

CRESTWOOD



WHY SPIRIT IS SO IMPORTANT

BY: JENNIFER FREEDMAN
 Spirit is everywhere and anywhere at once. It is a mechanism that drives us forward to accomplish greatness. Here at Crestwood Preparatory College, students have the opportunity to enhance their high school experience and create memories that last a lifetime. This is done through school spirit!

Being at Crestwood since S.K has made me truly understand the meaning of spirit. As a Student Council Co-President here at the school, it is unbelievably rewarding to see your student body come together and create a united front. Every year, a Spirit Week is held where each grade uses their unique spirit as weapons

INSIDE:

Who Knew?	2
Senior Boys Basketball is #WINNING "The Spirit of the Game"	3
Photo Gallery	4-5
Culmination of Energy & Enthusiasm Athletic Council Thank You	6

for battle. The first four school days are used as battle preparation where the warriors display their armor through fashionable strategies such as "Crazy Tie Day" and "Jersey Day."

During the days leading up to the colour wars, the walls of the halls were plastered with propaganda posters that represented the colours of each grade. The grade twelve locker area was full of blue streamers and motivational signs that represented how spirited we really were. Blue is the most desired colour here at Crestwood Preparatory College because it represents our school, as well as making it to the graduating year. Proudly wearing blue was always something that I looked forward to during my years at Crestwood.

The Athletic Council did a fantastic job with the organization of Spirit Week. They were able to get the school motivated and

excited for what was to come. The president of Athletic Council, Jaclyn Hershenhorn, said, "Spirit Week is a time to come together as more of a family and keep the Crestwood tradition alive."

The whole school watched the senior boys basketball team and senior girls volleyball team defeat their opposition in strenuous, nail biting games. The crowd cheered them on with such enthusiasm and support that both teams were eager to show their appreciation by winning on their own territory. It was exhilarating taking part in the senior girls volleyball game as a president, student, and athlete. Having the crowd view me in three different lights allowed for my school spirit to be enhanced. That victorious game will forever be a memory of mine and it happened to be implemented by school spirit!

Continued on page 2



WHO KNEW?

BY: GABI SANDLER

One of the many great characteristics of the Crestwood community is the unbelievably strong teacher-student relationship. Students from all grades feel a great bond with the Crestwood staff and have no problem approaching a teacher with a problem. But, of course, nothing shows the strength of a relationship like some friendly competition!

On Monday, January 21, Mr. Masters hosted the annual student vs. teacher Reach for the Top Game. The team of teachers included Mr. Jull, Mr. Podlovics, Mr. David, Mr. Scott, Mr. Hawkins, Ms. Bryant, and Mme. Doherty. They faced off against Jake Pascoe, Noah Levin, Zach Brown, Ethan Alter, Jackie Hershenhorn, Robert McKay, Ryan Kroon, Alec Mavara, and Justin Bowen.

There was laughter, frustration, and excitement in the room. It was sometimes surprising to see who was able to answer particular questions, but then there were times that the teachers' double majors proved to be an unfair advantage. The teachers seemed to dominate the round on politics and Mr. Hawkins did the social studies department proud by correctly answering all the questions on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The music round was quite successful for everyone, and when it was not, it seemed that the overall mantra was, "When in doubt, Pitbull sings it!" The teachers thought it would be wise to make sure Mr. Podlovics sat in for the round on minerals, but science student Noah Levin gave him a run for his money. Perhaps the most surprising of all was the round dedicated to Canadian actor, Jay



Barachel, which was answered completely by Grade 11 student, Jake Pascoe. Lastly, the much requested round on the Kardashians was ruled by the ladies of the game, Mme. Doherty, Ms. Bryant, and Jackie Hershenhorn. By the end of the game, the teachers finished with a score of 590 and the students finished with a score of 280.

Along with Mr. Jull, Mr. Masters co-ordinates the Reach for the Top league throughout the year and the two take turns hosting. Any student in grades 9-12 is eligible to be part of a team and students compete against each other on the basis of general knowledge. Questions range from the War of 1812 to last night's episode of *Here Comes Honey Boo-Boo*. There is also a team who competes in the inter-school league, which Crestwood hosts regularly.

Reach for the Top is a much loved asset to the Crestwood community, like the student-teacher bond. To bring the two together for the annual game was a real treat and get excited for next year's game!

WHY SPIRIT IS SO IMPORTANT, CONTINUED

Through school spirit, students can become a part of something exciting and unique. Yes, there are many clubs and extra-curricular activities to join, but school spirit is a type of organization on its own. It does not require skill, but instead it requires heart and soul. All social groups put their differences aside and come together to form a tightly knit community that cannot be broken apart.

New students get a sense of belonging through spirit which creates a safe and comfortable environment. Many new students from all over the world came to Crestwood this year and have adapted to school life immediately because of the warmth they felt by the students who have welcomed them with open arms. Spirit

The final day of Spirit Week arrived and each grade was ready for war. Every student came in full armor made out of their grade colour, but one grade tugged its way through tug of war and belted its heart out during "Don't Forget the Lyrics" which resulted with a victory for the grade twelves - but no one team necessarily was better than the rest. The collegiality of the events were at the forefront, and whether they knew each other or not, students cheered one another on.

This Spirit Week set the bar for the annual tradition. Experiencing it as a president, athlete and student really fulfilled my desires as a graduate. The entire experience was the perfect ending to a perfect thirteenth year for me at Crestwood.

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL IS #WINNING

BY: TARA GWARTZMAN

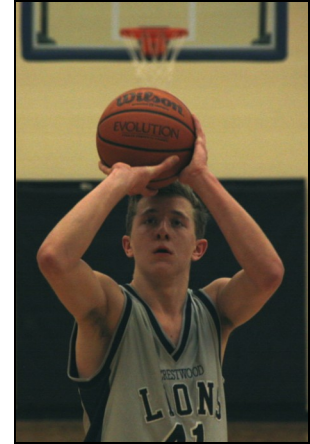
On Wednesday, January 23, the school gathered to cheer on the Senior Boys Basketball team as they played against a fierce competitor, Lakefield College School.

Our Lions were ready to take on this rival as they already had five wins under their belt. They were ready to conquer their sixth victory of the season. The bleachers were



at full capacity for this home game and the fans were enthusiastic and excited for their Lions to make a push for the play-offs.

From the opening tip-off, it was a tightly contested battle as Lakefield's defense shadowed every move of the Lions' offensive, but our senior boys began to pull ahead and came out victorious with an astonishing thirty-point lead. The final score was 61-31. Jacob Hamblin, a grade 11 student, seemed unstoppable as he hit one three pointer after another.



After the triumphant game, team captain Noah Levin explained the secret to the perfectly executed plays that led the team to victory: "We are lucky enough to have a lot of players on the team with great basketball IQ. Our plays are fashioned so that there is a lot of room for players to add their own moves. Since a lot of the players are skilled, we make quick work of other teams."

THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME: A POEM

BY: MEGHAN KATES

The game started without announcement like a clap of thunder,
like a flashing camera,
like a sudden fright.

With the younger students the game started out light and easy,
controllably rough,
soft and slow.

The teachers were tall and strong like giraffes,
like the Eiffel tower,
like sunflowers

Whenever a point was scored the crowd went wild like a Bengal tiger,
like a raging storm,
like a rushing river.

At first the score went back and forth like the tide,
like a saw,
like a rocking cradle.

Mr Johnstone taunted and jeered like a laughing hyena,
like a howling monkey,
like a roaring lion.

Mr Sunderland blocked shots like a brick wall,
like a net,
like a snare.

Mr Vaillancourt scored points like a breeze,
like a stream,
like LeBron James.

With the older students the game got wild and crazy,
rough and intense
difficult and unrestrained.

As it came down to the wire the air became charged like a battery,
like static electricity,
like power lines.

The talk after the game was like a babbling brook,
like a whispering wind,
like talkative trees.

After their close win teachers were proud like strutting peacocks,
like royalty,
like parents.

ALL HATS (CRAZY AND NOT) OFF TO THE PARTICIPATING TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.

PHOTO GALLERY





CULMINATION OF ENERGY & ENTHUSIASM

BY: KATHERINE CHARNNESS

The Colour Wars assembly, the culmination of all the events of Spirit Week, is one of the most highly anticipated events of the year. Each grade is assigned a colour and students get the chance to represent their grade in some friendly competition.

From the moment the student band Clear Distortion kicked off the assembly, to the final matches of grade vs. grade tug-of-war, the atmosphere in the gymnasium was electric. No other day of the year can you be serenaded by your principal, wear a tutu or morph suit to school and not be looked at twice, or get to throw pie in the face of your favourite teacher.

However, the Colour Wars assembly is about a lot more than this. In essence, the friendly competition provoked some of the great characteristics of students at Crestwood to come to the surface. Many students boldly took the opportunity to represent their grade in a challenging task, whether it was building the tallest card tower, participating in Crestwood's rendition of "Don't Forget the Lyrics," or trying to make a teacher laugh with the looming threat of a pie in your face as punishment if you were to fail. Taking on these contests can be difficult, especially with the eyes of the entire school on you, but many students stepped up to the challenge.

Through both the missteps and the triumphs, the day was filled with cheers, high-fives, and many laughs, evidence of the support students give to one another. The camaraderie and teamwork seen throughout the assembly was inspiring, and demonstrated what a close community Crestwood is.

Everyone present was able to share in some laughs, enjoy the grade competition, and leave the assembly confident in the spirit that has grown to unite us all.



ATHLETIC COUNCIL

THANK YOU

BY: JACLYN HERSHENHORN

What an incredible week, Crestwood! The participation from the students and teachers allowed for the week to be so successful. Friday's assembly will certainly never be forgotten. The excitement and spirit in the atmosphere from the students throughout Friday's Colour War festivities made it a challenge for the teachers to maintain.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention the effort the entire Phys Ed office and the executive team (Duncan Gilfillan, Katherine Charness and Brooke Werger) put in making Spirit Week the best it could possibly be!

**Do you want to
write for
The Crestword?**
Talk to your Editor and send
your articles to Ms. Bryant

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