

THE PIKE PRESS

Letter From the Editors



Dear Pike:

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! We would like to give thanks for the Pike community that has helped us put out this newspaper, and for every single one of you that has spent the time to read it. Once again, we would absolutely love for student writers to step out and share writing or work with us! This newspaper is for the community, made by the community. See you in December!

– The Editors

The 8th Grade Show
Power...At What Cost?

Power...At What Cost?

BY OLIVIA LAI

The eighth grade show. How does one describe it? Although it occurred less than a week ago, I'm already feeling nostalgic for it.

Not all of it was fun and happiness. Did I enjoy staying three extra hours at Pike every day during the week leading up to the play? Not always. Was I okay with the fact that we weren't supposed to have homework during said week, but teachers still found loopholes and assigned homework anyways? Definitely not. Were the rehearsals incredibly stressful at times? Of course. I paint a negative picture here, a picture of an anxiety inducing play that filled our heads with doubt and the question "Can we even do this?" But our play was so much more than just a play, and our stress turned into our strength.

I'll admit, when I was lying in bed the night before the fated first show, I was scared. I was scared of how our play would turn out; I was scared that someone would forget their lines; I was scared that our scene changes wouldn't be fast enough; and I was scared that we wouldn't "make each other look good". I think everyone was worried, to some extent. The worry drove us all to work harder and to strive to be better, and on Thursday, everything went almost perfectly, to our surprise and relief.

During the theater class after the show, our travel group sat in a circle and Mrs. Gordon instructed us to share the memory of the show that would stick with us most. And as I listened to all the hilarious and touching and bittersweet memories, I noticed a pattern. Everything we thought we would remember did not involve any negativity or stress. They did not involve any missed cues or monstrous scene changes. They didn't even involve our onstage acting roles. Instead, the memories that we thought would stick with us most were the ones about the relationships we forged with our classmates. They were the backstage jokes, the funny mishaps, and the conversations we had with our friends.

"...the memories that we thought would stick with us most were the ones about the relationships we forged with our classmates."

— OLIVIA LAI

And this brings me to my ultimate point. I feel that we as a grade have become so much closer because of this play. Because what I will remember are the times that we got to know each other a bit better, the times where we shared laughs together, and the times where we just enjoyed each others' company. I'll remember that some of us absolutely love 86% dark chocolate, while others despise it with a burning passion. I'll remember all the lighthearted teasing in the actor jail. I'll remember sitting with my friends in silence in the drama room folding paper cranes before and after my scenes. And I've come to realize that the cliche phrase "it's not about the destination, it's about the journey" can be true. The play was a major part, obviously, but what's really important is that we as a grade pulled through and came together to create something beautiful.

Lazarus House

BY CHEN-CHEN SONG

Lazarus House is an amazing non-profit organization that helps families and individuals who are living in poverty to regain control over their lives and become self sufficient members of our community. They encourage people like us to help out by bringing in food and clothing to these people who are in a crisis. Lazarus House also has special buildings that provide housing to the homeless who live out in the streets or old abandoned buildings with no fresh water, electricity, and other necessities. For these people in need, they also provides advocacy, health services, education, and work preparation to permanently break the cycle of poverty and allow ways for them to find new jobs and be able to sustain themselves as well as their own families.



Every year, the Pike seventh grade helps out by raising awareness around the school and encouraging everyone to donate money and other essentials for the Lazarus House Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year, we collected a total of \$650 dollars from our special dress down day, and all sorts of non-perishable food items as well as frozen turkeys. During our advisor blocks, we also made unique greeting cards for each person who stops by for the Thanksgiving dinner at the Lazarus House soup kitchen.

In addition to the Thanksgiving and other meals, the food and money we donate also goes into creating things like the 'store', a place where people can go to and choose what food they want to eat, not just whatever they have been provided with. We can also donate clothes and other presents so these people can choose what they need or want just like we do. The important thing that Lazarus House strives to emphasize is that these people are just as normal, and definitely not lesser than us just because they can't afford a proper home or good food. They do this in many ways, sometimes just by allowing them the choice of what they want to eat and wear, joining them together for meals like a family, or owning keys to their own apartments.

As you can tell, Lazarus House is a great organization that holds many events and fundraisers for a good purpose. It's an amazing experience to get involved, and a wonderful feeling to see how many lives you can change with just a small donation. So, please take this opportunity to try something new and help these people regain their dignity.

Two Days After Paris

BY ANNA LANG

As I write this, what happened in Paris was only two days ago. As I write this, I feel this deep hollowness only accentuated by sadness. As I write this, the world seems to revolve in dizzying circles around that one night.

It is impossible to write anything that will be enough for what happened in Paris. "The night of terror" will never be something words will be able to soothe. If you are looking for an analysis, or facts, I assure you there are hundreds of articles that can do a much better job than I ever could. I encourage you to read facts if that's what makes you feel better. Knowledge is power, after all.

The phrase, "the night of terror" were the first words I saw. I caught glimpses of the panic inducing words, but never for long enough to allow the heaviness to sink through my skin. At the end of the day, I finally had the, the courage- yes, it took courage for me to look at something that scared me. I was right to be scared, for I had no idea that an act of pure destruction would ever step into a quiet Friday night. Suddenly, things that felt so important to me were mere grains of sand on the beach of the Earth. The SSATs were no longer worth any space in my mind and secondary school all felt so faraway. My mind was transfixed on this one moment, and in that moment I could not leave.

It was a strange night for me. I felt burst of determination to do something, but I didn't really know what to do. All I could do was watch it unfold and pray that everyone would be okay. I drew a lot- especially the Pray for Paris phrase. I believe that words and images have power, and for me that was my way of fulfilling the ache to make the situation better.

By the time you read this, there will have probably been developments that I have no idea of. Hopefully things will be better, in fact, this is my word of wellness to the future.

"Our experiences as humans are so much the same that I could put myself in a position from thousands of miles away."

— ANNA LANG

The loudest thought that was still ringing in my head as I went to bed that night was the strange phenomena that I felt empathy for someone I've never met. France is so far away and I hardly know anyone from France, but distance was nothing, especially with modern technology. I began to fall into this belief that the world is so intertwined, although we try our best to draw jagged lines and build walls. Our experiences as humans are so much the same that I could put myself in a position from thousands of miles away. I just hope that it is not only on times of terror that we come together - it should be always. Fear and death should not be the only reason to come together, but rather happiness and joy.

Handball

BY AIDAN MARZEOTTI

When the fall sports ended, handball began. As a game the upper school plays in gym, many were familiar with it. The game is played by attempting to score a goal with a ball in hand. The challenge is the limited number of steps and cooperation required for winning. In the beginning, several captains were chosen to lead teams. After many fun but still competitive matches, two teams made it to the final. The captains for the teams were Maddie Abraham and Sophie Green. Both teams played very well, but one team emerged victorious. Sophie's team won the game by one point after a very close game. I hope to see the competitive spirit at Pike continue, and a quick reminder that winter sports start soon after we get back from Thanksgiving break! Go Quills!

The Speech Team Takes On Maine

BY OLIVIA LAI

On Saturday, November 7, six members of the Pike Speech Team traveled to compete in a high school tournament in Falmouth, Maine and came back with exceedingly good results. Mr. Hutch said, "It was fun to take the seventh graders up to a tournament in Maine, and it was a good experience for them to compete against students in high school, and of course, it was an added bonus that all of them made it to finals." In addition, Pike earned 2nd Place Team Sweepstakes Award out of the 21 high schools at the tournament. The results were as follows:

Novice Prose Reading:

Elizabeth Packard — 1st place
Jerry Shu — 2nd place

Novice Poetry Reading:

Emily Huang — 1st place

Original Oratory:

Stephanie Yang — 2nd place

Duo Interpretation:

Elizabeth Packard and Caroline Samoluk — 1st place
Chen-chen Song and Emily Huang — 2nd place

Storytelling:

Caroline Samoluk — 3rd place
Chen-chen Song — 4th place

Visiting Day

BY AVA HARRINGTON

Wednesday's visiting day was a big hit for parents and students alike. Alumni from the classes of '15, '14, '13, and even '12 got together to reconnect for a day of fun. A slideshow was created for the enjoyment of the alumni, full of (somewhat embarrassing) pictures from lower school through eighth grade. Alumni had the opportunity to reconnect with previous teachers and meet up with past friends. Parents listened in to exciting classroom discussions and learned more about many of the Pike classes. At the lower school concert, the children showcased a wide range of songs for the delighted audiences. Songs even included foreign languages and even some choreography to match. Then all the students, alumni, and parents gathered for a slideshow demonstrating what the students of the Pike community are thankful for. Then the audience got to enjoy some story telling from none other than Mr. Waters. Plus, the total that the Pike community donated to the Lazarus house was unveiled -- over \$600 was raised from Friday's dress down day! Overall, visiting day was a wonderful opportunity for all members of the pike community. We hope to see you next year!



Photos taken from the Pike School Instagram

Literature Column

Why Wait

BY KRISTOPHER AZIABOR

Every step towards glory, every chance to grow.
A candle of fortune shining for everyone, it's your chance to glow.
A night of frustration, a night of defeat,
Won't stop a star from moving their feet.
Every day is yours, ready to take.
You just have to take it, so why wait?

Haiku

BY AVA HARRINGTON

This is a haiku.
I don't like writing haikus.
Thus ends the haiku.

Bang

BY EMILY HUANG

Blue, flaky body
Curved beak
Beady eyes
Stubby wings
The humans take aim

BANG

The dodo is extinct.

Rough gray skin
Horned nose
Gentle eyes
Round ears
The humans take aim

BANG

The black rhinoceros is extinct.

Twin curved horns
Prancing legs
Brown fur
Alert
The humans take aim

BANG

The Pyrenean ibex is extinct.

Round faces
Arms, legs
Clothed from head to toe
You, me, others
We take aim at ourselves

BANG

And the humans are extinct
After we destroy everything else
We will destroy ourselves

POP!

CULTURE

Tyler Oakley

BY AVA HARRINGTON

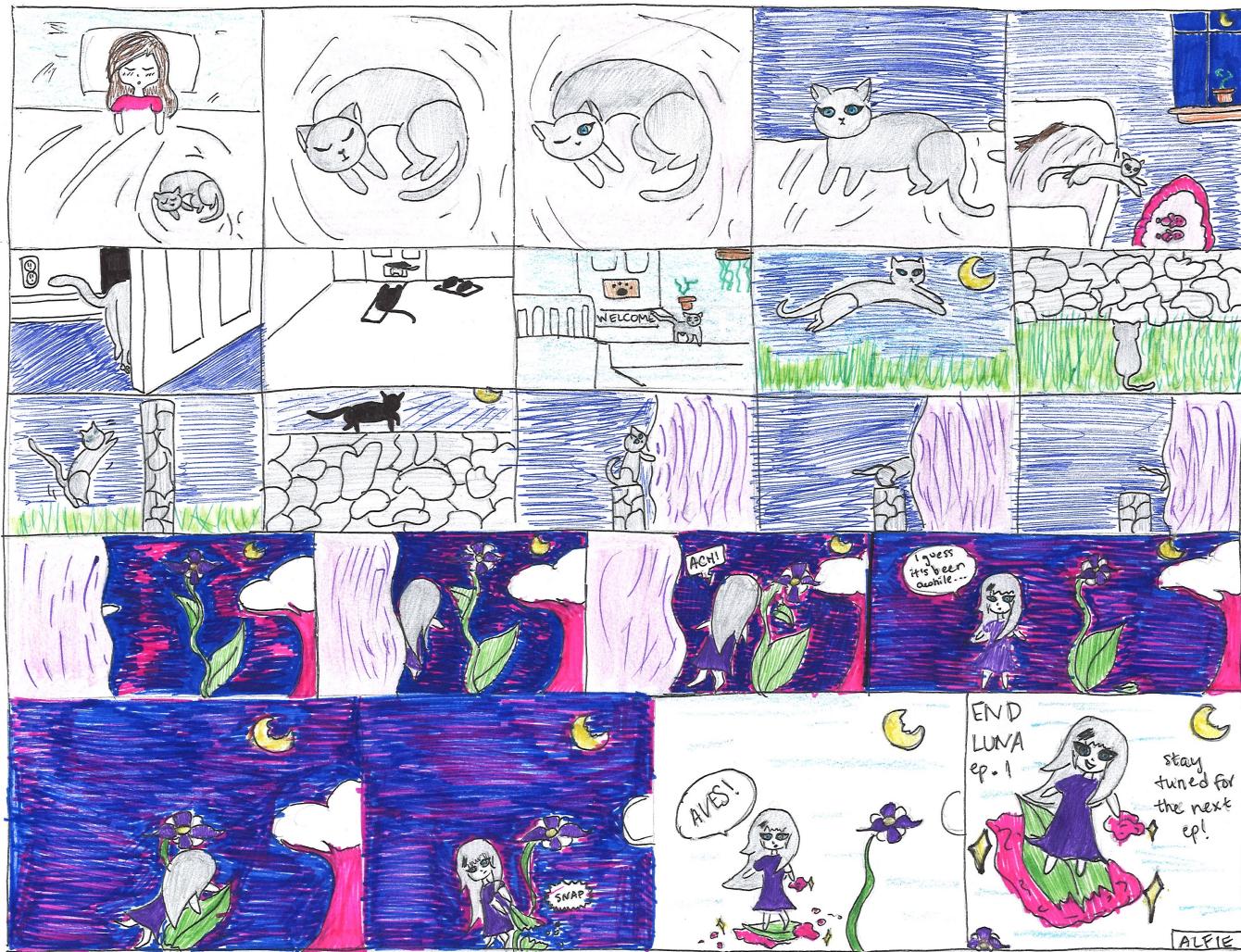


What do new emoji ideas, a Chipotle nightmare, and a pastel-haired man have to do with each other? World wide internet celebrity Tyler Oakley, of course. Tyler has won the hearts of millions of fans through his quirky, upbeat videos that strike a tone with teenagers everywhere. His flamboyant personality has earned him

over seven million subscribers, his own podcast, and his very own live tour. The eccentric 26 year old has even collaborated with dozens of celebrities, including Dan Howell, Zoella, and Troye Sivan, among others. His videos include anything from rattling off his day to day activities, opening hilarious fan mail, makeup tutorials, poking fun at his so called “gayness,” and interacting with his many fans. Not only is Tyler an internet celebrity, he is also a leader in the LGBTQ community. Openly gay, Tyler has been a major contributor and supporter of the Trevor Project, a crisis-prevention charity among LGBTQ youth. Through his channel he has raised over half a million dollars for the foundation, and is a great supporter. Tyler has also recently published a book, *Binge*, chronicling the most hilarious, heartfelt, and poignant moments of his life. Overall, Tyler is an amazing YouTuber who turned a channel meant for communicating with old high school friends into a major and ongoing project.

Source: <http://www.indiewire.com/article/awesomeness-films-announces-youtube-star-tyler-oakleys-snervous-documentary-20150930>

Luna Ep.1



Confused? Good.

— ALFIE

November Playlists

The Feeling - Justin Bieber ft. Halsey
No Way - The Naked and Famous
Stolen Moments - The Vamps
Run - Alison Wonderland
BITE - Troye Sivan

YOUTH - Troye Sivan
Is There Somewhere - Halsey
Flapper Girl - The Lumineers
Favorite Record - Fall Out Boy
Robbers - The 1975

Holy Diver - Dio
Master of Puppets - Metallica
Rock and Roll - Led Zeppelin
Breed - Nirvana
Panama - Van Halen

Flying High Again - Ozzy Osbourne
Sixteen Saltines - Jack White
Little Wing - Jimi Hendrix
Say it Ain't So - Weezer
Hitchin' a Ride - Green Day