



From Hip Hop to Classical at Spring Concert

By Tina Mancini

Kells Elementary and High school students came together to explore the theme of love through song, music, and movement. Together, students embraced the theme while exploring love in friendship, love of self, love in choosing peace versus war, and an overall celebration and response to our show's title: "Where is the Love?"

The show took place at Oscar Peterson Hall and as each child performed, they filled the room with a profound energy that left us all very moved. They worked hard throughout the year to prepare for this big event, and their performance left parents, teachers, and themselves very proud.





Mr. Kennedy's passion for music truly shone through the students as they sang and played music with love and devotion. Even the show's preparation was truly a work of love, as students, teachers, support staff, and of course, Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Perlman, collaborated together to make the evening a special one.



The concert proved to be a showcase for the diverse cultural makeup of Kells Academy student body. Ranging from hip hop to classical, musical performances were sung in English, French, and Mandarin.

Truly a remarkable experience for everyone, we thank the students for making the process one of love and we congratulate them on their exceptional talents, professionalism, and brilliant performances.



As we continue onwards following the show, let us keep their song in our hearts: "What the World Needs Now is Love Sweet Love." What an amazing experience it was to come together and share this message!

Bravo to the Kells' Cast and Crew!



It's a Small World at Kells

By Emily Marosi

It was a feast for the senses for all who were fortunate to experience International Day. Upon entering the elementary school, guests could feel the excitement of the children dressed in their country's traditional clothing and smells of delicious international cuisine drifted through the corridors.



With such a diverse student body at Kells Academy, proudly representing over 45 countries, it felt like a world tour taking in the rich displays from around the globe. Students showcased incredible projects educating the audience on their countries and offering a taste of the cuisine from their homeland.



It was a family affair. Together, parents and children prepared food from their heritage. Siblings from Spain cooked a large pan of Paella and explained the delicacy of socarrat, the layer of toasted rice at the bottom of the pan, as they enthusiastically served samplings to their guests.

For another project, three generations from Armenia made traditional tabbouleh and baklava, delighting their company with their delicious treats from home.

Grade six students were tasked with choosing a social issue in their country and using their problem solving skills to find a solution. Two students examined the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and came up with a positive solution for peace. They proposed that children from Palestine and Israel participate in sports and activities together. This contact and team work at a young age would foster friendships that would maintain peace and allow them to be amicable as adults.

Students and their families alike were proud to celebrate the diversity of Kells and it was a wonderful day for all!



High School International Day

By Nicoleta Ungureanu

With 38 countries represented at International Day this year, an old tradition at Kells was revived.

International day is one way of celebrating multiculturalism, which has always been an important feature of the Kells' community. Students from various countries of origin participated by bringing artifacts, wearing their national dress, and by sharing their traditional food.

The event took place on April 26th with rooms on the third and fourth floors representing Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, North America, and South America.

Students and teachers went around the different rooms and shared traditional food, music, and interesting facts of the countries represented. Flags of various countries and I-pad presentations reflecting the countries' touristic attractions, famous citizens, and distinct traditions filled the rooms with an air of understanding, appreciation, and fun.

The new attraction this year was a dance competition. Students representing the Middle East, Italy, and Canada showed off traditional dances from their countries of origin.

Pizza lunch and a free dress day were offered to all participants. Gift cards were awarded to the dance competitors.

A big thank you goes to all participants and to their parents who generously contributed to the success of a special day to remember at Kells.



Science Fair

By Raffaaf Ghanem

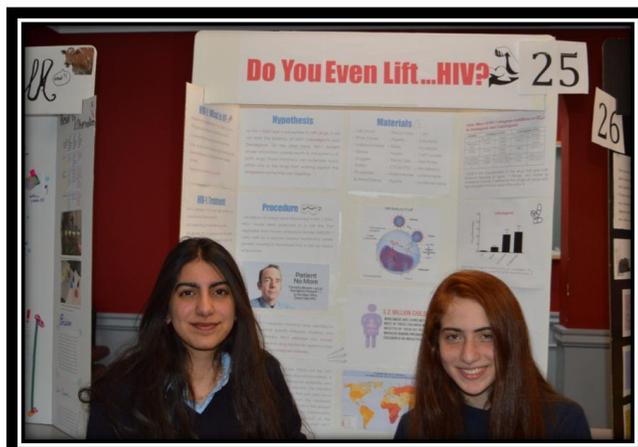
It was an engaging and fascinating experience for all the Science students who participated in the Kells' annual Science fair. Classes started working on their design / experimentation projects early in September. Projects varied from medical research to designing calculators and building solar ovens and phone chargers. Students showcased many interesting and innovative ideas related to Science. Many projects were linked to their everyday life experiences of music, gardening, computer animation, growing crystals, and chromatography.

The top projects from each class qualified to participate in this school event. There were 29 projects divided over three categories: junior, intermediate and senior. The top three projects in each category were presented with trophies at the end of March; eight of these winning projects will represent the school in the Hydro Quebec-Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair at Concordia University. The Science fair was extremely successful. Thank you to all the young scientists and their supportive teachers, who worked together towards deeper knowledge and engagement in Science.

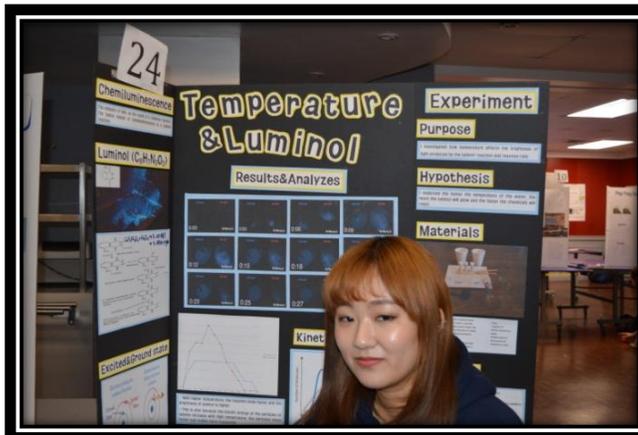
We are pleased to announce that Ms. Ghanem has taken the position as the chair of the Scientific Review Committee (SRC), which is responsible for reviewing the top projects in the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair (MRSTF) and choosing those that qualify to participate in the Intel-International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) that is held annually in the USA.

This year ISEF will take place in LA between the 14th and the 19th of May. Three projects were selected to go to ISEF this year. Congratulations to Ms. Ghanem on this impressive new position!

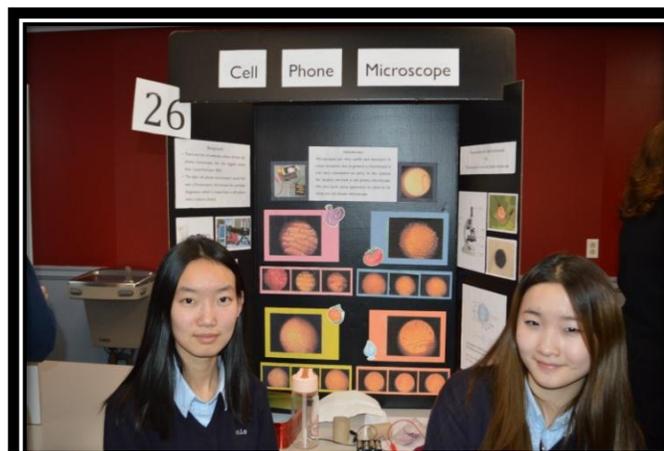
Senior Category



1st Place: Layan Ziad & Haya El Madhoun

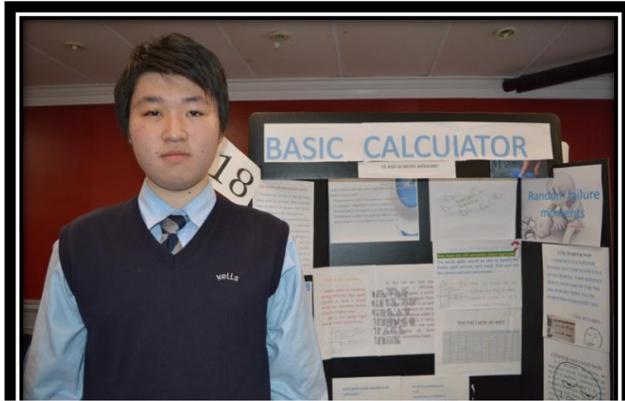


2nd Place: Myeongjo Ham



3rd Place: Shangyi Gao & Leslie Tao

Intermediate Category



1st Place: Howard Qin



2nd Place: Amine Abdenadher & Omar Abdullah

Junior Category



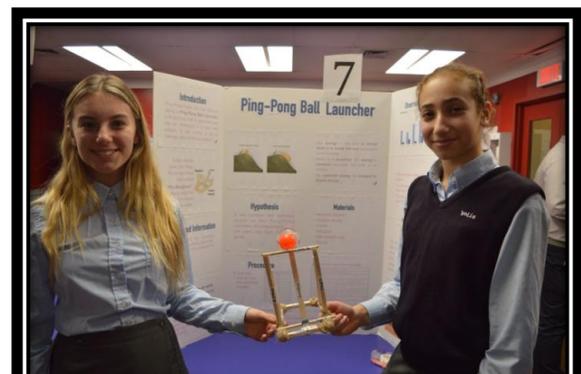
1st Place: Christina Demyttenaere



2nd Place: Chi-Chun (Arthur) Huang



3rd Place: Mohammed Labib & Joudi Al Ghreiwati



3rd Place: Ella Zednik & Jana El Madhoun

Invention Convention

Exploration Fair at Elementary

By Marla Perlman

The elementary school hosted a unique educational event where students exhibited individual, group, or class projects relating to the different elements of the curriculum they explored.

Parents and guests were impressed with our upper level Science Fair. Students followed the scientific method to test their hypotheses, and showed their results with models and demonstrations as well as poster displays. Projects included research on hydroponics, the effects of music on memory, electricity created by a diablo, a taste test to determine the incidence of discerning between milk fat levels to name a few.

The Cycle 2 student Invention Convention featured students' models for their own innovative inventions and research projects on famous inventors. Students provided demonstrations as well as the rationale for the necessity of their inventions. Amazing projects included: solar powered boots to keep your feet warm in winter, an incredible LEGO piece sorter, an idea for a light-up dog collar, a school uniform robot, a recycling robot, a lollipop holder, and a time machine.



With a focus on history, one classroom was transformed into an Iroquois village from the 1500s. A canoe ride on the banks of the St. Lawrence River led guests to the longhouse.

Students were excellent hosts and gave tours explaining the interior of the longhouse. They displayed their individually made models of longhouses which formed an Iroquois village, artifacts, and weapons. Sitting around a makeshift campfire, students practiced storytelling by reading the Iroquois creation story and taking on the role of a child at that time by explaining the traditional daily activities.

Our kindergarten and grade one students turned thespians as they performed a Readers' Theatre production of the Jan Brett children's book, "The Hat". After practicing performances for other classes, they took to the stage during the Exploration Fair with confidence and delighted their audience.



Kells Works Together To Make a Difference

By Marla Perlman

The Elementary Spirit Committee has spearheaded several WE Movement campaigns including WE Take Charge, WE Scare Hunger, WE Stand Together and WE Bake for Change. We participated in WE Take Charge early in the year by challenging classes to increase their environmental awareness and reduce waste. We scared hunger by holding a food drive and partnering with Gabriel Ford to deliver our boxes of non-perishable food items to the N.D.G. Food Depot. We Stand Together involves bringing awareness of Aboriginal culture and issues to our students. We welcomed throat singers Evie Marks and Panjungie Nutaraaluk who spoke about a traditional upbringing in Inuvik and gave us a beautiful demonstration of throat singing. Students decorated 392 muffins and cupcakes for our WE Movement We Bake For Change bake sale.



As a result of their strong and active participation in WE Movement campaigns, the Spirit Committee was invited to attend WE Day on February 24th, 2017. Students were inspired by a day of motivational speeches by change makers of all ages and performances by several bands at Theatre St. Denis. Highlights of the day included a speech by actress and activist Mia Farrow about her peace keeping work in Darfur, and an appearance by Craig Kielburger, who founded WE Movement (formerly known as Free The Children) at the age of 12. We are proud of our students' desire to continue to make local and global change.



Admirable Achievements in High School

Recognizing Honour Roll Recipients

By Bob Alexander

A special assembly took place to celebrate the students who achieved first-class grades in term 2. Honour Roll certificates were awarded to all of our Kells students who earned an overall average of 85% or higher. It is certainly an impressive accomplishment that twenty-one students earned places on the school's current Honour Roll.

Members of the Honour Roll Winter 2017:

Grade 7

Lucas Joseph Pepe
Arthur Tran
Haozhang Li

Grade 9

Omar Abdullah
Vincent Joly
Yaxjuan Deng
Deborah Andriantseheno
Alexander Shi

Grade 10

Han Duong Gia Ngyuen
Muhammad Nishat
Yintong Zhang
Wenpei Jia
Huixin Yang
Haoran Qin

Grade 11

Myeongjo Ham
Shangyi Gao
Nada Khalil
Omar El Kholy
Haya El Madhoun
Xiang Li
Asma Trabelsi



We congratulate all of the hardworking students and encourage everyone to strive for academic excellence during the final term of this school year.

Kells Welcomes Dorothy Yeats



An Olympian Visit

By Marla Perlman

Montreal born, Dorothy Yeats was already an accomplished athlete when she was officially named to Canada's Olympic team in 2016. In the sport of wrestling, she won gold at the Youth Olympic Games in 2010, and went on to win two consecutive Junior World titles, the World University Championships, the UWW Senior World Championships and the Commonwealth Games. Ms. Yeats engaged our students by speaking about the road to the Olympics, her training process and the experience of representing Canada at the Rio Olympics in 2016.

Volunteering for PBS

STUCO Heads to Plattsburgh

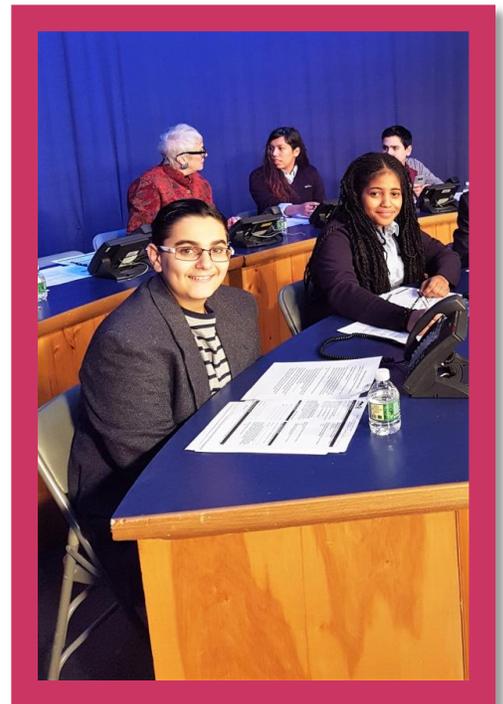
In tune with our strong belief in philanthropy, Kells' students were proud to answer phones for the Mountain Lake PBS station. With the goal to raise funds for this phenomenal network, members of our Student Council, accompanied by Ms. Rubenovitch and Ms. Blain, experienced an exciting day in Plattsburgh, New York.

Fascinated by the station, our students were eager to participate in this important event. Upon arrival, they were put to work answering phones and taking pledges for the PBS station. The students received a script and instructions on what to say when answering the phones and how to take a pledge. The special feature that was playing that evening was a documentary called: **Montréal: Mon Amour, Mon Histoire**. It was very interesting to see the inner workings of a live show and although the students were nervous at first, they quickly warmed up to the camera and did a great job!

They were treated to a New York pizza dinner for all their hard work answering the phones and were delighted to be part of this special event at PBS.



By Kimberly Blain



Athletics: New Swim Team

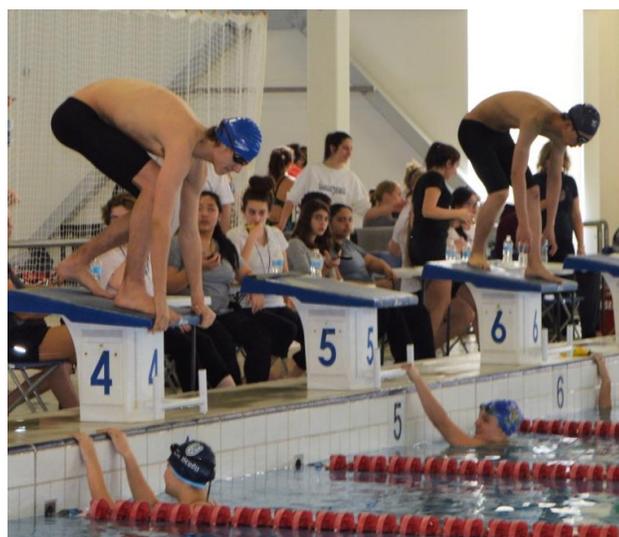
It's a Splash at Kells

By Emily Marosi

Kells is so pleased with the new addition of a swim team to our impressive list of athletics. Our Physical Education coach, Jamie Bolduc, recognized the need for the school to offer some individual competitive sports since most options available to students were team sports.

I had the opportunity to speak with a few students about their experience on the swim team this year. Mohamed Abdenadher eagerly expressed how much fun it has been to be on the first ever Kells swim team and be part of the school's history. He has appreciated that they come together as a small team and has found it exciting to watch his teammate's races. Competing with six swimmers, Kells is the smallest out of all the swim teams in Montreal, yet they boast many amazing race times. Austin Unruh had an amazing time on the swim team this season. He liked being part of a small team who support each other in their races. Excelling at the butterfly stroke, Austin participated in many races and has improved his time dramatically since the beginning of the season.

The swim team has generated a lot of interest amongst the student body and they had a great first year in the pool!



A Visit to an Authentic Quebec Sugar Shack

By Christine Mazzamauro



It was a lovely spring day for students to enjoy a traditional experience at Sucrerie de la Montagne in Rigaud. Following a horse-drawn wagon ride, students visited the Sucrerie's bakery and learned how bread was made. A sugaring off feast was next on the agenda, along with live traditional French-Canadian folk music and dancing in the dining hall. Next, students learned about how maple sap is transformed into syrup using a wood-fired evaporator. Students ended their visit with a sweet taste of maple taffy on snow and a walk through the maple tree forest trail.



High School Winter Day

By Jamie Bolduc



Students and teachers were eager to hit the slopes for our annual winter day. They headed either to Mont St. Sauveur or Pays d'en Haut for a fun-filled day of skiing, snowboarding, or tubing. For many students, this was an opportunity to try these winter activities for the very first time, and many took lessons to learn the basic techniques. The ski/snowboard instructors were really patient and quite helpful and by the end of the day, many students were already making their way down the mountain.

Another popular option for many students was tubing at Pays d'en Haut, where they really had to hold on tight as they rushed down the mountain in tubes rafts or bobsleds. It was such a rush and a laugh seeing everyone screaming down the hill. For some of our international students, this was their first experience tubing. Overall, all students and staff had a great time enjoying the fresh snow, and when it got too cold they gathered together in the chalet to enjoy some hot chocolate.



From the first time tubers to the advanced skiers, a good time was had by all on a beautiful winter day!



Flying High in Science



A Visit from an Alumnus

By Emily Marosi

It is always a pleasure when past students walk through our doors to pay us a visit! Such was the case when Han Wook Wi from Seoul, South Korea came by the school and updated us on the latest successes of his educational path.

Han attended Kells for Grades 10 and 11 and graduated in June 2015. He has very fond memories of his time at our school. He especially enjoyed the internationalism and having friends from around the world. His best memories from Kells were when he played on the Soccer team. The teacher that inspired him the most was his Science teacher, Ms. Ghanem. She taught him for two years in Chemistry, Physics, and General Science. Han claims that Ms. Ghanem pushed his limits and he worked hard in her class to succeed. He is very grateful for this because he and his classmates who went on to take Sciences at Cegep achieved top-notch marks.

Han attended Dawson College in the Computer Science and Math Program. He graduated in May 2017 with an 87% average. For University, he will be going to the University of Pennsylvania in Computer Science/Programming.

One of Han's highlights at Kells was the Science Fair that he participated in. He did a project on proving the effects of Aspirin. For this project, he did his own research in Chemistry. As a result, Han developed a great interest in this area and in the future, he hopes to be a researcher in the Pharmaceutical Industry. We look forward to hearing all about his discoveries in research and wish Han all the best in his future endeavors.

A Meeting of the Minds in PEI

Kells Academy was invited to present at a UDL (Universal Design for Learning) conference in May this year. Teachers Raffaaf Ghanem and Cassandra Fischer shared with their audience their expertise in helping students access the curriculum by using digital technology in the classroom. In this hands-on session, teachers learned how students can overcome challenges to learning by using their own electronic devices. They explained that at Kells we take full advantage of the fact that students these days are avid technology users and are empowered when given choices in accessing the curriculum.

This was the second presentation for Ms. Ghanem and Fischer; two years ago they presented at McGill where the focus was on the teacher use of technology in the UDL classroom. Once more, the audience felt that this was a worthwhile presentation with many commenting that they were excited to bring their newfound strategies to their classrooms. One of the attendees, a professor who teaches at the University of PEI, commented that for him this was more like a look at the future rather than the present.

We are proud to say that at Kells it is the present. Congratulations to Ms. Ghanem and Ms. Fischer!



Raffaaf Ghanem and Cassandra Fischer with McGill's Frederic Fovet, a leading researcher in the field of UDL.

Making a Difference in NDG

By Emily Marosi

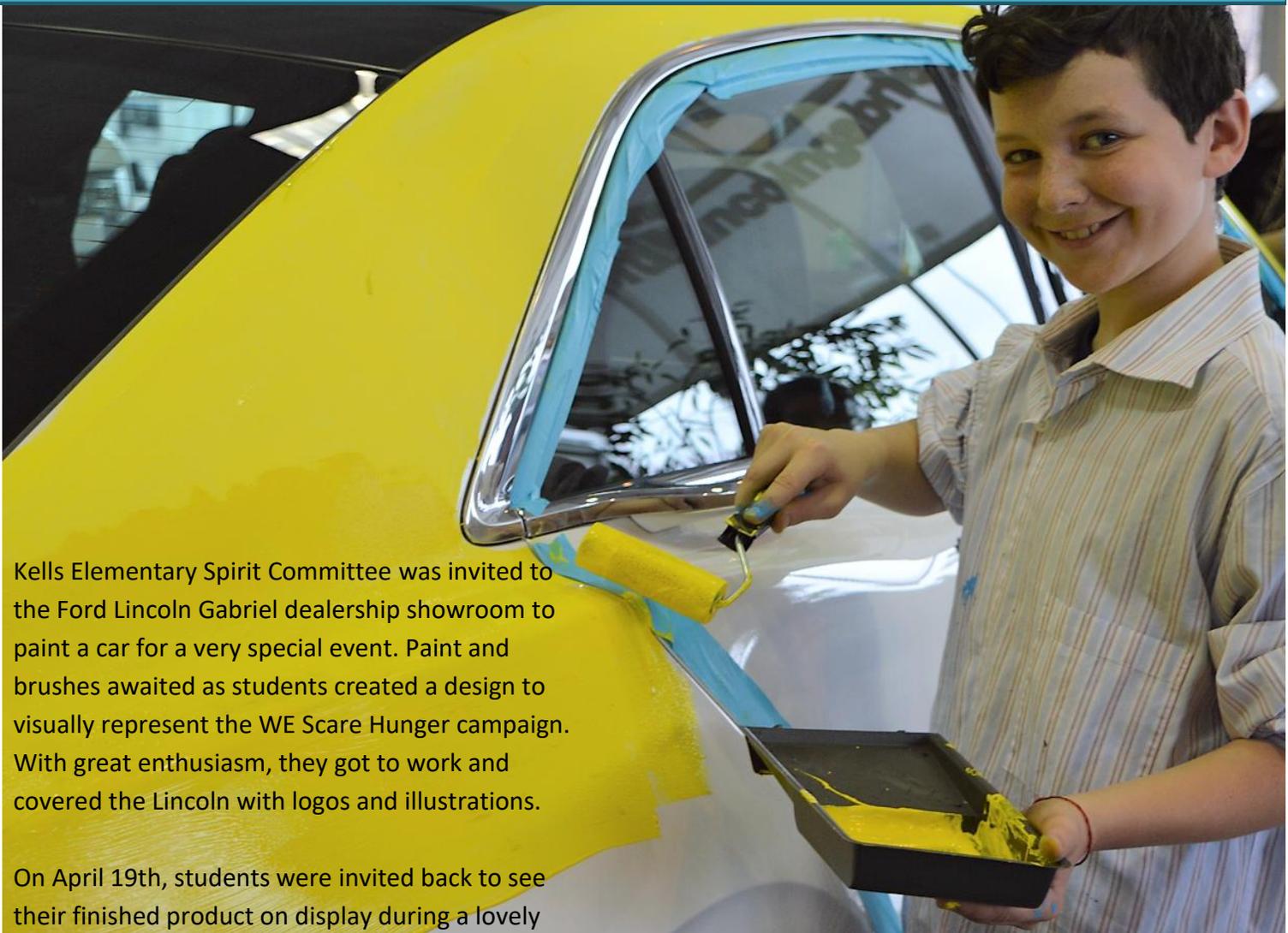
Kells was ecstatic when Bonnie Soutar, a director from NDG Food Depot, informed us that we have been chosen to receive an Outstanding Contribution Award. Our school and the eager students have made several collections of food for the NDG Food Depot.

For nearly 30 years, the NDG food depot has been a collaborative community leader in food security serving a large territory around NDG. Kells students have enthusiastically collected food to help people from our community who are less fortunate.

Bonnie Soutar beamed with appreciation when she notified us of our honorable award. "The large amount of food that Kells has collected made a big difference to the many families that need to receive our emergency food baskets, and we could not have accomplished as much without your generous contributions!"

Needless to say, we are extremely proud of our students for their dedication to help those in need and for supporting such an important organization in our community.

DÉPÔT ALIMENTAIRE NDG



Kells Elementary Spirit Committee was invited to the Ford Lincoln Gabriel dealership showroom to paint a car for a very special event. Paint and brushes awaited as students created a design to visually represent the WE Scare Hunger campaign. With great enthusiasm, they got to work and covered the Lincoln with logos and illustrations.

On April 19th, students were invited back to see their finished product on display during a lovely brunch in celebration of the success of the dealership's contribution to the WE Movement and partnership with youth. Mark Buzzell, President of Ford Canada, congratulated our students for their strong efforts.

The Spirit Committee was especially excited to have the opportunity to meet activist Marc Kielburger, co-founder of WE Charity, whose inspiring words of appreciation for "Living WE" will have a lasting impact. After receiving gifts of Rafiki bracelets from Mr. Kielburger, Ford Lincoln Gabriel staff surprised our students with the appearance of an ice cream truck to end a very special morning.



The Canadian Team Mathematics Contest, at Saint Georges School, was a challenging and exciting event.

Six Kells Academy students participated in this prestigious event and they were put to work to solve exigent Mathematics problems. Activities included individual exercises and team work. Our students had a chance to test their skills and meet students from other schools. In some of the activities, mixed groups were created to combine students from different grade levels and from different schools.

The main focus of this event was oriented towards celebrating mathematics and the improvement of skills. It was a great learning opportunity for our students and we plan to participate again next year.



Exploring our Capital City

By Melissa Monaco

It was a memorable class trip for our grade nine students who had the opportunity to discover the captivating sites of Ottawa.

The tour began with an engaging visit to the Canadian War Museum, The Mint, and the Museum of History. We then set off on a guided tour to discover our nation's capital. Students were fascinated to see Parliament, the home of our PM Justin Trudeau, the Rideau Canal, and the Byward Market. The finale of the trip was a remarkable IMAX presentation on Wild Africa.

The students were fascinated by the attractive sites of Ottawa. We learned a great deal about the history of the capital city and about Canadian history. Overall, the field trip was very motivating and enjoyable!



An Unforgettable Ski Trip



Kells Hits the Slopes at Mont Sainte-Anne

By Kimberly Blain

The very first overnight ski trip was a magnificent excursion for students and staff who chose to participate. The destination was Mont Sainte-Anne in Québec and the itinerary included three fun-filled days of skiing and snowboarding.

The trip was offered to all grade levels and all skier/snowboarder levels as 3 hours of lessons were included in the package for beginners. The hotel, Chateau Mont St-Anne, was located right at the base of the mountain which made the slopes easily accessible and helped maximize ski time. The students experienced rather different conditions for all three days as the weather changed from mild and rainy to a whiteout blizzard on the second day to finally a sunny but cold last morning.

When the students weren't skiing, they were able to enjoy the hotel's other amenities such as the pool, hot tub, game room, and cinema room. This little adventure was a great way to start off March break for both students and teachers!

Elementary Students visit the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

On a recent trip to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, students in Grades 3 and 4 participated in a special workshop about Picasso and his work. Using some of Picasso's techniques, students had the opportunity to create their own masterpieces. Following the workshop, students went on a guided tour of the museum.

Teachers and students really enjoyed the visit to the museum. Christine Mazzamauro who teaches grade 4 recalled, "We visited several areas of the permanent exhibit and our guide focused on discussions about Abstract Art and Impressionism."

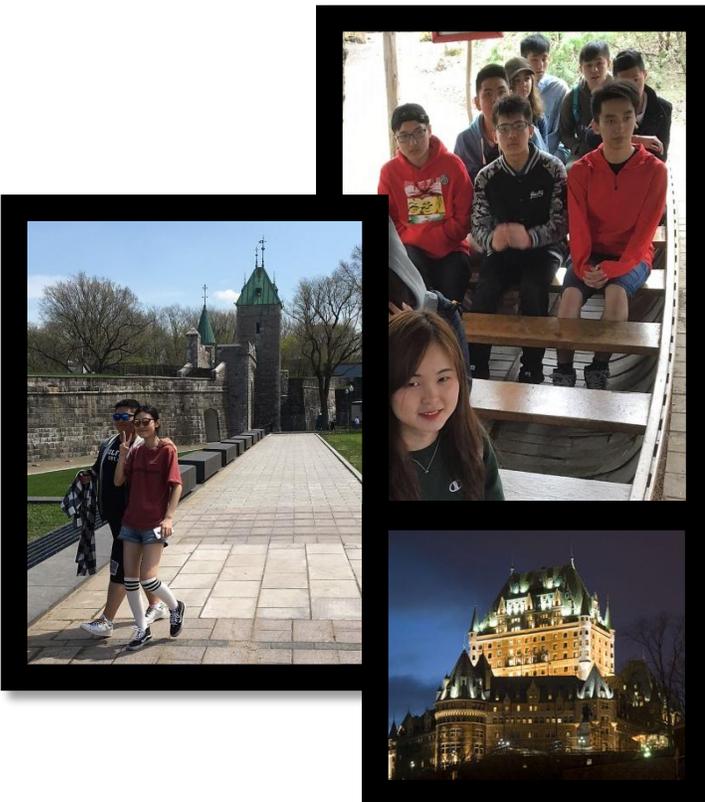
Grade 3 teacher, Kathryn Lamantia, was delighted with the Picasso workshop. "Students had the chance to explore different mediums when they created a Picasso-style work of art. They loved learning about different perspectives in art when they sketched a bust from various angles."

By Marla Perlman



Touring Historical Quebec

By Cassandra Fischer



It was a fabulous couple of days in Quebec City for Grade 10 students exploring the history of the old town.

Once in Quebec, the students were treated to a walking tour, passing the Citadel and various historical monuments. Later in the day we went to the Chutes Montmorency to view the crashing flow of the waterfall and some students chose to experience the water first hand, getting soaked by the splashes. Later that night they attended a spooky ghost tour, going over the various reenactments of executions and crimes that were committed in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The following day, we were off to visit a Huron-Wendat reserve where the students were immersed in aboriginal culture. The trip was a huge success and enjoyed by all.

Kells Arts Festival 2017

Celebration of Artistic Talent

By Emily Marosi



The debut of the Kells Arts Festival took place on April 21st and it was a blooming success! Accents of blush pink adorned the room, harmonious with the cherry blossom theme, and it was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the arts at our school.

With our rich arts program and a myriad of talented students at Kells, it was a time to honour their creativity. There were amazing live presentations by the Flex Glee Club and Flex Dance. Mohamed Labib entertained the audience with a monologue and Massimo Mazza, accompanied by Wanqing Liu, mesmerized us with his flute performance. A video was also shown highlighting various drama classes and Flex Film Production, giving us a glimpse of the budding actors at Kells. Guests and members of our school community enjoyed the incredible visual arts display, including a live installation that had the artists working on their masterpiece throughout the festival.

Poetry, Robotics, and Flex Crochet also participated in the event and gave the audience insight into the wonderful programs happening at Kells. The considerable artistic ability of our multi-talented students is impressive indeed. From the positive reaction of those in attendance, it is likely that the Arts Festival was the first of what promises to be an annual highlight at Kells.





By Ariel Keren & Guillaume Jabbour



In Glee, we focus on the vocal aspect of songs and we modify as needed so everyone can sing along no matter what their singing capabilities are. One of the aims is to help everyone get better at singing, but Glee is really about letting loose and singing your favourite songs with your friends. We usually start the period with vocal exercises and then we work on a new song arranged to suit our voices. Sometimes we are broken up into groups that match our vocal ranges, like bass, tenor and soprano. Other times, some of us keep the beat with our voices while the others sing. We are finding out that any song can be arranged and suited for a choir such as ours. Some of the songs we have worked on so far include Amazing Grace (John Newton), Champagne Supernova (Oasis), Baby Please Don't Go (Big Joe Williams), Bohemian Rhapsody (Queen), Viva La Vida (Coldplay), and the list goes on.

Please join us for our

OPEN HOUSE

October 11th, 2017.

Elementary 9:00-10:30am

Secondary School 7:00-8:30pm



EXPERIENCE BEING A 'STUDENT FOR A DAY'

We are hosting a 'student for a day' activity (by appointment). If you are looking to transfer your child from their school, this day is for you!

This is a great opportunity to see Kells in action! Spending the day as a Kells student provides a unique occasion to experience our innovative program, which is designed to enhance your child's strengths in a positive and nurturing environment.

This exciting day includes:

- A guided tour
- An experience in interesting classes
- A day to interact with Kells students and teachers
- Participation in our dynamic FLEX program
- A lunch courtesy of Kells

Come and experience being a 'student for a day' any Tuesday in October from 9am-3pm. Please call to confirm your participation 514-485-8565 or email kadmin@kells.ca

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

Kells Academy, 6865 De Maisonneuve West, Montreal, Quebec. H4B 1T1

For more information: www.kells.ca