ASB Helps Education in India

By Shannon Hong, Grade 9

Education is a basic human right that we often take for granted here in the United States. But for many children around the world, they have to fight for this right. Skyview’s very own ASB is helping to change that. On Friday, April 29th, the ASB held its last dance of the year, the Spring Social. Students were able to come free of charge and enjoy a night of Inside Out, games, and food. But the best part was that all profits from the food sales were donated as a part of ASB’s global service project. That’s right, the $602 raised from this social were given to the non-profit organization Free the Children to help support education in India.

Skyview Sparrow Club

By Shannon Hong, Grade 9

The last batch of Sparrow Club vouchers were collected on April 29th. From this past year, a total of 90 vouchers have been turned in, all of which will be given to Michael, who has returned to Skyview. Sparrow Club has been a great success this year, and whether you did one hour or ten hours, it is important to realize that you took part in making a difference in your community and in Michael’s life. It is incredible that so many students were able to participate, and that we were able to connect Sparrow Club with Honor Society. None of this could have been possible without the help of Mr. Dellino, one of our great counselors here at Skyview. And of course, a big thank you to everyone who supported Michael throughout this journey. Always remember that every day, you are given the opportunity to create any kind of change. Skyview, let’s make that change happen, in and out of the classroom, to better our community.

It is great that our ASB is helping to make the world a better place by addressing these kinds of global issues and creating an impact on children’s lives.
FBLA: The World of Business Starting in High School

By Raveena Nair and Aleksandra Swiatek, Grade 9

What is FBLA? Entrepreneurship. Business. Leadership. These are just a few of the ideas that FBLA imprints into the minds of high school teens. FBLA stands for Future Business Leaders of America, a world-class organization that strives to create aspiring entrepreneurs and outstanding business leaders. FBLA requires a lot of work and time, particularly prepping for your competitive event. However, your efforts could not be better spent! FBLA has helped us in many different ways. Whether it was memorizing a speech, learning business manners and procedures, or even figuring out how to network, FBLA has been there and taught us all these important ideals in today’s society. And it can for you, too!

FBLA is a business competition that consists of tests and presentation events. For example, you could compete in Accounting I, a 100 multiple choice question test or challenge yourself in Impromptu Speaking, a presentation event. There are 9 regions in Washington State. All of the Northshore School District Schools are situated in the West Central Region, one of the, if not, the most competitive region in the State (West Central is Best Central!). If you are competing in a testing event, it would be done at your FBLA chapter; presentation events are judged on site and production events were often prejudged.

Regional Competition

Regionals is the first competition you attend that determines whether you get the chance to advance to the State Business Leadership Conference (SBLC). This competition has everyone all over the West Central Region compete in various events in FBLA.

State Competition

SBLC (State Business Leadership Conference) is a fun and competitive four day conference! It is the next competitive step into Nationals, right after the Regional Conference. You compete against the top business leaders from all over Washington State; there’s 2000 of them! The competition layout is very similar to that of Regionals.

National Competition

After SBLC, the NLC (National Leadership Conference) is the last and most rigorous FBLA competition of the year. Taking place every summer in a new location, you compete against the top business leaders from around the globe. That’s right, it might be called Nationals, but all FBLA students from around the world come! Compared to the mere 2,000 people that were at state, this competition hosts 10,000 leaders! Held in Atlanta, Georgia this year and it will be held in Anaheim, California in 2017.

College Bound Scholarship:

This is an incredible resource for qualifying families. It is an early commitment of state financial aid to eligible students who sign up in 7th and 8th grade and fulfill the Pledge. The Scholarship covers the cost of tuition (at public college rates) not covered by other state financial aid, plus a small book allowance. The application is online at www.collegebound.wa.gov.

★As 9th graders competing in a high school event against sophomores, juniors, and seniors, we are very honored to not only represent Skyview Junior High, Bothell High School, and West Central Region, but also Washington State. We are so thrilled to compete at this competition and hopefully bring back another award!
North Creek High School

By Rafael Ibrahim, Grade 9

As many students already know, the new high school, named North Creek High School by survey participants, is under construction and development for the opening of it on the fall of November. Current 9th graders will go to Bothell high school for 10th grade but will get relocated to North Creek in 11th, while current 8th and 7th graders will go to North Creek immediately upon graduation from Skyview. Pictured to the right is an aerial view of the school, and below is the to-be principal, Eric McDowell.

- North Creek High School (NCHS) will offer both Advanced Placement (AP) and College in the High School (CHS) classes. NCHS will not offer International Baccalaureate (IB) classes, as those will continue to be offered only at Inglemoor.
- AP and CHS classes offered at North Creek will be similar to those offered at Bothell and Woodinville.
- NCHS will offer all needed advanced classes in the fall of 2017 even though the school will not have seniors until the fall of 2018.
- North Creek will offer Project Lead the Way (www.pltw.org) Bio-Medical and Engineering STEM courses. NCHS will be a comprehensive high school that offers STEM courses and will not be a designated “STEM School”.
- NCHS will offer a variety of world languages including three European languages, namely Spanish, French and German, one Asian language, namely Japanese, and American Sign Language (ASL).
- North Creek will offer a variety of performing arts classes including Band, Orchestra, Choir, and Drama. NCHS will also offer a variety of classes in 2D and 3D art and will have kilns for ceramics and other courses.


NSD Secondary Summer Academy
June 22 through July 29, 2016

- Offering courses in Credit Retrieval, Online Health, Life Fitness, Drawing/Design, Chemistry, and Accelerated Math at:
  Inglemoor High School,
  15500 Simonds Road NE, Kenmore, WA 98028
- Contact: 425.408.6011
  ssommerschool@nsd.org

Please note: Prior to registering for accelerated math classes, students and parents should read and follow the guidelines on the Secondary Academics/Accelerated Math Options page.
The Talon: wwwnew.nsd.org/domain/1658 – Page 4

Section 2: Editorial

The Dress Code Debate

By Shannon Hong, Grade 9

School dress code has sparked into a worldwide debate because there have been several incidents where students, most often girls, have been sent home or asked to change because their clothes were “distracting” to students and made some teachers “uncomfortable”. At this point, it appears as if these codes are being carried out more towards girls. It appears as if these codes need to do a better job of protecting a good educational environment for all students. This issue was addressed by Laura Bates, the author of the book Everyday Sexism, in a published Time article titled “How School Dress Codes Shame Girls and Perpetuate Rape Culture”. In short, Bates wrote that if a girl is told that her clothes are distracting, it is implied that the education of her male classmates is being prioritized over hers. In addition, it gives the assumption that girls cannot avoid sexual violence and if they do encounter it, they are partially the ones who are responsible. Is this the real purpose behind dress codes? Hopefully not because dress codes are actually supposed to simply encourage students to concentrate on their studies while creating a more serious learning environment. And yet, at the same time, dress codes are forcing girls to not wear certain clothes, creating an unintended lack of self-confidence and expression. It is important to understand the reasons behind having school dress codes but it is also important to realize that what students are wearing are not more important than their education. Allow everyone, both female and male students, to learn and be confident in their bodies.

Bothell High School Fall Sports 2016-2017

► Next year’s Bothell High school fall sports are now open for this year’s 8th and 9th graders to register.
► BHS fall sports are: Football, Boys Golf, Girls Soccer, Girls Swim, Girls Dive, Boys Tennis, Volleyball, Cheer, & Cross Country
★ NO MORE PAPER SPORTS PACKETS please! Registration for BHS sports is now done ONLINE. Go to the BHS Athletics website for instructions and more information: http://wwwnew.nsd.org/bhsathletics

School Spirit Week 6/6-10/2016
Monday: America Monday
Tuesday: Tie Dye/Neon Day
Wednesday: Superhero Day
Thursday: Crazy Hat/Hair Day
Friday: Class Colors Day

★ If you are dropped off by a parent in the morning, please make sure to use the sidewalks and crosswalks. It is very dangerous to cross the bus parking lot. Thank you.

★ REVISED
Last Day of School is now June 17 – Final Assembly 8 am to 10 am
A day has been added to the end of the school year to make up for the March 14 school closure day due to power outages.

From School Office

★ Safety reminder to our school community - no skateboards or hoverboards are allowed on campus at anytime.
The Power of Unity

By Nikki Nguyen, Grade 9

From November of 1955 to April of 1975, Vietnam and America were at battle. Communism and Capitalism were proved as incompatible. Global issues were discovered as irreversible. Nearly thirty years later, after North and South Vietnam united, America still held a legal ban on the sales of military equipment against Vietnam. On May 23, 2016, during President Barack Obama’s visit to Asia, he announced at a news conference in Hanoi, Vietnam, that the United States was to lift the embargo on lethal military weapons. The diminishment of this ban ended one of the last legal vestiges of the Vietnam War. Officials suspect that the lift of the ban is due to China’s buildup in the South China Sea. After hearing these false accusations, Obama stated that the removal of the ban was a large decision to normalizing the relationship between Vietnam and the United States and America. American Officials stated that lifting the embargo will encourage Vietnam to defend itself against the increasing threat of China in the South China Sea. Obama also stated that the improved ties between America and Vietnam have made complete sense for the United States. His visit was a part of an effort for Vietnam to recalibrate their personal, political, economical relationship with China. China continues to remain as Vietnam’s largest trading partner, but both countries have argued about Beijing's claims on the water off of Vietnam’s coast. Obama announced that the two once fighting sides had created an agreement to allow the opening of Fulbright University Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City, which was the first university in Vietnam where the government has no power. Next, Obama said that Peace Corps volunteers would be posted towards Vietnam for the first time ever. Earlier that morning, Obama had the special opportunity to wander the streets of Vietnam, witnessing the wonderful traditions and culture. He experienced what living in Vietnam was like. Life is filled with joy, family, love, and achievements.

Obama will end his last term as the President of the United States early next year in 2017. Thank you Barack Obama for the power of unity.


► https://www.talkvietnam.org/2016/05/the-first-day-of-us-president-barack-obama-in-vietnam/

The first Olympic games were in 776 B.C. in Greece. Today, nearly 2,792 years later, we are getting ready for the next Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The city of Rio is working to build the necessary stadiums and buildings that the 41 different sports for both men and women will need. The athletes are in training and preparing to soon travel to the games. “Seeing Christ the Redeemer while competing is incredible. In the future I’ll be able to say: ‘I competed at Copacabana Beach’,” remarked swimmer Keri-Anne Payne, a British silver medalist in marathon swimming in Beijing, 2008. As the athletes are in the final stages of preparation, and the games draw closer, a familiar item is traveling to the games as well. The iconic torch, after leaving its homeland Greece, was recently traveling throughout Brazil. The country’s swimmers, volleyball players, sprinters, and many others are contributing to carrying the torch across the South American Country. “It is a truly unique feeling. I was very keen to carry the Olympic flame. The Torch Relay is a beautiful thing and I’m pleased to be part of it,” said Sheila, an Olympic champion in volleyball.

Yet, this year is unlike others. Brazil is facing several difficulties. The officials planning the event knew that it would be a struggle to keep the expected 600,000 guests and 16,000 athletes from getting the Zika virus. Zika has been linked to the birth defect microcephaly, and is spread by mosquitoes found in Brazil and other countries with similar climates. Although the games will be in Brazil’s summer (because the country is in the southern hemisphere), mosquitoes will still be out. A similar story from several years ago frightens officials as they prepare for the games. During the middle of September 2014, a Chikungunya Outbreak had occurred. Chikungunya is spread by the same type of mosquitoes as Zika. While only a hundred or so were infected in mid-September, by the first week of October, there were around 722 identified cases. A disease spreading that fast at the Olympics could send Zika to other countries across the globe, even if officials are only currently expecting 350,000 visitors. Athletes, particularly females, like U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo, have elected to only leave their hotels for practices and games. A big issue with Zika is that 80% of people that have it do not have symptoms, making it hard to prevent in public settings, yet the effects of the disease in Brazil could be catastrophic, both for the hotels and restaurants in Rio, and for countries around the globe.

Sources: olympic.org, rio2016.com, CNN News
The 9th Grade Cruise is coming up:
Saturday, June 11, 2016

► Drop off at Skyview for Check In at 5:00 pm
   Pick up at Skyview at 10:45 pm

► THIS IS A SKYVIEW PTSA SPONSORED EVENT
   FOR 9TH GRADE SKYVIEW STUDENTS ONLY
   (Dinner and dessert will be served on the boat)

Cost: $60 if purchased by May 27
   $75 if purchased May 28 – June 3

► Make checks payable to Skyview PTSA
   Return Payment and Permission Slips to the Skyview Office - PTSA Drop Box

Attention Class of 2019!

Argosy Cruise Pier 55
in Seattle, Washington

★ Some 9th graders feel as if they need to have a partner for this cruise but remember, you can enjoy it with your friends, too! This is the last party at Skyview so just have fun 😊

*** Permission/Expectations Slip Form is required for ticket purchase***

- Students are expected to behave and dress appropriately for this event. The event is casual/semi-formal.
- Students must agree to follow all safety guidelines.
- All NSD school rules apply.
- Students are to ride to and from the event on the bus they are assigned to. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Upon return to Skyview, parents are responsible for transportation home.

Source: Skyview PTSA

If you are injured, 911 will be called and parents are responsible for all medical costs.

No Alcohol, Drugs or Weapons – if found the Seattle Police Dept will be called.

PTSA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Questions? Email skyview9thgradeparty@gmail.com
Activities to Do During the Summer

By Brittany Do, Grade 9

Summer is coming at last and with it comes freedom, vacations, and unfortunately, boredom. With less things to do and more time to do it, we sometimes can get really bored. Sometimes we may even, *gasp*, miss going to school, or at least having something to occupy our time. Seriously, though, during the summer, we have so much energy that we need a list of activities to keep us from getting bored and to make sure we have a good summer before going back to school in the fall.

Here’s a list of activities that you can do during the summer if you’re bored:

- ☺ Hang out with friends (without school, it’s hard seeing your friends every day, so make sure to still keep in touch, whether it be via the internet or in person)
- ☻ Go to the beach (you can also take photos of people against the sunset if you decide to stay until then. Just don’t forget to bring a sweatshirt for when it gets cold)
- ☼ Go swimming (cooling off in the pool is a great idea)
- ☼ Learn a new language (learning new languages may seem hard, but you have the entire summer to do it; just take it one day at a time)
- ☼ Go to the mall (they have AC there!)
- ☽ Walk a dog (who doesn’t love walking with a furry, smiling companion? If you don’t have a dog, no problem, just borrow one!)
- ☾ Find a new hobby (with the two and a half months of break, this will come in handy)
- ☄ Go on a hike (just make sure to bring a lot of water, and by a lot, I mean a LOT)
- ☾ Go to the mall (they have AC there!)
- ☀ Make homemade popsicles (make sure they don’t completely melt before you eat them!)
- ☼ Go on a bike ride (go out and enjoy the fresh air)
- ✨ Volunteer (volunteering is a great thing to do because you’re making a difference in someone’s life)

Have fun trying out these activities and have a great summer everyone!
Okay, summer’s almost here and we know what that means... boredom. I bet if you’ve had a summer you’ve sat down and realized you’ve absolutely nothing to do. Well, I’m here to tell you it’s okay! I have some things you can try to make your summer a little more interesting, and you’ll probably have cool stories to tell your friends.

First thing you should try: learn something new. It sounds lame, but trust me, it can be cool. Commit to something that will become interesting. Some things you could do is learn how to play an instrument, ride a skateboard, learn a language, or just learn more about a new culture in general. You never know what you might find, maybe you’ll love it. Whatever you do, don’t give up. That’s the most important part. It takes time, but what else would you do?

Second thing to try: make a list of mini goals. They don’t have to be very important or hard to accomplish, they just have to take time and effort. But that doesn’t mean it doesn’t have to be hard to do, feel free to step out of your comfort zone. All it is is a time filler, and that’s all it has to be. Some ideas of things you could do are: get a summer job, become a published author, volunteer at a hospital, take selfies with strangers, or learn to cook something new. Now all that’s left to do is make a list of these and make it a priority to complete the list by the time school starts.

If the first two don’t work, then you could always find something new in your community! There are a few ways to go about this, like camping, exploring the nature-y side of Washington, or looking into the culture of the area. If you go for the more outdoorsy route, I suggest camping or backpacking. There are tons of parks and trails in Washington. All you need to do is find one! There is so much to do. If you want to get creative, go rafting or ziplining! Then again, there's a more cultural side of your community to explore. There are the big things I could tell you to do... visit the Seattle Art Museum, go to Pike Place Market, or see silent movie Mondays at the Paramount Theater. I have to tell you that there are so many more things to do that can be much better! Go see a local band, or learn about the native heritage of the area. Find a flea market or local fair! Festivals are a great way to have fun, explore a new area, and learn something new (plus the foods’ pretty great).

So go out there and learn something new! Just do something; the secret to not being bored is filling up time.

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**Ask Motek**

Dear Motek,

I want to ask this girl to cruise, but I’m not sure how to do it. I want it to be special because she's a special girl. Any tips?

Sincerely,

Wanting to be Cruising it at Cruise

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**Dear Wanting to be Cruising it at Cruise,**

Well, the way guys are asking girls currently is by using posters, candy, flowers, etc. It’s the same old thing every time. You could go the same route with this girl as well, but if she means more to you than that, you could go a different route. Take her out somewhere romantic and think of a unique way to ask her there. Ask her friends for suggestions if you’re stuck. At the end of the day you’re going to be the only one who knows what she likes, so follow your heart and do whatever your heart wants.

Sincerely,

Motek

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**By Kirby Long, Grade 7**

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So go out there and learn something new! Just do something; the secret to not being bored is filling up time.
Summer Vacation Ideas for Skyview Students

My ideas: San Francisco Travel/Camping and Cabins/Tourism Victoria/The Butchart Gardens/Clipper Vacations/Seabrook Events and Activities/Yellowstone/The Wizarding World of Harry Potter/Universal Studios/Top Ten London Attractions/Seychelles Travel/100% New Zealand

By Samantha Hanson, Grade 7

On the first day of school, many students know what it feels like to say “What did I do over the summer? I...uh...sat on the couch.” It’s time to retire that phrase. Whether you are intending on relaxing locally or traveling internationally, here are some vacation ideas to keep you away from your living room.

San Francisco
This city full of awe-inspiring attractions is just a short flight away. You may want to visit Alcatraz, the Golden Gate Bridge, or the cable cars. Flights to San Francisco are fairly common, though hotels can be hard to find.
http://www.sanfrancisco.travel/
San Francisco Travel

Seabrook
This getaway is fairly close. Bike riding, hiking, beaches, swimming, restaurants and more come with cute cabins available for you to rent.
Seabrook Events and Activities

Camping in the Olympic National Forest
The Olympic National Forest has lakes, rivers, forests, and more. You can bike, hike, ride horses, swim, and kayak. If you don’t like to camp, you might consider renting a cabin.
Camping and Cabins

Top Ten London Attractions
London is just one of the amazing European places to visit. Surely you have heard of Big Ben, Stonehenge, The British Museum, and others. Maybe this summer you can finally learn how to imitate that accent.
http://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/sightseeing/london-attraction/top-ten-attractions?ref=mosaic#izqByVI0Uevtacctv.97
Top Ten London Attractions

Victoria, Canada
This city has many entertaining activities. The Butchart Gardens have flowers all throughout the year. Numerous whale watching tours and other adventures are waiting in Victoria. Ferries travel to Victoria twice daily.
http://www.tourismvictoria.com/
Tourism Victoria
http://www.butchartgardens.com/
The Butchart Gardens

Yellowstone
This national park is certain to be a wild and fun trip. Bison, wolves, elk, bears, and many animals live in the park. Other natural wonders include geysers and colorful springs. Camping and hotels are available.
https://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm
Yellowstone

The Wizarding World of Harry Potter
Universal Studios Parks
Both in Florida and California, the parks are very fun. California’s new Harry Potter world has shops and attractions that will impress everyone. The Florida Universal Studios has waterparks, another Harry Potter World, roller coasters, and much more.
http://www.universalstudioshollywood.com/harrypotter/
The Wizarding World of Harry Potter
https://www.universalorlando.com/Home.aspx
Universal Studios

Seychelles Travel
Seychelles is an island in the Indian Ocean full of white sand beaches, art, and amazing snorkeling and boating opportunities. However, it can be expensive, as it is far away. Some other similar destinations are Hawaii, the Caribbean, and south-eastern Mexico.
http://www.seychelles.travel/
Seychelles Travel

New Zealand or Australia
New Zealand is a country by Australia. It has a wide variety of wildlife, perfect for people that like nature. New Zealand also has places to go parasailing, boating, relax on the beach, discover native history, hiking, and much more. Australia has a wide variety of wildlife unique to its landscape.
http://www.newzealand.com/int/travel-guide/ 100% New Zealand
History. That one word that oh so many people dread and love at the same time. We all know how important it is to know our history, so that way there’s a chance of not repeating it. However, there are more things than history that our greatly appreciated history teachers have taught us.

In 7th grade Washington History, we learned how to write the basic essay, while still getting used to adapting at a new school that was bigger, more advanced, and had more people. We got an easy historic year with our historical teachers so we could get used to our surroundings.

In 8th grade U.S. History, not only did we learn about the American colonies, the Revolutionary War, and the Constitution, but there was also the huge Culture Project. In that project, we learned the idea of time management, the limits of procrastination, and the importance of citing our sources.

Next up, 9th grade World History. Some may say that the jump between 8th and 9th grade was the largest jump of all. Right from the beginning of the year, we’ve learned many things, all of which includes the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Age of Discovery, the Reformation, and World War I and II. As anyone can see, we’ve covered a lot of information this year. Not only did we learn about these topics, but we’ve also learned more on leadership, teamwork, clarity, specifics of information, research, keeping people accountable, creating reasonable goals, the importance of rubrics, and the list goes on! What’s really important, though, is that we appreciate the teachers who gave us the opportunity to learn history in such a way.

Mr. Bahr, or should we say, Jon, is an amazing and fun science teacher at Skyview. But he didn’t always want to be a teacher; he actually grew up wanting to be a doctor. However, he slowly changed his mind in college when he decided that he loved teaching and interacting with others. Mr. Bahr grew up in Maple Grove, Minnesota and went to Cedar Island Elementary, Maple Grove Junior High, and Maple Grove Senior High. Mr. Bahr’s hobbies include skiing, fly fishing, running, hiking, kayaking, landscaping, and sailing, which is pretty much everything that includes outdoor recreation. He is an amazing teacher and we are lucky to have him.

Mr. Bahr, with his wife Kelly and their nine-month old son Finn.
FBLA is a very rigorous competition which has thousands of high school students coming to compete in numerous business events. The first competition we participated in was the 2016 West Central Regional Conference and were not disappointed. We boarded the bus in full business attire at 7:45 in the morning to take us to Snohomish High School. Once we arrived there was an opening session for about 45 minutes and then for the next three hours, since we had no presentations, we attended workshops that included local businesses and Seattle area universities. Afterwards, there was a comedian who performed to relieve the tension before the awards ceremony. The awards ceremonies are probably the most stressful thing ever! Especially since the events are called in random order, keeping you at the edge of your seat with anticipation for your event and potentially your award. Aleksandra placed 5th in Cyber Security and we placed 2nd in Website Design. Since the top six from each category qualified for Security and we placed 2nd in Website Design. Since the top six from each category qualified for State, we were off to Spokane!

Saturday was the day when jitters took over. Barely anyone in our hotel room could eat breakfast because we were all so nervous. The awards ceremony lasted over 3 hours. However, when they called our name up for Website Design we could not believe that we placed 2nd in Washington State, the waiting was all worth it! We are going to Nationals!

SBLC:
We participated in the 2016 Washington State Business Leadership Conference. We left school on a Wednesday afternoon and came back home the following Saturday in the evening. When we arrived that Wednesday night, we had to check into our hotel and quickly change into business attire to go and see the candidates running for FBLA state office. The next morning was our competition, so after getting breakfast, we practiced hardcore, over and over again, until we could do the presentation for Website Design with our eyes closed. The presentation itself only took around 15 minutes and it went out quite smoothly. We were not really sure if we had made it, but we had our hopes high! Friday was a day to relax and explore Spokane before Saturday.
The Faulty Fourth of July

By Arica Conrad, Grade 9

Ahh, July. School’s out, and I can finally relax. That is, for five minutes.

“Get up! We’re going to Grandma’s house, remember?” my mom yelled. See what I am saying? Even on summer vacation, I never get a break. I sighed and got up. My mom burst into my room and dragged me out when she saw that I was dressed and my suitcase was ready by the bedroom door. She pushed me into the car, where the rest of my family was waiting.

“So you have the fireworks?” I asked. My mom nodded. We then started the long drive to my grandma’s house. And wouldn’t you know it, we actually had to go over a river and through some woods!

*Time passes*

It was a perfect night. The moon illuminated the bay where my grandma’s house was. My family was by the water, ready to set off our fireworks, along with countless other families on the beach. I was perched on the water’s edge with our final, largest firework.

“Okay, you can light it!” my dad called down to me. I started the lighter, and lit the firework. I retreated to a safe distance. The firework rose in the air… and headed straight towards my grandma’s house! The firework collided with the house, exploding in a fiery array of bright colors and sparkles. All that was left was a few charred pieces of the roof.

“Oh no,” I groaned.

The moral of the story? Be careful where you light your fireworks, unless you want to blow up your grandmother’s house.

-The End!

A Note ♥

Dear Person,

Has anyone told you that you are loved? That you are cherished? That you are one of a kind? If you haven’t, you are. Self love. That is what our current day society is deprived of. We need to begin loving ourselves for who we are.

We need to stop comparing ourselves to society’s ideals. I want you to know that it hurts to witness women and men depriving themselves to reach a certain point that can never really be achieved, nor does it exist.

Love. Love yourself. Love the person that you are. Love the skin you are in.

Grades are not supposed to define you nor your standardized test scores. Numbers do not define you. Numbers do not define your intelligence level.

School does not last forever. Enjoy it as it lasts. Bills and mortgages are not the equivalent to the “massive” amounts of homework we receive from our wonderful teachers on an everyday basis.


Sincerely,
Anonymous
PART 1: The lobster jury assembled into their stands in the court in a chaotic shuffle.

“Order! Order in the court!” said the octopus judge, slamming his gavel against his stand. “Thank you. We will now commence the trial of Swimmy Bubbledolphin under charges of attempted murder. Will the defense give his opening statement?”

“Yes, your honor” said the swordfish attorney. “Members of the jury. Look at this dolphin’s face” Mr. Bubbledolphin looked at the jury with shimmering eyes and a quivering lip. “Isn’t he adorable? Such a man could never commit a crime, based on his so, very cute face” said the Defense.

“Very nice, Mr. Swivelnose.”

“Thank you, your honor.”

“Will the prosecution give her opening statement?”

“Certainly, your honor” said the shark attorney.

“This is your first case, Ms. Chompyfin. Are you sure you’re ready?” Asked the judge.

“Please, your honor, don’t patronize me. I’m as ready as I’ll ever be” Replied the prosecution. She approached the defendant, Mr. Bubbledolphin. “People of the jury!” She exclaimed. “I object to the defense’s statement! Despite having super cute faces, dolphins are known to attack large creatures of the sea, even larger than themselves, with their huge noses! Regardless, the evidence against Mr. Bubbledolphin is overwhelming. Looks cannot change this.”

“Thank you, Ms. Chompyfin.” said the judge. The Prosecution took a bow, and returned to her seat. “Defense, please send up your witness.”

“Yes, your honor” said the Defense. “I would like to call Ms. Sally Silverscale to the stand!” The jury burst out with several gasps and “Oh my!”s. An old salmon slowly swam to the stand, and faced the attorneys. “Ms. Silverscale. Please tell me what you saw at the incident.”

“Oh, well, anything for a handsome swordfish like yourself. In fact, you remind me of one of my ex-boyfriends. We met in high school, and he was the captain of the finball team. I was in the cheerleading squad, so we could see each other every day, and…” The old salmon chattered.

The judge slammed his gavel, interrupting Ms. Silverscale. “Witness! Please refrain from stalling our time with your endless chatter.” Ms. Silverscale went pale. “Continue”

“Oh, I’m sorry for my mouth runnin’. Anyway, I was at the hotel, and I looked towards the vending machine, and saw an innocent shark bein’ hit in the neck by the nose of a dolphin, with suspiciously similar looks to that man!” Ms. Silverscale pointed to Mr. Bubbledolphin.

“Pssh, please. That could’ve been anybody.” Said the defendant.

“It even says that it was you on the internet!” Retorted the witness. “And we all know that the internet only tells the truth!” The defense began to wonder why on Earth he brought a prosecuting witness to his side of the court.

CONTINUED IN PART TWO ➔
PART 2: The judge nodded. “Indeed. However, the witness should probably give some un clichéd evidence.” The jury spoke amongst themselves in a speaking rush.

The witness gasped. “Well! If that’s what you want, then sure. Mr. Bubbledolphin’s Facebook says that he was at the North Pacific Gyre Mall yesterday, at 10:30 A.M.. This setting perfectly corresponds to where I saw the attack!” Mr. Bubbledolphin’s face went white.

“I-I was getting some Sea Cucumbers for a Sunday Salad.” Retorted the dolphin.

“OBJECTION!!” A voice exclaimed from the back of the room. The jury was in a huge commotion, as they are excited from the littlest things. “This statement is clearly false!” Ms. Chompyfin rushed to the front of the courtroom. “The defendant’s facebook clearly says that he was buying an Urchin Brand™ brush for your sea lion! Never does it mention a sunday salad, or sea cucumbers! You were obviously out to the mall to shop for blood.” The jury was in a mad kerfuffle.

The judge slammed his gavel down at full force, but missed the stand, making the gavel fly out of his tentacle on onto the head of Ms. Silverscale. “Ouch!” She yelped. In all the commotion, Mr. Bubbledolphin began to sneak out of the courtroom. The security starfish blocked the door, but the dolphin rammed his nose into their sensitive bellies, forcing them out of the way. The trial was abandoned in a furious chase of the dolphin, with Ms. Chompyfin in front, having a head start.

“Come back here, you fiend!” She yelled. But the dolphin kept on going. That is, into a wall. Dolphins may be famous for being the most intelligent creatures on Earth, but they cannot compare to that of a concrete wall. They’re very smart. This wall moved itself into the dolphin to aid in the judge and jury’s quest for justice. The dolphin was caught, arrested, and put into Time Out for 50 years, and the ocean lived pretty okay for a pretty long time, and the system of court, trial, and justice was successful once again, that is, except for the wall, who had a huge crack in it from the large impact onto its surface.

Rest In Pieces, random Ocean wall. (2005-2016)

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**Summer Dream**

*By Minita Layal, Grade 7*

- sunset
- moonrise
- stars sparkling
- in the cloudless sky
- velvet blanket in the night
- stormy sea rumbling in sight
- flickering lights
- dancing wind
- cool night air
- jumping leaves
- shadows rumble in my dreams
- blurry days and sunlit streams
- dance through my head in my sleep.
The Biggest Set of Teeth

By Katie Ingersoll, Grade 7

We were driving down the remote beachside road to my grandmother’s house. I was to spend the summer there… the entire summer. I was pointedly ignoring my parents. Therefore, when the car stopped at the house, I hopped out without a backwards glance. My sister Violet, was already there because her school ended a week earlier, and she ran out to greet my parents. Following her was my grandma, a small old woman who still goes on a road trip every other week. She hugged me and I hugged her back, after all, she didn’t send me here. The n, I picked up my bags and walked inside her cool, air-conditioned house.

Around ten minutes later, grandma walked back in with Violet.

“Alright girls, I need to go down to the dentist in town. Do any of you want to come?” She asked.

I certainly didn’t.

“Violet, slowly swim over here.” She did as she was told. Together, we swam to shore. Once we reached it, I looked out over the water, nothing. Then, I had an idea. I ran into the house and grabbed a salmon that was going to be used for dinner, ran outside, and chuckled it. I seemed to see in slow motion the giant set of razor sharp teeth rising out of the water to swallow the fish whole.

The shark seemed to lock eyes with me. I shivered, thinking how close Violet had come to being that fish. Finally, it sank back under the water. I turned and walked back to the house, still scared out my mind.

I waited until hearing her car pull out before turning to Violet, “C’mon, let’s go to the beach.” When she hesitated, I said, “We’ll wear life jackets” She nodded. We ran upstairs and changed, grabbed towels and lifejackets, and slathered on sunscreen.

An hour later, as we were floating around in the water, Violet screamed. “I saw something move under me!”

“It was just a fish, calm down”

“AAAAHHH! It touched me!”

I looked over, at first, I couldn’t see anything. Suddenly, a little further out, I saw a fin. A giant, spiked fin. A shark fin.

“Violet, slowly swim over here.” She did as she was told. Together, we swam to shore. Once we reached it, I looked out over the water, nothing. Then, I had an idea. I ran into the house and grabbed a salmon that was going to be used for dinner, ran outside, and chuckled it. I seemed to see in slow motion the giant set of razor sharp teeth rising out of the water to swallow the fish whole.

The shark seemed to lock eyes with me. I shivered, thinking how close Violet had come to being that fish. Finally, it sank back under the water. I turned and walked back to the house, still scared out my mind.

Comic
By Sydney Simmons, Grade 7
Elantris by Brandon Sanderson

Kae stands in the shadow of the former capital, and this book’s namesake, Elantris. Ten years from the time in this book, Elantris was a utopia. The land was beautiful, its inhabitants like living gods and goddesses (with magic and all), and the land literally glowed. To get all that magical bliss, you had to randomly get struck by a magical force called the Shaod. It was supposed to be like that for eternity.

When the kingdom crashed down, the Shaod became feared. The inhabitants of Elantris became powerless, sickly beings, and Elantris itself turned dark and crumbling. When Crown Prince Raoden gets struck by the Shaod, his bride-to-be, Sarene, the princess of Teod, finds that Raoden is dead, and she is now considered his widow. Sarene decides to use her new standing in Arelon to prevent a Fjordell priest, Harthen from taking both Arelon and Teod for his religion and god.

Will Sarene succeed in preventing Harthen from taking over her country? Will anyone find out that Raoden is not dead, but exiled in Elantris? And will they ever find out what really happened to Elantris?

Read Elantris by Brandon Sanderson to find out! This book is fantasy and has very interesting country names, some of which are hard to pronounce, which might make it hard to read for some readers. Besides, that, I give it 6/5 stars, and I hope you all decide to read this book!

Source: Google Images

Note: This review, my other newspaper reviews, and some other book reviews, poems, stories etc. are published exclusively online at www.ourbookishblog.com! If you love reading, or anything bookish, then come check it out!

Shadow and Bone by Leigh Bardugo

Shadow and Bone by Leigh Bardugo is an eventful and action-packed fantasy novel. It is the first in the Grisha trilogy and features a young girl named Alina, who grows up with her childhood best friend, Mal, as orphans. After being enlisted in the army to fight, Alina discovers that she has a rare but secret talent, one that might be the key to saving her country. She is a Grisha, which means that she is different and equipped with the power to have skills similar to having magic. Through the challenges and obstacles she has to go through, including leaving her best friend behind, Alina has to be strong enough to face them all, while also finding out that living as a Grisha has its own challenges, especially with the mysterious Darkling, the one who is in charge of all Grishas and only the King is above him. I haven’t finished this book yet, but so far it’s definitely a 5/5. The next book in the trilogy is Siege and Storm, followed by Ruin and Rising, so if you enjoy the first book, be sure to check out the second and third!
Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs

By Olivia Costarella, Grade 7

Does the title ring a bell? Maybe you saw the trailer because this book is being turned into a movie on September 30, 2016. But you know what they say: books are way better than the movie! This book starts with a boy named Jacob Portman who comes from a family who owns a chain of drugstores but little does he know that there is more to his family. Like his grandfather (who is dead) he is Peculiar, meaning he has a very special talent that allows him to see monsters. Jacob might be able to but everyone is telling him he is crazy. His psychologist allows him to go to a remote island where his grandfather grew up. Apparently, this house is where all of his grandfather's outrageous stories take place, the stories where people can eat from the back of their head, levitate, and have bees living inside their bodies.

Jacob doesn’t know what to expect or even to think anymore. When he first starts going to the house it’s so boring and nothing like what he wanted until one day he follows this girl who appears out of nowhere into a bog. He ends up going back to September 1940 and goes through new experiences, love, and adventure. This book is truly magnificent and it covers adventure, time-travel, and romance. This book is what every book hopes to be; it is so magnificent you won’t be able to put it down! As you can imagine, I rate this book a 10 on a scale of 1-10. You should read this book even if you aren’t a reader and just looking for a book for English like most of us are. Or, if you’re a movie person, go see the movie September 30, 2016 but just remember what I said: the book is way better than the movie.

Illuminae by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff

By Hanna Koh, Grade 7

Illuminae (NOT ILLUMINATI) is a fast-paced sci-fi, fantasy, and kind of romance novel. I started this book not knowing anything whatsoever about this, and I am happy to say that this book pleasantly surprised me. The story is told through many things including IMs, e-mails, conversation recordings, documents, and even through files from the ship’s artificial intelligence core.

Illuminae is about Kady and Erza, two teenagers who once lived in Kerenza, an illegal mining colony on a distant planet, somewhere in this universe. When Kerenza gets attacked, on the day of Kady and Erza’s breakup, things get a lot more complicated. They work together to escape Kerenza, but get separated and put onto different spaceships leaving Kerenza.

It might seem that the major conflict is over now, but their problems are just getting started. They find out that they are in the middle of a corporation rivalry, a deadly plague is mutating, and the artificial intelligence, aka AIDAN, that is on Erza’s ship just might be insane. In this space set story, you’ll find many characters that you love and hate, and some that you just don’t know what to think! But in space, all Kady and Erza have just might be each other. I rate this book 5/5 stars. The sequel to this novel, Gemina, is coming out on October 18, 2016, and the main character in Gemina has my name! (Most of you probably wouldn’t care but I care...)
The Trials of Apollo by Rick Riordan

By Chloe Koh, Grade 7

I'm sure if you have been alive since May 3rd, you have heard of the brand new book Rick Riordan has decided to write so that he can kill us... AGAIN.

The Trials of Apollo is one of Rick Riordan's best books, in my opinion (or is it that I'm just way too happy that it finally came out?). It has a bunch of plot twists, a bunch of cliffhangers (This is Rick Riordan we are talking about so honestly, what do you expect?), and is a nicely illustrated plot, showing us a side of Camp Half Blood we have never seen before. If you haven't read any of Rick Riordan's books yet, then I highly recommend reading them first because it will be very confusing if you don't.

So the summary: Apollo, a used to be God of Olympus. When he angered Zeus, which was not a very good idea, he was cast down and is now a mortal. To get back up to Olympus, he believes that he has to complete trials, hence the title The Trials of Apollo. His name is now Lester Papadopoulos, who, as Apollo finds out, is just a mortal and not even a demigod. He meets a girl named Meg McCaffery who rescues him. Apollo then realizes that there is only one place that is safe: Camp Half Blood. But he has lots of enemies that would love a chance to get him now that he is a mortal, and, not to mention, those trials he has to complete. But with him learning how to cope with life, he doesn't know who to trust-or who not to. After all, Zeus wouldn't make The Trials of Apollo too easy, would he? I rate this book 4.5/5 stars because it is quite well-written and it ties up most of the loose ends of Riordan’s other series Heroes of Olympus. Happy reading and hope you enjoyed reading this review!

The Unwanteds by Lisa McMann

The Unwanteds will draw you in on the first sentence. It is probably a book you have never heard of, (unless you know me in real life but...) but I don't get why no one has heard of it because it's amazing. Anyways, The Unwanteds is about a pair of twins, Alex and Aaron Stowe, who are as different as any two people can possibly be. They live in a land called Quill where creativity is a sin. When you turn 13, if you had shown signs of creativity, you have to go to the Great Lake of Boiling Oil, to be purged, aka killed. When it is Alex and Aaron's day, they find out that Alex is an Unwanted and is to be purged, whereas Aaron is a Wanted. As a result, their relationship might never be the same. Alex now has to face the Lake of Boiling Oil and the Death Farm. But when he gets there, he finds out that there is no lake, nor death farm, but a magical land called Artimé. Artimé is a place which thrives on creativity, and it is a colorful, magical, wonderful place. Alex starts learning the creative magic that they use, and soon becomes very good at it. But, Aaron is slowly gaining more power in Quill, and this might just pin brother against brother in a battle. Maybe somehow Alex will find a way to save both worlds. After all, he is Unwanted, which might be the best thing you can be in this moment.
MacBook Air vs. MacBook Pro: Which One is Better?

By Brittany Do, Grade 9

There are so many technology products in our world lately that it can be easily possible to become quickly overwhelmed by all of the available choices. When shopping for a new laptop, there are many options the Apple company offers, but if you have narrowed it down to the MacBook Air and MacBook Pro, it may still be difficult to decide which one is better. This is what this article is for: to help you decide which would be a better suit for you. To simplify the options for the Air and Pro, this review will be based off of the current 13 inch models.

First off, let’s start with what these laptops have in common. They are both 13.3 inches diagonally and have an LED-backlit widescreen display. Their display is specifically widescreen and has a 16:10 aspect ratio. On the side of the laptop are two USB 3 ports and they can connect to Bluetooth 4.0 wireless technology. They also have a FaceTime HD camera, along with a multi-touch trackpad, an SDXC card slot, OS X El Capitan, and the apps Photos, iMovie, GarageBand, Pages, Numbers, and Keynote.

For the MacBook Air, it starts at a price of $999. It offers a 1.6GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 or 2.2GHz dual-core Intel Core i7 processor. On the other hand, the MacBook Pro begins at $1099 and has a 2.5GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 or 2.9GHz dual-core Intel Core i7 processor. The MacBook Air has a turbo boost of up to 3.2GHz while the Pro’s turbo boost goes up to 3.6GHz. The Air is very thin and lightweight, coming at 0.11 to 0.68 inches and weighing only 2.96 pounds. The Pro, however, comes at 0.95 inches and weighs 4.5 pounds.

The MacBook Air has 8GB of memory, up to 512GB of flash storage, and Intel HD Graphics 6000. In comparison, the MacBook Pro has 4 or 8GB of memory, up to 1TB of 5400-rpm hard drive or up to 512GB of solid-state drive, and Intel HD Graphics 4000. The Air’s screen has 1440 by 900 pixels while the Pro has 1280 by 800 pixels so the Air offers a better resolution. Powerwise, the Air also proves superior with up to 12 hours of wireless web while the Pro only guarantees up to 7 hours. However, the Air’s battery, an integrated 54-watt-hour lithium-polymer battery, isn’t as up to par as the Pro’s integrated 63.5-watt-hour lithium-polymer battery. Along with that, the Air has a 45W MagSafe 2 Power Adapter with a cable management system when the Pro has a 60W MagSafe 2 Power Adapter with a cable management system. The Air also provides a MagSafe 2 power port and the Pro just has a MagSafe power port.

Therefore, an obvious pro (pun non intended) to the Air is how slim and lightweight it is compared to the Pro, at least if that's what you're looking for. It also offers a better screen resolution and comes at a lower cost. However, the Pro runs faster, due to its faster processor. Thanks to it being thicker than the Air, it's a bit more heavy-duty, if that's what you need. All in all, it all depends on your specific needs for a laptop, your budget, and basically, just your personal preference. Both laptops are great options so just make sure to choose whatever will work for you.
Leap Motion

By Harrison Taylor, Grade 7

The Leap Motion is a device created in 2008 that allows for you to be able to use your hands as an interface for a computer. In February 2016, the company, Leap Motion, released software that allows for hand tracking while using virtual reality devices like the Oculus Rift. This means that it can be used for many things, from learning how to play an instrument without actually owning it to swinging a digital baseball bat.

- How does it work? The Leap Motion’s specs are low enough that it can even be used by laptops, which normally aren’t capable of supporting things other than a mouse and an external keyboard. (Don’t ask why I know they support external keyboards.) The minimum specs are:

  - Windows 7 / 8 (And probably 10), OR Mac OS X 10.7
  - AMD Phenom™ II or Intel® Core™ i3/i5/i7 processor
  - 2 GB of RAM
  - USB 2.0 port
  - Leap Motion Service (the program that comes with it.)

After setting up the device and booting it up, the Leap Motion service collects the images of the area the device can see. The area is 2 feet above the controller, 2 feet wide, and 2 feet deep. The software doesn’t create a depth map, but uses an algorithm to place your hands in the computer. The algorithm removes extra things caught in the area, like heads. The device collects almost 200 frames per second of data, and has an accuracy of 0.7 millimeters.

- Price: The Leap Motion usually costs around $80, and $90 dollars with the Universal VR mount, however, at the time of writing this there is a sale going on that lowers the price down to $55 dollars, and $75 dollars with the Mount.

Sources: https://www.leapmotion.com, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap_Motion

The iPhone 6

By Brittany Do, Grade 9

As you all may know, the iPhone 6 is one of the many iPhones available from the company, Apple. It is offered in the colors silver and space gray, and its storage goes from 16GB to 64GB. It is 5.44 inches long, 2.64 inches wide, and 0.27 inches deep, weighing at 4.55 ounces. In this iPhone, there is an A8 chip with 64-bit architecture and a smaller M8 motion coprocessor chip. There is also a fingerprint identity sensor so instead of typing out your passcode or password, you can just place your finger on your home button if you connect your fingerprint to your phone and it will log you automatically. This is a great product you should invest in if you like its features.

Source: apple.com/Google image
**WHAT IS MUSIC?**

*By Olivia Costarella, Grade 7*

Music is not just something everyone in the world can just decide to do: you have to be talented. Lately, music has just been thrown out to the wolves and we know it. You may say all of these people out there are so good but we all know they’re not us. Students are not that ignorant. Honestly, how long do you think it took Meghan Trainor to write the song *No*? But don’t get me wrong there are actually good singers out there, but very recently, anybody can become a singer. My grandparents always talk about music they grew up around and this kind of noise being thrown around does not count as music. Music is supposed to be art.

Do you know the most important thing about music? Lyrics. Lyrics can change somebody’s life and bring them to crying but that only happens when a singer means the words that they are singing. We can all be good singers with practice, but without words, we are nothing. Imagine if you could express your opinion freely with so much emotion; we all want to do that. I’ve heard people in our school: they all have so much to say that is so important, and then there is the large majority that are beautiful singers. With lyrics, you can say what you want to without people shooting you down and telling you that you are wrong because really, you aren’t. So write, get all of your emotions out there. I’m not going to force you to make music, but life is only so long. Try new things. But remember that music comes without words in all forms and it moves people just the same, if not more, but of course, I would have to write a whole other article about that.

**Halsey**

Halsey is not just another pretty faced singer. She is actually amazing at her work and is definitely someone worth listening to. But first things first, Ashley Nicolette Frangipane (Halsey) was born in New Jersey on September 29th, 1994. Halsey has been through alot in her life, struggling with bipolar depression and money issues throughout her life. Halsey lets out these issues through songwriting, which she started doing when she was seventeen. Some of her lyrics are so amazing, controversial, and just, overall, a masterpiece. As she says from one of her most outstanding songs *Colors*, “You’re ripped at every edge but you’re a masterpiece”. And yes, this song is all about colors. Halsey knows how to move people; she has one of those qualities that other singers when it comes to writing a song. If you are looking for a song that will mean something to you, then listen to Halsey. She definitely has songs that will take control of you and make you listen to it over and over. I know that has been my case with several of her songs especially, *Colors*, so just listen to one song. Take a risk. In the end, it all comes out to be the farthest thing from a waste of time and trust me.

**Sources:**
- [https://images.google.com/](https://images.google.com/)
**Sherlock**

By Emily Gollihugh, Grade 7

★★★★★ Sherlock the T.V. series is a co-production between BBC and WGBH Boston, but BBC usually gets all the credit. This show is about two men, one who claims to be a sociopath, and the other who was an army doctor. They are introduced through one man named Mike Stamford, who takes John (the army doctor) to where Sherlock (the sociopath) is studying for a case he is on. Sherlock can immediately tell John’s whole life story, including his troubles with his sibling. John is left standing in awe as Sherlock tells John his address and name, then leaves the room. They meet at Sherlock’s flat, and John moves in straight away. Seconds later, Sherlock is called to a case and drags John along for their first case and soon follows many other cases. They go on strange adventures together, whether it be fighting a serial killer who started at the age of 11, or a glowing rabbit who disappeared. Watching this show, you will go on cases with them, suffer heartbreak with them, and go through the happiest and funniest times with them. I give this show 5/5 stars, and hope you think of it the same, too!

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**Ten Songs You Need To Listen To!**

By Olivia Costarella, Grade 7

1. Halsey: Colors
2. One Direction: 18
3. Daya + Chainsmokers: Don’t Let Me Down
4. Zara Larsson: Never Forget You
5. Troye Sivan: Wild
6. Twenty-One Pilots: Ride
7. One Direction: Moments
8. Troye Sivan: Youth
9. Beyoncé: Daddy Lessons
10. Mike Posner: I Took A Pill In Ibiza

Sources: Google Images

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**‘Plus’ Model in DNCE Video**

By Shannon Hong, Grade 9

It seems as if the Hollywood industry is changing its perspectives on ‘plus’ models because DNCE has just released a new music video for their song Toothbrush with Ashley Graham as the female lead and love interest. Previously this year, Graham had caught the attention of headlines when she was the first plus-sized model to be featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated Swimsuit. Since then, she has become a notable voice for models of all sizes. Now, being the star of DNCE’s video, alongside lead singer Joe Jonas, the “girlfriend” type of tall and skinny in mainstream music videos is finally taking a new turn. Hopefully, if we continue to see more of size variety in this kind of industry, our society will be more positive towards diverse body types, just as it is slowly doing now.

Source: http://www.complex.com/style/2016/05/ashley-graham-stars-dnce-toothbrush-joe-jonas-love-interest
Paul Blart: Mall Cop

A satirical review by Rafael Ibrahim, Grade 9

Paul Blart: Mall Cop is a 2009 drama/ action/ comedy/ romance/ tragedy film directed by respected film veteran and military leader, Gabe Newell. Its release on January 16 came to be known as the international holiday, “Blartfest”, celebrated among the majority of the population. On its opening week, the movie grossed $69.7 trillion U.S. dollars and is still in screening today, being the most profited movie of all time.

The plot consists of an average, everyday mall guard, receiving a prophetic vision sent by an archaic god. With this vision, he embarks on a quest for global domination; liberating the people of many oppressed countries and spreading his new religion around. The movie ends when Paul Blart, the mall cop, dies, and the entire world is unified.

Reception for the movie was high and praiseful. Famous critic Doug Walker claimed the movie to be “the best thing he had ever seen” and “a transcension of the mortal world we live in” before immediately converting to Blartism, the religion that the movie has spawned. Blartism was founded in 2010 in a remote, abandoned church house in St. Petersburg, Florida. Known then as “The Cult of Blart”, its influence grew among people who first joined ironically, then discovered the true, ultimate nature of the religion. Since then, Blartism has increased to 4.2 billion people, remaining the largest religion in the world, above Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, and Japan have all adopted Blartism as their national religion, and they are now considered by many as utopian societies.

Blartism’s objective is to spread the ideals around the world that the character Paul Blart did in the movie. Among some things it entails is the treating of everyone as equals; although, in Blart’s own words, “some people are more equal than others”. It also lists anime and weeeabooism as a sin; and elevates Blart Art (see: the right) as a staple in arts, humanities, and personality building.

Critics of the film (referred to by Blartists as “heretics”) argue that the movie was a joke gone too far. Kevin James, the actor for Paul Blart himself, stated in an interview that “this has just gotten way too out of hand” and condemned Blartism, two days before he had gotten assassinated.
By Rafael Ibrahim, Grade 9

This is a quiz that tests whether you know or don’t know some arbitrary facts. Try and figure out which ones are true or false- some may be obvious, others not. (Source for facts: http://www.city-data.com/forum/other-topics/186484-42-odd-facts-you-may-not.html) (You could use it to cheat, but I’ll just put an honors system in place)

True or False Quiz

1. Karl Marx has a cousin named “Marl Karx”. Karx founded a new type of communism- commumism.

2. Horses can’t vomit.

3. Bothell High School is over a century old.

4. North Korea is best Korea.

5. The month of September was named after the Roman god, “Septius”.

6. When you drink water, you aren’t actually drinking water- it’s just your brain that thinks you’re drinking water. Water is actually just a widespread sensory hallucination that the entire human race experiences.

7. Every day, people spend over a million dollars on competitive hide-and-seek.

8. In every scene of The Bee Movie, there is a cup of Mountain Dew soda.

9. Fact #10 is true.

10. Fact #9 is not true.

11. There is a hormone called “dychloropledia” which, when activated, will cause disturbing thoughts to suddenly appear.

12. The second top grossing movie of all time is Star Wars Ep. VIII: The Death Hand.

13. Finnish is the only world language that does not have any vowels.

14. Adolf Hitler’s favorite drink was juice.

16. When you get killed, you die.

15. When Neil Armstrong landed on the moon, he famously said “one small step for mankind, one giant leap for man”.

17. The Beatles had a pet beetle named “Larry”.

18. In physics, the symbol “S” represents smoothness.

19. Gary Johnson, known as “the father of modern art”, founded art, but it was only known as “Wart” until his son renamed it in the 1980s.

20. Bookworms are real invasive species that can do tons of collateral damage to libraries and other book collections.

21. Coca-Cola is a highly addictive substance that leaves people to instantly die from withdrawal. Addicts must drink constantly, 24/7.

22. If you get caught writing on desks in Ms. Reagan’s room, you will get an infraction, clean all desks in the 7th grade hallway, as well as scrape gum from under all the chairs and desks.

23. Italics is a form of font that originated in Italy on top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, after it leaned.

24. The only person in history to have a 4.1 GPA is Rafael Ibrahim, the writer of this article.

Answers: The only true facts are 2, 3, 16 and 22. All the rest are false. All of the them.
Thank You and Have a Great Summer!

The first day of newspaper honestly felt like yesterday. However, months have passed by and we are already near the end of the school year with the publication of this fourth and final edition of Skyview Junior High’s newspaper, The Talon. Together, 22 students have made 37 articles in 26 pages. But in total, we have made 114 articles in 72 pages… just this year. It is incredible to think about our accomplishments this way and to know that we are able to impact Skyview through the power of words, news, and creativity.

Not only have we learned about the importance of working as a team, but we have also gone through the hardships of editing, creating, and leading a school newspaper. As we have realized, it truly takes a great amount of time and effort to be able to write articles that will capture the attention and interests of all students. But was it worth it? Absolutely!

A special thank you to Ms. Reagan and Ms. Subcleff, two amazing teachers and advisors. I also deeply appreciate every student who took the time to write all of those articles. Without them, creating a Skyview newspaper could not have been a reality.

- Shannon Hong -