

The Voice



**Made by Students,
Read by Students**

**April
09
Edition**

The Twilight Bite: Sweet or Sour?

By Amna 87

Ah, the Twilight series. You know the story about the clumsy girl who's new at school, and a guy, who just so happens to be a *gorgeous* vampire, falls in love with her, -and her scent- am I right? I'm sure your elbow partner does. Well, let's not linger on this longer than we have to.

Firstly, I think Stephanie Meyer's idea of "true love" is twisted. After a couple weeks of barely any real conversation, the hero and heroine in this cliché-ridden novel declare "irrevocable" love. If you strip down the relationship between Edward and Bella, you'll find that it centres on Edward's model looks and Bella's ambrosial blood, and these don't quite make a soul-mate.

Furthermore, 108-year old Edward Cullen propagates the ridiculous idea that "control equals love", and is downright annoying with his greeting-card dialogue. He climbs through Bella's window to watch her sleep at night, which she somehow finds *romantic*. Later in the series, Edward disables Bella's car and holds her hostage so she can't visit her *best friend*. It seems that Ms. Meyer is telling readers that girls can't make their own decisions, which only adds to the sexism in the books. Whether the sexism was intended or not, it's still there. It's even more prominent when Bella immediately falls into the stereotypical female roles [cooking and cleaning] upon arriving at her father's house.

So Stephenie Meyer can string two words together and suddenly everyone thinks her work is the finest thing since sliced bread? A bunch of overused adjectives slapped onto a couple hundred pages is, needless to say, not a great demonstration of talented writing. If anyone was right on the ball, it was Stephen King when he said, "The real difference is that Jo Rowling's is a terrific writer, and Meyer can't write worth a darn."



We'd love to hear your opinion. Drop off your comments to Ms. Macleod.

At RTMS - We're All on the GREEN TEAM!

We believe that over our 6 years, we have built a strong program and reputation for being a GREEN SCHOOL. This year, we are applying for the prestigious EcoSchool award! With everyone's commitment to being more and more environmentally literate, we can really MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Here's what we do and can continue to do!

- Class Recycling Program
- School Recycling Program
- Class/School Composting
- Reusable paper bins in every workplace
- Wednesday Walk to School Days
- Friday Litterless Lunch Days
- Turn off the Lights/and Screens Promise (when not in use)
- Class Yard Clean Ups Weekly
- No plastic bottles for water.
- Reduced disposable plastic/paper plates/goods.
- A limited print policy for technology use.
- A staff water system.
- Doors to the outside are left closed other than in entry/exit times.

Gum Chewing

By: Ali 76 and Adil 66

Gum chewing is a habit for some, yet something yucky for others. It is also not allowed in school. It is one of the things Mrs. Standing really dislikes even though she herself loves a good gum. It's awful to see gum spit all over the pavement.

Do any of you wonder why gum chewing is not allowed in school? Well, I am going to tell you why. One of the reasons why gum chewing is not allowed in school is because some students stick the gum under their desks, which is very disgusting. Then when the teachers and students do some desk rearrangement, they find their hands covered in a squishy, sticky stick of gum. It's like feeling sticky tack all over your hand except for the fact of the saliva and dried sugar. Now moving onto the second reason why gum chewing is not allowed at school: because, it diverts your and your elbow partner's attention from the teacher's lesson that is being taught. The final reason, why gum chewing is not allowed in school is because, when you're in gym class, and when you are active, the gum might slide down your throat and you possibly will choke, which could cause death. This is why you should never chew gum in school! We're only in class 6 out of 24 hours a day - maybe it's a good idea to take a gum break!

Advice Column

By: Keerththana 73, Akriti 74 and Linda 74

Dear Keerththana, Akriti, and Linda,

I'm a procrastinator and I am trying very hard to get ahead on my work, but I still procrastinate. Can you give me some advice on how take more initiative?
From Couch Potato

Dear Couch Potato,

If you're a procrastinator, then here are some ways you can STOP that habit. It's pretty easy to be a procrastinator, but the hard part is taking the initiative, so in order to break this habit you must do the following: Set a time at home just to do regular studying or homework. Each day, you will use this time to do work. Soon enough, this will be your new habit. To ensure that you are using your time wisely, write in your agenda the order that you will work on things. Then, check-each item when it's completed. **Put-First-Things-First!**



Frogs
By: Fatima 64



Some frogs have tongues that are long and sticky that can be used to catch bugs. Frogs with long tongues go by the "see it, snap at it" technique of feeding. Toads, on the other hand, have tiny tongues and have to snap at their food using their mouth. They often will stalk their food, much like a cat...creeping up to it and then just as dinner is about to take off, they will snap and eat their meal! Did you know? When frogs swallow a meal, his eyeballs will close and go down into his head! This is because the eyeballs apply pressure and actually push a frog's meal down his throat! YUM!

Frogs have very special skin. They don't just wear it; they drink and breathe through it. Frogs don't usually swallow water like we do. Instead they absorb most of the moisture they need through their skin.

Frogs rely on getting extra oxygen (in addition to what they get from their lungs) from the water by absorbing it through their skin. Because frogs get oxygen through their skin when it's moist, they need to take care of their skin or they might suffocate. Sometimes you'll find frogs that are slimy. This is because the frog skin oozes mucus that helps keep it moist. Even with the slimy skin, these frogs need to stay near water. Toads on the other hand have tougher skin that doesn't dry out as fast, so they can live farther from water than most frogs. In addition to jumping in water, frogs and toads can get moisture from droplets from plants, or they can burrow underground into moist soil. Frogs shed their skin regularly to keep it healthy. Some frogs shed their skin weekly, others as often as every day! This looks pretty gross...they start to twist and turn and act like they have the hiccups. They do this to stretch themselves out of their old skin. Finally, the frog pulls the skin off over its head, like a sweater, and then (warning this is gross) the frog *EATS IT!* Yuck!

Animal Jokes!
By: Erin 76

Since it's almost April Fool's Day, what could be better than a few animal jokes? ENJOY!

A little boy comes home from the grocery store with his mom and a new box of Animal Crackers. The boy opens the box and looks through all the crackers. His mom asks: "What are you doing?" The little boy answers: "I'm looking for the seal cracker to make sure that it isn't broken because on the box it says: do not open if the seal is damaged!"

Two cows met in the field. "MOO" said the 1st cow. "I was just about to say the same thing!" said the 2nd cow.

What do you get when you cross a lemon with a cat?
A sour-puss

What's a dog's favourite snack?
Pupcorn

**Here's the weirdest animal joke:* A giraffe walks into a restaurant and looks at the menu. The manager of the restaurant comes up to the giraffe and says: "We don't get too many giraffes in here". Then the giraffe replies: "Well no wonder you don't... considering these terrible prices!"

Candy
By: Marium 71, Sai Shruthi 71 and
Natasha 72

Yummy, Yummy in my Tummy
Marshmallow, Taffy really gummy
Chunking airheads
Hour by hour
But don't forget the Hershey power
Skittles, Smarties, & Snickers too
But remember,
Don't give them to your Kangaroo!



Cosmic Connections
By: Hassan 78

It is now time to take you through an event called "Cosmic Connections". On February 26, 2009, an amateur astronomer named Brian Cheasley came to our school. He told us about the name that was given to our ringed planet before they changed it, what black holes are, certain types of satellites, telescopes, probes, rovers, the Big Bang, and more! Some of the pictures he showed us in his slide show were events that had to do with a meteor hitting an old lady's car, eclipses, and other things. We loved the Cosmic Connections! That's all folks! Keep reading The Voice for more fun about astronomy!

Grade Eight Louis Riel Trials
By: Sophia 86

The Grade Eights finally completed their "Louis" Trials in the last few weeks of February! The trials consisted of lawyers and witnesses for the defense and prosecution, a judge, a court clerk, and the jury. They created witness statements, questions for the witnesses, and full news reports covering the events of the trial.

Louis Riel was the Métis hero in the late 1800's, chosen because of his political knowledge, bilingual ability, and thirst for justice. Most of the Grade Eights found Louis Riel not guilty of treason (treason meaning to go against your Government). They felt that the Government had mistreated the Metis and they declared him innocent because he never committed any acts of violence .



Lawn and Garden Month
By: Anonymous



Hello again RTMS green thumbs! For all those who like planting, April is the month to start! Did you know that April is also Lawn and Garden Month? If last year your yard was not exactly a lush paradise, maybe that can be your goal this summer and spring! So now that you've adopted this goal, you think "now what?" If you recognize this scenario you should start to work with what you have. If your yard really just needs some TLC you can take on the chore of watering the lawn and maybe also mowing it. If you want to do more, you can visit a garden store and buy plants that meet your care needs like: low maintenance (because no one wants too much work), less/more sunlight (depending on where you put it), space needed (again, depending on how much room you have), ect. So I hope this April you will take on your garden to test your care and patience levels Good Luck!

If you would like to help with an upcoming RTMS special project by working with us to beautify a new park we are building, behind the school, sign up with Ms. Bucca! This is a new partnership with City Counsellor Mrs. Sue McFadden and the City of Mississauga!

My Own Star

By: Anna 86

Millions of stars sparkling above,
Millions of stars and different destinies.
What life will be born in their beams?
What worlds are hidden in their light?

Each star, like a castle of life,
Always opens its doors to a person,
But whenever I come to that treasury,
Far worlds just draw me a question,
And remain so cold and closed.

I am running from castle to castle,
Always hoping to be welcomed there.
But all stars keep cold silence,
Not letting me in to the world inside them.

Suddenly, my heart starts trembling,
Like it wants to jump out of my chest.
Like it's saying, "Look! Over there!
That is what you are looking for!"

In the corner of a beautiful night sky
Little star is shining and singing.
And its tinkling is more than just sound,
It's a song of new life and dreams.

That star's radiance is shining the brightest,
And it's dancing all over the sky!
The door of the star world is open,
Just for me – I have found my world.



Riddles and Pigs Results

By: Anonymous

1. Who was stolen at a very young age,
just because of someone's rage?
Alphonse our little piglet
2. Who leads our school along the green
path, I bet this person could help us
with math? *Our wonder-
ful Green Teachers, Ms. Bucca and
Mrs. Leeder.*
3. What thing jumps so high, nobody
really knows why?
*The character we all love from
Looney Toons ... Mr. Bugs Bunny*
4. What is small but when it defends, it
seems pretty tall?
*The Australian Joey... in other
words, a baby kangaroo.*

Animal Jokes!

By: Erin 76

(ONRTMP SH TUOH)
(DUTSTENS)
(SCETRAEH)
(SDIRNFE)
(TRUH TNARUATSER)
(MKOHREWO)
(ETJCSBEU)
(DUTEACION)
(KCRESOL)
(POSMONHT IMET)
(LSIMEIFA)

The Person That Didn't Feel

Right...

By: Adil 66

Did you ever feel like you saw someone or
can tell this person doesn't feel okay or...
not human? Well my father did. My father is
a taxi driver and he always picks up people.
One day he picked up someone and my
dad thought that she didn't feel okay. She
came out of a train alone and she didn't
have any clues on her. My dad picked her
up and asked if she had 20 dollars or more
than 20 dollars. But she showed him her
purse and it was filled with cash. Now, she
gets in the car and randomly makes such a
loud and horrible laugh! "HAHAHAHAHA!"
It was really weird. She had no emotion. It's
like she was from the undead! She would
laugh really weirdly and quite randomly.
Then my dad dropped her off at a really
expensive mall. While he was coming home
he started thinking to himself that maybe
she had not even been human! Finally my
dad arrived home and he told us every-
thing. We've been nervous ever since. Do
you have a scary story to tell?

Poem

By: Aniq 67

Cree-ee-eek
Craa-aa-aak!
Those are the sounds that I hear at night
Shhhh!
There they are again!
Maybe it's a vampire
Maybe it's a ghost
All I know is that it goes...
Cree-ee-eek!
Craa-aa-aak!
In the dead of the night



Where am I?
I'm lost!
Am I here?
Am I there?
Where do I go?
I'm lost :(

March Break - Missed Work?

By: Tiffany 73

Everyone loves March break and likes to go
somewhere warm, right? But what if you
leave one week earlier and miss a lot of
work? What should you do? Well, make sure
you talk to **all** of your teachers when you
come back to school to see if there is a way
to catch up on all of the work that you
missed. I am a student and I know what
you're probably thinking "Why would I want
to go into study hall, stay after school, and
miss my recess?" Well, what if you had a
major test two days after you came back and
you didn't know anything about that subject?
It could probably get you a bad grade on
your report card and you might not be able to
get the i-Pod chromatic you always wanted.
Remember be proactive, not reactive!

The "Review" ...Slumdog Millionaire

By: Davion 73

There are so many things I can say about this movie but the one word to sum it up is,
"masterpiece"! This movie won 8 Academy Award and 4 Golden Globes. Slumdog Millionaire
is the must-see movie of 2009! It all starts with Jamal Malik, a former street child now
working at a phone agency. Jamal is appearing on "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" and
during every question that Jamal is being asked he has a flash back to his life as a child,
teenager, and young adult. Every flashback helps Jamal answer every question but the
questions he doesn't know are answered on pure luck. Some people accuse Jamal of
cheating through the game and he is arrested. After he is arrested, the police ask him
questions and when they don't get the answers they want, he gets abused. Some of the
challenges Jamal faced as a child was the loss of his mother due to the tirades of the Indian
people. If you want to know the rest you just need to watch the movie! Rent it now!

Types of Bullying
By: Rabia 65 and Zersha 65

There are three types of bullying:
Physical Bullying
Verbal Bullying
Cyber Bullying

Physical bullying: Physical bullying means bullying someone by pushing them or any other action that involves body contact.

Verbal bullying: Verbal bullying means bullying someone by calling them names or making fun of the person in front of many people etc.

Cyber bullying: Cyber bullying means bullying someone by sending the person bad emails or posting bad things about that person on the internet.

Stand up for what you believe in & help others to not get bullied.

What If Our Teachers Were Superheroes? Pt.2
By: Davion 73 and Ali 76

Have you ever wondered about what it would be like if our teachers were superheroes or villains? We have! Welcome to part 2 of the story. Have you ever wondered if Mr. Lang could be Martian Manhunter? They are both interested in their own planet's history. What if our IT teacher, Mr. Peterson was Superman? He is fast and has the power to help anyone and can solve any problem. Well, what do you think RTMS, he *is* our IT teacher! Next, let's look at Mr. Suitor. Could he be Wolverine? He's athletic enough, strong enough, and he is a quick runner. The only difference is that Mr. Suitor doesn't lose his temper that much. We also have Mrs. Leeder as Poison Ivy. Both of them are very colorful. They both think of the environment, and for Halloween Mrs. Leeder *was* a tree. (Notice the connection?)

Thanks for reading, RTMS! Join us next month for our first story with these Super Teachers. Stay tuned for Part 4 and the Standing Jewel!



Guitar Club
By: Adil 66

Hello students at RTMS, do you have a guitar that you can play (or not play yet!)? Well then, you can just bring your guitar to school in the music room where Mr. Harris and Mr. Brown teach guitar lessons with Mr. Aldana who is supervising the whole club. You can learn new songs, play on your own, or try something new! It would be really nice if you came to guitar club. We hope we will see you there!



Unscramble the French Words
Zersha 65 and Rabia 65

1. honsepla
2. eauchap
3. gaseiv
4. tinmeo
5. ceuxhev
6. liersou
7. volrue
8. ordinaruet
9. xuey



The Voice

By: Pakeeza 74, Shagun 74, and Mahek 75

The VOICE is a newspaper written by students for students. Anybody can write an article for the VOICE. Just come to the IT lab on Mondays at lunch and write about anything you want. Just make sure you talk to Mrs. Neath or Ms. Macleod. The VOICE is for students to express themselves and represent the school in a creative way. For example you can write jokes, activities going on around the school, stories about your life, advice columns, and more. So come on up to the IT lab and start expressing that creativity of yours. See you Mondays at 12:10!

Emotions
By: Tanya 77

Happiness is a little girl finally finding her prince charming.

Life is amazing, for without it, we'd have nothing. It's truly a gift.

Insecurity is self-destroying. It'll plant itself inside your mind, creep into your heart, and take over your soul if you don't learn to tame it.

Love is the most enriching and valuable thing one can possess. Love is when you care about someone else more than yourself. Love is beautiful; Love is blind; Love is a creature with its own mind.

Hope is a small child running down the stairs on Christmas morning, pondering over whether or not Santa got them what they wanted.

Fear is a terrible thing to live by, and should, by all means, be conquered before it becomes something that will stop you from living your life freely.

Loss is having everything you ever cared about taken away from you. It's losing the ones you loved. It's misplacing your favorite toy. It's losing anything dear to you. It can be unbearable.

Anger is putting on the mask of a furious red-faced man, saying words that aren't yours and doing things you never would.

Friendship is like a sensitive flower. If you take care of it, it'll blossom into something beautiful and have an intoxicating fragrance. However, if you turn your back on it, it will wilt and fall apart...and if it's not taken care of soon after, it will eventually fade away and lie there, dead and forgotten.

Death is like a black hole developing in your heart, taking over the place where that loved one used to be.

Pain, whether it's physical or emotional, it is never a good thing to dwell on. All that would do is emphasize the pain, and that could never be a good thing.

Always make the best of life, 'cause this is the only one you have. Even when everything seems wrong, there's always someone standing right beside you, there to put a smile on your face. You might not see them at first, but you can count on them always being there.

Those people are the ones you call your **friends**.

