

# CRESTWORD



## IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF GIVING

BY: SHELBY FEIGEN

Every November here at Crestwood, an organization is selected for our students to connect with and participate in altruistic giving. This year, we worked with Kawartha Haliburton Children’s Foundation, since many of our students visit the area in the summer, in addition to fact that there is a penetrating financial need in that area. But our involvement did not stop there: this year we also became involved with an organization closer to our home, Sanctuary To-

ronto, in order to give back to our immediate area. We opened our hearts and donated gifts in the spirit of giving and the holiday season.

“Most of our families are young parents. Many are single parent families, with two or more children,” noted Ms. McCourt, the staff liaison for this year’s Crestwood Gives initiative. These families have very low income with minimal support, which was evident in their wish lists. Many families asked for everyday items that each of us would not be able to go about our daily routines without, such as shampoo/ conditioner and soap. Once the organization sends the list of needed items to the school, Ms. McCourt separates into the families’ lists into manageable portions and distributes them to homeroom classes. Following the collection of all the gifts on pick-up day, they are bagged and tagged under the family names, which are then given back to the organization. Kawartha Children’s Foundation then distributes our donations to

the corresponding families, lifting the spirits of each family member during what is supposed to be a very spirited time of the year.

Are you interested in getting involved? Ms. McCourt suggests, “If you are interested in helping further, contact myself or Ms. Mainprize for more information, or Ms. Ogle on more information on Sanctuary Toronto. If you are interested in helping out our community more, contact guidance, or local charities to see what is available.”

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## A ROYAL BABY FOR WILL AND KATE!

BY: JENNIFER FREEDMAN

Hear ye! Hear ye! The Duchess and Duke of Cambridge, Kate Middleton and Prince William, announced on Monday, December 3rd that the couple is expecting their first child. The Duchess was reportedly taken to hospital with acute morning sickness putting the media into a royal baby frenzy. The Duchess was admitted to the King Edward VII Hospital in London twelve weeks pregnant and diagnosed with hyperemesis gravidarum, which will require plenty of hydration and nutrients, the palace said. This hospitalization is what forced the couple to go public with the big news of Kate's pregnancy much earlier than expected. Hyperemesis gravidarum affects one per cent of women who are expecting. According to Professor Tim Draycott of the University of Bristol, the condition is very common with women who are expecting twins.

There is much debate going on around the world regarding the royal baby. Many are hoping for a male, while the rest are pro-female. But what if Tim Draycott's theory is correct and the reason why the Dutchess is experiencing hyperemesis gravidarum is because she is pregnant with twins?

Typically if a woman is giving birth to twins, she will opt for a caesarean section. In this case, the gynaecologist to treat Kate (potentially Dr. Marcus Setchell) could have the choice as to which twin will be born first.

It is royal policy that the heir to the throne has typically been the oldest male child. The new baby will be third in line to the throne, being born the great-grandchild of the Queen. If Kate and William's twins were to be of the same sex, there would not be as

much controversy as to who the doctor would choose to be born first. Automatically females are queens and males are kings. *If* Kate is having twins there is a likelihood that one could be male and the other could be female. The royal doctor then has a choice: have the female be born first and make history or have the male be born first and conform to traditionalistic ideals. If the female is born first then it would be the first time a potential Queen would be able to take her rightful place to the throne.

In 2012 there are many people around the world who would love to see history be made if a female is born first. It would display how even the royals are developing modern ideals on the subject of women. Until then, the world must patiently wait for Kate and William's posterity to take the throne.

As Canadians it will be interesting to follow Kate during her nine month journey to motherhood. Our nation has such close ties to Britain it is as if the pregnancy is "family" news. We cannot wait to welcome the newest member(s) of our family!



## EMPTY POCKETS AND SILENT HALLWAYS

BY: DUNCAN GILFILLAN

"Every day that this thing continues we don't think it's good for the game." That is a quote from former NHLPA (National Hockey League Player's Associations) executive Bob Goodenow commenting on the current status of the NHL Lockout. Everyone, including owners and players, keep addressing the fact that it will not only affect their career, but also the game as a whole. My question is: what about everyone else?

Greg Kimmerly, 'former' NHL Referee has been 'out of business' ever since the NHL lockout has begun. The league has not compensated him. He has no source of income. What is he supposed to do? Arena staff, team medical staff, team advertisement companies etc - they are all out of business. What about

the fans? And what about the kids whose parents let them stay up extra late on school nights to watch the last few minutes of overtime?

Even the great Wayne Gretzky was quoted by saying, "At the end of the day everybody [loses]. We [have] almost crippled our industry. It [is] very disappointing [this is happening]."

Everyone has focused on is the monetary loss for the players, or the frustration of the owners. No one seems to be addressing the fact that the game is about more than just salaries. This game supports many peoples occupation, and is a game that gives kids something to talk about in the hallways that seem to be, a little more silent these days.

# STAND UP TO BULLYING!

BY: GABI SANDLER

*64 percent of kids have been bullied at school.*

*72 percent of kids have observed bullying at school at least once in a while.*

*13 percent of students bully other students regularly.*

These are statistics that no one wants to hear. No parent wants their child to be bullied, no teacher wants to have to witness bullying, and no child wants to be bullied. This year, Crestwood participated in National Bullying Week to bring such a prominent issue into focus. The Female Peer Leadership Program brought together the senior girls and the junior girls, along with supervisors, Ms. Newton and Ms. Sawka to plan a fun and hard-hitting week for the Crestwood Community. Each mentor group was given an assignment for the week and all together the efforts created a memorable initiative.

Throughout the week, regular Facebook and Twitter posts were sent out shedding light on statistics and quotes, and reporting on Crestwood's own advocacy. Cyber-bullying has become one of the more common forms of bullying and occurs far too often. It was great to use social media for social awareness and fight back against cyber-bullying! The community also put graffiti to good use. A banner was hung up near the cafeteria and students and teachers were encouraged to sign the banner as a sign of their dedication to end bullying. Wednesday was the day that Crestwood's voices were



heard! During Town Hall, one mentor group showed a video of what bullying means to the Crestwood community and gave different opinions from students and teachers in all grades. Another mentor group went down to the Lower School to give a presentation on the effects of bullying and how bullying can be prevented even at a younger age.

Thursday spoke to people's stomachs! A pink-and-purple-bake-sale was a great way to get the anti-bullying message across while raising money for charity... and feed a few stomachs, too! Everyone's favourite cookies and cakes were coloured with food-colouring and sprinkled with the official anti-bullying colours.



But the colours did not end there. Friday was the annual pink and purple grub day. Each student paid \$2 to wear pink and purple for anti-bullying and anti-homophobia. Walking down the halls, there was pink upon purple upon pink upon purple. It was fantastic to see everyone participate and see the united front against such a major issue today.

Thanks to the Female Peer Leadership Program for such a great week. But remember, anti-bullying does not stop here. We must all come together and STAND UP TO BULLYING!

# MANTI T'EO: A TRUE LEADER

BY: JACOB HAMBLIN

Manti T'eo is larger than life. A star linebacker for the University of Notre Dame, and a surefire top 10 pick in the 2013 NFL draft, Manti is a star on the field, but he shines even brighter off of it. T'eo, a member of the LDS Church, was named after a warrior in the Book of Mormon. He has been more than a warrior this year. Earlier this year, Manti lost his grandmother and his girlfriend on the same day. Neither were shocking as his grandmother died of natural causes, and his girlfriend died of leukemia, but these losses were not any less painful. His girlfriend, Lennay, had been in the hospital for awhile recovering from life-threatening injuries sustained in a car crash, and during her recovery the doctors discovered she had leukemia. T'eo had made a habit of talking to her on the phone until he fell asleep every night, and her family said that even while she was in a coma the sound of Manti's voice made her breathing rate increase.

T'eo is the most recognizable student on campus and he greets everyone from cooks, to dorm mates by name.

"You never know what kind of impact you can have on someone," he says, "by just saying hello." T'eo is a friend to all; he regularly finds people who are sitting, or eating alone and befriends them. After the tragedies T'eo suffered, the students showed their support for T'eo on September 12, when they donned tens of thousands of leis for the Notre Dame vs. Michigan State game. T'eo rewarded them with the Most Valuable Player performance and another win.

When T'eo came to Notre Dame from Hawaii the team comradery was very low, but T'eo soon changed that with his contagious smile and positive outlook. T'eo and his former Punahou high school (now current Notre Dame) teammate Robby Toma regularly host team dinners at their apartment and have encouraged everyone to call each other *uce*, Samoan slang for "bro."



You cannot forget the impact T'eo has on the field too. Using elite instincts, and a high football IQ, T'eo has led Notre Dame to their first National Championship Game appearance since 1988. T'eo finished second in the Heisman Trophy voting this past week - the Heisman is the player of the year award in college football - and won multiple other awards. T'eo has led Notre Dame to come from behind wins and tough, grind it out victories. This magical season all started when T'eo decided to return for his senior season. He says he saw the emotions and experience that the senior players had on senior day and wanted to experience that with his parents.



On top of all that, T'eo will graduate this month with a 3.3 GPA. He has lofty goals for after football, too. He plans to return home to Hawaii and start a foundation to provide athletic opportunities for kids. T'eo represents all the good in college football, and is a shining example of the impact a prominent

figure with good character can have on a team and community. T'eo has united Notre Dame Football and its fans again, and has them on the brink of a National Title. Even if Notre Dame does not win the title, T'eo has changed the culture of the program and won countless people's hearts.

## GRADE 12 INTRAGRADE DEBATES

BY: MR. JESSE SCOTT

Recently, the top debaters from Crestwood's Grade 12 English classes competed to see who would take the crown as this year's Intragrade Debating Champions. All of the students who participated in the playoffs performed admirably, and their efforts have made this year's tournament one of the best competitions in recent memory.

In the first semi-final, the government team of Jennifer Freedman and Stephanie Tanz looked to defend the resolution "Justin Trudeau is too young to run for the Liberal leadership" against an opposition side represented by Benji Baker and Eric Cravit. The government made a valiant effort to poke holes in Mr. Trudeau's legislative record, pointing out that despite his national celebrity status, Trudeau's list of accomplishments while a Member of Parliament are rather thin. Ultimately, however, these efforts proved to be in vain. By successfully demonstrating that many famous leaders from the past have been successful at a young age, and that age in of itself does not pave the road to success in governance, the opposition was able to defeat the resolution, and secure a place in the finals.

In the second semi-final, the government, represented by Lisette Weinstein and Katherine Charness, attempted to defend the resolution "the Liberal Party is a dying institution" against the opposition team of Gabi Sandler and Julie Cho. Led by a fantastic opening performance by Miss Charness, who made a convincing case that both history and recent electoral/demographic patterns are currently working against the Liberal party, the government got out to an early lead in the debate. The opposition responded with a series of thoughtful rebuttals, but ultimately the government team held its ground, relying on the consistency and thoroughness of their arguments to defend the resolution.

And then there were four. In the finals, Team Baker/Cravit attempted to defend the rather fitting resolution "Grade 12 English Should Not be Compulsory" against Team Charness/Weinstein. The finals were an even more heated affair than the semi-finals, given that both teams represented one of Ms. Bryant's English



classes – a classic Bryant vs. Bryant final! The government team made a number of effective arguments to open the debate, pointing out that English skills can be learned in many different courses, and that the specific knowledge taken from English classes is often very quickly forgotten. Mr. Cravit even made the bold move of questioning the importance of knowing what happens in the novel *The Great Gatsby*, much to the chagrin of all the English teachers in the room! However, both Miss Weinstein and Miss Charness remained cool under pressure, and responded by pointing out that even if the specific knowledge taken from English classes is often quickly forgotten, the reading, writing, and speaking skills students develop in an English classroom are quite invaluable. After conferring at the end of the debate, Judges Sawka, Aalto, and Scott all agreed that the opposition had done enough to defeat the government's resolution and emerge victorious in the debate.



# THE GREAT TWENTIETH CENTURY NOVEL

BY: MS. NICOLE BRYANT

In 1919, Arnold Rothstein, a notorious New York gambler, helped fix the World Series which pitted the Chicago White Sox against the Cincinnati Reds. A few months later, the Eighteenth Amendment went into effect and the United States found itself dried up, as alcohol became illegal. (Of course, speakeasies began popping up to guarantee that clientele looking for a good time was still able to be served – at an increased cost.) The stock market during this time ensured that pocketbooks were lined with wealth, and many believed that the Dow Jones Industrial Average would rise indefinitely. The Roaring Twenties presented a fruitful junction for art -- and was when one of the finest writers of the twentieth century wrote his quintessential work.

F. Scott Fitzgerald's relationship with his wife and the lifestyle she spearheaded was fairly tumultuous, being well-documented in his short stories and novels. The Great Gatsby is no exception, as seen in the novel's dedication, "Once more, to Zelda." Fitzgerald's adoration for his wife bordered obsession, and he would do anything, or be anything for her. Ernest Hemingway once suggested that Fitzgerald's talent was wasted on his wife, who demanded that she and her husband maintain a particular lifestyle. They were members of The Lost Generation – a group who came of age shortly following World War I, and who found themselves thrust into the literary limelight. It was Fitzgerald's conflicted feelings that he had for the gauche parties he and his wife attended -- as reflected by our narrator, Nick Carraway, of the novel we are currently discussing – that characterized his writing.



The novel takes place on Long Island in New York during the early 1920s. Jay Gatsby, a social enigma who throws lavish parties for attendees who barely know him, attempts to recreate a past with a his former love, a now-married woman named Daisy Buchanon. In attempting to recapture her favour, he accumulates wealth and possessions, creating his own American Dream.



The labyrinthine descriptions employed by Fitzgerald develop the narrative's potency, pulling the reader into the parties, putting them face to face with each character he introduces and turning the clock back to the summer of 1922. His elegant, almost dance-like, symbolic and deep prose is a wonder to experience: "There was music from my neighbor's house through the summer nights. In his blue gardens men and girls came and went like moths among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars."

The novel is an experience, driving towards the inevitable tragedy. While only a hundred some-odd pages, the novel is a brief, but sweeping recollection of all New York had to offer to its patrons during the Jazz Era, and exhibits the questionable behaviours of its inhabitants. The commentary Fitzgerald provides is reflective of the loose morality of those with whom he surrounded himself: including his wife.

In spite of its force, the text was not heralded as a Great American Novel until after Fitzgerald's death in December of 1940. But, alas, it is exactly that: a classic novel of American literature which exemplifies the beauty of writing and just what can be done when pen is put to paper. Spending two autumn months with the novel is considerably the highlight of my teaching year, and I can only hope that my enthusiasm for Fitzgerald's prose has left a mark on my English 11 students. If not...I will always have next year.

# MUSIC NIGHT

## PHOTO GALLERY



# A VIEW FROM BEHIND THE GLASS



BY: MR. CHRIS JULL

On Thursday, December 6, the three Crestwood Curling teams travelled to the Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club to compete in the season-opening CISAA Curling Funspiel. Twelve teams from across the CIS and beyond played two games, competed in a skills competition, and enjoyed each other's company in a fun way to begin the curling action for the year.

The Mixed team, skipped by Ethan Alter, won their first game 4-2 over Havergal College before losing to the eventual champions from St. Andrew's College for a ninth-place finish.

The Boys team, skipped by Justin Shouldice, played two close games, losing 4-3 against the York School Boys team before defeating Havergal 5-3 for a sixth place finish overall.

Our Girls team, skipped by Jessie Cooke, who are defending CISAA Girls Curling champions, rolled over the York School Mixed team 8-1 before overcoming Havergal's top team in a tense 5-3 contest for a third-place finish.

Coaches Jull, Hawkins, and McFarlane are very pleased with the conduct and results from all teams!



## Want to write for The Crestword?

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