

June 11, 2013

FOLLOWING IN NEWTON'S FOOTSTEPS

Burnaby Central Secondary grade 11 student, **Pasindu Muthukuda**, has earned the top mark in the Sir Issac Newton prize exam for high school physics. Five other students from Burnaby schools topped the list of "top 90" scores – an impressive number considering that more than 4,000 students from Canada and the US wrote the exam. The exam is administered annually by the University of Waterloo.

BURNABY STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

The Burnaby Youth Sustainability Network (aka BYSN) was awarded a City of Burnaby Environmental award again this year for their ongoing commitment to sustainable programs that target Burnaby's youth.

Additionally, **Jacqueline Chen**, a grade 11 Burnaby South Secondary student, and **Tomas Lang**, grade 10 student at Alpha Secondary won individual awards.

Jacqueline was recognized for her work as the president of BYSN, which has been instrumental in creating a wide range of green initiatives in the district, from water bottle filling stations to school gardens, recycling programs and their annual "Do It Green" conference.

Tomas Lang was recognized for his creation of the Green Events Program. After winning a sustainability grant, Tomas used the funds to purchase a stock of plates and cutlery to be used at district events as an alternative to "single use" paper plates and plastic utensils.

RIVERS TO SEA HERITAGE FAIR

Students in grades 4 to 10 from Byrne Creek Secondary, Glenwood Elementary and Stoney Creek Community School recently participated in the Rivers to Sea Heritage Fair held at the Burnaby Village Museum. Similar to a science fair, students presented their projects on Canadian history and heritage. There were 11 award winners from Burnaby Schools. Two students advanced to the provincial fair that will be held in Victoria this summer. They include Stoney Creek Community School grade 6 student **Jordyn Kean** and Byrne Creek Secondary grade 8 student, **Michelle Yuen**.

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ALPHA STUDENTS RAISE FUNDS FOR EDUCATION IN NEPAL

Alpha Secondary's "Offence Club" raised \$1,200 for the Trans-Himalayan Aid Society (TRAS), an organization which supports education in the Himalayan region. The social justice action group, whose name suggests students should "get off the fence," organized Star Search 2013, a talent show fundraiser. The funds they raised were donated to TRAS's "READI Nepal" project which enabled 30 children to go to school.

'POVERTY IS HISTORY' IS GLENWOOD'S GOAL

A small group of young people can be a positive force of action in the community. Grade 6 & 7 students in **Ms Sutton's** class at Glenwood Elementary learned about the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals. Then, on their own initiative, they chose one goal and created an awareness and fundraising campaign around the theme "Poverty is History" to help people living in Burnaby. Through a week long coin drive, this small but mighty school of 100 raised \$557! As a bonus, the class that raised the most money won a pizza party donated by Domino's.

TRACK & FIELD ATHLETES SHINE AT PROVINCIALS

Burnaby South Secondary grade 11 student, **Ahmad Nazamani** was the leader of the pack in the long jump event at the BC High School Track and Field Championships. He leapt 6.95 metres to win the gold medal – and his distance was recorded as the eighth-longest winning jump in BC high school history.

Nathan Mah of Burnaby Central Secondary won a medal of every shade in the Grade 8 and 9 events. Mah won gold in the boys' 200-metre dash with a winning time of 23.63. He also took the silver medal at 100m. Mah then shared in a bronze-medal run in the 1,600m relay with the Central team of **Marco Sherwood**, **Joshua Lim** and twin brother **Matthew Mah**.

DRAGON BOAT REGATTA HITS BURNABY LAKE

The Burnaby Canoe and Kayak Club runs a dragon boat program at Burnaby Lake. Coached by elementary teacher **Ric Tesan**, students and parents from Douglas Road, Nelson and Sperling Elementary recently learned to paddle and steer a dragon boat. They then participated in the Dragon Boat Regatta where 15 elementary schools from across the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island got the opportunity to race against each other.