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The Run For Victory

By: Jasmine Dosanjh

On Friday, October 2nd, SDSS held its annual Terry Fox Run. This marvelous event took place at the school's gym at precisely eleven a.m. The run was about three kilometers long. Special recognition goes out to the group of compassionate students who helped organize this year's run, the leadership team of SDSS and the teachers involved.

Each second period class raised money towards the cause. Students had also signed up individually to make pledge sheets to raise

money towards the occasion. The class with the most money was rewarded with a class pizza party and the students with the most pledges won one out of three awards. In third place was Mr. Healey's second period class; Mr. Vroom's Class landed in second place. In first place was Mrs. Amelio's food class, with a total of \$419.28! Congratulations and an enormous thank you goes out to Kevin Smith, who independently collected a lot of donation money on his own. Way to go SDSS to show our vast interest, care, spirit and pride! Say it loud, we're Spartan proud!

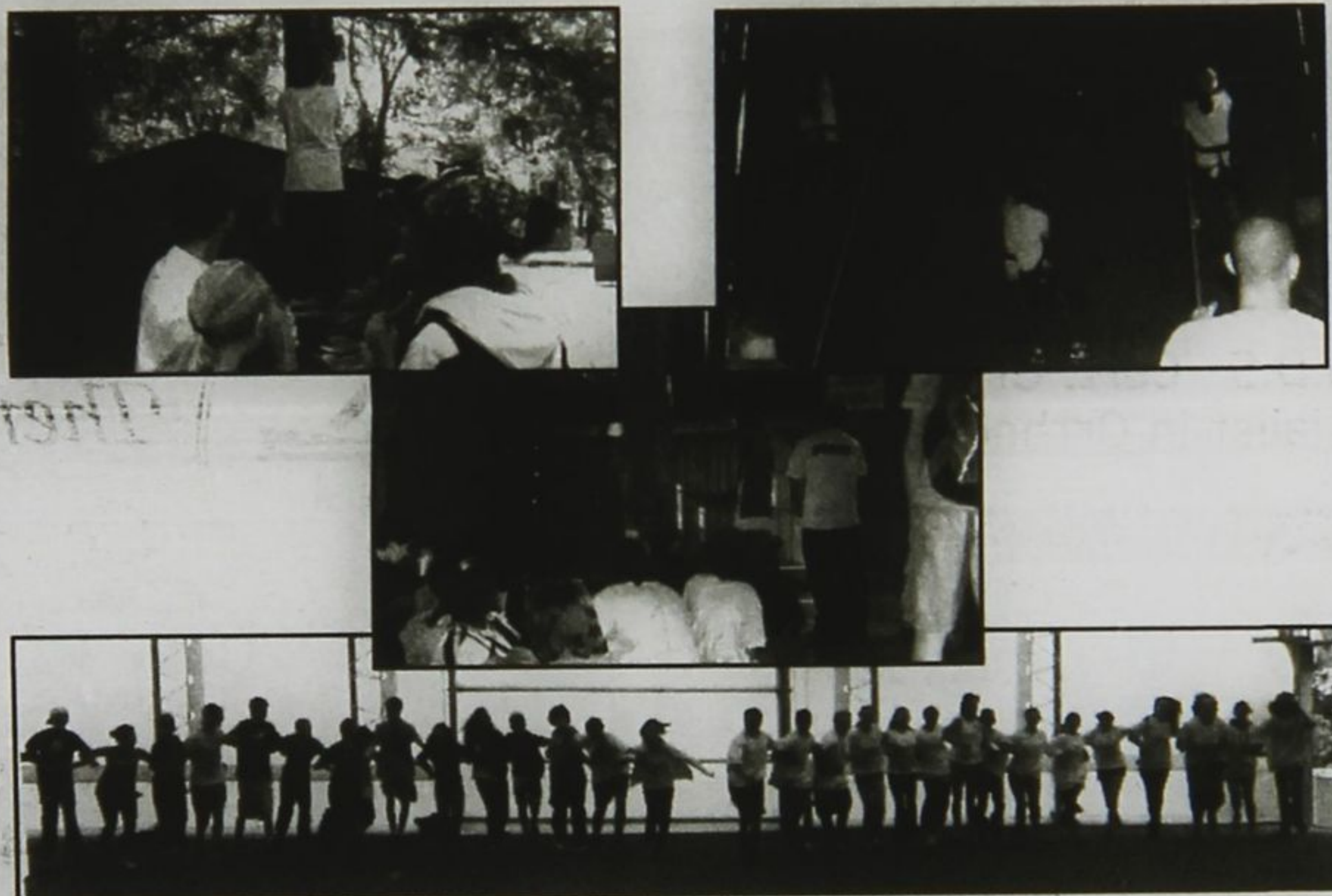


Camp Robin Hood a day of new beginnings

By: Aleena Dipede

Every year the grade nines at SDSS go to Camp Robin Hood where they get a chance to meet new people and form friendships that will last after the fun day is over. The day for the grade nines was full of activities to help them work together and built trust among themselves. The grade nine students of SDSS were a fun and energetic

group. The senior mentors who went on the trip with the grade nines did a great job creating a fun, safe and enjoyable environment. Camp Robin Hood has been a tradition at SDSS and has always been an enjoyable experience for all who attend. Camp Robin Hood was a great success and an awesome stepping stone into the four-year high school career that is ahead of the grade nines.



SDSS Awards Assembly

By: Rachel Blencowe

On Thursday, October 8, 2009, SDSS had its annual awards assembly in the cafeteria. As Mr. Vroom, the master of ceremonies explained, the assembly was "to recognize the academic achievement of the students."

To begin the assembly, the students, teachers, parents and guests rose as Spartan Sound sang "O Canada". When all had been seated, the school thanked the Rotary Club for their generous gift to the Terry Fox Run. Next the RBC Literacy Award was presented to Logan Peaker who was honoured for her great achievement in literacy. Then, the Margie Griffiths Award was given out to Elizabeth Miller. Elizabeth is one of last year's grade nines, who was seen as genuinely "likable" by her peers. Next, Ms. Madigan presented the Sustainability Leadership Award. There were various department awards that were given out at the assembly. These awards were given to the students who had the highest marks in various subjects. Last year's grade nines, tens and elevens lined up, one grade at a time, in alphabetical order to receive the honour roll awards.

When each student climbed the stage, they individually received an honour roll certificate. Students earned this certificate by receiving an average of eighty percent or higher. Many proud parents took pictures during this portion of the assembly. Once everyone had received their awards and had been seated, the students who had won the principals award were called up. To receive this special award, a student must receive ninety percent or higher. This is a very difficult award to win because of the high academic expectation. SDSS is very proud to have so many award winning students and is very happy to recognize those individuals.

When the last award had been handed out, the assembly came to a close and students and parents were invited to stay for refreshments. Congratulations to all students who won an award! You should be proud!



SDSS Welcomes Best Buddies

By: Sugeetha Nithiananthan

SDSS has been recently working alongside with a program called "Best Buddies." This program offers people with intellectual disabilities an experience that many people take for granted such as going to the movies, or simply going out for a meal. Best Buddies is designed so that each volunteer is paired with a buddy who they call once a week and meet up with twice a week. Volunteers from within the school are matched with their buddy based on compatibility. For a person with intellectual disabilities, friendship helps relieve distress caused by isolation, discouragement, and seclusion which usually compounds the challenges they face daily. Having a buddy also helps the student with intellectual disabilities discover the world with self-confidence. Not only does this program help boost esteem, in the long run, it can make great impacts to an individual's

life. Best Buddies encourages and teaches individuals that nothing is impossible and everyone can achieve their goals.

Volunteers from this program plan to buddy up with students within the school and start off by having general visits with all the students giving each other time to get to know one another. This opportunity is a once in a life time chance and will most definitely benefit both the volunteers and their buddies. Best Buddies allow volunteers to contribute to the community and promote a sense of belonging. Volunteers come away from this program with a completely new outlook on life and a better understanding of the diversity of people and talents within the community. Best Buddies is a program with a strong foundation based on friendship and all the advantages that come along with it. Most definitely the influence of this program in SDSS will make a great impact towards the entire community!

Grab School Material on the Go

By: Jathesan Jeyachanderan

SDSS is proud to present its new Tuck Shop. It opened in mid-October and its location is in the main hallway just as one comes in from the main entrance. The Tuck Shop includes affordable school materials such as pens, calculators, pencils etc. all for a minimum price. In addition, the Tuck Shop includes other items such as: SDSS clothing; seasonal items; and refreshments. SDSS' goal is to leave no student unprepared for class. Students need to be organized and the opening of the Tuck Shop is just the answer especially to those who need those last minute supplies. Being organized helps one improve his/her grades. The Tuck Shop is not only for students but for teachers and all other support staff. Everyone is welcome. In order to get the business going there was a fundraiser and a special celebration on the opening day. The plan of the Tuck Shop is to start small and eventually grow serving the students' needs and adding to the overall school life. All the money raised goes towards the improvement of the school. This year's student council is working hard to arrange more events and activities for the student body. The opening of the Tuck Shop is a great asset to SDSS and a great venture for the Student Council.

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