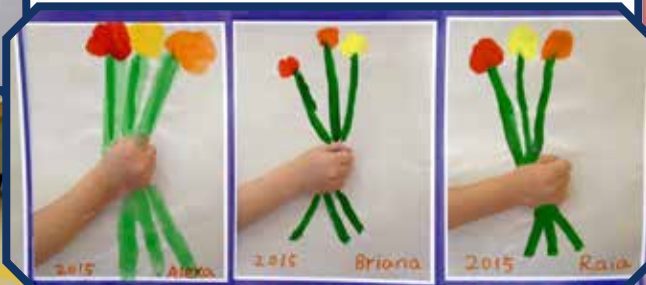
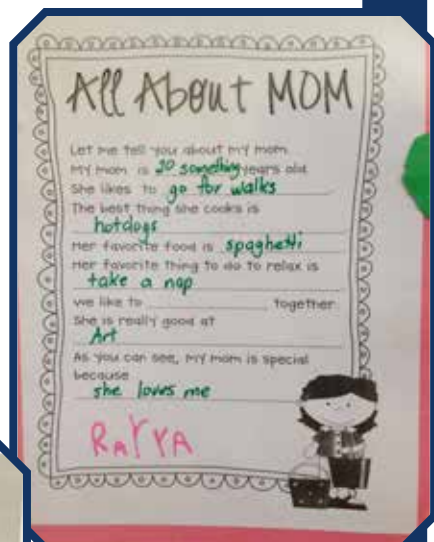


Four Year Old Kindergarten Students Celebrate Mother's Day with Heartfelt Performance and Delectable Treats

This spring, our K4 students rolled out the red carpet, metaphorically speaking, by hosting their mothers in a two-hour celebration that included singing and dancing performances, tea, cakes, cookies, and a plentitude of art projects aimed at showing their mothers how much they loved them and how they were learning to express themselves through art in Kindergarten at Kuper Academy. Amazingly, the forty students stood up for over half an hour, singing and dancing to five popular songs, with much enthusiasm and joy. They then had the opportunity to show their mothers all of the recent work that they had been doing throughout their school days.



Mother's Day!



Community Service~ Its Own Reward



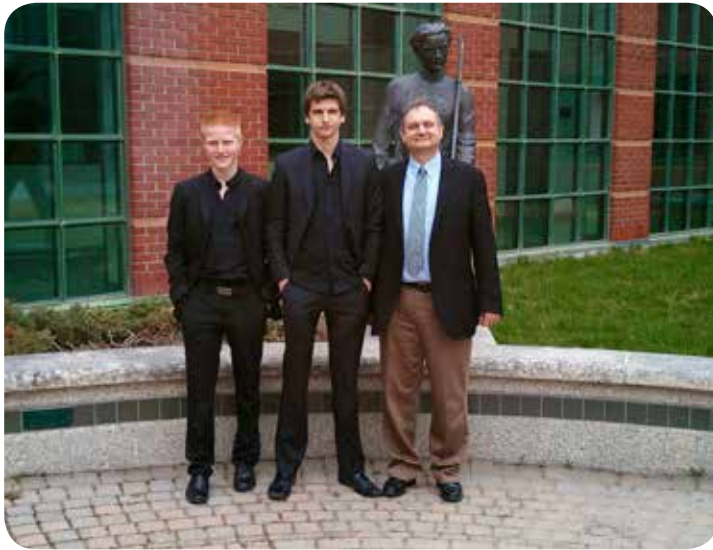
This spring, the community service efforts of twelve grade ten students (and one grade eleven student) culminated in them each obtaining the bronze level of the 'Duke of Edinburgh Award'. In order to earn this achievement award, they had to devote a certain number of hours to community service (during the regular academic year) in addition to starting or improving a personal skill and maintaining physical fitness over a period of six months. The students also had to plan, to train, and to practice for an 'adventurous journey' which was the end-of-year trip seen here.

During this 'Edinburgh Adventure', students and staff members hiked twenty-seven kilometres over a period of two days, carrying all of the supplies they would need on their backs. The group started the trek at the east gate of the Long Sault Parkway and walked to the Waterfront Trail until the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary where they then camped for the night. The next day they hiked on to Upper Canada Village in the final leg of the hike. Expeditions such as these encourage Kuper students to reach towards excellence and to strive for personal growth. Since Kuper prides itself on helping students learn to strengthen the many different parts of themselves, this outing is one of many endeavours that allows them to try on new identities and work out some of the many strengths that will help them achieve continued success in life.



Kuper Represented at Debate Nationals

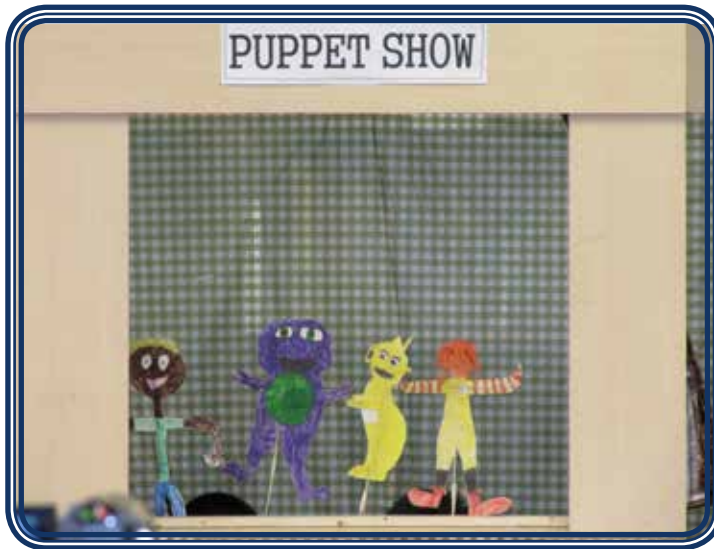
Congratulations to Tom Biasi Gelb and David Barnfield who represented Kuper Academy at the National Junior Debate Championships held last month in the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The duo had much work to get done ahead of the event, with a minimum of four tournament debates to prepare for. Proving they were well-prepared, the team did well and performed consistently throughout the tournament, gaining experience as well as having the opportunity to network with other students with similar interests from various parts of the country.



Graduating Class of 2015

This spring, as is done every year, the Kuper graduating students took their rightful places on the front steps of the high school for the annual 'spring photo'. This is not only a right of passage for graduates, but it is also a chance to get together as a family that has achieved academic and personal success over the course of what for some students has been fourteen years in the Kuper community.

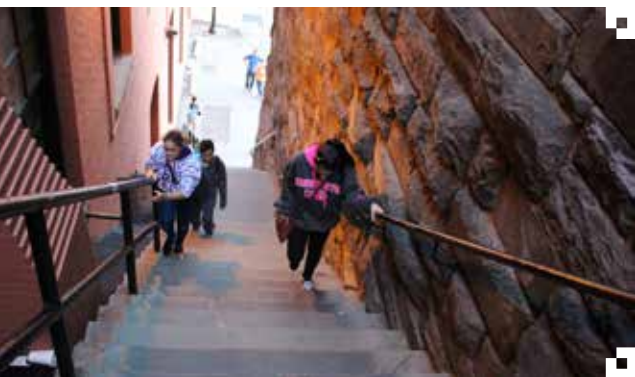
Kuper Kids Share Knowledge



The grade eight drama class recently performed a puppet show for K4 and K5 students, helping them to understand what tolerance means. The puppet show performance was followed by a short question and answer period when the younger students were encouraged to ask any questions that they had. The grade eight students created the short puppet shows with the idea of tolerance in mind because that was an important theme within the high school drama department this academic year. Grade eight students saw a play about tolerance and read articles about the topic. As a final task, they were asked to create their own puppet show to explain tolerance to younger students. At Kuper we believe that one way to learn is to teach others; and the puppet show is a great example of how the Kuper community shares ideas and knowledge and promotes the family atmosphere.



Field Trip to Washington DC



This spring semester, six students from Mr. Casarotto's World History class were given the opportunity to join him on a field trip to Washington, DC to see for themselves, in a tangible way, some of what they had been discussing throughout their class time over the course of many months. Of the many places they visited during their trip, the Arlington Memorial Cemetery was one that had a lasting impact on the group. Everyone was struck by the simple beauty of thousands of perfectly aligned white headstones, each one telling a story of someone who made many sacrifices for their country. The group also visited the famous Kennedy family tomb and had a quick visit to Arlington House, which is a former residence of the famous Confederate General, Robert E. Lee. After that, the changing of the guard and the laying of wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier left everyone in a state of silent reflection over the importance of sacrifice.

As the trip unfolded, the group headed down to the National Mall and stops included Peterson House (where Lincoln passed away on the morning after he was shot), the Washington Monument, the Second World War Memorial, and the Korean War Memorial. Finally, the group retired back across the Potomac to prepare for a visit to the Ford Theatre in the evening.

The second day of the trip was dedicated to visiting the museums associated with the Smithsonian. The Air and Space Museum's impressive collection included one of the original Apollo capsules, a complete Soyuz spacecraft, the Spirit of St Louis, a collection of war birds from the Second World War, as well as a myriad of interactive displays. The United States Holocaust Museum provided students with both a narrative and experiential description of the Holocaust. The interactive audio and video displays as well as the artifacts conveyed both the causes of the Holocaust and the pain and suffering inflicted on European Jews as well as other minorities singled out for destruction by the Nazis. Though this trip did have a somewhat somber vibe at times, the students were given the opportunity to reflect upon and to appreciate life outside of their usual daily activities; and at Kuper we believe that this strengthens character and nurtures empathy.

