

Macdonald C.I.
“We’ve Got You Covered.”



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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11 Mother's Day	12 SAC Soccer Mom vs. BBQ Dad Day	13 SAC Disney Day	14 SAC Adam Sandler Day	15 SAC Student-Teacher Swap Day	16 SAC Beach Day	17
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25	26 School Climate Survey - Special Schedule	27	28	29 Prom - 6:30 pm	30 Friday Night Lights - 6 pm	31

National Poetry Month

Armeen Amna. K

“The Caged Bird”
Maya Angelou

The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn
and he names the sky his own.

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The Caged Bird is a famous piece by revolutionary poet Maya Angelou. In honour of April’s title as National Poetry Month, it’s important to take a moment to observe the significance of poetry.

Poetry has been an important form of communication throughout history and across cultures. It’s been used to express and preserve imagery, social issues, feelings, experiences, and ideas. It’s a powerful tool of creativity, evoking opportunity for different emotions, perspectives, and reflections on a range of concepts. This genre of literature is endless and so versatile, ranging from short, fun haikus to long Shakespearean sonnets. For example, in “The Caged Bird” by Maya Angelou, she uses a poetry style called ‘free verse’ to present the metaphor of a caged and free bird compared to liberation and oppression. Observing this poem makes it clear that poetry isn’t simply a few descriptive words strung together. Instead, it is a beautiful way of writing that allows for diverse expression, representation, and communication, in various styles with a variety of literary devices.

The League of Canadian Poets encourages us to appreciate poetry and its societal value through their celebration of National Poetry Month. At Mac, be sure to participate in this celebration through the library’s Black-Out Poetry Contest for a prize!

Ask Angus

Angus Blackscot

Dear Angus,

Should I major in information technology management or commerce? Information technology management is a mix of business and computer science, so I'm a little worried about the computer science coursework. On the other hand, commerce being general for the first two years isn't really my cup of tea.

Dear Blackscot,

Listen to me, ‘right? You say information tech man... BAH THAT’S TOO LONG, let’s call ITM for now... anyways, you say it’s a good old mix of business and tech? Commerce, from what I’m aware of, is also a business-type of thing. If I’m correct, you’ll need to deal with the business part of having general courses for the first two years... which, in quote, “ain’t YOUR cup of tea.” Also, since ITM is a good old combo, means that you’ll be experienced in multiple fields, in a good old sense. Business, on the other hand, is just one lonely field that is definitely gonna be oversaturated by a lotta people. It’ll be competitive and hard to get a job... but, the more I think, ITM being a mix would mean a lotta work. You probably gotta ask yourself if you’re a good worker or not... ANYWAY- MY OPINION? DO WHAT YOU WANT — and if you change your mind, you can always change your program! Anyways, do what you want — my opinion should not take a whole toll on someone’s career and, therefore, life in a sense. BUT! It would be most favourable if you went into ITM . . . I think.

April Fools

Aleezah Abidi

How do you catch a squirrel? Climb a tree and act like a nut! Okay, truthfully, that was a pretty bad joke, but hey, let’s see you do better. April Fools Mac!

April 1st is known as a day of jokes, globally referred to as April Fools. The origin of April Fools is unknown, but many have their own variations.

As most people know, this is a day for funny pranks, dumb jokes, little quips, and smart tricks, all for the sake of hilarious mischief. People from all over the world participate in this fun, playing pranks on their family and friends.

The point of April Fools is simply to have fun, enjoy yourself, and spread a little mischief – to be creative and come up with elaborate lies to tell your siblings just because you can. April Fools is the day when all nonsense is allowed. However, it is important to remember that even if some people may enjoy a joke here and there, not everyone enjoys being the prey of various pranks. So, while everyone should have fun during April Fools, be mindful of hurting someone’s feelings or insulting them.

With that being said, once again, April Fools!

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School / Club Activities

SAC Jersey Day

Aleezah Abidi

Hey Mac, how’s your love of sports? On April 3rd, Mac students and staff wore their favourite jersey in order to celebrate our school’s sporty attitude. SAC’s Jersey Day was meant to be a fun day where everyone dressed up and displayed their school spirit. Both students and staff wore jerseys of their choice to commemorate the lively event. This year was no exception, and we managed to grab a picture too!



Photo Credits : Alphen Tan

SAC Dress Up as Your Subjects Day

Yuma Tamai

“Dress Up as Your Subject Day” was a new event introduced by the SAC this year on April 11th. It gave teachers an opportunity to be involved in spirit events alongside students. They were asked to dress up according to the subject they were teaching. For example, if a teacher teaches chemistry, they could dress up as a chemist or wear a shirt with a chemistry joke.

Teachers who participated enjoyed this spirit day. I saw many creative outfits! I was able to have a talk with Ms. Katrivanos, the school librarian, about her outfit. She was wearing pages of books on her clothes, to represent a book and learning.

She said, “I was originally not going to participate in the spirit day. I was thinking, How am I going to be a book? Or a library? But when I got to school, I had this idea; we had cut out pages of books for blackout poems, and I used those discarded pages and stuck them all over myself. And it actually worked!”

I’m so glad to hear that the teachers enjoyed their spirit day, bringing out their inner creativity to think of ways to wear their subject. I hope we’ll have more of these teacher spirit days in the future!

SAC Easter Egg Hunt

Aleezah Abidi

Happy Easter, Mac! We hope you had a fun weekend full of colorful eggs, heavy baskets and delicious food. To celebrate this holiday, SAC hosted an Easter hunt on Wednesday April 16. First, clues were posted on their Instagram account at @blackscotpride_tdsb. Next, as soon as the lunch bell sounded, students were off. They looked in broken fountains, next to smelly garbage cans, inside empty lockers, around teachers’ shelves, and in so many more places.

All throughout lunch, students did not give up. They searched for eggs in obvious yet odd places, with some following the clues while others ignored them. In the end, they were not disappointed. Two lucky winners emerged. First, Alina Liu found six chocolate eggs, the most of everyone, and won a \$20 Tim Hortons gift card. Then, Alyssa Smilis received the best prize as she found the Golden Easter egg and scored herself a ticket to this year’s prom.

This year’s SAC Easter Hunt was definitely a huge success! I can’t wait to see how well everyone does next year. Until then, Mac!

Music Council's Oodles for Noodles Day

Aleezah Abidi

When most people think of an easy, comforting, and delicious meal, they talk about ramen or instant noodles, and Mac students are no exception.

On Thursday April 17th, Music Council set up a table in the main hall, planted boxes on top, and sold all types of noodles to students at Mac. There were so many different flavours and brands, and the noodles just kept on coming. Students happily bought and indulged in these delicious cup noodles, the perfect quick snack. After the chaotic lunch hour, everyone was full and happy, buzzing in their third period classes with brains powered by instant noodles.

Personally, I hope Music Council decides to make this event an annual tradition. Here’s to hoping we see Music Council’s Oodles for Noodles again next year!

Music Council & Math Club 12 Equal Temperament

Alina Liu

Hey Mac, did you know that music can be explained mathematically? The Music Council collaborated with the Math Club to host a surprise event on April 15th, 2025, explaining the math behind the 12 equal temperament, a tuning system with 12 equal parts.

During lunch on this day in Room 130, students had a unique opportunity to listen to a presentation and afterwards participate in activities. Important terms were defined first before the 12 equal temperament was described. The musical and mathematical explanations were excellently outlined.

In musical terms, the intervals, or distance, between each note in an octave are the same, resulting in the system of 12 equal temperament. The notes are C, C#, D, D#, E, F, F#, G, G#, A, A#, B, and C. On the other hand, there are two different mathematical ways to look at the 12 equal temperament: cent, the relative difference, and frequency, the absolute value. In terms of cents, each note is equally spaced. However, frequency is different because it is logarithmic, not linear. Nonetheless the frequency ratio remains consistent between each note. The presentation highlighted a few key formulas, such as the conversion between cents and frequency and the frequency equation for the 12 equal temperament.

If you’re interested in learning more about the specific details, check out the slideshow below!

docs.google.com/presentation/d/1akPztaduGfUSNjWgLied6ua6CTOKnldz_v4v1l-6WeFI

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School / Club Activities

MACC Multicultural Food Fair

Alphen Tan

On April 24, Mac’s diversity club, MACC, held its annual food fair, and I think its massive success proves how food can connect people of all cultures. This fair provided an opportunity for various cultures and ethnicities to share their cultural food with everyone. I had been looking forward to this event for weeks, waiting for an opportunity to try new foods, and it sure didn’t disappoint. The food selection was impeccable – the variety and the sheer volume of food were amazing. MACC and everyone involved in the planning should be proud of the hard work done in advance for this food fair.

I was luckily able to snatch a quick interview with Hedy Li, the senior vice president of MACC.

Alphen: “As the senior vice president of MACC, what did you think went well with this food fair?”

Hedy: “Something I think went well at this food fair was the amount of food donations we received. From my time at MACC, I’ve never seen students this excited to share their culture and donate food, with even students from outside the council and HOC offering to donate. It was wonderful to hear MAC students enjoying and trying food from outside their culture and it really represents what MACC is here for. Thank you to everyone who donated and thank you to everyone who came and participated in this event! We hope you all enjoyed the food fair and got to try something new!”

Alphen: “Were you able to try any of the dishes, and if so, what was your favourite?”

Hedy: “I was able to try so many dishes this year that it’s hard to pick a favourite. Many of the dishes were cooked by students and teachers, each representing their own unique cultures. If I really had to pick one, it’d be the Payesh, which was a sweet rice pudding dish from Bangladesh. I even went back for seconds!”

The cafeteria was overflowing with people, their eyes hunting down all the tasty foods. This year’s event was truly a success and, hopefully, this will be a fun memory for many students for years into the future.

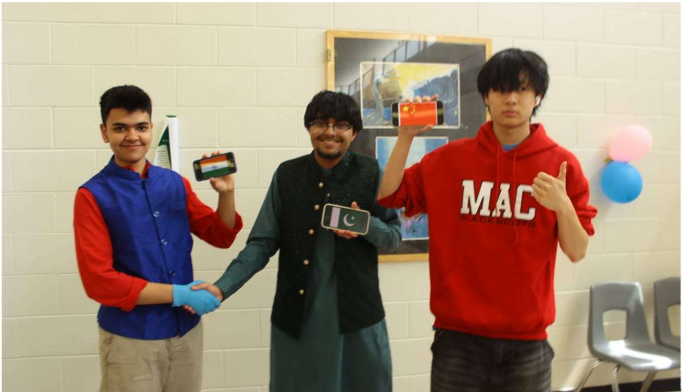


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Ranking Sweet Coffees From Tim Hortons

Alina Liu

Imagine you're trudging down a bleak, lifeless street on a bitter, cold winter day. The sun remains hidden behind thick, endless clouds, casting grey shadows over the entire city. Not a single person seems to be in sight.

Suddenly, a gentle and comforting aroma wafts up your nostrils. Instinctively, you turn to face the source of the delectable scent — Tim Hortons.

Many people recoil at the thought of the bitter taste of coffee, but not all of them are bitter; a ranking of several sweet coffees from Tim Hortons can be found below. Be sure to give them a try!



- Iced Cappuccino
 - The very first sip made me fall in love with Tim Hortons.
 - But, then again, it's a classic for a reason!
- Coffee Mocha
 - This combo of coffee and chocolate is my go-to, my life, my everything.
 - Perfect balance of sweetness / bitterness, but also depends on barista.
- Double Double
 - Also one of my go-to drinks, but usually before 1 pm.
 - Perfect for those who think a Coffee Mocha is too sweet.
- Oreo Iced Cappuccino
 - I was excited to try this because I love Oreos!
 - Too much whipped cream, so I'll probably stick with the original.
- Mocha Iced Cappuccino
 - I could barely taste the mocha flavour.
 - Again, too much whipped cream; I'll probably stick with the original.
- Mocha Latte
 - Very similar to a Coffee Mocha with a slightly stronger taste of coffee.
 - Only low on the ranking because it's a latte, which is expensive.
- Vanilla Latte
 - Taste of coffee is a little more prominent than a Mocha / Caramel Latte.
 - Only low on the ranking because it's a latte, which is expensive.
- Caramel Latte
 - Similar to vanilla latte; all three are interchangeable on this ranking.
 - Again, only low on the ranking because it's a latte, which is expensive.
- Triple Triple
 - A little too sweet for me as it has three creams and three sugars after all.
 - I tweak condiments to one cream and three sugars or a Double Double.
- French Vanilla
 - Probably the sweetest coffee I've had, which was way too sweet sadly.
 - Or maybe it's because I only ordered a large for around a week...



If you have questions or want more recommendations, fill out the anonymous Ask Angus Google Form in the bio of @macnews.tdsb on Instagram!



Photo Credits : Alina Liu



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National Librarian Day

Hannah Emberley

Librarians play a very crucial role in everyone's learning journey. They are constantly trying to make the library a welcoming and comfortable place to read. For me, my love of reading started in my elementary school library, which still continues to this day, and I am sure many of our lovely Mac News readers can relate. Reading is an essential part of learning, since everyone needs to read at some point in their lives.

I spoke to the heads of the Library Crew and they wanted to show their appreciation for the librarians. Anderson said, "We have so many amazing people dedicating hours of their day for our library, and we should recognize everything that librarians do for National Librarian Day. Our library volunteers at Mac help out with so many things, such as maintaining the computers, printing papers, and keeping the library a clean, comfortable space. I also want to thank our volunteers for helping the check-in-and-out book process and always being available for the library. A special thanks to our library staff, Ms. Katrivanos and Ms. Coppa, for managing the volunteers and creating the most beautiful book displays. Happy National Librarian's Day and thank you, library volunteers, for your time and effort!"

Fatima stated, "For creating a space where everyone can feel welcome, supported, and inspired, whether it's by helping us find the perfect novel, answering our endless questions, guiding us with patience, or bringing the student body together through your creative and exciting activities and events, your hard work and kindness make a real difference every day. We see you, appreciate you for all that you do, and are so lucky to have you. Thank you for being you, Ms. Katrivanos and Ms. Coppa!"

Thank you so much for all the hard work the librarians of Mac put into our library every day, it is greatly appreciated!



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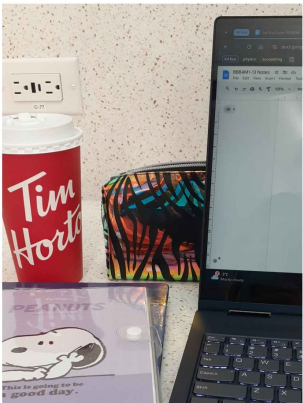


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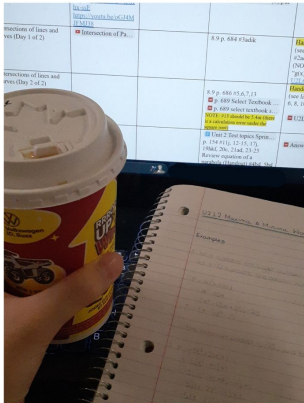


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Sikh Heritage Month

E	Q	A	D	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	I	A	A
I	A	A	A	I	K	R	E	E	R	U	R	U	L
A	D	Q	S	H	N	E	A	W	S	E	V	A	A
R	C	N	T	K	R	N	Q	N	R	I	K	E	K
E	N	I	A	A	U	R	K	C	A	E	A	Q	I
U	C	I	R	S	A	A	E	I	E	A	N	U	D
A	G	N	A	I	A	E	E	S	K	S	A	A	R
T	U	C	Q	A	N	L	D	N	I	A	N	L	A
T	R	A	V	V	V	C	T	B	I	E	U	I	H
U	D	E	G	A	A	U	A	V	K	R	R	T	C
R	W	V	H	V	T	J	U	L	I	U	U	Y	J
B	A	A	S	A	N	A	R	G	A	A	G	A	R
A	R	S	S	U	R	E	U	L	S	D	N	U	R
N	A	G	P	H	R	G	U	Y	U	A	G	I	S

SEVA

GURU NANAK

DASTAR

PUNJABI

VAISAKHI

JUSTICE

GURDWARA

EQUALITY

CHARDI KALA

LEARNER

TURBAN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8342818/>

Easter

Y	E	P	G	S	A	N	S	I	T	N	L	T	Y
A	U	D	O	A	R	S	E	N	O	A	O	E	A
Y	A	D	S	E	N	D	E	W	H	S	A	A	P
A	L	E	R	T	P	L	S	T	I	S	A	S	A
G	O	O	D	F	R	I	D	A	Y	Y	U	T	L
E	E	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C	E	E	M
B	N	O	I	T	C	E	R	R	U	S	E	R	S
U	N	M	G	R	T	E	K	S	A	B	K	S	U
N	L	S	E	E	G	G	H	U	N	T	E	U	N
N	C	N	L	E	R	I	D	S	S	D	Y	N	D
Y	S	L	C	Y	N	P	J	S	S	R	M	D	A
I	B	R	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	A	Y
B	R	E	P	P	U	S	T	S	A	L	E	Y	A
N	U	B	M	A	L	J	E	S	U	S	P	L	W

CHOCOLATE

BUNNY

LAMB

PALM SUNDAY

LAST SUPPER

EGG HUNT

SACRIFICE

EASTER SUNDAY

GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY

BASKET

RESURRECTION

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8333579/>