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SCHOOL PRESS







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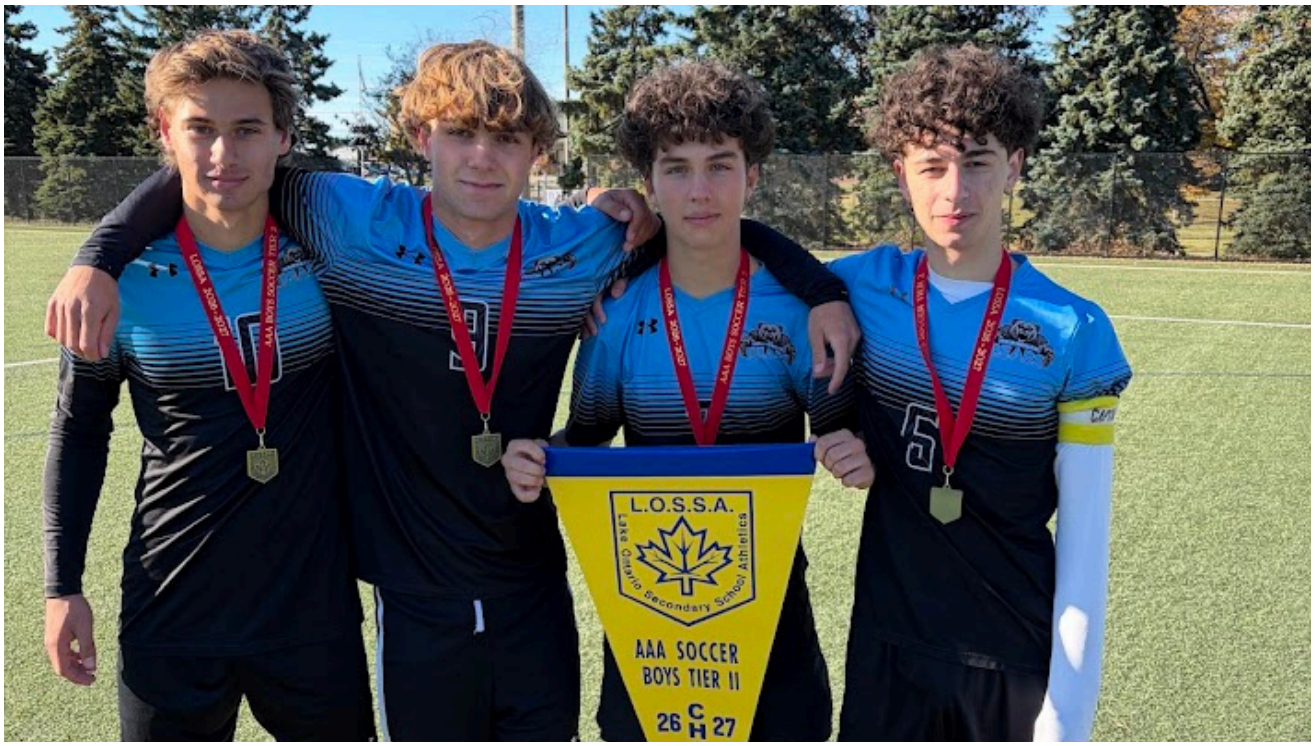
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BHS







BHS PRESS RETURNS

By Cayleigh McLellan

When Brooklin High School first opened, we had a BHS Press. However, not many people were interested in joining and providing articles (like this one) to the school. So unfortunately, it stopped, and hasn't been running since then... Until now!

This year is the year Ms. Shah, Ms. Harkot and Mr. Johnson are bringing the school newspaper back! Gathering students with many interests such as writing, designing, photography and much more to give you the article of your dreams!

In our articles, we go over arts, clubs, cultures, sports, opinions, school events and more! We also launch an issue around every month to let you know what has happened in the past few weeks.

The teacher in charge is Ms. Shah, who got the idea from some boys that came up to her saying that we don't have a school press and would like to start one. Ms. Shah believes that the press is an opportunity to showcase students' voices in writing. She also says that the press gets students to use their creative side of their brain to write about stuff they are interested in.

When interviewed about what she is excited about, Ms. Shah said, "Just seeing what young writers are thinking and what they want to talk about." explaining that in the press you can write about anything that interests you and others.

Ms. Shah also shared that when putting it together, she talked with Mr. Johnson, who knew a teacher from another school that has a paper to help get ours started.

In conclusion, the BHS School Press launches an article once a month, with different articles scoring over different interests and events. If you want to join you can go to room 229 at lunch on Fridays!

WATCH OUT BROADWAY!

By Elaine Wiseman

A cast of new stars and established giants are coming together to put on a theatre show this winter. Directed by the brilliant minds of Mrs. Sluman and Mr. Halsall, this opportunity will give young creatives a chance to make something great. But what is this infamous group of imaginative students and staff? Inspired by William Shakespeare's players, the Brooklin Players are a group of creative people coming together to put on a show here at BHS.

There are roles to fill in all aspects of show business with the Players. Including: directing, acting, set making, costume design, sound design, backstage work, and tech support. You may remember some of the Brooklin Players' previous stage shows and musicals; such as Teen Brain, Snoopy The Musical, Ripple Effect, Your Type Of Wallflower, and The Flippside.

The Players' directors are both well versed in the performing arts themselves. Mr. Halsall has 11 years of on and off directing experience, while Mrs. Sluman has been directly involved in several shows at and outside of BHS. Some shows that Mr. Halsall and Mrs. Sluman were part of include: Bye Bye Birdie, Les Miserables, Rumpelstiltskin, Biscuit And The Evil Plot, Teen Brain, and Annie. During an interview, the show's directors stated that they are looking forward to this show season especially because of the amount of students that are interested in all the different parts of the show. Mr. Halsall stated; "To see one; just the volume of people, that was a really good turn out there. Hopefully we can keep that ball rolling. And it is really good to see the variety of roles."

Overall, the Brooklin Players are here to entertain. Whether that's through a musical, a play, a skit, a tableau, or anything else. They are always looking for the next stage to perform on, the next prop to design, and the next show to get excited about. With all that out of the way, it seems there is only one remaining question: Will you be supporting the show... or will you be part of it?

ELEPHANT TOOTHPASTE
Erupts at
SCIENCE INVESTIGATORS

By Benjamin Reitano and Homan Hakimi



Members of the Science Investigators club recently conducted a vibrant and exciting elephant toothpaste experiment using hydrogen peroxide, dish soap, yeast powder, and water. The reaction from this investigation produced a massive amount of foam that quickly exploded out from the flask spreading across the whole lab sink.

The experiment took place during a Science Investigators meeting in Room 203. Its purpose was to showcase the rapid decomposition of hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) with the help of a catalyst, to speed up the chemical reaction and cause a gas to be released. The process started by filling a glass erlenmeyer flask with 100 ml of hydrogen peroxide, also known as H2O2, and dish soap. Food colouring was also added to make the reaction more colourful and easy to see. The flask was then placed into the laboratory sink in order to contain the reaction and make it easier to clean up.

In a separate beaker, yeast powder was stirred into warm water to create a dissolved yeast solution. Once fully dissolved, the mixture was poured into the flask containing the hydrogen peroxide and dish soap.

The reaction started immediately. Thick foam rose from the flask extremely quickly and spilled over its sides. In the coming seconds, the foam formed a large mound in the sink. It continued expanding until it was many times larger than the original amount of liquid.

The reaction happened because yeast contains an enzyme called catalase, according to Science Buddies. This enzyme acted as a catalyst during the reaction, helping the hydrogen peroxide decompose into water (H2O) and oxygen gas (O2). A catalyst is a substance that increases the speed of a chemical reaction without being used up during it. It works by lowering activation energy, allowing reactants to convert into products super easily.

Under normal conditions, hydrogen peroxide breaks down on its own but very slowly. The catalase in the yeast caused this process to happen much faster. As a result, a large amount of oxygen gas was released in only a few seconds.

The dish soap also played an important role in the experiment. Without the dish soap, the oxygen gas that was produced would simply bubble away and escape into the air invisibly. According to Notre Dame Science, the dish soap traps the released gas inside thousands of tiny bubbles, containing them and making them visible. As more oxygen was produced, the bubbles collected together to create the giant mound of foam we know as elephant toothpaste.

The decomposition of hydrogen peroxide that took place during this reaction was also exothermic. This means that it releases energy through heat as a product. This happened because of the speed of the reaction. As the hydrogen peroxide molecules broke apart to form water and oxygen gas, some of their stored chemical energy in the covalent bonds was transferred as thermal energy. Because the reaction occurred quickly, the heat was released faster than it could actually escape into the air. This caused the surrounding environment, including the foam and flask, to feel warm.

Despite the name, elephant toothpaste is nothing close to real toothpaste and should never be used in the same way. It gets its name from the huge amount of foam it creates. Where people joked that the finished reaction looks like a giant pile of toothpaste big enough for an elephant.

The elephant toothpaste experiment gave students an exciting way to experience the rapid decomposition of hydrogen peroxide while also experiencing how catalysts and exothermic reactions work.

The club will continue to conduct more experiments every other Tuesday in Room 203. If you are interested in science, cool experiments, or how the world works around you, you are encouraged to join and find out what the Science Investigators will explore next.

A CHAT WITH TRAE WILLIAMS

By Yahya Rana



The dictator of success is never the result, but the effort, faith, and sacrifice that fueled it. In the words of Trae Willams, “Effort is shared. Success is shared. Loss is shared. The outcome of the game doesn’t define our achievements, and abilities as players. Our reaction, growth, and mindset does. We all love winning, but winning takes greatness, and this loss just takes us one step closer towards it.” His words really struck me. I sat down and thought about their mutual efforts behind each game. In every practice, regardless of circumstances, sleep, train, wake up and do it again. Blindly masked by the broad labels of wins and losses, are the efforts of many, from coaches, players, and supportive students. Amidst high pressure, risk of injury, uncertainty, and tough opponents, the team’s shared sense of trust, and vision of success motivates them, eliminating any sense of doubt and distraction. Teamwork always surpasses individual achievement, and seeing the team grow together has proved that on the largest scale. Hundreds of fans on the sidelines, photography, social media posts, it’s no surprise people are starting to take notice! To my peers and fellow students, opportunities come and go. Seize them. Wayne Gretzky said, “You miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take”. Where is he now? The hockey hall of fame. Don’t let your fear blind you. Try out for that team. Apply for that job. Approach those people. Be the dictator of your success.

A CHAT WITH LUKE SILLS

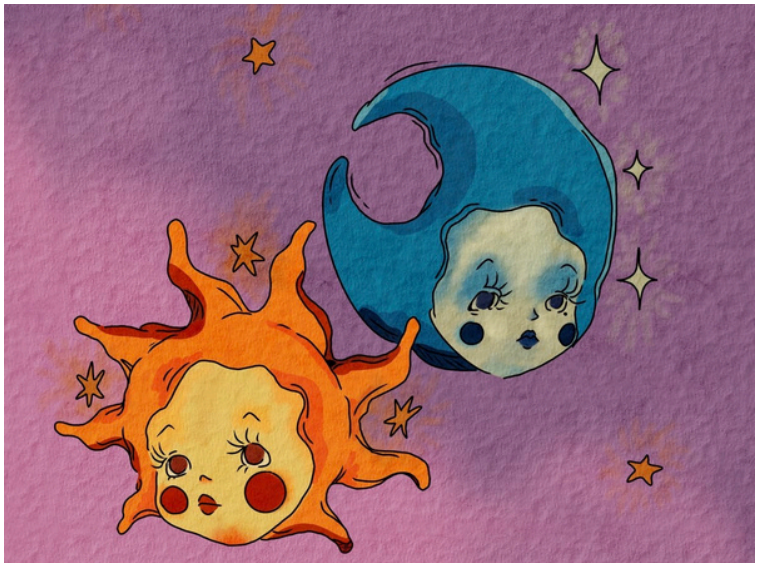
By Amaar Mousa

When you're having the time of your life with your best friends, the clock always seems to run out way too fast. As Brooklin High School's Junior Varsity football team prepares for their big final game of the season against Paul Dwyer High School this Friday at 3;00 pm, I sat down with star player Luke Sills to see how he was feeling before putting on his helmet one last time. When I asked him what was running through his mind heading into this final match, luke gave a super honest answer, “Honestly, this whole season went by way too fast, like for real it feels like tryouts were just yesterday. Lowkey, It just shows you how time flies when you're locked in and having fun with the boys. So when we step out there against Paul Dwyer for the last time of the season, I'm just going to soak in every play and cherish every moment, because win or lose, the bond we built is what's gonna stick with us, reminding us all that while winning is great, but appreciating the journey and the people beside you is what truly matters the most”.

Seeing Luke pause and think back on the hard work and memories made it super clear that he really has a special place for football in his heart, and the people he's met. I really hope this message reaches as many people as possible, because joining an extracurricular can be more impactful than you think, joining teams and clubs can open lots of opportunities and friendships, as stated “the bond we built is what’s gonna stick with us.” So if anyone is interested in joining any clubs, note that it’s not too late, and there are multiple clubs and sports available or coming up, including our very own. Thank you for your time.

INTEREST PIECES







MORE THAN MEETS THE PAGE

By Medha Kak

Poetry is a way of expressing thoughts, feelings, and experiences through words, whether directly or through imagery and interpretation. But poetry can mean something different to everyone, especially the people who write it. So, what does it mean to a student poet?

For Violet Tosoni, poetry is an extension of a passion she's had for years: songwriting. Having always been drawn to writing lyrics, she found that poetry offered a similar way to express herself through words. Both art forms allow her to explore emotions, develop ideas, and transform her thoughts into something others can experience.

Inspiration can come from almost anywhere. For Violet, everyday details, from an outfit she's wearing to something in nature or the music she's listening to can become pieces of a larger creative vision. She describes the process as combining different elements, similar to a jigsaw puzzle, until they come together to create something meaningful.

A feeling paired with a visual can become the starting point for a poem. She often draws connections between what she sees outside and what she experiences internally. Through metaphors and imagery, she explores emotions by connecting them to things she observes around her. These connections can also help her feel less alone, reminding her that the world around her can reflect what she's experiencing within herself.

This approach influences her view of poetry as a whole. Although poetry is often associated with rhyming and specific structures, Violet believes it doesn't have to follow a particular formula. What matters most is that the writing reflects the artist's feelings and creative vision.

For aspiring poets, she recommends understanding what inspires them and how they want to express their ideas. Rather than feeling pressured to follow someone else's rules about formatting or style, writers should explore their own approaches and allow their creativity to guide them.

The poem Violet chose to share with us explores the relationship between the Sun and the Moon. She noticed how people often associate individuals with one or the other, as though everyone must fit into a particular category. Through her poem. She wanted to explore what happens when someone embodies both.

For Violet, the Sun represents the brightness, sweetness, and lightheartedness she associates with childhood. Being guided by the Moon, however, represents the growing complexity of emotions and the world around us. As people mature, they develop new perspectives and discover parts of themselves that may not fit into the identities they once knew.

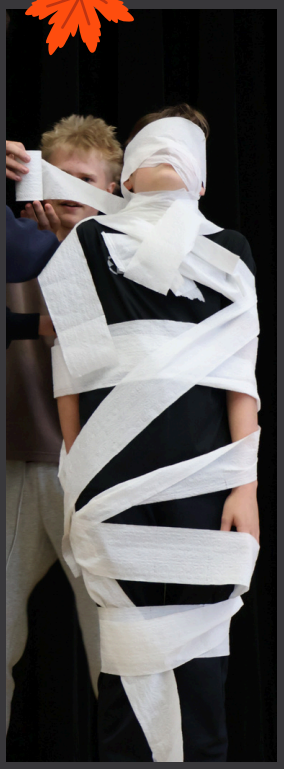
Aurora by Violet Tosoni

the sun and moon are of opposite ends.
she is sun born, she is moon guided,
she looks in the stars for song,
she follows the shooting stars for wishes,
her wishes recite themselves in dark skies,
she sings into the navy blue to brighten it into indigo, into purple
raised by the light, infatuated by the dark
her words echo through the blue
and compose themselves in windy strings
her melodies float above the air
a coloured composition
creating an aurora

Through this poem, Violet hopes readers recognize that people don't have to fit into one category. Just as the Sun and Moon represent different qualities, individuals can embody seemingly contradictory traits and still be entirely themselves.

For Violet, poetry is ultimately about creative freedom: finding inspiration in the world, connecting it to personal feelings, and expressing those connections without being confined to a particular structure or definition. And perhaps her poem's central message extends beyond its characters and celestial imagery: we don't have to be just one thing. Sometimes, the most interesting parts of who we are exist in the combination of things we might once have thought were separate.











HALLOWEEK

HALLOWEEN MOVIE MARATHON

By Sia Bakshi

With Halloween having just passed, I embraced the spooky season by watching some classic horror movies. Here are my top 5 picks.

5. Hocus Pocus

I personally love a good, classic family friendly movie. My friends and I have watched this enough times to know that a movie like this never gets old.



Photo: Disney/Kobal/REX/Shutterstock.

A trio of evil witches in Salem, Masatchuses - Winfred, Mary and Sarah, kidnap a young girl to drain her life source to regain their youthful glow. Captured by the townsfolk moments before being hanged, Winfred is able to cast a curse, "if a virgin lights the magical Black Flame Candle on Halloween night, we will reincarinate for one day."

300 years later, Max Dennison is out trick or treating with his little sister Dani, foolishly taking them and Alison to the Old Sanderson Cottage lighting the candle.

The rebirthed Sanderson Sisters have until sunrise to capture the life forces from the town's children to make the resurrection permanent. Max, Dani, Alison and the talking black cat, Thackery Binx,must steal Winfred's prized spellbook before the sun rises to send them back to their graves.

4. The Nightmare Before Christmas

Is this a Christmas movie? I personally would say that it's either or and depends on who's watching it. Halloween or Christmas, you decide; but this chill movie is not too scary, so you can watch it with younger ages.

Jack Skellington, Pumpkin King of Halloween Town stumbles into Christmas



Zeremba, E. (n.d.). The Nightmare Before Christmas. https://timburton.fandom.com/wiki/The_Nightmare_Before_Christmas_(film)/Gallery?file=LEtrangeNoelDeMonsieurJack-Promotion-AffichesPromo-01.jpg.

town and is overwhelmed by the strong desire to celebrate the holiday in Halloween Town. His attempt to understand Christmas fails miserably as he ends his research with the conclusion that he should steal Santa Claus and become Santa in his place. While the 3 trick or treaters are busy kidnapping Santa, the ragdoll smitten with Jack named Sally is determined to convince Jack that his plan will end with destruction and Jack ignores her advice.

Some more things happen with Jack's obsessive plan so watch it to the end to find how the story unravels.

3. Coraline

This is an older crowd pleaser that is perfect for anyone who just wants to watch a psychological thriller. I would definitely recommend this movie to those who want a seemingly “kid friendly” movie that is actually quite creepy!

Coraline Jones just moves into the old Pink Palace when one restless night she discovers a small, old, wooden door. Once it is unlocked it reveals a bricked up wall. Later that night she follows a shadow through the door into a beautiful Other World where everyone is as if they are from her imagination.

The catch is, spending more time with perfect “Other Mother” and “Other Father”, in order to stay with the fun parents she must sew her eyes shut with buttons. Unable to leave her real parents she races out of the Other World and realizes her parents are kidnaped. Willing to do anything to get them back she plays a series of games holding her own life at stake.



Coraline (2009). (n.d.). Letterboxd. https://letterboxd.com/film/coraline/



https://www.reddit.com/r/halloween/comments/1fe2jnz/thoughts_on_casper/#lightbox

2. Casper

Casper is such a fun movie to watch though it is more a supernatural comedy rather than horror and scary. If you ever get tired of the scary films and are looking for an easier comedy that's still Halloween themed, this is perfect.

A lovely ghost named Casper who lives in an abandoned mansion with his three obnoxious uncles - Stretch, Fatso and Stinkie , has been searching for a friend for over 100 years. When spoiled Carrigan Crittenden was willed to the gloomy mansion by her late father, she is furious but only because of the treasure hidden inside, she doesn't burn it down.

Frightened by the “terrifying” ghosts haunting the residence, she hires an afterlife therapist, Dr James Havey and his daughter Kat. When Kat and Casper meet, he immediately falls in love with her and his one wish is to be human again. Casper knows the treasure Carrigan is hunting can make him human and the ghosts and Kat race to find the treasure before Carigan’s even greeder hands gets ahold of it.

1. Halloween (1978)

Halloween is definitely not recommended for younger viewers unless they plan to sleep with their parents for the foreseeable future! I LOVE this movie because it has the perfect mix of scary yet funny.

It’s Halloween 1963 when the police pull up to 43 Lampkin Ln, Haddonfield to find 15 year old Judith Myers lying motionless on the cold floor. She was stabbed to death several times with the bloody knife in her 6 year old brother Michael Myers hand. Sent to a psychiatric hospital for 15 years, he escapes, returning to Haddonfield. When 21 year old Michael Myers returns to the town he called home, no one knows who is returning.



https://www.reddit.com/r/Halloweenmovies/comments/w7bfgk/favorite_halloween_poster/#lightbox

From the spine tingling horror movies to cute ghost movies. Turn off the lights, grab your friends and watch these amazing recommended films for the spooky season. How many of those on the list have you watched?

GRADE 9 INTERVIEW

By Homan Hakimi and Benjamin Reitano

Starting high school can be an exciting but challenging experience for many students. From adjusting to a new schedule, teachers and classrooms to managing a harder work load and meeting new people. The transition from grade 8 to 9 comes with many changes. As the school year progresses, Grade 9 students at Brooklin High School are beginning to adjust into their new environment and become more familiar with high school life. To get a better understanding of what the transition has been like, BHS School Press interviewed a Grade 9 student named Mohammed about his first month at Brooklin High School. During the interview he shared his thoughts about the workload, his favourite classes, meeting new people and making friends, and some advice for future Grade 9 students. When asked whether high school was what he expected, Mohammed explained that it was not exactly what he thought it would be. One of the biggest differences he noticed was the amount of responsibility students are expected to have. When asked what surprised him the most about high school, Mohammed responded, “How hard it is and how, like, responsible you have to be.” Unlike elementary school, high school requires students to be more responsible for keeping up with their classes and assignments. Another important part of starting high school is discovering new subjects and new interests. When Mohammed was asked which class had been his favourite so far, he chose Tech class, specifically woodworking. He explained that he enjoyed working with wood as it was a new experience and he also explained that he liked learning though hand on activities. Besides adjusting to new classes, students also have to navigate making new friends. For some students, entering a new school with people you don't recognise can be challenging. However, when Mohammed was asked how easy it had been to make friends, he responded, “You know, really easy. I really know other people because of my connections with my brother, my sister.” Having connections with other students helped make the transition to high school easier for him and allowed him to feel more comfortable. Overall, Mohammed described his first month at Brooklin High School as having both positive and negative experiences. When asked to rate his high school experience out of 10, he gave it a score of 8. Despite some challenges, he said that he generally enjoys high school and has been adjusting well to his new environment.

Finally, when asked what advice he would give to next year's incoming Grade 9 students, Mohammed emphasized the importance of responsibility, organization, and completing schoolwork. "Don't be bad. Be responsible and have good organization and do your work." he stated. Mohammed's experience provides an example of what the transition from elementary school to high school can look like. Although change can come with great responsibilities and challenges, it also provides opportunities and chances to make friends, discover new interests and hobbies, and create memorable moments and experiences. As the school year continues, Grade 9 students at Brooklin High School will have more opportunities to adjust, learn, and make the most of their first year of high school.

BEGINNINGS OF THE VAMPIRE

By Maggie Thomas

Legend, myth or truth? The existence of Vampires has often been hypothesized, pondered, and feared. Whether or not vampires are real depends on how you see the histories, and how one interprets fact vs fiction. But every nation has similar tales of familiar beasts. But do vampires come from folkloric roots, or are they the ravings of madmen? The earliest myths of vampire reminiscent creatures originate from ancient Greece. There were said to be beasts who would stalk victims in the night, draining them of their bodily fluids (blood). As well as in old Russia where came the first writings of vampiric nature, composed in 1047 A.D. The term “Vampire” was only coined in the early 1700s, where stories of walking, terrorizing corpses “ran rampant” with blood lust in the Hapsburg and Ottoman empires. But how did these stories come to be?

It is medieval Europe. People everywhere are experiencing the oddest symptoms before dropping dead. Fangs, sensitivity to sunlight, and bloodlust are prevalent among them. The catholic church burned people at the stake for potential vampirism, creating the ideology that the undead had a fear of religious symbols such as the crucifix and rosary, when in reality it was the church itself and those clergymen who might accuse anyone of being undead and therefore subject to torture, purification and death.

Driven mad with fear and the hysteria that was an increasingly common ailment at the time, cadavers would be impaled through the heart with a wooden stake, a brick placed between their teeth before burial for good measure. Scientists from the 21st century believe that the malady which inspired the vampire still exists, and is known as ‘porphyria’. Porphyria is a blood disorder that causes extreme sensitivity to light, sometimes resulting in charred burnt skin with exposure, as well as gum recession, creating the illusion of protruding fangs. Oftentimes, porphyria caused the urine to turn a murky red leading doctors and folklorists to assume consumption of blood (Animal blood was even offered as a treatment!). Porphyria is also suspected to be the birth of vampiric stereotypes regarding mirrors and garlic, as the lack of oxygenation caused by the illness can disfigure the facial tissue and the sulfuric plant that is garlic can cause painful reactions. Thus, the vampire is born.

However...There is a clear distinction between the original vampire and the modern interpretation. When did vampires leave savagery and become members of aristocracy, the picture of aquiline elegance? There are two theories. A, being that the exaggerated satirical vampire is the result of harmful stereotypes regarding certain religious demographics. But the humanization of the creatures likely derived from literature. Notably Carmilla, the protagonist in Joseph Sheradan Le Fanu's novel, "Carmilla" (Interestingly written years before "Dracula").

The most infamous vampire or Nosferatu is believed to be inspired by Vlad "the Impalor" Dracula, Prince of Wallachia. A man known for impaling his enemies through the anus to the mouth. Thus creating the Transylvanian Strigoi (Romanian for vampire) of Bram Stoker's imagination.

What was most different about these tales, was the intelligence and romance associated with the vampires. Stoker gave the modern vampire minds and poise along with other supernatural abilities. Now the trend was set, the people wanted vampires with grace whose desire for blood imitated carnal appetite. Vampirism quickly became a metaphor for secret desires in dark times. Vampire media have long expressed sexuality with varying degrees of homoeroticism. Whether it's as direct as Lestat and Louis, or implied like Carmilla who would only pray on women, it was always there. Consumption represents the deepest most intimate form of love, no matter how you choose to identify, love or consume.

In only a handful of centuries vampires have evolved from bloated, God-fearing bodies, to beautiful, (Occasionally sparkly) art forms with enough complexity to rival their own creators. From Transylvania, Santa Carla, to New Orleans the Vampire capitol of the world, the question becomes, what do you believe? And where will vampires go next?

BEHIND THE PRESS

Julianne Chiu
I'm a grade 11 student who's so excited to be writing articles and helping with the Press layout this year. I'm a competitive artistic (synchronized) swimmer. In my free time I enjoy watching women's sports (especially basketball) and reading books!

Amaar
I play basketball, and I'll be one of the writers for the sports category and help interview people. My name will be under sports articles. I founded the club along with Yahya

Cayleigh McLellan
I am a grade 9 student who loves math, the arts, and writing. Outside of school, my hobbies are curling, cadets, and the trumpet in my cadet marching band where I play the only second soprano. I enjoy reading and swimming, along with hanging out with my friends and family when I have the time. In the articles, you might see my name in things such as the arts sections, clubs, and opinions.

Maggie Thomas
I am a grade 10 in the BHS press. In my free time I enjoy reading and writing as I hope to publish my debut novel soon. Chances are, my name will be under articles related to the arts or generally interesting facts.

KIan Homan
I'm a Grade 10 who likes talking and am a good interviewer. I like history, sports and disney cards and fishing

Cohen Hulcoop
I am a grade 9 student doing photography and design for the BHS Press!

Medha Kak
I am a grade 11 student on the design team at BHS Press!

Lana Lebbe
I'm a grade 11 student who is a part of the BHS school press. I will be writing articles and helping with the news layout. A few of my interests include reading, writing, watching old films and TV shows, playing guitar, and playing badminton. If you happen to recognize me in the halls, feel free to say hi! I love talking to new people and making friends!

Homan Hakimi
I'm a grade 10 student and I love to play video games, workout and play chess. My name will be under articles about school clubs, student voices, and competitions that are in BHS.

Elaine Wiseman
I am an aspiring author, artist, and animator in my free time. Trust me when I say I KNOW what it's like to be competitive! I'm the youngest of three, and it's constantly an uphill battle to prove myself better than my brothers.

Sia Bakshi
I am a grade 9 student involved in the BHS press. My extra curricular hobbies would be baking, and reading. If you see my name around the press it would most likely be under the School events section.

Benjamin Reitano
I am a grade 10 student who loves to play video games, workout, and practise Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. You'll see my name under BHS Press articles covering school clubs and student voices, where I will highlight student experiences, perspectives, and interests.

Ambrose
Is a grade 10 student who is looking forward to contributing to the school press!

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?



Fill out the form here