

# Gas prices? More like Gucci prices

by Katie Cushman  
of *The Gleaner*

On Meghan Osterberger's, '22, way home, a light pops up on her dashboard. She looks down and notices that her gas tank is almost empty. With a sigh, she pulls into the nearest gas station. Despite knowing that this single fuel-up will cost her, what feels like, half her paycheck, she crosses her fingers that she will have some extra spending money. Her hope begins to fade as the numbers tick past \$40 and then \$45 and then \$50.

Osterberger is not the only person who is affected by the recent gas price increase. Almost all Wahlert drivers have felt a dent in their pockets.

Katelyn Vaassen, '23, said the gas prices make her "feel angry."



## Cha-ching

Gas prices have skyrocketed in recent months, affecting many student drivers.

She is one of many Wahlert drivers who must pay for their own gas and now feels the extra pressure from the recent price increase.

Vaassen said, "I can't

spend money on other things, and I make sure I have a job so I can pay for gas."

Like Vaassen, there are many other Wahlert students who have to make

similar sacrifices in order to fill their tanks.

Leah Park, '23, says, "I pay for my own gas when I go somewhere that isn't essential, but if I go from home to school, that gets

paid for by my parents. It [gas prices] makes me a lot more conscious of if I have to make these trips to go somewhere or have fun."

The students who are feeling the biggest impact from gas prices are some of Wahlert's longest drivers.

Osterberger said, "When I first started driving, it only cost 30 bucks to fill up my car. Now it costs me \$50. That is a \$20 difference."

Osterberger has been driving ever since she got her school permit freshman year.

Vaassen, on the other hand, said, "It's probably about a \$10 difference since I first started driving."

While the increase in gas prices can be annoying, it seems to be something the community will have to deal with for quite a while.

# Shedding light on students of color

by Josh Chapman  
of *The Gleaner*

In recent months, Wahlert Catholic has seen back-to-back allegations of racist conduct against the student body. During a December girls' basketball game, members of the opposing Waterloo East team accused the Nest participants of shouting racial slurs at the players.

In March, Wahlert parents held a meeting with the school board after a series of racist behavior occurred towards a student that resulted in him leaving Wahlert. At the meeting, the parents and some students spoke on what policy changes were crucial in order to prevent further problems for students of color in the school.

Furthermore, Holy Family released statements apologizing towards the students of Waterloo East and promising to do better when handling racism in the school.

The Holy Family school system claims to be taking these allegations seriously, but how do Wahlert's own students of color feel their school has been handling the recent controversies? Marina Hishikawa and Marco Morel, '22, believe

that there is still significant change needed.

"It's always been an elephant in the room. An incident would happen, and Wahlert would kind of brush it under the rug," says Hishikawa.

Morel agrees, saying that it was disheartening to see one aspect of Wahlert represent the entire school because of a seemingly poor mishandling.

In terms of what the school does moving forward, both Morel and Hishikawa agree that there should be some sort of

class that educates students on all levels of the Holy Family school system on racism.

"I want to see some kind of mandatory freshman class that is required of any enrolled student that talks to them about issues not only regarding race and sexuality, but also house and home life," says Morel. He further explains the importance of educating students on the many life experiences that differ from a Caucasian, two-parent, middle-class home life that the majority

of Wahlert students are familiar with.

Hishikawa agrees, also emphasizing the need for greater education on race in middle school. "They're not oblivious elementary students, but they don't have set opinions yet, like in high school," Hishikawa says.

Aidan Dolan, '23, like Morel and Hishikawa, is ready to see change in the

Holy Family school system. Dolan feels that when restrictions are placed on what can be discussed and controversies are silenced quickly, it only creates a more dangerous environment for students of color. Hoping to see great change in the near future, he jokes, "We should be able to walk through the halls and think, dang, I'm mocha baby!"

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