

STEMIA SCOOP MAGAZINE

Vol. 1
December
2022

HALLOWEEK
REMEMBRANCE DAY
AND MORE

READ OUR MOVIE
REVIEW OF
WAKANDA FOREVER

and an Exclusive Interview with British Columbian Data
Scientist and **Session Director**,
Ryan Kazmerik

HALLOWEEK

BY KNOX PAYLATOS

During the week of Halloween, there were many memorable activities that took place! Some of the most memorable activities that happened for Halloween is the costume contest, and a schoolwide murder mystery! But the fun part was, in both contests, there was a prize that held every StemIA student's desire!

On Halloweek, a murder mystery was held, encouraging students in the same class to team up with each other, to ultimately win a pizza party, with chips and drinks! Every day, one clue would be posted on the wall, revealing either the killer, murder weapon, location of the murder, or the



murdered.

On the final day of the murder mystery, the stakes were high as students scrambled to find the final clue, hoping to win. It was later announced that the winning class was Ms. Shaw! The class had a lot of fun eating the pizza and had a great time partying with each other! Sounds like this contest was a great way to boost teamwork across our school!



It doesn't stop here, though. Later

in the week, we had a schoolwide costume contest, letting students show off their catwalks. We interviewed participants of the contest to see which costumes were fan favorites. Some included a blow-up man riding a shark, a group of minions, and Walter White from the show Breaking Bad. Each participant would walk around on the stage, showing off their costumes. After many models walked around on the stage, one winner from each grade was chosen. The winner for grade 8 was Macoy Parker! He was very excited to be a part of this contest, and to hold the title of Best Costume!



It sounds like everyone had a great time embracing the Halloween spirit! We cannot wait to celebrate Halloween and its traditions next year!



BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER: A \$350 MILLION TRIBUTE.

By Knox Pavlatos

I am sure that all of you have heard of Black Panther or seen the movie. He was a fan favorite character, and his movie did very well. Sadly, in 2019, the actor of Black Panther, Chadwick Boseman passed away suddenly of colon cancer. The world and fan base were devastated, knowing no-one could ever replace him as the Black Panther. So, when Marvel released this movie to commemorate Chadwick Boseman, fans were curious to see if this tribute to him would be able to honor this legend in a way that he deserved.

On November 10th, I was one of the lucky few to see the movie premiere and boy did it meet my highest expectations! The writers were somehow able to show how the Black Panther's death fueled the characters actions, while also intertwining another storyline into the movie. In this film, they introduced the character of Namor, the god of the Talokanil, or fish people. The writer was able to extend Namor's storyline, in an empathetic way, while also seeing him as a villain. This touching homage to Chadwick Boseman was full of emotion, and if I could recommend one thing, it would be to bring a Kleenex.

I would give this movie a 10/10. It is a bit long at 2 hours and 41 minutes, but once you get enthralled in the storyline, the time flies. This movie is filled with twists and turns, happiness and sadness, and is a great way to continue the Black Panther's storyline. I would highly recommend seeing this movie as soon as you can.

In summary, Black Panther Wakanda Forever is an incredible movie full of emotion and action. It is a 10/10, and an incredible way to honor Chadwick Boseman. May he rest in peace.



"I'm sure they saw the war from Canada as a great adventure."

By Chloe Chiang

Remembrance Day has remarkably formed Mr. Hoffman, one of our grade 8/9 math and science teachers. He recalls how war has struck his family profoundly, and how they experienced significant loss in a short period of time.

On October 2, 1915, Murdock Pascal entered the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Europe, only to be killed at Vimy Ridge two years later. Later, Stephen Pascal volunteered to join the Royal Canadian Air Force, who unfortunately met the same fate when he was marked "MIA".

The Pascals immigrated to Canada in 1912, from Bukovina. During that time, it was part of the Habsburg Empire. They had eight children: four brothers and four sisters, including Nellie, Mr. Hoffman's grandmother. Both World Wars resulted in the death of two of the four sons, a woe that has kept burning through every generation.



Murdock was born in Bukovina, whilst Stephen was born in Canada. Because he was a former subject of the Habsburg Empire, Murdock Pascal enlisted under an assumed name, fearful of being captured. Listed as Murdock Parsons in the Peace Tower in Ottawa, we can only imagine the legitimately horrific experience of fighting as a patriotic 'traitor' against your own country.



World War Two, resulted in the highest number of casualties the world has ever seen, and it devastated many, including the Pascal family. Stephen Pascal was in an aircraft as a "bomber" when he was shot down. This happened over the industrial heartland of Germany, where Stephen's body was eventually recovered. Mr. Hoffman's father was only 13 years old when 22-year-old Stephen Pascal was killed. Following his death, he was reburied in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery. Mr. Hoffman was shown a rubbing of Stephen's headstone in 1994 by Bill Pascal, a World War Two combat veteran, but most of all, Stephen's brother.

Remembrance Day was and has always been a day of grieving and prestige for the HoffmanPascal family, and it's very momentous for him and many others. "But the most profound thought I'm left with is this immigrant family was expected to risk four of their children's lives to preserve a way of life, a standard of living."



On Wednesday, November 9th, 2022, a form was sent out to all students at STEM Innovations Academy in hopes of receiving questions to create this column. Thanks to your insightful queries, I was able to answer a few questions from a junior-high-student's point of view. I am no expert, but I sure have dealt with many situations described by those who filled out the form!

Although it may feel like your experience is unique and no one else is facing the severity of your adversities, many individuals are struggling to overcome the same things you are. Remember, you are never alone and branching out to a trusted adult, therapist, or emotionally mature peer is the best way to adequately deal with your hardships and prevent them from escalating.

"How do I create and sustain healthy relationships and deal with fake friends?"

Formulating healthy relationships takes patience and communication from both sides. Here are my top three tips to ensure you identify the fake friends early on and boost your chances of a successful relationship with a potential friend.

Set your expectations and boundaries from the get-go. This way, the individual you are attempting to foster a bond with must take responsibility for anything they do that you deemed unacceptable. You cannot blame the other side for breaking the regulations you have set in place subconsciously if you don't communicate it to them. If the individual begins distancing themselves from you after you set boundaries, chances are you saved yourself from a "fake friend" and toxic relationship.

Communicate your concerns and work together to conquer any obstacles. Remember, this is a relationship, meaning you are working against the issues and not against each other. Instead of disclosing information from arguments and incidents between you and your friend with other people, work towards a sustainable solution with your friend directly.

Always uplift your friends and forgive them when necessary. Jealousy is a universal emotion, and often translates to greed- "the root of all evil". However, if your friend seems envious of your achievements and success, it is a big sign that the friendship will become, or is, unhealthy. Try to see the situation from your friend's perspective. Forgive them if their apology is sincere or if you notice them actively working towards self-improvement. It's all our first time navigating through this terrifying world, and we could all use some compassion.

“How do I balance school and recreation while maintaining my mental health?”

Due to the weather conditions, it seems as though time is working against us. I'd be happy to answer this one. These are some of the measures I take to ensure I have a productive day while prioritizing my mental well-being:

1. Set a schedule that you know you can stick to. When you come home, take 30 minutes to eat, change, and relax. Try not to think about technology during this time and do it as a relaxing and recharging period. Regardless of how late you come home, DO NOT skip this part.

2. Start with the most tedious task you must accomplish. Work towards completing this by working for fifteen minutes and taking five-minute breaks between each interval. These breaks will motivate you to complete your task, so you are not limited to five minutes of gratification. Pink, brown, white, orange, and black noise are computer generated audios lacking lyrics and instruments, allowing your subconscious to focus on external information. Instead of music, experiment with different versions of these background noises and discover your favorite.

3. What you do next is entirely dependent on your workload. I recommend continuing to work in this manner until around 9-10 PM to ensure you receive a sufficient amount of sleep (8 hours). If there is nothing else upcoming, take the time to journal and collect your thoughts. You can do this in the form of a notebook, Word document, or even just the notes app in your phone. Whatever it is, it serves as a quick debrief and reflector of your day, and also a fun thing to look back on as you mature. Ensure you end your journal entry with at least one thing you are grateful for.

As we are currently in November, advice regarding study habits, test taking strategies, and managing anxiety will be released closer to midterm and finals seasons. You do NOT want to miss it.

Thank you so much for the incredible questions! Want your question featured in our next paper? Scan the QR code and ask away!



STEM in the World –

A Peek Into Data Scientist and Session Director, Ryan Kazmerik's Profession

By Sara Waqas

"Essentially, when you sign up for a career in tech, you sign up to become a life-long learner," says Lead Data Scientist of StellarArgo, Ryan Kazmerik.

Since the 7th grade, Kazmerik was immersed in the world of computer science and programming. He began constructing web pages despite his inexperience using Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and Cascade Style Sheets (CSS) for his own enjoyment. Following junior high, Ryan studied the foundations of math, physics, and Computer Science before studying at Wilfrid Laurier University and obtaining a Masters Degree in Applied Computing and Computer Science. With the practical experience gained from his programming and developing side hustle, coupled with his graduate level education, Ryan landed a phenomenal position at StellarArgo as a Lead Data Scientist and emerged as a Sessional Director at Mount Royal University.

So, why did he do it? Why is Data Science so relevant in the current economy and what is its future?

As Ryan articulated, "We (the profession of Data Science) are only 10 years old as a serious profession", Computer Science itself is a fairly new branch of STEM in comparison to medicine and general engineering, meaning we have yet to unlock its full potential. This means that any career falling under its umbrella has a high chance of success, depending on how relevant it is to the current market.

Companies are always looking to boost sales and customers which is why Data Science is surging in popularity. Data Scientists work with enterprises to determine how to optimize revenue by analyzing seemingly miscellaneous data sets. For instance, an NBA team that StellarArgo has worked with, the Milwaukee Bucks may want to increase the amount of tickets sold for home games during the pre-season. It is a Data Scientists job to combine data such as when the most tickets are bought, if it is a holiday or work day, and what social service acquires the most consumers for a certain demographic. Once the numbers are crunched up, these scientists find correlations between the day, social service, and timings of purchases and return the conclusions to the companies who hired them. If they find that Instagram is successful in influencing Milwaukee fans aged 19-30, the Milwaukee Bucks will advertise primarily on Instagram when they are desperate to fill up their stadium. This benefits them economically, but also works as a confidence boost for the players, making winning more games a by-product of this financially strategic move.

What areas of STEM are used in Data Science?

Data Science also works with game design and concept, meaning physics is heavily involved. To simulate a character jumping up and down you must code the laws of gravity into your world and take into account the character's weight, surroundings, and vertical. If you are interested in pursuing a career in Data Science, work on having an integral foundation of mathematics, physics, and Computer Science, specially coding with Python. Like Ryan stated, "The good thing about learning really any tech or program job is that the skills that you learn are highly transferable", so discover unconventional ways different sciences are used in your STEM field of interest.

How can you turn Data Science into a career that makes millions?

We believe Kazmeric summed it up! "You have to have a really good idea and then go out and check to see if there's any fit for that idea, so is there anyone out there who is trying to solve the problem that you have an idea for"

To put it simply, find a gap or inconsistency in the current market and formulate a cohesive plan to overcome it. Investors are always on the hunt for innovative entrepreneurs working to overcome obstacles in a certain area of STEM, and the initial thing they look for is if there is a future in your proposal. If you are still unsure, asking entrepreneurs whose philosophy coincides with yours is always an option. Most are more than willing to give you pointers and referrals to guide you to success.

Though Data Science is still in its infancy, it is essentially the future. Data Science is a diverse field for those interested in Humanities or STEM, whether you are interested in marketing and brand affiliation or mathematics and finding links between certain data sets. Having said that, success isn't guaranteed, but wherever there is innovation and creativity is bound to have some sort of positive results. As Ryan concludes, "I don't really know what's to come, but I'm confident we will keep problem solving and pushing forward progress wise."



What really occurs inside STEMIA high school?

By Joel Amaldas



Think about it- what are all the things that happen at the high school- the special stuff they have, how it is different from us, and what is the overall experience? I conducted an interview with one of the students there about their experience. Now, enough squabbling here is the interview:

Q: What are some optional courses at the high school?

A: For grade ten there are a wide variety of options to pick from. Some revolving around programming and robotics. There are also

digital arts and photography classes available. The high school also offers Chem 20 for grade ten allowing you to get a head start in the sciences. A mandatory course for everyone is Sparkade which is the new version of STEM 101 where students explore programming, rapid design/prototyping, and fabricating an arcade machine.

Q: What are some special things that are at the High School that are not at the Junior High?

A: The high school is very open to you using the MIT fab lab for constructive projects at home or at school. The media lab is almost always open and students enjoy playing games in VR or flying drones.

Q: Tell us more about the MIT Fab lab.

A: The MIT fab lab is a very innovative space where people come together to create and design projects. Currently it is being used as more of a classroom and in Am/Pm spark periods you can use the space for clubs and projects. In the future they plan on having the space open always so teachers can integrate it into their classes.

Q: Tell us about your experience at the high school.

A: So far, the high school experience has been very similar to that of the junior high though classes move at a faster pace as you would only take science 10 for half the school year (the semester) instead of the typical full year. Homework is very manageable though if you use your class time wisely.





Q: What's your most favourite thing at the high school?

A: Fridays are probably my favourite thing at the high school because of how unique they can be. The school day is shorter, and you get a longer lunch period. As well once a month we have a special guest visit and give a presentation to us. These presentations are valuable as they share their life experiences and what worked for them and what didn't. As well the share what their career is like.

As you have probably concluded, the high school is very different from STEM, with lots of special experiences, including the MIT Fab lab- the only one in Alberta! They also have guest visits every month to help with career choices, and as always, homework is manageable only if you use your class time wisely. Our high school is also very futuristic, as you can access VR equipment and drones! Overall, (hopefully) we will get to use high-tech and super cool equipment soon. What do you think?



Hollow Knight

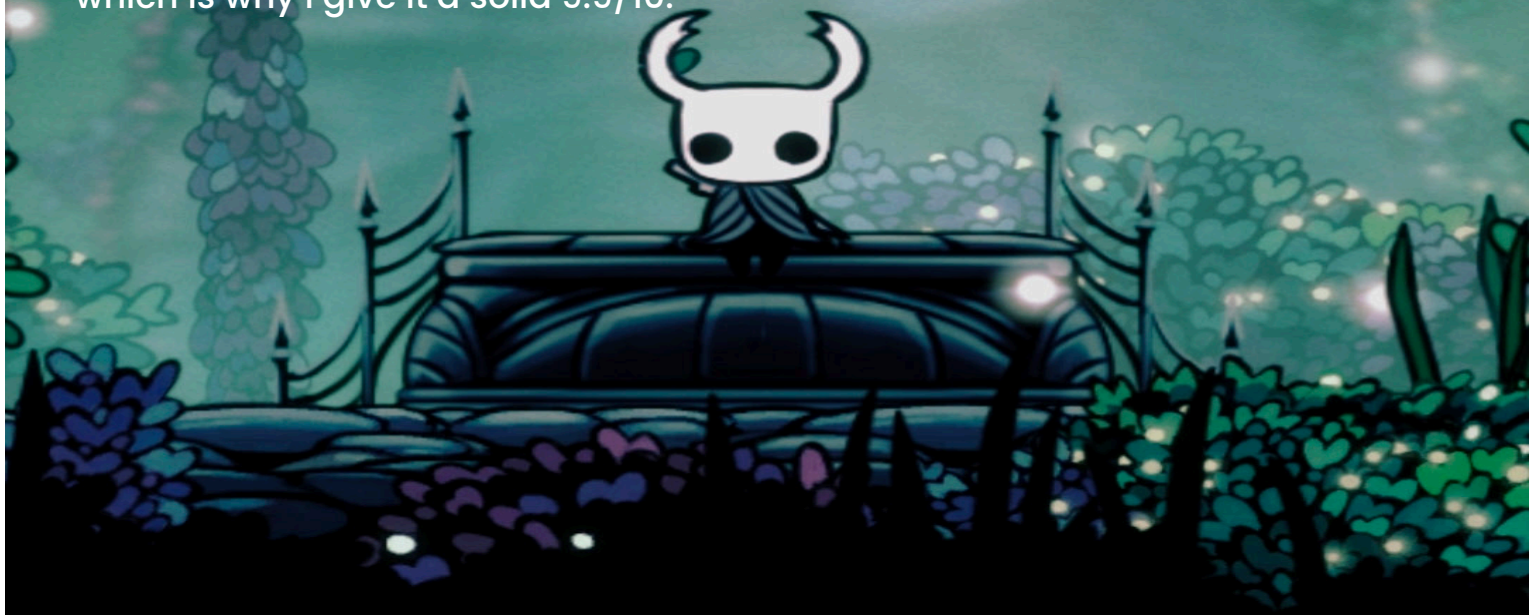
by Jude Olsen

Hollow knight is a video game released in 2017 by indie game studio Team Cherry. In this digital masterpiece, you descend into the vast open world of Hallownest with the mission to cure Hallownest of the sickly plague that has consumed it. You play as "The Knight," an empty, detached shell with no feelings or emotions created simply for the purpose of becoming a vessel to contain the infection. The world is the best part of this game, with nineteen main locations to discover. These range from the lush undergrowth of Greenpath, to the ghoulish claustrophobic tunnels of Deepnest.

The gameplay is simply extraordinary! It consists of mainly platforming and combat, both melee and ranged. The game starts off pretty simple but gets quite extreme as you progress. For example, the perfect platforming, along with instant reactions needed for the most difficult platforming section of the game, the Path of Pain. Or the combination of movement, combat, and strategy required for the Pantheon of Hallownest, where you fight every single boss in the game, which lasts about forty minutes.

The combat is simple enough: At the beginning of the game, you start with the melee swing, but as you progress through the game you unlock other attacks, such as a ranged fireball attack, charms, and others. These charms can make you stronger when equipped. Mobility is also improved throughout the game, as you start off with just a jump ability, and by the end you have a dash, double jump, and even the ability to swim in acid!

Hollow knight is my favorite game of all time, and it has given me upwards of one hundred and twenty-five hours of gameplay. You can pick it up on Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch, and Steam for PC users for around twenty dollars. Hollow knight is easily one of the most breathtaking games of all time, which is why I give it a solid 9.9/10.





WORD SEARCH HALLOWEEN EDITION

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SKELETON ☐

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HALLOWEEN ☐

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M	T	B	B	N	M	L	T	H
U	F	J	Z	H	L	O	O	R
T	U	A	D	O	X	R	Q	B
S	K	Y	W	Y	R	B	O	S
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C	E	R	R	E	J	G	Y	Z
N	T	N	I	K	P	M	U	P



Social Studies 8 Japan Game

By Shewa Adekanmbi

What would you do if you had to go to war with your classmates? Who would you ally with? Who would you battle? What plans would you devise to vanquish your enemies? Fun fact: STEMIA's very own eighth graders are asking these questions.

In order to teach the Japan Unit in Social Studies, the eighth grade Humanities teachers banded together to mastermind a clever and complex strategy game. Students could earn money called koku by completing quests, creating contracts with other groups, and showing exemplary behavior. They could then spend this koku on upgrades, buying and moving armies, and launching attacks on other groups. It was a battle to see who would become the next shogunate and claim ultimate power!



The Japan Game took place over the course of several action-packed weeks. Battles were fought, alliances were fabricated, and betrayal's muddy trail was left behind in the most unlikely places. However, there can only be one winner in each class.

So, without further ado, here are the final results of the Japan Game:

8A - Hokkaido

Keegan, Temi, Aarav, Grayson, Sophie S.

8B - Sendai

Asher, Abdur, Tristan, Hanish, Cruz K.

8C - Sendai

Lauryn, Olivia, Sarvesh, Pranav

8D - Nagasaki

Alex, El, Pralekh, Mani, Anya

8E - Edo

Emma, Muhammad, Calder, Basil, Swathi

8F – Hokkaido

Ethan, Akshara, Adesuwa, Kaius, Michael C.

8G – Osaka

Rahma, McCoy, Sasha, Carson, Zayna

Congratulations to the victors! May you reign forever and have never ending bragging rights.

Although not everyone won a physical prize, the true reward was the gift of learning. Everyone walked away with some new knowledge, whether it had to do with history, strategy, finance, or diplomacy. Students were able to learn and have fun at the same time, which isn't a combination you see every day.

Hey, don't take it from me. Here's what our eighth graders have to say about the Japan Game:

While this game not only teaches crucial social studies terms and concepts to its participants, it's also incredibly fun and engaging. Here's what grade 8 students are saying about the Japan Game:

"I believe that this game encapsulates how war and conflict actually happens in the real world and helps us to think objectively and not just logically about what's in front of us. I also think it teaches how unprecedented a lot of events were in Japan and how stoic they came to be."– Sara Waqas, 8E

"I think it's a fun way to understand how Japan used to be."– A Student, 8G

"It's an innovative, creative, engaging, and unique approach to learning."
– Maryam Abdulhameed, 8E

"They were able to mix up reading straight from a textbook and playing a game that included the whole class in it."
– Knox Pavlatos, 8B

All in all, the grade 8 Humanities teachers have definitely outdone themselves with this one. It makes you wonder what our wonderful teachers will come up with next!



IMPLAUSIBLE

RUMOURS

By Jude Olsen

Occasionally rumours circulate and we've got the inside SCOOP with Jude on what he's hearing in the halls these days about bussing....

Shhhh, Bus 6 took a wrong turn and ended up in the middle of an Among Us lobby at 4 in the morning.

- Sally Jones grade 7

I heard Bus 8 was late because they lost track of time while buying Mongolian fishing boots, to try and boost the GDP of Antarctica.

- Anonymous

The bus 9 driver was stopped by a group of protesters on the road, demanding "More accessible wooden shipping pallets for children".

- Name withheld for Safety

Apparently, the bus 1 driver got stuck in Ohio, and hasn't been found yet.

- Bilbo Potter grade 8

The bus 2 and 3 drivers were both investing in the rare fish market, and lost track of time.

- Elon Tusk teacher

Apparently, bus 4 was attacked on the street by a group of Quandale Dingle impersonators.

- Anonymous

You didn't hear it from me, but the bus 5 driver was in quite the predicament after accidentally leaking the dream face reveal, 4 days too early.

- Heard by the vending machine

The bus 7 driver was slowed down by a group of telemarketers, selling an unreleased flavor of Jolly Ranchers.

- Found in a fortune cookie