Mid-year Update

It has been an eventful three months since I last submitted my common application. My involvement across the school has been as far and wide as ever, with numerous roles and responsibilities entrusted upon me, some on purpose, others by accident.

On January 11th, I was named a co-captain of the swim team, privileged with the honor of leading the largest number of swimmers we have had in four years. Duties include explaining practice sets, relaying information from coach to team, leading the boys during warm-up, pushing them through calisthenics, and, of course, spurring on the odd dejected soul. We have competed in four swim meets since November and I have made significant personal gains, decreasing my best times for my two main events, 200 Free and 50 Free.

I have organized and carried out numerous Outreach charity events, including a day on which the faculty head, Mrs. Tackaberry, fell unfortunately ill and I was responsible for a double-sale Friday. It was a satisfying experience to manage and allocate resources, leading a team of volunteers while working amongst them in the set-up, execution, and eventual dismantling of the bracelet and brownie sundae sales, ultimately delivering an outstanding service to the school and the Canadian Hero Fund, raising a total of $797.

As a lieutenant of the school’s cadet corps, I have been diligent in ensuring our weekly cadet sessions run smoothly. From Monday-night planning sessions to instances of authoritative demonstration, my leadership has allowed the twelve sergeants beneath my command to guide and direct their individual platoons to success. In the past two months alone, we have delivered an immersive variety of training to the Grade 10 body – fish gutting, edible wilds, and teaching experience of their own are just a few of the unique cadet lessons they have received from the Silver Star staff cadets.

The Writing and Publication council is experiencing unprecedented success, with more submissions at this point of the year than ever before. This is in large part due to the numerous publicity announcements and writing contests I have written and managed. We started the year with a supernatural writing prompt, followed by a Flash Fiction and Continue the Story contest, all of which received creative submissions and distinguished many great writers. I have planned an upcoming poetry competition and an Ultimate Writing Contest with which to end the school year.

Though disallowed from participating in the contests as a member of the council, my own creative writing has not waned. I have recently completed a submission for an external writing competition and have nine pages written (each fanatically scrutinized and refined) of a long-term creative piece that will hopefully publish someday as a novel.

My academic world has been eventful and diverse, boundless in its ability to provide knowledge and experience from a multitude of fields. On December 10th, I unveiled my business venture, an artistic social network, to a panel of judges comprised of CEOs, financial consultants, and attorneys. This eight-hour entrepreneurial fair was the culmination of a two-month project, a taxing but rewarding dive into the complex world of business logistics and idea potential.

In Writer’s Craft, I recently completed my first memoir, driving me to revisit old memories and reflect on my grandfather’s death in Hong Kong. The piece, far from my usual genre, is surprisingly one of the best I have ever written.

I am still vigorously pursuing my passions and enriching my school, driven by a desire for personal and communal enrichment rather than tangible reward. This is something that, no matter where I end up, will never change.