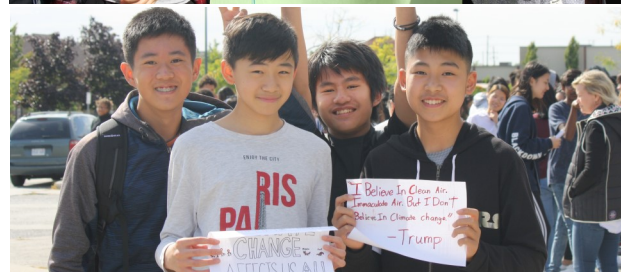
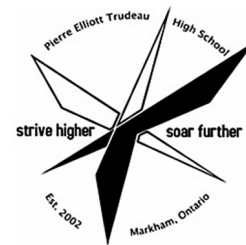




Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School

La **PIROUETTE**

October 2019



Grade nine Geography students host a half-period climate strike in order to raise awareness around climate change

## A message from our principal, Lisa Wargo...

Welcome to the fall edition of the 2019-2020 *La Pirouette* our school's newsletter highlighting the academic, extra-curricular and athletic achievements of our students. It is truly wonderful being the Principal of such an engaged and enthusiastic school community! The school year is in full swing and student spirit is high! In September, grade nine students enjoyed *Trudeaumania*, a day of team building activities at Camp Robin Hood. This is a wonderful way for students to make a positive transition to high school and begin to develop new friendships.

The students in our Developmentally Delayed and Autism classes competed in the art competition at Markham Fair and received five first place prizes! Our school athletic teams such as girls' basketball, boys' volleyball, tennis, golf, soccer and cross-country running have practiced and competed. Our music students have been working with post-secondary and industry music professionals to share their talents and refine their skills. The band will be performing at the Markham Stouffville Hospital Benefit Concert on Thursday, October 24.

As a school, we are continuing to work

on building a sense of *community* and *belonging* for all PETHS students and staff. We are also, continuing to work on our school improvement goals, which include:

- Educating staff about the impact that Anti-Black Racism has on the well-being and achievement of our students
- Helping all staff understand social identities and their impact on student learning
- Modern Learner Pilot E4ML project (STEM project - English and Science)
- Inclusive Design – Engaging Parent/Family/Elders/Community
- Foster well-being in our school community
- Building a comprehensive math program that reflect students' social identities
- Developing an understanding of our underserved and underperforming students

As parents, guardians and family members we always welcome your feedback, ideas and opinions at any time. Your

input is important to the success and happiness of our students. Please join us at our school council meetings, our next one is on Thursday, November 21 at 7:00 pm or send a quick email or give us a call.

*"...we are continuing to work on building a sense of **community** and **belonging** for all PETHS students and staff."*

This newsletter is only one of many ways that we share information. You can also find regular updates by checking our school website – [www.trudeau.hs.yrdsb.ca](http://www.trudeau.hs.yrdsb.ca), or by following us on Twitter or Instagram at @trudeauhs. Also, make sure you subscribe to our weekly E-bulletin for parents/guardians of current PETHS students. You will receive this E-bulletin on Fridays by ensuring the school has a current email on file.

Wishing everyone a great year!

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Exploring the World of Work

By: Leah Butler

This semester we have co-op students with a wide variety of interests that span across various industries and sectors. Each student is test driving a career that they are considering in the future such as engineering, social work, marketing, photography, machine maintenance, law, auto repair and retail. Having this vast array of work experiences in one classroom makes for enriching peer discussions when students return from work during our in-school days. We look forward to seeing students grow and shine in their element out in the real world!

We also have four High Performance Athletes (HPA) utilizing the benefits of this program to successfully balance their intensive training schedules and provincial or national competitions with their school and personal life. Wheth-

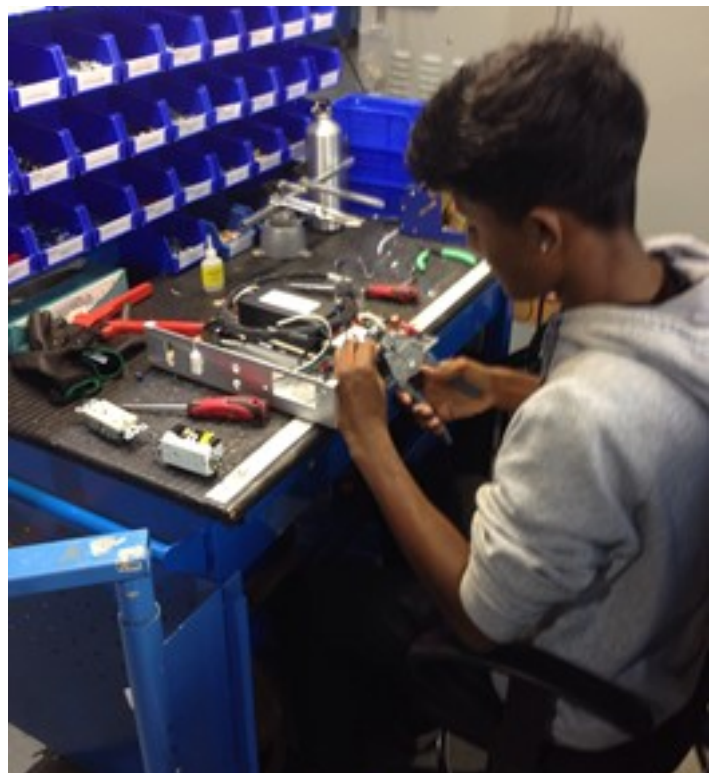
er it be figure skating, badminton or soccer, these are dedicated athletes excelling in their sports!

**Do you work in Markham or the surrounding area? Would you consider hosting a co-op student at your place of work?** The co-op department is always looking for new community partners to act as hosts to our students. Some of our Trudeau parents continue to offer enriching work experience opportunities at their local businesses. Recently, we have had student requests in the area of **computer software & computer programing**. If you might be interested in hosting a co-op student at your place of work or have a contact in Markham or the surrounding area, we welcome you to contact the co-op department.

To learn more about how you can share your expertise to ignite interest in a student in your field of work, please speak with a co-op teacher. Feel free to contact us at (905) 887 - 2216 ext. 371 or by email at [leah.butler@yrdsb.ca](mailto:leah.butler@yrdsb.ca) . We look forward to hearing from you!



Devonte guides students through the Zones (recognition of emotions) workshop at Ashton Meadows Public School.



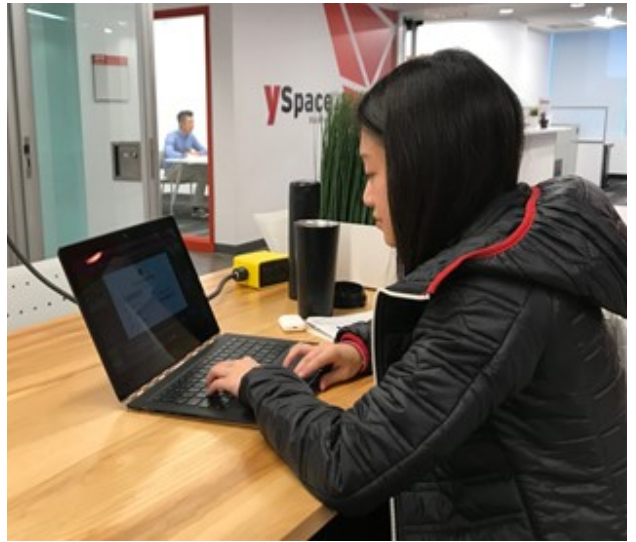
Renojan solders an electrical control board for traffic lights at Econolite.



## DEPARTMENT NEWS



High performance athletes Kayleigh Cheung (left) and Rachel Chan (right) are able to count training as high school credits by taking part in the HPA Co-op program.



Serena is accumulating Co-op credits at YSPACE. Here she is posting upcoming events to social media accounts.

*Learning is experience.  
Everything else is just information.*

-- Albert Einstein



### Time for Business!

By: Amul Gandhi

The business department is excited for another great year ahead! This semester, we would like to welcome Ms. Afshari who is teaching Grade 10 Introduction to Business course.

Upcoming in our courses this semester, the Grade 10 business courses will be visiting Yorkdale Mall to explore marketing activities and complete a scavenger hunt. Through the Business Specialized High Skills Major (SHSM) program the students will have opportunities throughout the year to gain skills and certifications in customer service, leadership and networking through experiential learning opportunities.

Students also have the opportunity to enrich their learning in business studies by being part of the Trudeau Business community through the Trudeau Business Council. Please follow Trudeau Business on Instagram at *trudeaubusiness* to keep up to date with upcoming events and competitions that students can participate in.



Shannon fills a prescription at Shoppers Drug Mart Pharmacy.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Music at Trudeau

By: Mya Salawu

Here at Trudeau music, we have a group of wonderful and talented teachers. In addition to our faculty, we have our Music Council: a group of 32 music loving leaders who support our teachers and plan educational, yet fun events for our department.

To date, we have had our **Music Potluck**; a hallmark of Trudeau Music which kicks off the new school year. It's an evening that consists of, you guessed it, food,



Music students connect by playing a game of Huckle-Buckle

team-building games and voting for this year's music sweater logo. To end the night, we played huckle-



There's always a good spread at the Music potluck!

buckle, a Trudeau music potluck staple; a game that gets real serious, real fast.

Just yesterday, the department hosted guest conductor, **Dr. Shelley Axelson**, an adjudicator, festival clinician and assistant professor at Montclair State University. She spent the morning working with our grades 10, 11 and 12 and provided insight on many of their pieces. This evening, she, alongside our very own Mr. Greg Colley, will be conducting the Grade 12 Wind Symphony at the Markham Stouffville Hospital Fundraiser concert. Hosted at the Markham theatre, this concert includes performances from numerous Markham high schools in support of the ATLAS program at MSH.

An upcoming event for our grade 9 instrumental students is the **Trudeau Band Workshop (TBW)**, held **November 1<sup>st</sup>**. It is a day where our 150+ grade 9 students and elementary partner schools participate in music-based workshops throughout the day. This event has to do with the University of Toronto Faculty of Music hosting masterclasses and sectionals for our 9s. TBW finishes off with our *Celebration of the Bands* concert, **November 21<sup>st</sup>**. It includes performances from each of our instrumental ensembles. With the night finishing off from a performance the UofT band and a collaboration between them and our Grade 12 Wind Symphony!

Mark your calendars and get ready for an exciting year ahead.

- **November 1** *Trudeau Band Workshop*
- **November 21** *Celebration of the Bands*
- **December 16,17** *Winter Melodies*

### Specialist High School Major

By: Celine Cheung

#### About The Program:

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is an excellent opportunity offered to high school students in grades 10, 11, and 12. SHSM allows students to specialize their studies in a particular field and explore experiential learning in that area. At Trudeau, we offer three different sectors that students can specialize in: Business, Health



SHSM student Celine Cheung is now an advocate for experiential learning

& Wellness, and Arts & Culture. Once students have chosen their sector, they are presented with countless opportunities to gain experience both in and outside of school. The SHSM Executive team works with teachers to focus on creating conferences and workshops alongside community partners, presenting numerous opportunities for diverse students. Through attending a variety of events, taking co-operative education, and studying topics of interest, students in the SHSM program are exposed to unlimited opportunities where they can gain real-world experience.

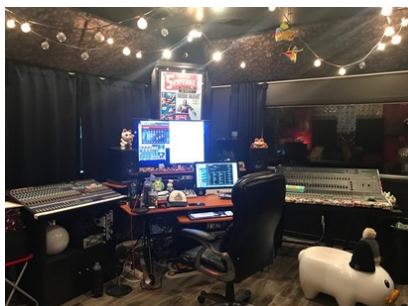
#### Personal Experience:

Since joining the SHSM program, I have learned so much about myself and the world. I first discovered the program in grade 10 and



## DEPARTMENT NEWS

decided to join simply to gain experience. I began to attend workshops, field trips, and numerous conferences that all sparked my interest. While participating in these events, I got the opportunity to interact and connect with wonderful people. However, I soon realized that SHSM goes beyond the events and opportunities that they present. SHSM creates a community of students who are passionate about learning as well as personal growth and brings them together to embark on new experiences.

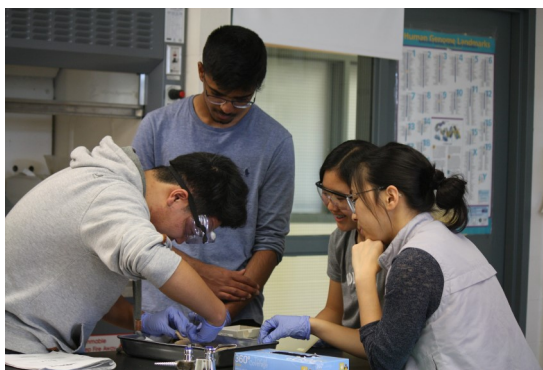


SHSM students would get credit from working in places such as this Markham recording studio

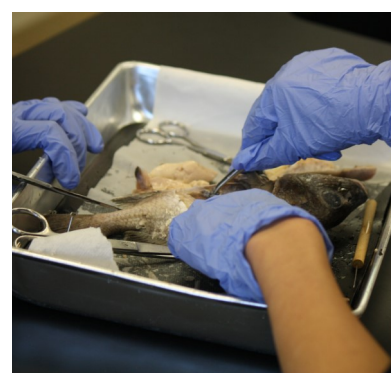
Furthermore, my co-op experience was not only a mandatory component of SHSM, but it was also life-changing for me. I received the opportunity to interact with co-workers, develop new skills, and simply grow as a person. Through working at my placement for around 6 months, I have developed personal relationships with my colleagues and a better understanding of what I would look for in my future career. As well, co-op has presented numerous job and internship opportunities for myself and my peers. Ultimately, exposure to the corporate world through co-op and SHSM was truly an eye-opening and fresh experience. Joining the Specialist High Skills Major Program has undoubtedly enhanced my overall high school experience academically, professionally, and personally.

### Fascinating Facts about the Human Body

As Grade 11 Biology students explore the digestive, respiratory and circulatory systems in different organisms such as the earthworm, perch and human being, they are uncovering some amazing facts:



1. If all of your blood vessels (arteries, capillaries and veins) were laid out end-to-end, they would measure close to 100 000 km and circle the globe twice!
2. The average person produces about 1 L of saliva each day to moisten food and begin starch digestion. In a year, enough saliva is produced to fill more than two bathtubs!
3. The lungs are the only organs that float. When stretched out, they have the same surface area as a tennis court!
4. The human heart creates enough pressure to squirt blood 9m in the air, about the height of a two-story building!
5. Anxiety or embarrassment causes capillaries to widen throughout the body. The increase in blood flow causes you to blush. When you blush, your stomach lining blushes too!
6. Hiccups are caused by spasms of the diaphragm. The longest attack of hiccups lasted 68 years!



## History

The History Department at Trudeau has been busy: learning about the Federal Election issues and conducting a nation-wide Student Vote in Civics and completing a Creative Culminating Project in Canadian History based on the events of WWI and the 1920s. Senior students have been



The History Department has been mustering the creative energy of students and teachers in preparation for Remembrance Day

learning about great thinkers in Philosophy, getting to the heart of human rights issues in Law, and tackling Absolutism, Enlightenment and Revolution in World History. Our courses run in English and French, and no matter the language, history is important and engaging.

In addition to our work here at school, we are proud of our Remembrance Day display for 2019. Of especial importance is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Italian Campaign. Our participation was made up of more than 93,000 Canadians. For close to two years, we faced some of the German Army's best troops. The Italian Campaign began on the island of Sicily in July 1943 and moved north up the Italian mainland through to the end of the war in Europe in May 1945. Let us not forget the nearly 6000 lives lost during this campaign.

By Diana Taylor

Some welcomes! We are pleased to welcome Ms. Grant to the English department this semester and a big welcome back to Ms. Fong and Ms. Sasso.

News for Grade 9's: The after-school literacy classes for grade 9 students will begin October 28th if we have the student demand. They and will take place on Mondays from 3:00 pm to 4:30pm. These extra support classes aim to help struggling students with their reading and writing skills. The English teachers at Trudeau will note students who may require additional support and gently encourage their attendance. However, the literacy classes are open to any grade 9 student interested in extra support. Students will receive information and permission

forms to attend. Students may join at any time. The English department looks forward to supporting our lovely grade 9 students!

Our teachers are excited to add new books to our Literature Circles this semester. We are continuing to extend the number of titles in order to engage students and model the importance of reading by adding texts that better reflect our diverse population. We hope that these new additions will help our students to become lifelong readers.

To help reinforce the importance and the joy of reading, the Trudeau English teachers will also be promoting their own personal reading selections. Outside the English office we will be sharing what we are currently reading and some recommendations of books that we love. Feel free to stop by to get some suggestions!



New novels for the literature circles carefully curated engage English students



# LEARNING CONTINUUM

## Teacher Candidates from Queen's bring new pedagogy and fresh ideas to Trudeau Students

By Tiffany Wong

Hello! We are Teacher Candidates (TC) from Queen's University, and we are currently completing our teaching placement here at PETHS. We are very thankful for the opportunity to work in collaboration with the staff and students:

"Ever since day one, PETHS has been welcoming, warm and exciting. I've been focusing on teaching math to Grade 12 students, and getting to know the bright and friendly community has been the highlight of my time here so far. I am delighted to continue on with my placement here." - Mr. Albanese, TC with Ms. Lee

It's my second time being at PETHS and I was more than excited to be back to teach here. The staff are all so friendly and willing to guide us and answer any of our questions. I've had the opportunity to work with the grade 9 students and they always find a way to brighten my day. I'm looking forward to the rest of my time here! Miss. Mak, TC

with Mr. Tang.

"This is my third practicum at PETHS and I am excited to be teaching grades 10 and 12 English alongside several of the hardworking teachers in the English department! I have enjoyed getting to know my students through experi-

ting to know all the bright and colorful personalities in my classroom. I truly feel that they have been teaching me as much as I have been teaching them."—Mlle Zhu, TC with Mme Carlow.

"It has been a great opportunity to work with such a strong music pro-

gram here at Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School. Working with students in the strings, vocal and band classes has provided me with an experience I have never had before. It has given me more confidence in making music with the students as they are very welcoming, responsive and open to my ideas. I look forward to more opportunities in making more music with the students here." Mr. Luo, TC



Teacher candidates from Queen's University spend seven weeks practicing their craft along side some of Trudeau's experienced teachers. From left to right: Becky Bando, Tiffany Wong, Lily Zhu, Cheryl Mak and Michael Albanese.

menting with new learning activities each day, as well as seeing the leadership opportunities students have taken on through the school's many innovative clubs." - Miss. Bando, TC with Ms. Taylor

"This is also my second time doing a placement at PET, and I find it as exciting as the first time I was here! The staff have been extremely supportive and welcoming since day one, which I'm very grateful for. So far, I've been working with the Grade 9 and 12 French classes and it has been so much fun get-

with Ms. Thomas.

"I am really thankful to be working alongside the knowledgeable and enthusiastic community of teachers that is the English Department! I have enjoyed connecting with students in the Grade 10 and 12 English classes, creating interactive lessons that encourage meaningful discussions, and celebrating student involvement by participating in student-run clubs! I am looking forward to continually learning with and from the students during my time here!" - Miss Wong, TC with Ms. Barbu

## STUDENT VOICE

### Doug Ford's Education Changes: A Drastic Change in Learning Environments

By: Raphael Kwok

With the recent support staff work action across Ontario, students and teachers are starting to feel the effect of Doug Ford's education changes and the havoc it is creating. The action and threat of a strike ended with the Ontario government agreeing to pay \$20 million annually to bring back laid off support staff to their respective schools, and an additional \$58 million annually to increase support

Some of these changes include:

- Mandatory e-learning courses
- Increased class sizes
- A decrease in teachers, resulting in fewer course options
- Curriculum changes

In order to decrease the money spent on maintaining and funding classrooms, four e-learning courses will be mandatory for every high school student, meaning one course for every year of high school.

E-learning itself can be



Students protesting at the province wide walkout on April 4. Photo by Roberto Machado Noa/LightRocket via Getty Images

for students with special needs.

Despite bringing back the workers that Doug Ford explicitly promised would not lose their jobs, there is still much more debate about the rest of the Ford government's drastic changes to our education system.

extremely hard to set up, not to mention the questions on its effectiveness. To start, it can be difficult to supervise students in e-learning courses, as they are conducted online and can be done in private spaces, meaning there is no supervision to make sure the course is being done properly. Be-

cause of this, there are many ways to cheat, or bypass questions in the course, limiting the learning of a student.

In addition to this, e-learning severely limits the one-on-one interactions between students and teachers, decreasing the help students will receive, as they are not always readily available to help. This also applies to their interactions with other students, and the healthy competitiveness and discussion that arises from group activities, as e-learning is mostly individual, and there is not much interaction between students.

Another concern that has arisen, especially in rural areas, is the lack of electronics needed to participate in these e-learning courses. This puts those students at a disadvantage to students in other regions, as they cannot participate in the same variety of courses. The Ontario NDP states that this "would be deeply unfair to rural students without access to broadband internet."

The increased class sizes may decrease the money spent on the large variety and number of courses we have, but will also decrease the types of courses we have. The fun classes, or classes that make kids go to school, like the art and tech classes may be removed because of the lack of teachers. Because of this, the teachers that teach those courses have a higher risk of losing their jobs, despite Doug Ford's promise.

The decrease in class sizes will also change the learning environment in classrooms, giving less one-on-one time with the teachers, meaning less support for the students, and more work for the teachers.



# STUDENT VOICE

This more crowded classroom can also affect students who need less noise and more room to work and do their best, putting more stress and pressure on them. This can give them a negative portrayal of school, and will affect their learning now and in the future.

Striking students and teachers are still waiting to see if their actions have had any effect on the education they rely on, and only time will tell if their efforts will be successful.

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## Trudeau Student Activities Council

By: Akilesh Sathyakumar, Communications Chair

### What is TSAC?

The Trudeau Student Activities Council is a group of students, who work together to better the non-academic life here at Trudeau. They ensure that each and every Trailblazer has an amazing year through developing multiple events such as school dances, a haunted house, an outdoor movie night and Blazers Bash (an end-of-the year fun fair). Furthermore, TSAC is responsible for planning and carrying out numerous spirit weeks throughout the school year as a way to get students to display their spirit around Trudeau!



### How to Keep in Touch with Us!

To stay updated with all our upcoming events or news, be sure to follow us on our Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter **@trudeausac**

Be sure to also join your grades google classroom where your grade representatives will be posting updates about clubs, events or news in general!

### Google Classroom Codes

Grade 9: ec9pm9

Grade 10: 2bawms

Grade 11: bjfaf2

Grade 12: 42zuozu

ELL: 7emvo3

### Upcoming Events

Halloween is coming up. Be prepared for a spooky load of fun through our spirit weeks based on themes of past horror movies. As well, be sure to look out for our *Haunted House* which will be happening on October 31<sup>st</sup> where we transform our beautiful drama room into a nightmare no one

would dare to see. Moreover, over the course of the year, we will be hosting our *Battle of the Grades*, where grades go head to head to collect the most spirit points by the end of the year.

Grades can collect spirit points through participating in all our spirit weeks, and even through attending our events! In the end, the winning

grade will be receiving a BIG prize, in other words, be sure to participate as much as you can within our events throughout the year to give your grade a chance to win!

### TSAC 2019 – 2020

Dylan Kang - President	Ethan Sooklal - Grade 12 Representative
Harrison Gao - Vice President	Mengyu Gao - Grade 12 Representative
Serena Yu - Senior Treasurer	Kieron von Butchstab - Grade 11 Representative
Allison Levy - Junior Treasurer	Rachel Chan - Grade 11 Representative
Diya Patel - Secretary	Sabrina Sam - Grade 10 Representative
Claire Liu - Activities Chairperson	Yoyo Zhuang - Grade 10 Representative
Ethan Kang - Publicity Chairperson	Raymond Zhu - Grade 9 Representative
Akilesh Sathyakumar - Communications Chairperson	Anthony Ung - Grade 9 Representative
Dhruv Bhatt - External Affairs Chairperson	Peggy Fang – ELL Representative
Chloe Chen - Equity Chairperson	Laura Chan – ELL Representative
Jason Lee - Media Publicity Chairperson	
Julian Cimer - Technology Chairperson	

# ATHLETICS

## Meet this Year's Senior Boys Volleyball Team!

By: Coach Shin & Coach K

### Grade 12:

Derek Chiang (#14) is known for his soft setting hands and his killer attacks! This gentle giant is a force that can't be stopped!

Nathan Chin (#11) is our fierce leader and captain. He is one of our best attackers who can also bring out the best of his teammates by setting them up. We just wish that he didn't like the bench so much...

this season with a recovering hand injury. Now that he's back, his opponents are feeling the wrath of his quick attacks and his towering blocks.

### Grade 11:

Owen Chan (#17) is our libero who sets up almost all of our plays with unbelievable digs and court coverage. He makes it look so easy and he makes his teammates look like superstars!

Kyle Chin (#1) is our most dedicated player who travels great distance each day to come to every game and practice. He is balancing co-op work experience and team commitment like a champ!

Andrew Chu (#9) is our basketball player turned VOLLEYBALL player.

shoes.

Leo Lin (#12? #18? #8?) has the talent of making bags disappear and always being spotted in crowds. He has the highest reach on our team and can OT any block!

Derek Yu (#2) is another basketball player turned VOLLEYBALL player. He's lightening fast and he competes like a warrior. It's hard to believe that volleyball isn't his first sport!

### Grade 10:

Alex Ko (#5) is the youngest on this team with the biggest heart and loudest voice. He never gives up on the ball and plays with incredible energy.

Watch out for these athletes in our school! The Senior Boys Volleyball Team is on their way to greatness this season!

## Trudeau Tennis

Teacher-Coach: D.Kroetsch

This wonderful group of student-athletes has practiced in the rain, during wind storms, and on some pretty cold days! Never once did they complain (or at least I did not hear them complain)!

They represented Trudeau at the YRAA qualifiers on October 17th.

### Team Members:

Linus Li	Bruce Tan
Tyson Gubatan	David Tan
Gajan Suthakar	Nevin
Jacqueline Lian	Abayakoon
Julianna Ye	Larry Wu

The following students have qualified for the YRAA Championships:  
Jr. Mixed Doubles – Elaine Lin and Matthew Gong  
Sr. Girls Doubles - Rachel Chew and Uma Mody

Thanks to all for a great season. We are looking forward to some more great play at the YRAA Championships on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.



Seniors Boys Volleyball Team 2019-2020 with coaches Ms. Kim and Ms. Kowaleswki

Edward Duan (#10) aka 'Eddie the Eagle' has been flying in every match with his killer attacks and his hang-time blocks! Welcome back to the team this year!

Cameron Ko (#3) started off slowly

With only one year of volleyball experience, he is killing it as our middle with mad hops!

Brandon Chu (#13) loves getting razzed by his coaches and can intimidate any opponent while wearing the flashiest and cleanest court



# CLUBS

## Tell Us What You're Reading!

By: Cover-to-Cover Book Club

When was the last time you read something that wasn't your math textbook? Or even an ISP book? Students these days, especially those in the senior grades, never seem to have time for literature anymore. What most don't realize is that reading is vital in developing critical thought and analysis skills that are helpful in school and beyond.

We at Cover-to-Cover Book Club know that reading is still a part of the student subculture here at Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School and attempted to find out what the student body was currently reading! We conducted a survey for answers and this is what we found:

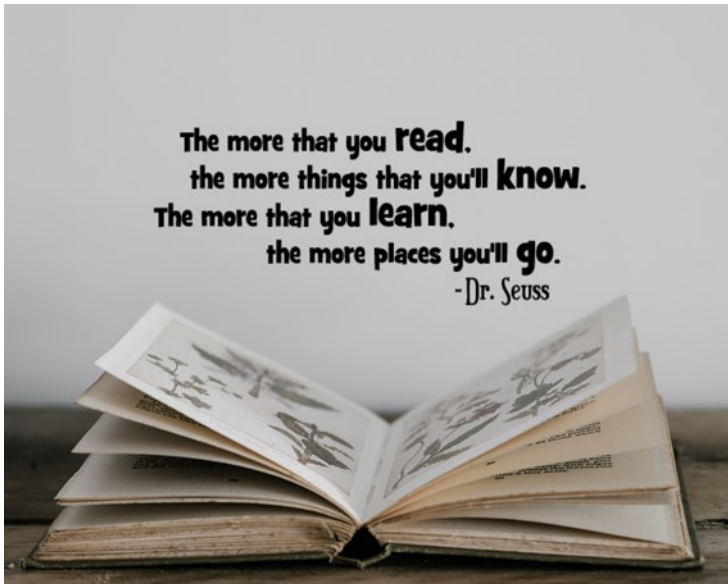
What do YOU reach for?

As many as 4 out of 5 students enjoy reading, oftentimes picking up a novel, graphic novel or ebook at least a few times a week. By far, the most popular genres include mystery, action, romance, fantasy and science fiction, although poetry, memoirs and self-help texts definitely have their fair share of readers.

The go-to hangout for last minute

studying and essay printing:

the library! A third of students spend quite a bit of time at our school's very own library, whether it be for its quiet study section, working on group assignments, meetings, or its grade-saving printers. Don't frequent the school library? The local library is also a great place to get work done and take out books, 72% of students already owning library cards, most dropping by anywhere between monthly to weekly, or even just once in a



while.

In Your Circle:

Over 90% of students are encouraged to read within their household.

14% of students have friends who read for recreation while 20% of students do not.

66% have a mix of friends who are and aren't interested in reading.

Where do you and your friends lie on the scale?

The School Scene:

10% of students think the school promotes reading enough.

26% of students do not think the school promotes reading enough.

In addition, a third of students aren't aware of the existence of PETH's own book club. But have no fear! Book club runs every Friday afterschool, and welcomes new members. Drop by to let us know what you think, or what you would like to see the school do to encourage more interest in literature!

These are some of your peers' favourite books / series and give them a try!

*The Picture of Dorian Gray*

*Finding Audrey*

*A Walk to Remember*

*Six of Crows*

*The Count of Monte Cristo*

*The One and Only Ivan*

*Throne of Glass*

*Little Women*

*Paper Towns*

*Anne of Green Gables*

*I'll Give You the Sun*

*Jane Eyre*

*Becoming*

*All Quiet on the Western Front*

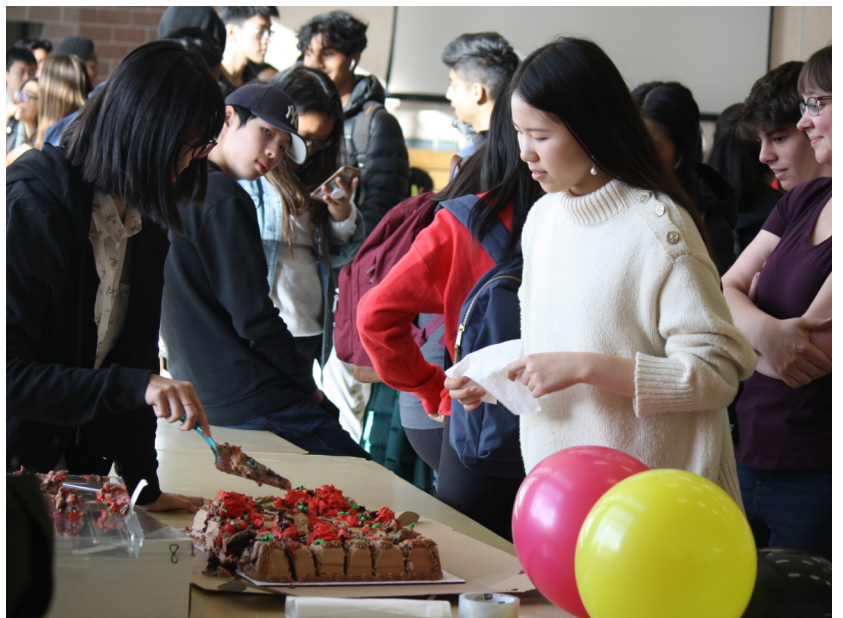
*The Fifth Science*

*The Man Called Ove*

*Red Rising*

Come yell at us at Book Club! Every Friday, after school in the library, and tell us what you think about any of the books listed above!





## HUMANS OF PETHS

Are always ready for some active play.

Celebrate Pierre Elliott Trudeau's 100th birthday,

Collaborate on a Van Gogh painting in the Library,

Explore pathways at the post-secondary education fair.

Learn about the natural world at the local park.

