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A MASTERCLASS IN MUSIC

At Enver Creek a vast majority of creatives spend their time involved with the different art programs at their disposal. The head of one these programs is Mr. Weeratunge, Enver's resident "Music Man." Not only does Mr. Weeratunge lead the Enver Creeks music groups to success, but he also inspires his students to no extent. These are some of the things that he had for us to know about; All the bands are doing the best they can with the situation they have been placed in.

An event Mr Weeratunge mentioned that you should've kept your eye out for is the Spring Concert. It was held in the Enver Creek theatre on April 13. It was a way for family and friends to experience the ensembles, come together and provide a piece of art to enjoy. It was also a way for our band students to show off their musicianship, dedication, and hard work. Overall, it was an exciting event to look forward to for all, not just the students of Enver.

Moving forward with more band student centric news, we had field trips! Our band members in Grades 8 and 9 went to Sun Peaks whilst our Senior's headed to Toronto Both groups are in for a whirlwind of summer fun on their respective trips. Also, news of the band trip next year has been circling and we are elated to mention that senior band members will be going to Disneyland in the next school year! Those mentioned trips are only a taste of what you can experience if you decide to join band during your time at Enver Creek.



Finally, we would like to inform that Enver Creek's Jazz Band was given the opportunity to play at Surrey Schools Jazz Festival 2023! Members of the band got their music in December and after countless days and nights spent perfecting their pieces such as Love Is Here To Stay, Poco Loco, and I Just Seen Her (As Nobody Else Has Seen Her), they were able to perform it for at the Bell Center in front of judges and potentially win awards as an ensemble or individuals on March 3rd. Amazing work was done by our jazz musicians Aleesha Chaudhry and Riis Maltes.

Mr. Weeratunge believes that all the ensembles have shown tremendous improvements in their performances and aims help them achieve a higher level of musicianship as he hopes to grow the band programs such as his Concert Band and other classes like Guitar Class too.

Band students, excellent job and keep it going, we look forward to your exhibitions!

You can find more information on the music program from Mr. Weeratunge, other students, or their Instagram Page: @envercreek.music !

By: Lakshay Kumar and Gurshaan Purba



ART IN THE HALLWAYS: Beautiful from the Inside and Out

Art speaks to the soul

in more ways than one. Whether through music, paintings, architecture, or theatrical performances, we all enjoy art through some medium.

Enver Creek is no stranger to artists. From our band to our colorful festive events to our hallways, talent is sprung everywhere. When we think of art in our school, the first place that comes to our mind is our beautiful art hallway. It is certainly different than the rest of the school with its eye-catching colors and framed paintings on the wall. These are not works of world-famous artists but our own fellow students.

One of the creators of the painting in the art hallway is 12th grader AP-Art student Exodus Chimanuka who led us through a brief journey of these pieces. He talks about his passion for art when he was "younger" and how this interest still continues. According to Exodus, these pieces are selected by Mr. Searcy themselves. "Mr. Searcy comes to your table and [informs] that he wants this piece in art" says Exodus while jokingly adding that "you kind of get a choice [if you want your art in the hallway] but at the same time you don't."

These paintings usually follow a specific theme or style. For example, Exodus chose the theme of architecture where he depicted one side of the buildings as colorful and one as black and white. This lets the viewer determine the meaning. It could depict the wonders of life, how sometimes it has its bright moments and sometimes it has its dull moments. But never let your passion fall or die. As Exodus said "If you love art, just do it. It doesn't matter if you're good or not. If you enjoy it, then you are fine."

By: Navya Garg

COUGAR'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH

SURREY TEEN READS



Better Than the Movies
by Lynn Painter
Rom Com, Enemies to
Lovers, Hopeless
Romantic

Quote: "Enemies-to-lovers, it's our trope Buxbaum".

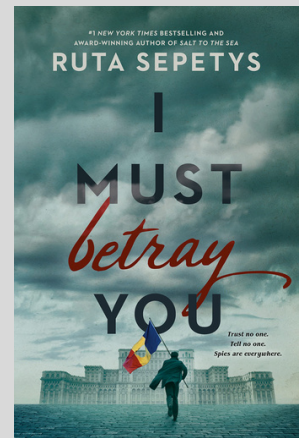
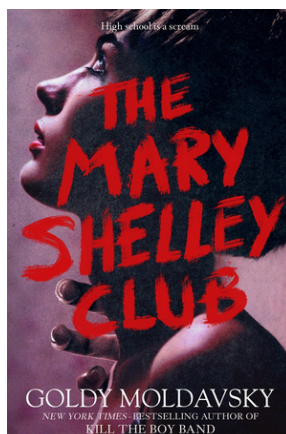
Summary: Liz Buxbaum is a hopeless romantic teen who had been waiting her entire life for her perfect rom com moment. When her childhood crush, Michael Young, moves back to town, she knows it's her chance to live out her dream. Desperate to get Michael's attention, she asks her obnoxious neighbor, Wes Bennett, to be her wing man, but as time passes Liz realizes that maybe her movie romance had been in front of her all along. Your classic cheesy romance but with some unique elements sprinkled in here and there, like playlists and Liz' obsession with rom coms. Overall, a great book and fully deserving of its spot as number one.

The Mary Shelley Club by
Goldy Moldavsky
Thriller, Mystery, Suspense

Quote: "The game isn't over until everyone's played".

Summary: After a traumatic incident, Rachel Chavez is having trouble fitting in at Manchester Prep, a private school full of arrogant teenagers. That is until she uncovers a club for horror lovers that pull elaborate pranks called fear tests. The rules are simple: you must play the role you are assigned, you cannot target a member of the club, and your test isn't complete until your target screams. As the fear tests go on, it becomes evident that someone is targeting the club and they must figure out who it is before things get out of control.

Great for those who love suspense, and although this book is a thriller, it has some humor. Altogether, a quick and interesting read.



I Must Betray You by Ruta
Sepetys
Historical fiction, Political
Fiction, Tragic and
Sorrowful

Quote: "Paradise: If communism is paradise, why do we need barriers, walls, and laws to keep people from escaping?" .

Summary: Cristian Florescu lives in a country run by tyrants where you can trust no one and you are always being watched. When the secret police blackmail Cristian into becoming an informer, he is forced to betray his friends and family. Instead of giving up hope, Cristian plots to use his position to destroy the secret police from the inside and puts everything at risk to inform the outside world of the evils taking place in Romania.

An emotional book that explores a dystopian society, and the effects of communism. If you're interested in learning about historical events and politics, *I Must Betray You* is perfect for you. It's touching and powerful, impossible to put down once you start.

By: Aleesha Chaudry and Keerat Mahil

COUGAR'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH

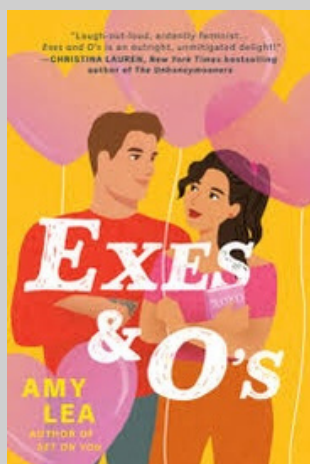
NEW RELEASE ROMANCES

"Exes and O's" by Amy Lea
(#2 in The Influencer series)

3.99 stars on Goodreads

This book is about a social media influencer, Tara Chen, who revisits her exes on her hunt for true love in this rom-com novel. On the other hand, Trevor Metcalfe is the type to rush into anything risky—except for relationships. When Tara convinces Trevor to help her get back with one of her exes and he reluctantly agrees, it opened a new chapter for him. As they spend more time together, Tara realizes he is the only one that accepts her for who she is, but can they both realize their feelings for each other and name each other as 'the one'?

If you are interested in "The Neighbor Favor," consider picking up this book which has a similar trope of a character helping the other get a romantic partner that isn't them, and characters realizing their true feelings for each other.



"Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute" by Talia Hibbert

3.96 stars on Goodreads

This is a contemporary romance involving a seemingly perfect star athlete (Bradley Graeme) and a conspiracy-theorist influencer (Celine Bangura) who is forced to work as a team when they both unknowingly signed up for the survival course out in the woods. To give context, these two used to be best friends, but after Bradley abandoned her for the popular kids (or at least that's how Celine sees it), they've been nothing but petty academic rivals. Can they work together, not only through mud and dirt but also through their past?

This book is great for those who enjoy a good laugh and characters that banter.

"Friday I'm in Love" by Camryn Garrett

4.04 stars on Goodreads

A contemporary romance involving LGBTQ2+ elements and black joy. Mahalia Harris wants a lot of things such as a sweet sixteen (though it's too late for that), a new girl to like her back, and a break from life's worries. Inspiration struck and she is set to host a coming out party with singing, dancing, rainbow cakes, and celebrating queerness on her terms. It wasn't long, though, for her to be buried in a mountain of struggles, and she was left to ponder if her party will be over before it even starts.

A great choice for those interested in books about finding yourself, falling in love, and celebrating what makes you, YOU.



"Lunar Love" by Lauren Kung Jessen

3.66 stars on Goodreads

A rom-com novel about two people, Olivia Huang Christenson, who believes in tradition and runs a matchmaker business, and Bennet O'Brien, who believes in breaking those traditions (and the one behind the dating app that threatens Liv's family matchmaking legacy). They butt heads and to prove who the superior one is, they create a challenge for each other, setting the other up to see who will fall in love first. And loses.

Great for those interested in enemies-to-lovers, opposites attract, and a set of fun characters.

By: Hania Ahmad

MUSIC MANIACS

Enver Creek Cougars love our music. AirPods and headphones are a familiar sight in the quad, hallways, and even in the classroom! Let's see what students were bopping their heads to this month:

Top New Release Album: SOS

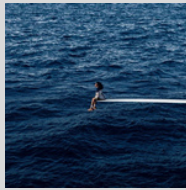
Artist: SZA

Genre: R&B; hip-hop; pop

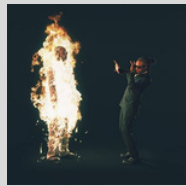
Release Date: December 9, 2022

Overview: SZA's newest album is a hit, And Enver Creek Students are here for it! The album is complete with 23 tracks. It features appearances from Don Tolliver, Travis Scott, and more. And just two months after its release, the album hit 1.4 billion streams and remained #1 on the billboard 200 for 7 consecutive weeks.

Other Releases:



Rich Flex



Heroes and Villains



Good Riddance

By: Jane Biju



WHAT WOULD COUGAR DO?

Dear Enver Creek Cougar, I am in grade 8 and the most challenging thing about high school right now is getting to know new people. I'm afraid I won't make the right friends and that I might mess up.

-Ms. Fearful.

Dear Ms. Fearful, it's completely normal to be scared about making the right friends and choices, it's all part of growing up! You learn from your mistakes and learn from the people around you. It makes you, you. My advice would be to find people who share the same interests as you, that way you'll be able to bond with people easily and comfortably.

-EC Cougar

Dear Enver Creek Cougar, What I'm finding most challenging as a grade 8 is completing homework for all four blocks in time.

-Mr. Timeless

Dear Mr. Timeless, Moving from elementary school to high school can be challenging, as the workload only increases over the years. It's okay to feel overwhelmed or clueless. The best thing to do is make a plan and checklist of all the things that need to be done. Staying organized is fulfilling half the task!

-EC Cougar

Dear Enver Creek Cougar, I am in grade 8 and lots of days at lunch are boring. I don't know what to do

-Boredom

Dear boredom, High school is supposed to be fun and an opportunity to try new things. Enver Creek offers various clubs and teams, from basketball to book club! The best pastime is doing something you love. If you don't want to join a club or activity, there is always fun stuff to do in the quad and gym!

-EC Cougar

Dear Enver Creek Cougar, I'm scared of trying out for sports! What advice would you give me to get rid of nerves?

-Nervous Nelly

Dear Nervous Nelly, Trying out for your favorite sport can be daunting, especially if it's your first time. My advice would be to become stress-free and go into tryouts with confidence. If you aren't confident then you might not perform at your best. Don't overthink it, and if you don't get in, it isn't the end of the world. There's always next year! Good Luck!

-EC Cougar

By: Ursh Choudhry and Neha Ali

MOVIE MANIA

School may be exhausting with all the homework, extra curriculars, tests, etc. However, everyone needs a break on the weekend to see a movie occasionally. So, here are the top movies in theatres that you Enver Creek students might be interested in.

Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania



This movie is great for Enver Creek Marvel fans, in fact it is the first phase 5 movie of the MCU. This means it is a whole new era in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. This movie is a sequel to Ant-Man VS. the Wasp. Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania is now playing in theatres!

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3



Another movie for Enver Creeks Marvel fans because who does not love Marvel? Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 is a sequel to the other Guardians of the Galaxy movies. This movie is not in theatres yet however will be airing May 5th, 2023. Guardians of the Galaxy movies are humorous. Therefore, if u like Marvel and comedy, this movie is great for you.

Scream IV



In March, a familiar face slices through the screens once again in this new instalment of the iconic Scream franchise. We reunite with our protagonists, Tara, Sam, Chad, Mindy, and legacy character Gale Weathers, alongside new faces far away from Woodsboro in the heart of New York City. Ghostface is back and as ruthless as ever. New York means new rules. Get ready for March 10 because in a city of millions, no one hears you scream.

Fast X



Since the release of Fast and Furious, fans around the world have followed closely as Dom and his Crew fight battles as enemies, and heroes. 22 years later and 4 crew members lost, Dom, Mia, Han, Roman, and Tej ride into their last adventure, with new members in the backseat. As old enemies resurface the crew fights to keep their family intact to eventually find peace in normalcy as they race to the finish line in one last ride. The Fast and The Furious franchise will leave a legacy to remember, because no matter what anyone says, it doesn't matter if you win by a quarter or a mile, a win is a win.

Those are the top movies in/ coming to theatres. Hope you Enver Creek students enjoy!

By: Sabina Razi, Lojayn
Abbas and Jden Alea

An insight on the lives of teachers

The other day, we sat down with Mrs. Sew, to find out exactly why she became a teacher and the lessons she hopes to teach us outside of the classroom. When asked about her motivations, she replied she wants to “change things up from what [she has] seen before!” and the following interview gives us a look into just that: ideas we haven’t seen before. We hope you enjoy!

Q: What do you look for in a friend?
A: The individual should accept me for who I am, so I feel comfortable being myself around that person.

Q: What message would you spread to the entire world if you were given the chance?
A: Whether you are anxious or scared, you should not worry, because everything you want is on the other side of your fear.

Q: And finally, what advice would you have given yourself at age 15?
A: To "love what you love" and extend kindness to others and yourself.

The classroom was a loud and passionate one, but Mr. Bennett and I were able to get an enjoyable conversation going.

Q: How would you describe your school life like as a kid?
A: “Lonely” Further saying that he was bullied every now and then. However this took a turn after Mr. Bennett graduated and became very sociable in the following years.

Q: If you had to give a message to the entire world, in a blink of an eye, what would it be?
A: “Everyone is equal, and you are special in your own ways, so don’t beat yourself up for mistakes you or other people make.”

Q: What did you like/dislike about school as a kid?
A: He enjoyed playing funny pranks- not harmful, but funny pranks on the teacher. When he was younger, and his teacher was distracted, he and his friends taped everything on their teacher’s desk and took the whole desk out to the football field. Do not get ideas, but this is part of how Mr. Bennett enjoyed his school experience.

Fun fact: Mr. Bennett worked as an animator on 4 seasons of the popular kids show “My Little Pony”!

Thank you to Mr. Bennett for allowing us to get a more inside look into our teachers lives beyond the boards filled with facts and the wall of a classroom.

By: Zeeshan Bajwa

Senior Formal

“I gained a lot of pride knowing that I could be the one to revive school traditions and bring back the sense of community for our seniors.” – Ilaf Abbas, Grad Council President.

Upon walking into the dance there was an immediate electric energy followed by a buzz of chatter roaming the crowd. After a brief welcoming speech by Ilaf Abbas and further pleasantries, the music was turned up, and the mood skyrocketed. Despite the obstacles faced with decorations and delayed orders, the Graduation Council was able to persevere and still managed to bring a magical feel to the night, bringing Old Hollywood from the past to the present. For those unfortunate enough to miss it, there was a large balloon arc of gold, white and black ready to serve as a background for the pictures taken to capture the special memories that people were bound to make. There was a swirl of balloons wrapped around the pillars that were almost as high as the contentment that empowered the seniors. Finally, the students were treated like royalty, welcomed by the red runway leading them into the dance.

The interest in the dance was apparent as Ilaf Abbas stated, “Organizing such a large school event was a challenge in itself, since we sold over 200 tickets. There were many measures that had to be taken to make sure we could accommodate so many people.” Though the dance was an amazing experience, there were a few aspects that the planning crew felt could have been improved, the music being one of them. Grad Council president hoped to have had more control over it because, “Although [they] supplied a playlist, not many of the songs that were on there got played and [she] know[s] that the music put a damper on the night for everyone.” Planning senior formal was an extremely extensive process that included getting approval from admin, publicizing, supervision, decorations and setting up. Through the event the Graduation Council fundraised tons of money to put into further experiences for the seniors before their final year at Enver comes to an end.

Many minds were put together in order to make this night the best possible as Ilaf expresses, “I’m so appreciative to Ms. Pillay, Ms. Larsen and Ms. Tessier, for all their help and guidance while I planned the event, and for my co-chairs, Sehraaj and Raisa, and to everyone else who volunteered, whether it was through making announcements or helping with decoration, etc. I personally loved how the decorations turned out, and think our vision was carried out how we wanted.”

By: Sukhman Kambo and Lojayn Abbas

We would like to thank the following people for making this newspaper possible:

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