

THE FORECAST

SALTFLEET DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2017

THE SNOWBALL A SUCCESS!

By: Alejandro Restrepo



The 2017 Saltfleet Winter Formal was a great success, with over five-hundred students attending from three different schools across the board. Saltfleet students partied alongside students from Glendale and Delta, keeping the party going until 11:00 at night! The food was *exactly* what was expected at a banquet hall booked for high schoolers, albeit the potato wedges were a welcomed surprise. In a divisive move, drinks were two dollars, which, while seemingly unfair to some students, is a practical reminder that water is the matriarch of beverages. The photo booth proved to be worth every penny, and some students arguably spend more time in line for the camera than dancing. Many students will definitely have various pictures of the night, not just from the photo booth, but also posing in front of the lovely, foyer centerpiece (pictured above) and from recordings during the dance. All the guests were deserving of the hundreds -if not thousands- of photos taken, as everyone looked amazing; from dapper dresses to sexy suits. At the end of the night, Saltfleet did not just host the formal with the best-dressed and most lit guests, but they are one of the first -if not *the* first- high school in the HWDSB to host a three-school formal. I'm sure I'm not the only one who is thankful to our wonderful student parliament, involved staff, and trend-setting students. Shout out to Gina Montani for jumping every hurdle that circumstance threw her way, and to Mr. V, who didn't have to change for the event.

THE FORECAST

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WE NEED:

- Journalists
- Poets
- Department Reps
- Cartoonists
- Opinionated Individuals
- Photographers
- Authors
- Meme Makers

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THE TEAM

Editor-in-chief: Alejandro Restrepo

Staff Advisor: Mr. Scarrow

Writers: Abigail Balog, Muzammil Sheikh, Tyler Riches, Michael Spence

Contributors: Tyler Riches, Kennedy Player-Reid

Special Thanks To: Shirley Jones-Luke, a published American poet who submitted her awesome poetry to *The Forecast*

Where do you go if you want to join?

We meet every Thursday, after school, in Mr. Scarrow's room:
Room 2064

Come out and join *The Forecast*!

Note from the Editor

In front of you, whether it's on a screen or in paper, is the first issue of *The Forecast*, Saltfleet's student-run newspaper. The project started on a November day (the 22nd, to be exact) and this issue was released on the 8th of December. Over the course of sixteen days, various students put in their fair share of work: club representatives, talented authors, opinionated debaters, brave poets, skilled artists, meme makers, and a fastidious¹ editor in chief --that's me. In case you're wondering, *The Forecast* is justified, and it's also warranted by Saltfleet's history.

Before talking about the newspaper, I would like to thank the past Saltfleet students who, during their time at both our school and the old Saltfleet on Gray Road, took on similar tasks. *The Thesaurus* was started in 1939 and ran on and off for around two decades. The *Saltfleet Aurora* was a school magazine, running in the old Saltfleet's later years. Both were student-managed media projects showcasing Saltfleet's talent and personality.

The Forecast is the first Saltfleet newspaper to include memes --a true ode to our generation-- and is my first major project, encompassing the entire school, and showcasing Saltfleet's talent, spirit and personality. I encourage everyone to read the articles written by their peers, as well as attempting to submit their own work. Have a strong opinion on which way the toilet paper is supposed to face --it's under by the way, the patent is wrong-- or feel like a systemic issue needs to be addressed? Submit an opinion piece! Did you draw the coolest flower in art class? Submit an art piece! If you're uncomfortable with your name on your work, don't worry! Like a good neighbor, *The Forecast* is there, with our favourite² word:

Anonymity

It is such a weird word to say out loud. It's bouncy and awkward, but it's a major guideline we at *The Forecast* abide by. We won't ask questions or pressure anyone into putting their name on their submissions. It is entirely up to the student. With that being said, as a poet, writer, and now editor in chief of a newspaper, I can tell you there is a deep sense of fulfillment in taking credit for your work (just ask Stephen King, who, according to Google, has written "at least 111" books). And don't worry about citing your sources. I explicitly asked the English department to keep the MLA out of our newspaper. I will, however, still enforce Oxford commas and MLA rules for pluralizing nouns that end in the letter 's'.

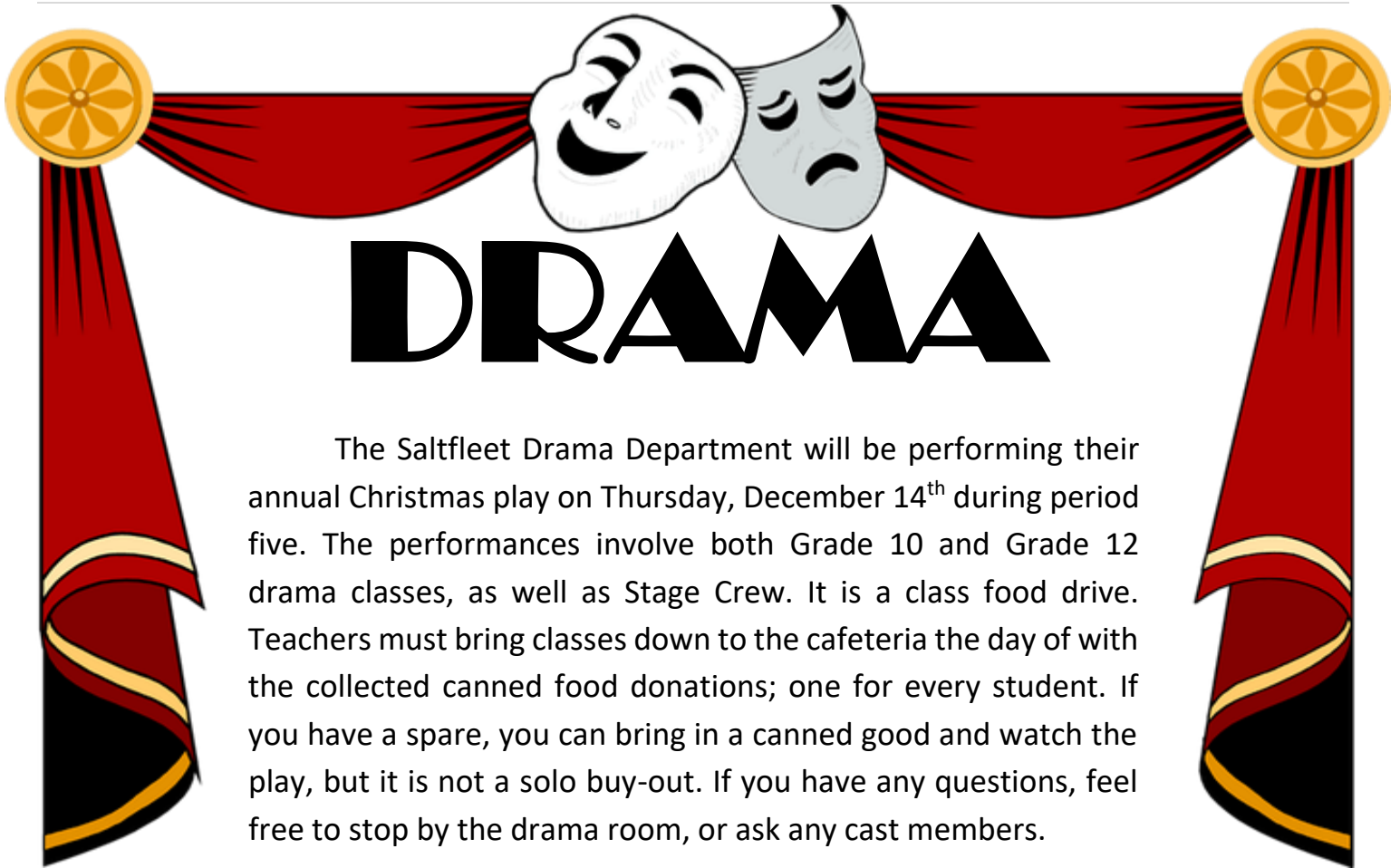
Happy holidays, Saltfleet! Let's hope Mariah Carey doesn't sing this New Year's.

-Aloe,

Editor in chief and professional short man

¹ very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail

² Devin Palmer will insist the correct way of spelling this word is without the letter "u." We speak Canadian, not American, eh



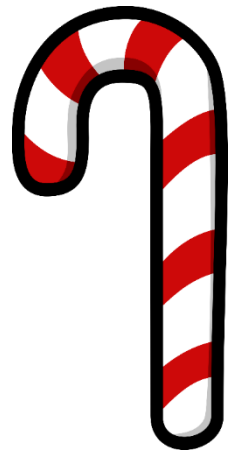
The Saltfleet Drama Department will be performing their annual Christmas play on Thursday, December 14th during period five. The performances involve both Grade 10 and Grade 12 drama classes, as well as Stage Crew. It is a class food drive. Teachers must bring classes down to the cafeteria the day of with the collected canned food donations; one for every student. If you have a spare, you can bring in a canned good and watch the play, but it is not a solo buy-out. If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the drama room, or ask any cast members.

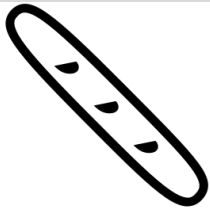


MUSIC

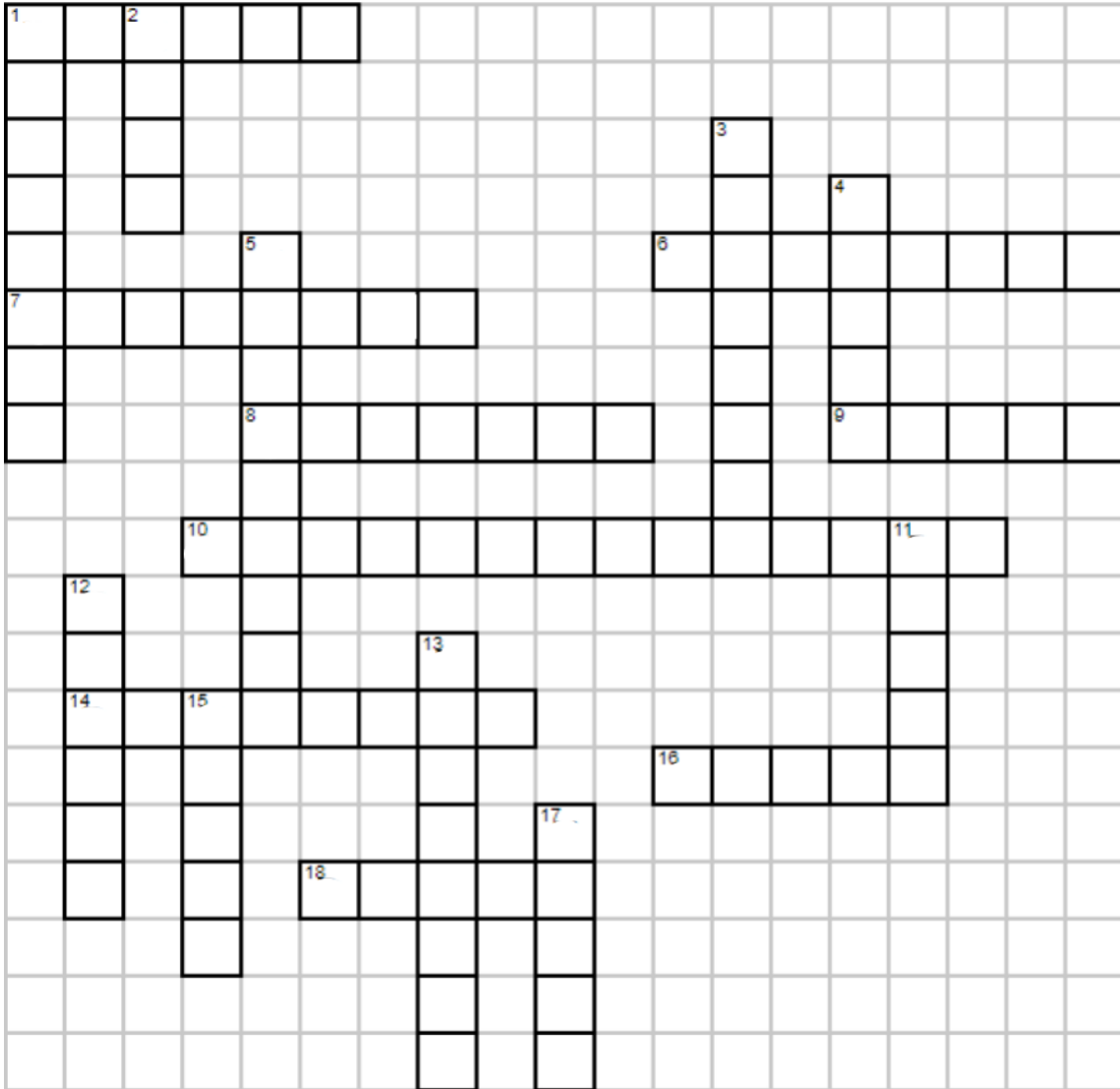


The Saltfleet Music Department is planning an amazing winter concert on **December 19th** at **6:30 pm**. Come out for a great time and some awesome music! The theme of the concert is *The Amazing Race*! Every band is playing pieces that resemble a country, and at the end, we'll find out which band is the winner of *The Amazing Race*! The Music Department will also be selling **CANDY GRAMS** for **\$1.00** from December 4th - 22nd! Buy one for a friend, a special someone, or your favourite teacher! They will be sold in the atrium during your lunch.





FRANÇAIS

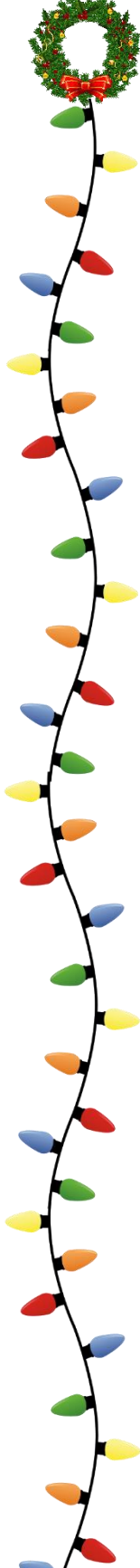
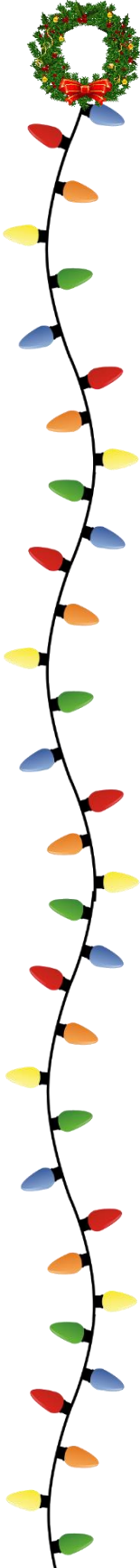


ACROSS

1. "To give" en français
6. On peut décorer l'arbre et la façade d'une maison avec eux
7. Le Père Noël aime manger des _____
8. Le renne avec le nez rouge
9. Rudolph est un _____
10. Le dernier jour de l'année
14. Le douzième mois
16. L'arbre de Noël
18. En Noël, on mange cet animal

DOWN

1. Le douzième mois encore
2. "Christmas" en français
3. Une décoration circulaire de Noël
4. La saison de Noël
5. "Tinsel" en français
11. "Ribbon" en français
12. "Gift" en français
13. Le véhicule du Père Noël
15. On les envoie à la famille et aux amis
17. Les choses blanches qui tombent du ciel





POETRY



“Every heart sings a song, incomplete, until another heart whispers back. Those who wish to sing always find a song. At the touch of a lover, everyone becomes a poet.”

– Plato

Solace in the Shadows

By Shirley Jones-Luke

Hello, darkness
 wispy finger of shade
 I am more comfortable
 sitting in the shadows, mulling
 my dim future, wishing things
 were brighter, but wishing is
 for children, I am full-grown,
 a realized adult, but yet, I feel
 empty of wisdom, bereft of
 progress, lacking the knowledge
 to reach my goals, despite being
 surrounded by the infinite internet
 & all its pathways that avoid my
 efforts to enrich my mind

Winter Holidays

By Muzammil Sheikh

The holidays are coming
 And Happiness is incoming,
 The snow is falling down,
 The winter season is coming now
 The reindeer are flying high
 As the spirit of the season is growing fast

The snow is falling down,
 Like the mistletoes under your home
 This season will be remembered by many

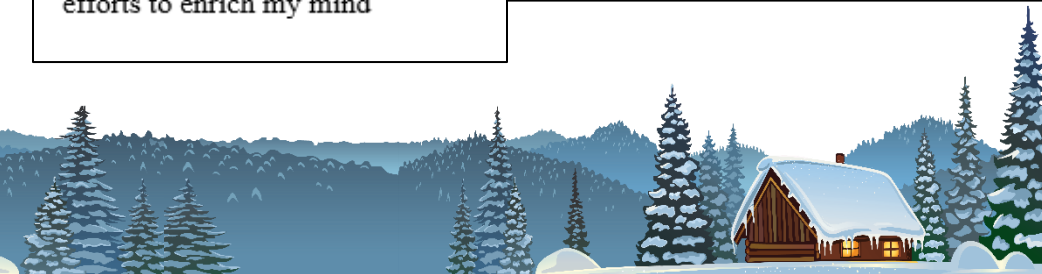
In the feelings of harmony
 As we now say bye

To this glorious season of winter

To the Girls in Running Shoes

Anonymous

To the girls in running shoes
 who shouldn't have to run.
 To the girls who wear their winter coats
 after entering the workplace.
 To the girls who wait in bathrooms
 to hide puffy eyes
 tear-stains
 wash prints from their arms.
 To the girls in the streets who
 wear pants
 on hot summer days
 to avoid being blamed
 for anything and everything.
 You won't be ignored.
 To the girls who are afraid to speak up,
 and to the ones who have.
 You won't be ignored.



Shirley Jones-Luke is a poet and a writer. Ms. Luke lives in Boston, Mass. She has an MFA from Emerson College. Her work merges poetry with memoir. She has been published in several journals and magazines.

Muzammil Sheikh is a Grade 10 student at Saltfleet. This is his first poem submitted and published in *The Forecast*.



Sports

By: Kennedy Player-Reid



Hockey Season is Back at Saltfleet!

The boys and girls hockey seasons are in full swing! Both teams are coming off strong seasons, as the boys earned their spot as 2017 City Champions and advanced to SOSSA, and the girls were city finalists. The boys got their first taste of league play on Tuesday in a city final rematch against the Sherwood Saints. Unfortunately, this time the Storm came up one goal short and were outscored 2-1. The girls team is looking for revenge this season after losing to the Waterdown Warriors in the city finals in back to back seasons after their OFSAA outing in 2015. They will kick off regular season play at Valley Park Arena against Ancaster on Monday.



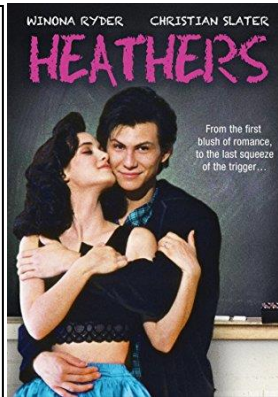
CHECK THIS OUT

Suggestions of less-known bands, movies, books and more you could look into while you procrastinate!



The Regrettes

Do the words “alternative feminist rock” offend you? If they do, try listening to LA natives *The Regrettes*. They have one studio album out, and are only 18! You’ll find yourself washed up on a seashore, rocking out to some great tunes.



Heathers

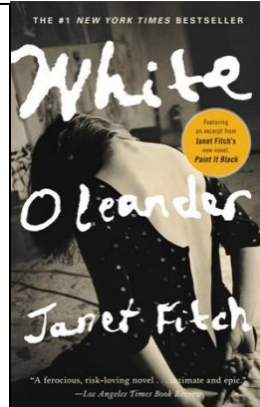
Winona Ryder as a High Schooler with a sociopathic boyfriend and the want to make the school a better place? What more could you ask for?

Murder. That’s what.

White Oleander

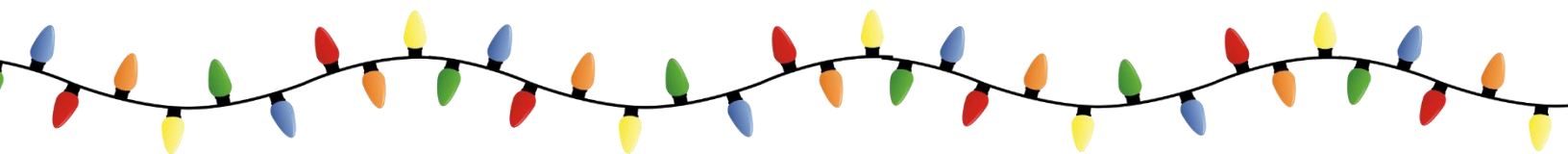
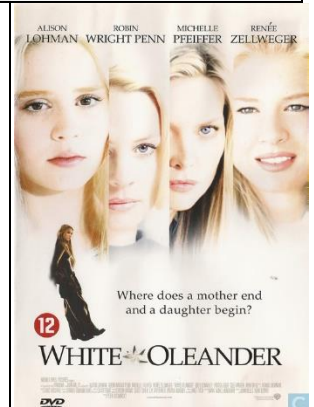
Astrid’s life is turned upside down when her mother is arrested, and she is put into the foster system. How bad can her foster mothers be? Shotgun to the back bad. Janet Fitch’s coming of age story is a very unique one that will leave you feeling *all the feels*.

Psst... It’s in the Saltfeet Library



White Oleander

Too lazy to read the book? *White Oleander* is also a movie, with Michelle Pfeiffer taking the role of Astrid’s criminal mother, and Renée Zellweger taking a break from *Bridget Jones*. The movie lives up to the book, and who doesn’t want to see Michelle Pfeiffer on screen?





Like



Love



Haha

Opinion Pieces



Wow



Sad



Angry

The truth about the Saltfleet Cafeteria

By: Tyler Riches

Let me start off by saying I love the cafeteria. The caf ladies are some of the sweetest people I've ever met. A lot of the food they serve is actually really good, despite what some students say. Besides, the students who complain about the poor quality food are the same students who buy French fries and rock-hard popcorn chicken every day. Seriously people, expand your horizons.

There is, however, a huge issue with the cafeteria: the prices are too high, and small items add up too quickly. We're broke high school students, and contrary to popular belief not everyone at Saltfleet is able to afford overpriced caf food. Now who's to blame for these high prices? Obviously not the caf ladies. They are good and pure and want nothing but the best for us. The culprit is their employer, Aramark Corporation, which is contracted in by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board to run most secondary school cafeterias.

Now I've heard complaints about caf prices since I started at Saltfleet, and when I was elected Deputy Prime Minister last year I set out to actually do something about it. So Student Parliament started a petition to lower cafeteria prices by 15% but keep the portion of the money that goes back to the school, because that money is used by the Principal to help students who need it for lunches, winter coats, and other necessities. That petition was a hot topic at Saltfleet, and many meetings of Parliament were debates on the effects this would have. Would it do anything? Would the caf ladies be punished? Would the company raise the prices again? With 702 signatures we mailed it off to Aramark anyways, convinced it would fail.

To our surprise they responded, and we met with them this past May. There we were told that while prices cannot be lowered because of operational costs, in September of the new year they could begin working with a student committee to expand and customize the menu at Saltfleet, so long as foods met the health policy, and adding fun theme days and promotional events to the cafeteria. I had my doubts about how students would take this; we asked for lower prices, not game activities after all, but I figured that if we had a say in what was in our cafeteria then it was a worthy alternative. We smiled, shook hands, and Aramark promised to email us information about starting a student committee.

September rolls around and I start my term as Prime Minister. As excited as I was to get started with working with Aramark, there was no news of them. October came and went too. I was starting to get worried until the Healthy Action Team told me they had a meeting with Aramark in the beginning of November. I quite obviously figured we would get to work customizing our cafeteria, but boy was I horribly wrong.

At the meeting, Aramark presented numerous fun activities to promote the healthy food options in the cafeteria, which the Healthy Action Team eagerly decided to organize. As they began to wrap up the meeting I asked about the student committee, the customization of the menu, and the meeting in May, and asked if I was mistaken in the belief that we had been promised more choice in our cafeteria. They told me that everything on the menus have already been chosen by the caf ladies and then brought everyone in the meeting to the cafeteria to show us the posters, the deals, and the signs. They asked if I had any other questions. I felt like I was being treated like an idiot by being shown all the stuff I knew already existed in the cafeteria, but I knew I would solve nothing by arguing with the representatives, so I said no, thanked them, and left.

That's not where I'm stopping though. We as students did not file a petition demanding lower prices, settle for something less than we asked for, just to be swindled out of even that. My government will continue to fight tooth and nail for student involvement in the cafeteria, and we will talk to board officials, other schools, and the Ministry of Education until our problems are addressed. We will not have our voices trampled on by a mega-corporation just because we're students.

I literally just want to be able to afford my lunch. Is that so much to ask for?

School iPads: Useful or Not?

By: Michael Spence

Since last year in 2016, students in Grade 9 have been given school iPads by the board. The iPads were brought in to assist the learning of students, but as of right now don't seem to be of much use. Most of the time, the iPads are unused or barely used during classes. Instead of being a tool to assist us, it acts more like a paperweight with how little use it has during classes. In fact, the last time I remember using it during class time was back when they were first handed out, in first semester of last year. As a student who has a school iPad, I can say that, if they took away all of our iPads in the next day, I would barely even notice the absence of them. I am not alone in this opinion either. From a survey I handed out to some of my classmates asking them whether or not they would notice if the board took away our iPads the next day, there was an overwhelming majority that they would not notice, or that they would notice, but would not care. The uses the iPads have could really benefit our learning, except they are not being used in a way that would help. So far this year, I have only used my iPad in a single way: to submit homework on D2L, which I have only done once. Even when it comes to researching, it seems students use their own personal electronic devices more than the iPads. So unless the school board can find a way to make the school iPads useful, than it would be a better idea to use the funds that would go into school iPads for other projects to assist the students.

Net Neutrality in Canada

By: Abigail Balog

Net neutrality has gained a lot of attention in the past few weeks, seeing as it poses a threat to internet freedoms in the modern world full of internet use. But many don't understand that living in Canada does not mean this is something that directly affects us. Many also don't understand what net neutrality is exactly. Net Neutrality is the rules and the idea of free access to all of the content and programs that are available on the internet without any type of discrimination against the programs available on the internet. Taking away the rules and guidelines that are set in place would give internet service providers the right to set things aside in separate packages, making people pay for things like sending emails, video streaming, social media, and gaming. They'd be making you pay more to have all of these things, paying for them separately rather than what we have right now, which is having it all included in our regular payments for the internet. As previously mentioned they are trying to abolish the current rules in place keeping net neutrality. But how does all this affect Canada? Many think that, because the US is having this problem, Canada is too, but that simply isn't true. Canada sees the issues that have risen with this even being a suggestion, and our Prime Minister Justin Trudeau himself has stepped forward, releasing a statement saying that it is "essential to keep the freedom associated with the internet alive." The statement confirms that we have nothing to worry about as Canadians, as our government continues to learn from the United States government's mistakes.

A Note on Opinion Pieces

Saltfleet District High School encourages student voice, and *The Forecast* promotes school involvement, as well as the sharing and publishing of important school, community and global issues. Nothing is written with any intent to harm, discredit or otherwise offend any institution or people. With that being said, *The Forecast* does not promote hate speech, discrimination, misogyny, or any other intolerant attitudes. Things of this nature will *never* be published in any issue of *The Forecast*. The goal of opinion pieces is to highlight issues, and to spark thought into less common topics. Anyone can submit opinion pieces to *The Forecast* by sending them in to theforecast.sdhs@gmail.com or by contacting the staff of the paper.

MEMES

The Drama Room VS The Drama Room Office



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when you realize you did nothing all day at school and were assigned no homework

Eat your
Walk to lunch from
Fortinos home CARLOS



When you take a social science online thinking it will be easier

