

CLEARPOINT HANDS

Clearpoint Home & School Association's
Email Newsletter



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AND THAT'S A WRAP!

Is it really over?! After a mentally, emotionally and physically draining year of masks, sanitizer and an over-abundance of caution, I'm still feeling like we're just on a long-weekend and that school is just around the corner. I can't quite wrap my head around it and get myself to wind down. As I'm writing this, I'm still in a daze. What am I going to make lunch for tomorrow? Is all the laundry done? What time do we need to be up and out tomorrow?

When the haze and daze clears, I'm looking forward to a relaxed summer with family and friends, our second dose of vaccine, an announcement of doses for children under 12 and a Stanley Cup coming home. I don't think that's too much ask for, do you?

Congrats to all our grads! Wishing you all the best of luck for your new adventures in the fall. I hope everyone a wonderful, fun-filled and safe summer.

Sigh.

I'm sure when the end of summer rolls around, I will be equally unprepared for the start of school as I am for the end of it.

Aalia Persaud
Editor
Clearpoint Hands E-News

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Scholastics, Mabel's Labels and Fundscrip. It was a GREAT initiative and got us noticed by many other schools. Next, we organized a cookie-decorating ZOOM event at the end December just in time for Santa's visit from the North Pole. With the help of our Clearpoint parents, Home & School raised enough money to treat our teachers monthly to Coffee & Treats! Staff Appreciation looked a little different, but we tried our best as we LOVE our staff so much—\$5000 was donated towards a much-needed renovation of the staff room. A virtual Scholastics Book Fair was organized for Reading Week in April and the annual Maple Syrup Fundraiser was given the go ahead. In lieu of Pizza Lunch our Pizza Party was created in partnership with Dominos in Pointe Claire. Also new this spring was a fundraiser with Plantables.ca and deliveries are happening now. I can't wait to see what grows!

My personal goals for my term have also been accomplished: Composting at Clearpoint and a rehaul of the Home & School Constitution that hadn't been updated since 1996.

All in all, I am beyond happy with the outcome of the past two years. We rolled with it and succeeded! I am very proud of all the accomplishments and am very grateful to all the wonderful Home & School volunteers for pulling it all together.

Thank you!
Tayba



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

by Tayba Huot

Oh. My. Gosh! What a crazy wild two years it's been as Home & School President.

The 2019-2020 school year started off great with our first ever Corn Roast and after COVID is done I would definitely like to see that make a comeback—it was an amazing family event! September led us into the Terry Fox Run where we provided apples, Lunch-Time Activities and Pizza Lunch kick started. These were followed by the annual Halloween Dance and Schools Take Root vegetable basket fundraiser. Next, we organized the Comedy Night followed by the Holiday Fair and Scholastics Book Fair. Home & School assisted with Picture Day and the Grade 4 vaccinations. During the first quarter of 2020 we prepared for the Maple Syrup fundraiser, Movie Night and Staff Appreciation week. Sadly, early March brought the global pandemic that forced us home and we all hit the pause button.

We learned to pivot very quickly and made it work. We took to ZOOM and off we went! The Maple Syrup Fundraiser continued online with super smooth socially-distanced pick-up. We provided fruit and vegetable baskets to our Clearpoint families in need with the help of Le Panier de Fermier in Laval. We came together as an organization and managed refunds for Pizza Lunches and Lunch-Time Activities.

Overall, great things came out of the 2019-2020 school year! We kick started our Community Events, Home & School newsletters, hospitality at our monthly meetings and we assisted in bringing composting to Clearpoint!

The 2020-21 school year started off with pick-ups from SchoolKits.ca and the Schools Take Roots Vegetable basket campaign. We decided to increase the annual teacher allocations—they definitely deserved it! There was a lot of brainstorming of fundraising and community event ideas that were pandemic safe. The Virtual Halloween Dance was organized and enjoyed by many attending students and adults alike. Then the idea of a Virtual Holiday Fair was born. It included the 50/50 draw, promoting of local businesses, fundraising with Brulerie des Monts, Recipes in a Jar, Tru Earth, Bo Sapin, Bad Monkey Popcorn, Clio Bookstore,

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

by David Estok



What an absolutely incredible, unbelievable, crazy year it has been. There have been sacrifices made everywhere in our community—by teachers, parents and students. At the end of it all, I believe that there is much to be thankful for. Although we began the school year in August with many questions, concerns, fears and worries, what we were able to accomplish together was to keep the school open, have the children remain in class, and allowed them to continue to learn, grow and develop.

As you know, this issue of the Home & School newsletter has a focus on our Grade 6 graduates. Our Grade 6 students clearly deserve some special recognition for the part they have played in getting us through the year. They are to be congratulated, not only because they are graduating, but because they have been **true leaders** in our school for the entire year.

Our Grade 6 students have been impressive **role models**. They set the example for others, by taking up the challenge and being willing to adjust to a radically different school environment, and then doing their very best to follow all the new rules and procedures day-in and day-out, all year long.

Our Grade 6 students have been **innovators**. An excellent example of this was how well they completed their exhibition projects. They used a new format—going on-line with the Grade 6 exhibition—and made it work extraordinarily well.

Our Grade 6 students showed themselves to be **courageous**. All year long, many people were worried—understandably so—that they might catch COVID-19 at school. Despite the risk, they took this in stride, and carried themselves with maturity and calmness. They came to school every day, worked hard, and did not let COVID-19 get in the way of learning.

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CLASS of 2021

Name: Victoria Bowen

Nickname(s): Vicky, Vicki

Most memorable moment during my years at Clearpoint is falling off the monkey bars in Grade 2, learning gymnastics, exhibition, Animagerie in the winter, going skating, field trips, barbeques.

Message: First, I would love to thank our principal Mr. Estok for keeping our school in safe hands. All of the staff members has been taking care of us like where their children. Even though time goes by quickly, I would never forget how thoughtful this school has been to us. We've all made astonishing memories, and so have the adults. I would like to say one more big thank you to all helpers, monitors, staff, teachers, integration aides, and of course my parents, who helped me throughout this journey and especially signing me up into this school/program. All the past years have been amazing, all thanks to the Clearpoint team.





CLASS of 2021

Name: Teresa Huang

Nickname(s): Tortellini; san

Most memorable moment during my years at Clearpoint: My most memorable moments of Clearpoint Elementary are the times I shared with my friends at Cepsum, and the memories I was able to create during the ski trips.

Message: Thank you so much for everything that my parents, staff, and my teachers for help educating us during this hard time. I really enjoyed my time here at Clearpoint. Thank you for everything!



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Our Grade 6 students showed themselves to be able to live in the moment and enjoyed the fun things the school year offered them, taking full advantage of every single spirit day that we had this year! When they performed in the Senior Holiday Show this year, they sang and danced their hearts out, and gave it their all, even though their audience was virtual.

Our Grade 6 students have **made us immensely proud**, not only because they are graduating from elementary school and heading off to high school, but because they have shown us all how to cope, adapt, be flexible, be creative, enjoy and make the best of the truly difficult situation before them.

I would also like to extend heartfelt thanks to all our parents for your continued support of our school and staff. We know that the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic are ones that you all have faced as well. Through it all, your collaboration with our school has been phenomenal. We thank you for your help, trust and confidence—especially this year.

Finally, I would like to express sincere gratitude to the outstanding staff of Clearpoint Elementary. Throughout a year of adversity, in addition to the routine demands of their work as educators, they were confronted with the immense burden of keeping their students and themselves safe amid a global pandemic. Their steadfast resolve, to do their jobs and much, much more has meant that our school year has been a successful one. I take my hat off to each and every one of them.

What has kept the Clearpoint Community together is the enduring spirit of collaboration between the school and the families it serves. What sets us apart as a school community is what has carried us through the past year and a half. We are truly looking forward to a return to a more normal school year and count on having the opportunity again soon to work together with you for the benefit of our students. We wish you an amazing summer and can't wait to see you in August.

CLASS OF 2021

VALEDICTORIAN SPEECHES

Erolande Ma



I would like to start off by welcoming all students, families, friends, teachers and distinguished guests to Clearpoint Elementary's graduation ceremony of 2021. I would like to congratulate all the grads who are here today! After seven years of tests, homework and projects, we finally made it. We're graduating. I know it feels like the end of the story, but it's just the end of a chapter. We have so much more to experience and to learn.

From the first day of kindergarten, when we had Clearpoint's signature balloon parade, to when we finished our exhibition adventure. It was these memories that have lasted all this time. As the film producer Malik Faisal once said, "Life brings tears, smiles, and memories. The tears dry, the smiles fade, but the memories last forever." *Ce sont les expériences de nos premières années qui ont construit ce que nous sommes aujourd'hui. Je voudrais remercier tous nos enseignants des années passées. Ceux qui ont planté les graines qui vont grandir et fleurir pour toujours. Oui, l'école secondaire va être une nouvelle expérience, elle va être très différente de celle de l'école primaire. Heureusement, nous sommes capables de nous adapter facilement grâce à nos expériences. Quand nous sommes allés à maternelle, nous avons toujours joué et écouté des histoires.*

However, the next year, grade one, things changed. We started to learn how to read and to write, and it wasn't easy. Grade two was the year when we visited the museum Exporail for our unit on transportation. Next it was grade three, this was the year we got promoted to Clearpoint seniors. It was also the year we visited the land of the Iroquois and spent a day in their lives. Our elementary experience has now arrived

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CLASS of 2021

Name: Raphaëlle Dubé

Most memorable moment during my years at Clearpoint is going to CEPSUM with my class in grades 3 and 4. It was really fun and everyone liked it! There was a pool, a gymnasium and more! I will definitely look back at this memory.

Message: Thank you staff and parents, for making the memorable moments we have. Thank you to all my classmates and friends, for being with me during those moments, and making them even better.





CLASS *of* 2021

Name: Kayla Hedayati

Nickname(s): Kaykay

Most memorable moment during my years at Clearpoint is when I first came to this school and got welcomed by everyone, The Balloon Parade, exhibition, going on the funest field trips at Clearpoint Elementary.

Message: First I'll start with the grads, class of 2021. I will miss all of you. I will just miss seeing everyone, everyday. Hope to see you all again one day. Next is staff. The staff at Clearpoint Elementary are so supportive, so kind, loving. They taught me so much throughout my 7 years. I would like to also say thank you to our wonderful Principal Mr. Estok. He runs Clearpoint Elementary amazingly. I am so sad to be leaving Clearpoint and not be with the amazing people here at Clearpoint Elementary.

I would also love to say a huge thank you to all the parents here who have brought to where and who we are now.

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at the midway point. *Maintenant la quatrième année. Nous avons appris la multiplication et la division en mathématiques. C'était la base sur laquelle nous continuions de construire pour les années suivantes.* Our grade five year got cut short and school became online. Why? Well you already know the answer to that...

Cette année n'a pas été facile, car nous avons besoin de suivre des nombreuses régulations covid-19 pour assurer la sécurité de tout le monde. Nous devons nous rappeler que cela était quand même plus difficile pour tous les enseignants. Therefore, I'd like to give a big thanks to our amazing homeroom teachers, Mr. Dufresne, Mme. Hayes, Mrs. Nicki and Mme. Kelly, as well as all the specialist teachers, lunch and daycare monitors, bus drivers and parents for making this year the best it could be!

I would like to end off by saying that graduation is not the end, it is the beginning of new achievements and new passions! As we move forward into the future and face life's many challenges, we must remain kind and compassionate, not only in academic environments, but also in life. On a final note, I would like to wish the best to all the grads of 2021, and to everyone, *ça va bien aller.* Thank you.



Valentina Christiano

Dear teachers, staff members, family members and graduating classes of 2021,

I hope you are all having an amazing day. I am Valentina Christiano of class 603 and I am honored to be representing my fellow classmates today. *Premièrement, je voudrais commencer par remercier tous les enseignants, tous les membres de la communauté Clearpoint ainsi que nos parents pour leur soutien tout au long de cette année difficile.*

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I have only been here since grade three, however, the countless memories that I have made with friends and teachers will stay with me long into the future! *Nous avons appris beaucoup de choses à Clearpoint, non seulement des connaissances académiques, mais de nombreuses compétences différentes que nous allons utiliser à travers notre vie.* Such as how to be a good citizen in a community, or how to stand up for what you know is right.

En réfléchissant à certains des moments mémorables qui m'ont marqué, en 3e année, nous avons exploré les roches et les minéraux et en 4e année, nous avons appris sur notre système solaire et avons été invités à montrer nos connaissances de notre propre manière créative. En 5e année, nous nous sommes tellement amusés lors de notre dernière excursion à CEPsum avant que l'école a été fermée.

All of the projects that we have done leading up to Exhibition have been so fun to work on and have helped us to prepare for the next chapter of our lives: high school. From kindergarten to grade 6, we have felt a rollercoaster of emotions. We remember the excitement of the balloon parade when we were welcomed to Clearpoint and will always remember how we felt today; proud at all we have accomplished. Clearpoint has helped to prepare us for all of the difficult and new challenges of high school. As we move forward towards the next step in our lives, the lessons that we have learned at Clearpoint will always remain.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the teachers that have taught us many things. *Merci également à nos enseignants de 6ème année qui incluent Miss Nicki et Mme Kelly, Mr. Dufresne, Mme Hayes, Mr. Vaughn et Ms. Catalina pour leurs efforts pour rendre cette année difficile aussi amusante et innovante que possible ! Et surtout pour nous garder en sécurité.* Last, but not least, a big thank you to our amazing principal Mr. Estok and our incredible secretary Ms. Angelika for all of their time and support.

Like the Giver told Jonas, "Memories are not just about the past, they determine our future. You can change things. You can make things better." Take pride in how far you have come and have faith in how far you can go.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2021.



CLASS of 2021

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Also, we can never forget to say a huge thank you to home and school for raising money to buy us things so we can be happy. Making amazing fun activities for us and just helping the school become where it is today.

Thank you to everyone who made school feel like home.





CLASS of 2021

Name: Isaiah Lewis

Most memorable moment during my years at Clearpoint is the balloon parade and CEP SUM.

Message: Thank you all so much for helping get through these past 7 years at Clearpoint. I will miss you all so so much.



Victoria Bowen

Welcome parents, teachers, staff, friends, mentors, distinguished guests, and of course, the graduating class of 2021. We did it, and we are finally here. Graduation is a time of reflecting on the past and looking onward to the future. I would like to say a big thank you to our principal Mr. Estok & to all the teachers and administrators who have been involved in all of our years of learning and development. We have been through challenging times during the course of our journey here at Clearpoint, and still managed to accomplish all our goals together as a team. As we cross the stage and receive our diplomas, we're all saddened to be ending this important chapter in our lives, yet excited and maybe a little nervous for what lays ahead.

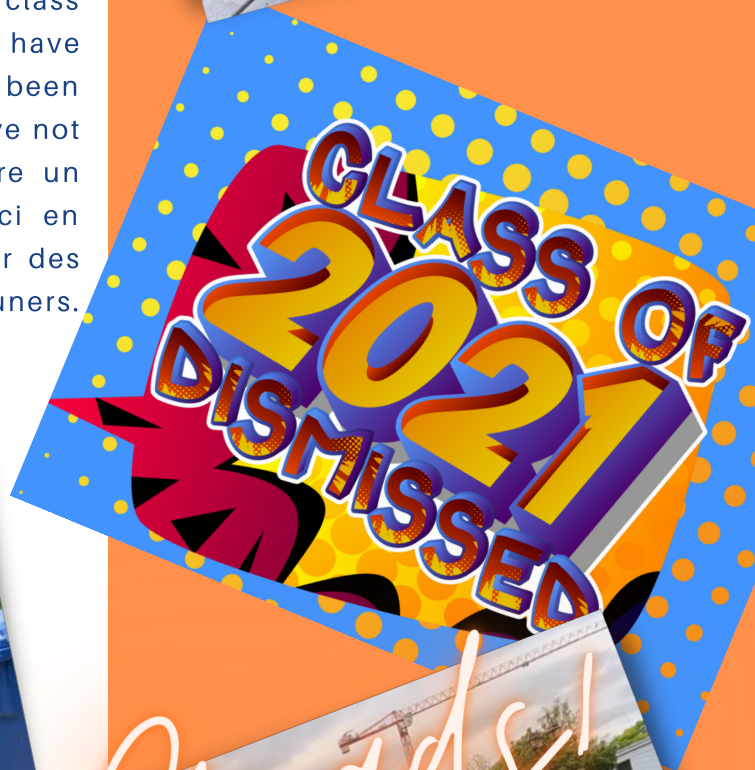
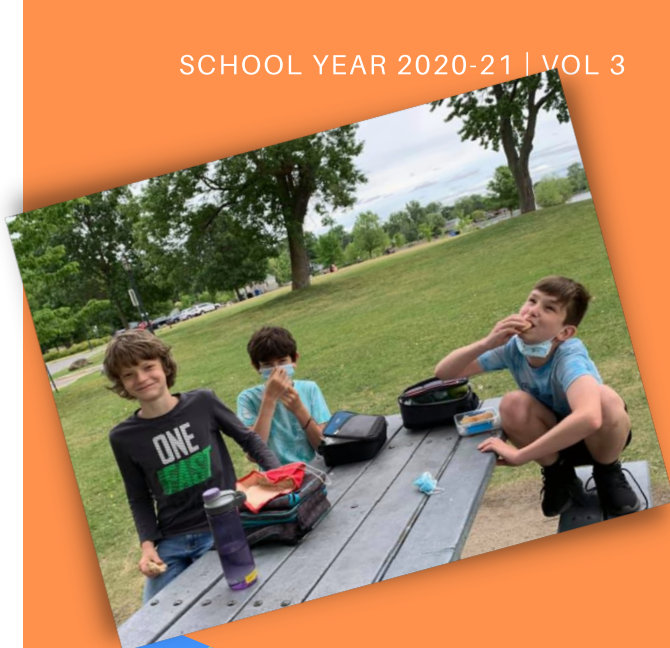
I remember my first day at Clearpoint Elementary, which was in grade 2, and everyone welcomed me with open arms. Clearpoint quickly became like a second home. Je voulais remercier nos parents pour leur soutien tout au long de notre expérience ici à Clearpoint. Nous ne pouvons pas assez les remercier. Je voudrais aussi remercier les professeurs pour leur soutien avec les affaires de tous les jours. Ils nous ont aidé avec nos leçons, les unités, l'exposition et aussi avec des petites choses comme des problèmes personnels.

As we look back on seven astonishing years, it is easy to see that Clearpoint has played an instrumental role in helping to shape the young boys and girls we are today. Les amitiés se sont rapidement développées d'une classe à l'autre. On nous a donné de nouveaux privilèges, ainsi que de nouvelles responsabilités. Un de mes bons souvenirs était en troisième année avec Mme Suzanne. J'ai essayé de sortir mon Chromebook du chariot et j'ai renversé sa tasse de café sur le sol. Je savais qu'elle était fâchée, car si quelqu'un renverse le café de ma mère, elle se transforme en taureau en colère.

Looking back to grade 4, I remember very fondly the first time when I played soccer baseball with Mr. Bill. As unknown as this

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sport was to me, Mr. Bill coached and encouraged us with great enthusiasm like we've been playing it in the past gym classes. We spent Grade 5, with fewer people but nonetheless we worked hard in school and even on ZOOM, and I'm sure you know why. It was a year of a huge experiment that no one has possibly been through. Then came Grade 6. By now, those new friendships were stronger than ever before. This year, we have a very unique and exceptional group of students who are graduating. Despite the pandemic, we have been through so much and have progressed and grown together. Our teachers, Mme. Hayes, Mr. Dufresne, Ms. Nicki and Mme. Kelly, as well as our class integration aides, Mr. Vaughn and Mrs. Catalina who have been compassionate & patient with us. There has not been a day that has gone by that we, the grads of 2021, have not appreciated all that you do. Je voudrais dire encore un merci au personnel de Clearpoint, et un gros merci en particulier à mes parents, qui m'ont aidé à surmonter des défis difficiles et, bien sûr, à me faire de si bons déjeuners. Congratulations grads of 2021. We did it!



Have a great summer

