



MAGEE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Magee News November 22, 2019

There are 6 items in this E-bulletin! Please note: layout varies with viewing platform/device.

1. School report.

Congratulations to Kelly Wong, Grade 10 SPARTS (Piano) - who won the Crescendo Music Competition this past weekend and will perform at Carnegie Hall in NYC in January 2020!! Kelly was also invited to join the Steinway Young Artist Family: Two very special accomplishments!

This June, Spencer Tsai took first in the piano section of the Canadian Music Competition in the 15-year-old age category with Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No.1. He played the piece again last night, at the Christ Church Cathedral (below), with the West Coast Symphony. It was sublime- the person next to me had tears rolling down her cheeks. What made it special, I think, was that Spencer played it how Tchaikovsky wanted it to be played- with all the youthful exuberance, freedom and romantic energy of youth ... having never heard it played by a teenager before my experience of this piece was always through the lens of middle aged soloists whose interpretation is shaped by our life's stage. Spencer's youth and sense of anxious excitement of the future undergirded his performance, a performance that was simply over the top.

Spencer Tsai
prepares to play
Tchaikovsky last
night at Christ
Church Cathedral.



Excellence: Our tradition

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Our girls junior and senior volley-ball teams also put in over the top performances to bring home the City Championship banners on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 November. The sets were tight and close, particularly in the senior girl's game where the sets went into the 25-28 point range- high for Volleyball but indicating how close the



teams were. Even when down by six or seven points the girls never despaired but kept calm and played magnificently together. As if the energy of the game was not enough, really spirited support was provided by Magee students who enthusiastically cheered the girls on and flooded the court at the end of the senior girl's game (above) ... thank you supporters, parents and coaches for all that you do to support our teams (long time parent and coach Jack Serlin and the senior girls team is on the left)!

English Department Head Mr. Peter McLennan gave me an excellent short article by Maryanne Wolf, a literacy scholar based at the University of California. Peter has been using the article to

prompt discussion in his senior English classes, and he shared it with Magee's Department Heads during our meeting on Thursday afternoon. The article, a summary of Dr. Wolf's latest book on the effects of digital reading platforms on reading, learning and cognition, was published in the Manchester Guardian. It is really worth a read- [here](#) is the link.

2. Counselling Department news.

On Monday, November 25 during Period 1, our Annual PSI (Post-Secondary Institutions information) session will take place in the Gym for our senior students. Representatives from fifteen BC post-secondary institutions will be

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available to inform and to answer student questions. Information on entrance requirements, application deadlines and fees, programs and facilities is distributed

3. **Grad Council Event: Vancouver Police Department vs Grad 2020 Basketball Game.**

The Grad Council has organized a friendly basketball game on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, 2:30pm to 4:00pm in Magee's Gym against the VPD! Admission is free. All students in all grades are invited.

Grad Council is a student club, restricted to grade 12's, that plans events during the year for the grade 12 graduating class. Two of our counsellors, Mrs. Miladinovic and Mrs. Lercher are the sponsor teachers and oversee the club's activities.

4. **Magee Senior's Tea**

The Magee Music Department would like to invite all seniors of Magee families to the Annual Magee Senior's Tea. Music will be provided by the Magee Strings, Chamber Choir and Wind Ensemble. Tea, seasonal fruits and refreshments will be served and there may even be a visit from Santa!

This lovely annual event is free and all members of our senior community are welcome. This year's event will be held on:

Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Magee Atrium 1:30pm - 2:50pm (Please arrive by 1:15pm)

To help us prepare for numbers, please RSVP by December 4th by email: mageemusicsociety@gmail.com or call Debbie in the school office at [604 713-8200](tel:6047138200) and let us know how many will be attending.

Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Magee Music Society & Magee Music Department

5. **School Events.**

NOVEMBER EVENTS:

Nov.22 – End of Term I

Nov.25 – Post Secondary Info Morning 8:30-10 am

Nov.28 – Mainstage One Acts

Nov.29 – Mainstage One Acts

6. **Standing Links.**

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