



JANUARY 2018

# THE

# LUMINARY

Vol. 4 Issue 4

## Important Days

PERSONAL PROFILE: JANUARY 15

VMUN: JANUARY 19-21

SKI TRIP: JANUARY 24-25

PRO-D DAY: JANUARY 26

VRC BC WINTER QUALIFIER:  
FEBRUARY 2-3

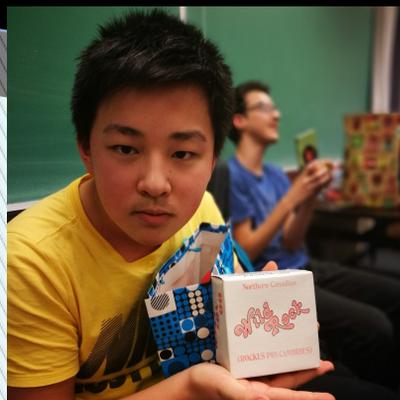
## Secret/Crazy Santa

*By Donson Dong*

On December 21, all the students participated in a school-wide Secret Santa and Crazy Santa. In Secret Santa, the students and teachers had to prepare gifts for someone else in the school anonymously. In Crazy Santa, everyone participated in a nerve-racking but exciting game of present exchange. Everyone was able to leave school that day with something new. Here at Transition we value kindness and giving, so this was a perfect opportunity to allow that to happen. Furthermore, since all of the presents from Crazy Santa were prepared by the teachers, we would like to thank them for giving us the chance to have some fun before the winter holidays.

## BIRTHDAYS

Min S., January 3rd  
Shawn Y., January 5th  
Eddie L., January 10th  
Donson D., January 15th  
Emily G., January 15th  
Alyona G., January 23rd



# SKATING

By James Yu

On December 20th, the students of the Transition Program participated in a skating session at the Protrans Community Arena in the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre. A nice break from the daily routine of the program, this event allowed students to show skills that would otherwise not be presented. The students of the program have a variety of skating abilities, ranging from some who have never skated before to well-seasoned experts. Regardless of their ability, every student who went had a wonderful time at the arena, making fond memories and wonderful shared experiences as a community.

## Reading Club Update

By Jean Zheng

The Reading Club was initiated in November of last year. We have been able to meet once in November to discuss our first book, *Frankenstein*. To keep up with our goal, we will be meeting for two books in January: *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* for the first Friday morning, and *All the Light We Cannot See* for the last Friday of the month. We encourage **everyone** to attend!

## Robotics Update

By James Yu

On December 8th and 9th, 8 students of the Transition Program attended the Vex Robotics BC December Qualifier at West Vancouver Secondary. A first for the program, the event was a new experience for everyone. Competing against 73 other teams from across BC and parts of Washington State, the event was large and many matches were played. In the end, the Transition program team placed 30th out of the 74 teams there, and will attend another event in February to attempt to gain an improved position.

Over the winter break, a handful of the students of the Transition Program were able to meet at the Richmond Public Library a few times to work on a robot for the next robotics competition. These meetings, whilst fairly small, allowed the students to connect with each other outside of school and cooperate on an appealing project.



# TEAM CHALLENGES

## PROGRAM

*By William Zhang*

On December 15th, several Transition students participated in a math competition called the Team Challenges Program. Since Christmas was right around the corner, the competition was Christmas-themed, from Santa visiting houses on a map to figuring out who was the Grinch. The two teams that were there performed well; one of them managed to win top place in the junior category and the other one second. All the students had fun wrapping their minds around logic puzzles and we hope to participate in more TCPs in the new year.



## Winter Social

*By Donson Dong*

On Dec. 14, the Transition students enlightened the parents and teachers with the annual winter social potluck and performance. This year, the performance was moved a week early due to conflicting dates, yet the students were still able to pull off a magical performance. For one week, all the students decorated Transition, practiced their individual pieces, and came together to form the Transition choir. Many students worked together to form a programme and MC script, allowing the performance to run smoothly. On the day of, the parents came early in the morning and stayed late into the night to help prepare and cook for the potluck. Amidst the constant chaos, the world somehow always finds order, allowing us to pull off the night in such short notice.





# “The Skater”

*By Kieran Weaver*



The moon shone through the boy's open window, ushering a shining figure into his bedroom. A girl shook him slightly, slipping out his door as he fell out of bed. He could hear her laughter as she led him outside into the night. Melting icicles hanging from green branches glittered, casting lights and shadows onto the path they walked. She held his hand, pulling him along in his delirium. He tried to catch his breath to ask her a question, but she put a finger to his lips. They looked up at the stars, smiling in the silence. That night, there was a cool breeze, making the boy shiver.

They came to a frozen fountain with two statues, oddly lifelike, stuck in an eternal dance around the center of the fountain. Mist pooled around them as the girl started skating, beckoning for the boy to follow. She seemed to float, barely touching the clear, shining ice. The boy stumbled onto the ice, his hiking boots dragging along the surface. He felt some water enter his boots, slowly numbing his feet. Skating with all the grace of a clumsy penguin, the boy found the cold embrace of the fountain welcoming, urging him to stay.

Suddenly, the boy felt tired, but he forced himself to keep skating. His feet were numb, barely moving as he circled the two statues, chasing the girl around the fountain. He looked down, stumbling and falling to the ground. By the time he caught his breath, the girl was gone. The swirling surface of the fountain welcomed him as he collapsed, falling backwards, hitting his head on one of the statues. Slowly, the world faded to black.

The girl wandered down the path to the fountain, shouting the boy's name. She was worried he had left her, or worse, that something had happened to him. The morning sun blocked her view, blinding her as she trudged forward. At last, she came to the fountain, which looked newly frozen over. Her scream pierced the air, her tears melting little holes in the ice. The two statues stood, locked in their eternal dance while a third statue lay frozen, asleep beneath the ice.

# October to December Birthday Celebration

*By Donson Dong*

On December 21, all the students and teachers celebrated the birthdays of the students and teachers born from October to December. Following the previous celebration in September, this marked the second of such event. At Transition we are able to celebrate the birthday of each individual student and teacher because of the small, tight-knit, and supportive community.



# New Student Applicant Testing

*By Ivan Feng*

On the tenth of December, I had the good fortune to be able to witness the testing process of many seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students in the Geography Building. All the students seemed eager to attend, while striving for the slim chance of being accepted. Their passionate attitude was shown in the strong concentration on their work. I wish all applicants the best of luck on their entrance exams and I hope to see the potential year ones in the future.

## CREDITS

Editors: James Yu, Jean Zheng,  
William Zhang, Donson Dong

Designers: James Yu, Donson  
Dong, Sherman Zhu, Daniel Kong

## Photo Credits:

Crazy Santa - Sophia Zhao

Robotics - Lisa Wang

Teams Challenges Program - Lisa  
Wang

Winter Social - Tony Zhang

Birthday - Fannia Xu