



THE

SPRING 2020

ROAR

HS COLLEGE MAGAZINE

EDITION

11

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EDITION 11 SPRING 2020

Contents

20

NRC and CAA

22

The Hong Kong
Protests

26

Wuhan Coronavirus

28

Philippines Volcano
Alert

30

Democratic
Primaries

32

Coming to Terms
With High School
Stereotypes

4

A New Decade A
New High School

8

Celine Laheurte

10

The New Breezeway

34

The "Um" Response

36

Healthy Snacks

38

Indian Street Food

12

IB Social Studies:
Courses, Opinions,
and Stereotypes

14

Wildfires Spread
Across Australia

18

Thing We Should
Leave in 2019

40

Painting of a Voice

42

Popular Online
Brands

43

The Mandalorian
Review

a new decade a new high school

SCHOOL AARYA BANTHIA

PAST RENOVATIONS

Welcome back to a new decade. Have you seen the incredible alterations in our school? The library has taken a completely new look. By moving the circulation desk, the librarians have made the circulation of books a more efficient process. Moreover, placing it in the centre of the library makes it easier and more likely for people to come and use the librarians' help, better than the off-centred location. The addition of the new door has made access to the library more fluid. With two pulmonary entries, especially with each one positioned on opposite sides, we have a faster current of people in the heart of the school. The library seems more approachable with these changes. The breezeway has also seen its share of changes; although, a few people lost blood over it (covered in a different article in this edition). And who can ignore the modern renovation of the 6th-grade hallway? Still, what about our beloved High School? When will it get the new look it needs?

POSSIBLE IDEAS

There are several ideas we can pursue, for a fresh new decade, in our high school. Here are a few designs that we can use to kickstart this decade.

Combining classrooms and creating larger workspace areas is a must. With collapsible partitions, classrooms can be adjusted upon discretion to change the size of the class and maximize our educational atmosphere. In such an environment, an integrated learning experience becomes possible. For example, a class is learning about a war to understand a book in English better. With the integrated learning space, the History teacher could help facilitate the understanding of the war, while teaching their students. Or even better, the English teacher could help the History students enhance the structure of their essays. Such integration would provide a more nutritive experience for the students and would allow them to build a repertoire of inter-linked skills that would help them in the future, while the teachers would stay within their respective skillsets.

Introduce 21st century furniture for a 21st-century classroom. Today, we need to acknowledge the fact that every individual has different ways of advancing their learning and that we are mobile creatures. We need to introduce standing tables, high tables, and stools for those who like to flow more freely through their work and low tables, beanbags, and other artefacts for the more grounded. We need 'flexible' furniture: furniture that can be moved around, transformed to accommodate different students, and open spaces for a more active learning area.

The classrooms themselves need to be refurbished. The colour of the walls should change for they reflect the inner nature of students in a learning environment. Darker, dull walls foster darker, more dull moods when learning. Brighter, more bouncy colours generate a new vigour within students to learn. More than that, research has shown the deep need for more bright light, especially natural light. We need bigger windows. Natural light and vibrant colours together enhance brain activity. In fact, a study shows learning capabilities to have improved by over 7-26% when students received natural lighting as opposed to fluorescent lighting. Such light reduces headaches and envelops students in a nature-like relaxed state, where the warmth of the sun invigorates them to learn.

Transforming technology is essential too. We can switch the whiteboards with smart boards to alter the way teachers teach and interact with students. This alteration can assist teachers in instruction and save time. Let's go back to an English example (after all, the advisor for the ROAR is an English teacher). A teacher is teaching students how to annotate texts, let's say, Emily Dickinson's poems. Instead of writing on the whiteboard and erasing all the hard work whenever you move to the next verse, they can write and annotate the texts on the smartboard. All the annotations done in front of the classes will be preserved digitally; furthermore, they can be accessed by students when they prepare for tests or attempt to replicate such amazing feats as that of annotating. That's not all. It will also save the school quite a bit on spending on markers, thus adding in the environmental perspective.

THE WHY

High School is a time when we are mentally overloaded. A time when things matter a whole lot more for those who aspire to go to college. Renovating the High School will be less expensive than building a new modern-era building; nonetheless, it will bring in much-needed ease and facilitation in the education of students. The school renovation process can be used to develop a more natural, grounded state with fresher air and more sunlight. The entire process will balance out the costs associated with forging more fabulous learning experiences and drives. It's a new decade, a new High School. Let's make people want to come to our school every day.

*In no way does the author of this article feel like everything in the High School should be changed. The author is simply expressing certain ideas to propel our school into the new decade.

Celine Laheurte

AES has always been blessed with wonderful teachers who exemplify our values and elevate our students. These selfless, patient, and caring mentors often play a large part in building a student's character. Art teachers, more specifically, are tasked with balancing their technical feedback and subjective suggestions whilst fueling creativity. It is impossible to foreshadow a conversation in an art studio as ideas are spontaneous. After a point, an artist is usually cemented in a unique style, one that can only be challenged by a select few as it eventually flowers into something spectacular.

Ms. Laheurte has absorbed diversity from a young age. Having parents from contrasting cultures and growing up in a city rich with diversity, discoveries were always around the corner. She guides herself with a few powerful sayings which encourage seeking discomfort. "When was the last time you did something for the first time?" was a reminder that humans live paranoid lives and accept normalcy even when inches away from something unexpected. Learning from strangers and delving deep into unknown cultures summarizes a "normal vacation" for Ms. Laheurte. This fearless attitude is coupled with why art has proved meaningful in her life. Art is a simple way to say something inexplicable and voice emotions that never reveal themselves verbally. A few months after the passing of her father, Ms. Laheurte stumbled upon a for-

tune cookie which said, "before the beginning of great brilliance, there must be chaos". A strong believer in cosmic signs and destiny, our HS Visual Arts teacher believes that "the arts are most powerful when the artist is battling an inner demon".

Among her "leaps of faith" includes moving to India. In fact, Ms. Laheurte was eyeing schools in South America and Europe before committing to this exhilarating peninsula. Alien to the language and environment, she seemed to relish this unfamiliarity by exploring some of India's hidden gems. India has been a "test" but Ms. Laheurte feels it is important to "accept what you can't change and change what you can't accept." All in all, tackling the world head-on seems to have built a humble and experienced character.

Ms. Laheurte feels that it is a gift to stumble upon stories and share them through art. Although vastly experienced with a variety of mediums, drawing seems to reveal truths which other mediums lack. Describing an art studio as a "place to experience life metaphors", Ms. Laheurte chose this profession in hopes to continue "creating" and "helping people". As a former IB student herself, she provides students with unique feedback drawn from personal experiences. As an art student myself, I am grateful for the guidance received from someone who views the classroom as the "safest place to make mistakes".



The New Breezeway

As students walked into the high school building on the first days of semester two, several awkward situations occurred. High schoolers made their way into the building by going up the short flight of stairs. While unaware students admired the encouraging and uplifting quote on the wall immediately to their right, they would steer to the right, reaching for another familiar aspect, a door handle. Though their hands kept aimlessly grabbing the air, students stumbled upon a newly installed window that stood uncomfortably close to their faces.

The reason for the repositioning of the second breezeway door serves a practical purpose. Prior to leaving for winter break, large glass doors were installed at the entrance of the high school in order to prevent as much pollution from entering. These doors are more efficient when closed, but given the position of the old

breezeway entrance, the doors tended to spend most of their time flung open rather than shut. By moving the breezeway door, we tend to go through the larger doors less which in turn allows there to be cleaner air. Prior to the shift, the doors would have allowed larger amounts of pollution when remained open compared to the repositioned doors. When asked about the change, Naval from the Breezeway Café emphasized on the importance of clean air in the communal space.

Winter days in Delhi can be quite gloomy. With the dark mornings and smog, the more sunlight we can get the better. By opening up the concrete back walls of the breezeway and adding windows, light is allowed to enter more freely when present. This could possibly uplift the overall morale and allow further productivity in the breezeway.

Even after all of these positive changes, a few more adjustments

can be made in order to further improve the space. Seemingly going unnoticed, a comfortably large TV is present above the Breezeway Café. This TV is rarely used yet could be functional for a variety of reasons. MESAC live streams could be shown on the TV during tournaments hosted both at AES or other schools in the conference. Or, when there isn't a MESAC stream to display, the TV could serve a similar function to the TV in the Tiger's Den, where posters for school events are shown. Small changes like these could truly enhance the time spent in a location. The Breezeway is arguably a space where most high schoolers spend a large portion of their free time, and if any students have feasible suggestions, they shouldn't be afraid to mention it to the administration.



SCHOOL

ALAA EL BOUZRATI & SANAYA VARMA

IB Social Studies: Courses, Opinions, and Stereotypes



Of the six IB subject groups, Group 3 offers students the most options, most of which are classes they have not taken before. We have taken it upon ourselves to simplify the daunting task of choosing a Group 3 class by explaining what to expect of the course, differences between HL and SL, and homework load.

Economics:

Economics, easily the most popular subject in Group 3, is split into two sections: microeconomics and macroeconomics. One of the authors of this article went into the course with little information on the subject, which I believed would be a disadvantage, but it wasn't because we spent an entire month reviewing the fundamentals of economics. There is little difference between SL and HL. HL students have to take Paper 3, which is mostly basic math, and they also have some extra content for each unit. Furthermore, there is an extra unit for HL at the end of the two years (theory of the firm). Something which I didn't expect from the course is the amount of writing it entails. Paper 1 is entirely writing. It takes a while to wrap your head around the format, but if you are a strong writer, it shouldn't be too arduous. The homework load is moderate, only a few readings, but it does require a lot of organization in order to stay on top of definitions and concepts. For those in APUSH, this course will amount to half the reading over two years! It is a fascinating lens to view the world from.

History:

At AES, History is not as popular as Economics. But, it's not because one class is particularly "easier" or "more interesting" than the other; it merely depends on what your true passions and aspirations are. The course is based on a relative and multi-perspective approach to history; this includes the political, economic, social, cultural, and controversial aspects of history while providing a balance of structure and stability. Although it may seem overwhelming to memorize dates of events, names of leaders, and overall content, the IB textbooks comprise of summaries, diagrams, and key terms to facilitate the studying process. IB History's content remains the same for both SL and HL during the first semester of Year 1. It's only until later in the course where content begins to differ. As for the exams, there are two major assessments (Paper 1 and 2) and for HL, Paper 3. What surprised me was that history students were given several opportunities to practice these tests during class, so that by the end of the year, everyone becomes an expert. Overall, the workload seemed like a lot at first, but if you genuinely enjoy reading, then you will get the gist of it.

view the world from.

Psychology:

Not only is IB Psychology one of the most fascinating courses you could select, but the valuable applications are also abundant. Most of the class is discussion-based, and it, like economics, starts from the fundamentals of science. HL content for psychology only starts in year two. There are HL extensions for each of three aspects (biological, cognition, and sociocultural), one additional unit, and an extra paper to take; however, it does not feel as though there is a vast difference between SL and HL.

In general, psychology asks for a lot of memorization of studies and methodology for every sub-topic, which accumulates to be a lot of information. It also requires a nuanced understanding of the studies and content in order to analyze and link them together. The papers are all writing based.

In terms of homework, the course requires light reading from the textbook as well as notes which stay consistent throughout the class. It is not an unbearable amount of work.

Environmental Systems and Societies:

ESS, by far, is the most relevant subject for students who are interested in learning about things that go beyond the general laws, mathematical sciences, and systemic theories, but rather in the environment. The curriculum consists of various environmental issues ranging from water sanitation to air pollution. What's interesting is that the topics are learned through current events by reading case studies on environmental concerns to fully grasp such global concepts.

However, not only are the scientific aspects of ESS discussed but the political parts are as well. As an example, one of the first units was about the different environmental belief systems and spectrums which was directly linked back to the core of science: comprehension and explanation.

On average the homework assigned is tolerable and isn't necessarily given every day. Usually, for homework, students are asked to make quick and intelligible presentations or complete classwork. When it comes to summatives, there are excellent resources to use for studying, such as powerpoints that cover entire units as well and organized schedules, making the course manageable.

WILDFIRES SPREAD ACROSS AUSTRALIA

CURRENT EVENTS **GIACOMO SCHOTT**

Over the course of the past months, the world has watched as Australia's bushfires spread and grow out of control, burning over 100,000 sq km of forests, natural parks, and urban settlements. Changes to the usual climate have caused bushfires—regular occurrences in Australia—to multiply and grow exponentially in a manner never seen before.

Fires have especially affected Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) in south-east Australia; 50,000 sq km and over 2000 homes have been destroyed in this area alone. People, as well as land, have fallen in the path of the seasonal fires: at least 28 people, including volunteer firefighters, have died in consequence to the extreme season. The native species have taken a heavy toll as well, as esti-



mates approximate about a third of koalas in NSW have perished (CNN).

2019 was the hottest year on record in Australia and broke the all-time temperature record in Australia twice in December, inciting heat reaching an average of 41.9°C. The extraordinary climate follows a worldwide trend, leading scientists to suggest climate change is responsible for the more frequent occurrence and high intensity of phenomena like large wildfires. Australia's average temperature has risen at least a degree since 1910, following the global trend of hotter and drier climates inciting more numerous fires (BBC).

In response to the invasive fires, the government has offered to pay volunteer firefighters working against the fire for more than ten days. 1.4 billion USD has been put aside to assist in the recovery of infrastructure in affected areas, with a new agency called the National Bushfire Recovery Agency set up to coordinate these efforts. Various branches of the military are also assisting in the crisis (CNN).

Despite these actions, thousands of Australians have protested against Prime Minister Scott Mor-



ison's response to the wildfires. His administration is known for not prioritizing the climate crisis and promoting coal as an energy source in Australia. The administration has recently softened its skepticism of human-induced climate change, but critics believe this softening has not granted the domestic crisis the attention it requires. Protesters call for more adequate fire service and a larger recovery fund (CNN).

Much will need to be recovered, as Australian fires have caused unprecedented amounts of damage. Moreover, the wildfires also sparked discussions over the occurrence of such natural events and what it means for the future. Activists warn the fires are an omen signaling worse to come for the earth in the future; others dismiss it as an inevitable occurrence or a result of ignoring increasing dry wood in bushes and forests. The wildfires may be significant, or they may not, but it is important to consider them and decide whose responsibility the effects are.

Things We Should Leave In

2019

THE LOOMING FEAR OF THE EARTH SLOWLY COOKING ITSELF

After the Australian bushfires - which are still burning, by the way - it's absurd that some people still don't see the scale of global warming. In the past two decades, the average global temperature has risen by over 1°C. The effects of this can be seen with our own eyes, yet humanity seems unwilling to do anything about it. Vanishing glaciers, rising sea levels, unpredictable weather patterns, loss of wildlife, and shortage of vital crops are all very real consequences of our poor treatment of the

planet. Yes, we should all start incorporating more habits into our lives to prevent further damage, but what really needs to happen in 2020 is that governments and large corporations need to own up to their faults and take the steps to help the planet. A mere 100 companies are responsible for almost 80% of global emissions - these companies, as well as governments of large polluters such as China and the USA, should be held accountable rather than just individuals.

REBOOTS OF OLD MOVIES

There's nothing wrong with bringing back old classics in a new and inventive way, whether it's to generate nostalgia or just to make old cult favorites accessible to the younger generation. But there's a point when it becomes excessive, and I feel like we reached that point in 2019. Aladdin, The Lion King, Charlie's Angels, and Dumbo are among the list of reboots that came out last year. Not only is it tiring to sit through two hours of a storyline you've known your whole life hoping for some unexpected twist

but leaving disappointed, but often the remakes aren't even as good as the original, making the whole film seem anticlimactic and pointless. For instance, the CGI 'Lion King' was basically a frame-for-frame copy of the 1994 original, except with less emotion and a Beyonce cameo as a last-ditch attempt to salvage it. All in all, the film industry is in need of some more originality. Oh, and 'Cats' - need I say anything more? Nightmares about anthropomorphic felines are the last thing my sleep schedule needed.

BILLIONAIRES

I don't have anything against billionaires as people, it's just that their presence in the global economy is immoral, to say the least. When over a billion people are living in extreme poverty, and the US is experiencing the worst rates of unemployment and homelessness since the Great Depression, it doesn't seem fair that a select few people are richer than over half the world's nations. Although some billionaires, like Warren Buffett and Bill Gates, have shown their willingness to redistribute their wealth, the major-

ity don't utilise their wealth to benefit society. And those that do, still keep far more than they need, contributing to the world's income inequality. This leads to wide gaps in political power, education, and health. Leading Democrats are now considering tax-the-rich schemes which will oblige billionaires to pay their fair share of taxes and lower their incentive to increase their wealth by any means possible. Too many people are struggling to make ends meet for us to allow the income gap to keep growing.

MACBOOK UPDATES

You'd think that after three consecutive years of pressing "remind me later" on system update reminders, Apple would finally get the message. But alas, I am still confronted with the ever-lingering, foreboding message every time I open my laptop. Undoubtedly, those few seconds I waste dismissing the reminder every day have taken years off my life, and I am in a continuous state of bewilderment at why there is no "never remind me again" option. I hope one day we can evolve enough as a species to make this a reality, but until then we have no

choice but to come to terms with the shackles that bind us to Apple system updates. And it's not like I'm avoiding updates just for the sake of it - I know from experience that every time I update my laptop it does nothing to fix the existing issues, and rather just introduces a whole set of new issues which will then make my everyday life even more of a torment. Dealing with the system update reminders is better than dealing with the consequences of the updates themselves, but it's still a lose-lose situation.

PRIORITISING WORK OVER SLEEP

You have three IAs due tomorrow, a summative you haven't studied for, and homework from every single teacher, so you pull an all-nighter and force yourself to meet your deadlines. Although in some cases forgoing sleep is necessary if an assignment is really important or finals are coming up, living off of five hours of sleep every night is not sustainable. Getting the recommended nine hours every single night is an unrealistic goal with the workload most of us have, but I think everyone should make a more conscious

effort this year to not still be up studying when the clock strikes midnight. Sleep deprivation has severe impacts on physical health, mental health, appearance, and ability to perform well in school. Finishing your homework on time is probably not worth the impacts of losing a good night's sleep and not being able to think straight the next day. And, if there's one thing I've realised through the years, it's that maybe the issue lies not just in my workload, but in my time management skills as well.

CURRENT EVENTS OTIS FISCHER

CAA and NRC

Many people are aware of the recent, controversial bill, the Citizen Amendment Act (CAA) passed by the Modi government and the related update of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) which is yet to be passed. The CAA is a bill that would allow members of the Hindu, Christian, Buddhist, Jain, Sikh, and Parsi groups who illegally immigrated to India from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh before December 31, 2014, and have lived here for at least five years, to apply for citizenship. The current government claims that this is done in order to protect people of these faiths who have faced persecution in their home countries where the majority of people and the government is Muslim. The law, however, does not mention persecution so it would be difficult to unfairly persecute illegal immigrants, nevertheless, it is a possibility. The pan-Indian implementation of NRC would likely do similar things as it did in Assam in 2016 where they updated their National Register of Citizens. There, people

were asked for a document from one of the two types- Type A and Type B. The former consists of numerous official documents such as passports, birth certificates, bank accounts, and education certificates. Credentials from Type A had to be from after March 24, 1971. The latter included similar documentation as from Type A. An individual needs a parent or grandparent who has received Type A credentials in order to receive Type B. One needs only one of eight documents if they are proving citizenship with regards to Type A while needing two of eight documents if proving through Type B.

The main debate over these two documents is about possible discrimination against Muslims. CAA would grant amnesty to refugees from neighboring countries from all faiths except Islam. Some have deemed this fair, while others have not. The former support CAA because the majority of refugees coming to India are Muslim; as many nations around India have Muslim majorities, they believe Muslim refugees can go to these

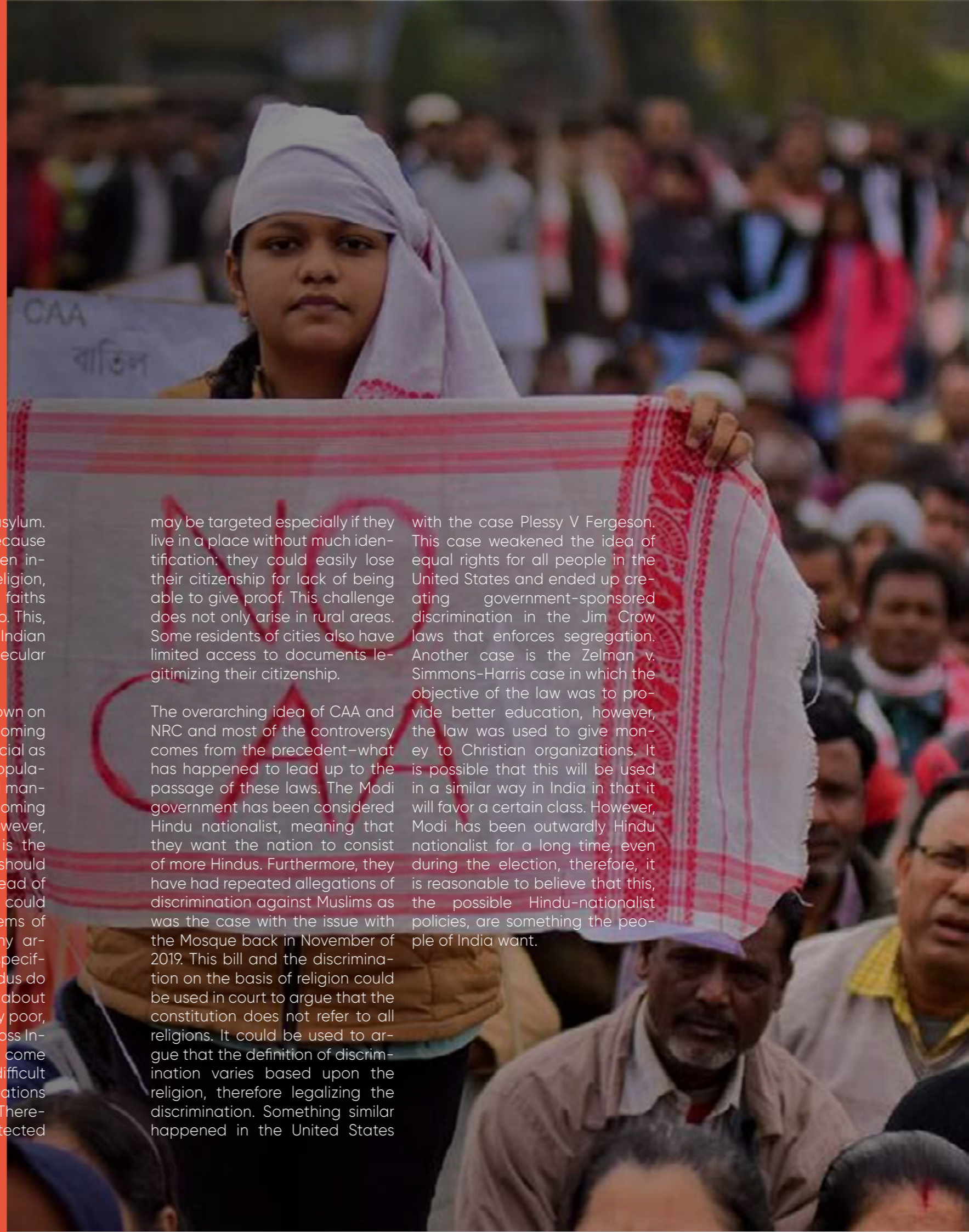
other countries to seek asylum. The latter oppose CAA because it would distinguish between individuals on the basis of religion, granting people of certain faiths an easier path to citizenship. This, they believe, violates the Indian constitution's promise of a secular nation.

Moreover, CAA would cut down on the number of immigrants coming to India. This may be beneficial as India already has a high population and efforts to curb and manage further growth are becoming increasingly difficult. However, many believe that if this is the case, immigration rates should be lowered as a whole instead of for a specific group. NRC could possibly exacerbate problems of Muslim discrimination; many argue that it may be used to specifically target Muslims as Hindus do not have to actively worry about this law. Indeed, in the many poor, rural towns and villages across India, identification is hard to come by; this could make it very difficult for people living in these locations to provide identification. Therefore, a group that is not protected

may be targeted especially if they live in a place without much identification: they could easily lose their citizenship for lack of being able to give proof. This challenge does not only arise in rural areas. Some residents of cities also have limited access to documents legitimizing their citizenship.

The overarching idea of CAA and NRC and most of the controversy comes from the precedent-what has happened to lead up to the passage of these laws. The Modi government has been considered Hindu nationalist, meaning that they want the nation to consist of more Hindus. Furthermore, they have had repeated allegations of discrimination against Muslims as was the case with the issue with the Mosque back in November of 2019. This bill and the discrimination on the basis of religion could be used in court to argue that the constitution does not refer to all religions. It could be used to argue that the definition of discrimination varies based upon the religion, therefore legalizing the discrimination. Something similar happened in the United States

with the case Plessy V Fergeson. This case weakened the idea of equal rights for all people in the United States and ended up creating government-sponsored discrimination in the Jim Crow laws that enforces segregation. Another case is the Zelman v. Simmons-Harris case in which the objective of the law was to provide better education, however, the law was used to give money to Christian organizations. It is possible that this will be used in a similar way in India in that it will favor a certain class. However, Modi has been outwardly Hindu nationalist for a long time, even during the election, therefore, it is reasonable to believe that this, the possible Hindu-nationalist policies, are something the people of India want.



The Hong Kong Protests





IN

the midst of the chaotic streets of Hong Kong, a flaming red banner reads, "If we burn, you burn with us." The rebellion slogan from the popular dystopian novel, *The Hunger Games*, symbolizes how Hong Kong has developed a unified spirit in order to fight against the subjugating government of China. How did we get here? What is driving these protests? What led to the desire for a free democracy? We can begin to understand some of these questions by looking back at 46 years in history.

The Backdrop...

Hong Kong was a colony of the United Kingdom from 1841 to 1997. In 1984, Britain and China established the **Sino-British Joint Declaration** as an international treaty that allowed China to reclaim Hong Kong as its territory in 1997. A key criterion of this treaty was to leave Hong Kong undisturbed for 50 years (until 2047), including its government, press, trade relations, judiciary, financial system, and general way of life. In the words of Deng Xiaoping, China's leader at that time, the situation is simply, "**one country, two systems.**" China more or less respected the contract; however, when Xi Jinping, China's current leader, became president in 2012, many aspects of the deal started getting disregarded. It was becoming clear that China was increasingly violating the deal in order to entirely reclaim Hong Kong before the agreed time.

It all started with the extradition bill...

It was the extradition bill between Hong Kong and China that engendered the initial protest.

The **extradition bill**, if enacted, would permit criminal suspects in Hong Kong to be extradited to China. This triggered protests since the residents of Hong Kong believed China would subject the suspects to unfair trials and violent treatment. Furthermore, the residents felt that this bill would exacerbate the already complex situation of the treaty, as it would help China gain even more influence over Hong Kong.

Anger boils over...

The fear of the **extradition bill** initially evoked a peaceful march on June 9, 2019, by Hong Kong residents to oppose the bill. However, tension increased when the police used pepper spray, batons, and 150 canisters of tear gas, thereby instigating the peaceful protestors.

Although the Hong Kong government was considering withdrawal of the bill, the residents were concerned the bill could be revived later. Thus, the objections continued, causing the violence between protestors and the police to gradually intensify. Examples of escalated tensions included shooting an 18-year-old boy in the chest with a live bullet as opposed to rubber bullets, shooting an officer while activists attempted to set up a roadblock, setting a civilian on fire by anti-government protestants and stabbing

a Beijing lawmaker. A defining moment was when there was a violent standoff between students and the police at Hong Kong's Polytechnic University's campus. One protester justified the movement's actions by writing in graffiti, "*It was the government who taught us that peaceful protests are useless.*"

The distrust deepens...

The uprisings created another, rather difficult, plight of disagreements and fury against the police force. Many were appalled with the behavior of the police, such as lining school children against walls to conduct random searches, arresting sixth-graders and physical mistreatment in detention. Rules such as firing rubber bullets only below the waist and using **tear gas** for dispersing crowds had been ignored by these forces. The *Public Book* magazine article, "*If we burn, you will burn with us*", stated that, "the police fired over 9,000 teargas canisters, raided eight university campuses, sexually abused women protesters, and openly shot unarmed protesters." Such actions reduced public trust in the government.

The new demands...

While under pressure, the government has officially withdrawn the extradition bill. However, using their anger at the police as a driving force, the protesters have extended their demands; "*5 demands, not one less*," an evolving slogan.

- Complete withdrawal of the bill
- Withdrawal of the "riot" characterization and charges for the protesters
- Unconditional release of all arrested protesters
- Formation of an independent commission of inquiry into police behavior
- Universal suffrage, allowing all public to vote instead of the 1,200 officials who voted Carrie Lam as chief executive

What's next...

It is not surprising that China desires to exert greater control on Hong Kong well before the expiry of 50 years that it agreed under the Joint Declaration. However, the residents of Hong Kong are slowly building a unified community in order to retain Hong Kong's **autonomy** and maintain a liberal democracy. The fervor and resilience of the protesters signify a fundamental change in the spirits of the people in Hong Kong, who seem determined to preserve their identity. For now, all they can do is 'persist' as they jostle on the busy streets, past the blazing banners that display in bold white letters, "*Liberate Hong Kong, Revolution of Our Time.*"



Photo Credits:
Bloomberg

Wuhan Coronavirus

It has been a catastrophic start to the new year for the people of China. We have all heard about the coronavirus in recent weeks. Cattle, bats, and other animals are the main cause of the virus being transmitted to humans. Coronavirus broke headlines when it consumed China during Chinese New Year, the busiest time of the year across the nation. The virus has since expanded from its native country, as infected people traveled the world and spread this virus to others. Although the symptoms are often mild, they can escalate, causing more serious respiratory diseases such as pneumonia, bronchitis, Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

The sudden spike of cases of the virus has prompted many countries to advise against travel to China. Hong Kong has even temporarily shut various borders between China, with the fear that the virus will infiltrate the neighboring nation. In China itself, public transportation in Wuhan has been completely shut, and in cities surrounding Wuhan, government transportation has been reduced. But the countermeasures that governments are taking have not stopped Coronavirus from continuing to spread. The current number of confirmed cases of the virus is over 32,000, jumping by 26,000 just a week ago. From the 32,000 people diagnosed, around 650 people have died thus far. This jump in cases is fueled by the fact that the virus is easily transmittable from person to person. Furthermore, the virus has a nesting period of 1 to 15 days. In those days, the virus cannot be detected because the carrier will not have any symptoms but can still transmit the virus to the people around him or her. Regulations surrounding travel in and out of China have not prevented cases from emerging around the world, including in India.

But do we at AES have to worry? As a community, we have to do everything that we can to ensure that none of us get exposed to the virus. Individually, we should:

- 1 Regularly drink water.
- 2 Stay at home if we have a fever or the flu.
- 3 Make sure we regularly wash our hands with either soap or use a sanitizer.
- 4 Cover our mouths when we cough or sneeze.

Our school has recently taken preventative measures in order to ensure that the virus won't spread in our large community. They have recently decided to comply with new announcements with the order given by the Delhi government, shutting schools until 5th grade until March 31st. Whether our high-school and middle-school haven't been closed, we are taking measures like having the necessary tools at home for students to partake in virtual school days.

Although it appears to be a challenging time for everyone, the global situation sheds light on how much this virus must affect the everyday lives of the people living in China. Citizens across the world have to remain vigilant in the fight against the epidemic before it becomes too late.



CURRENT EVENTS BOMIN CHAE

Philippines Volcano Alert

The issue of the volcano eruption in the Philippines has come to attention due to its grave effects on all citizens of the Philippines. On January 12th, 2020, the Taal Volcano erupted in the middle of the lake in the south of Manila for the first time in 43 years. Thousands of people, threatened by the eruption, fled ash-blanketed towns and cities in search of safety. It was reported by CNN that the volcano was located "65 kilometers south of the capital Manila," and started releasing white "steam-laden plumes around 5 AM." The police and military on Thursday began implementing forced evacuation and total lockdown of nearby areas, sending ten thousand people to evacuation centers.

The volcano spewed fountains of red-hot lava half a mile high, sparked its own lightning storms, turned tropical green vistas gray, and rocked the areas with 50 earthquakes in just eight hours. Many families who live near the volcano have been evacuated. Indeed, the United Nations recognizes 500,000 residents with risk. This issue stands as an urgent and grave situation, causing fear in many citizens and tourists. Although there have not been any deaths so far, the 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo—the most powerful volcanic explosion in the Philippines—killed more than 800 people. This has caused much fear as people seek to flee affected areas.

In order to help affected citizens, the Philippines' army sent 20 military vehicles and 120 personnel, with the secretary of national defense's helicopters on standby. However, citizens claimed "the ash will kill you" before the "lava," and that "ash flow from an ex-

ploding volcano can travel hundreds of kilometers an hour." Currently, Joseph Michalski, director of Earth and Planetary Science division at the University of Hong Kong claimed that the gases are hazardous to the lungs and it can make one very ill. These threats, including deadly toxic gases, mudflows, and ash mixing with water vapor in the atmosphere, further agitated numerous families and individuals.

On January 26th, 2020, the government's agency lowered the alert level from 4 to 3 out of 5, meaning that there is a decreased tendency towards a hazardous eruption. Not only that, the agency reduced half the danger zone where residents have to be evacuated around the volcano. According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, the volcano's conditions had "generally declined to less frequent volcanic earthquake activities" with "weak steam and gas emission at main crater."

On January 23rd, 2020, the European Space Agency (ESA) captured a photograph of the volcano erupting with the aid of its "Sentinel-2 satellite." The birds-eye-view of the image showed "bright red" activity with Taal's crater and a "blanket of ash" covering the island and ashing up to 9.3 miles (15km) high. According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, on the third of February, 2020, Taal volcano again recorded 134 earthquakes in the past 24 hours, with one of them magnitude 3.2. It has been supported by the United States Geological Survey that the low-frequency earthquakes are "caused by cracks resonating as magma and gases move toward the surface." United States Geological Survey that the low-frequency earthquakes are "caused

by cracks resonating as magma and gases move toward the surface."

The governor of the affected areas, Hermilando Mandanas, stated at a press conference that all "residents of all towns under lockdown except Agoncillo and Laurel have the option to return" to their homes. Yet not only are humans in danger, but the environment and flora and fauna are also under threat as well. Such as, a horse was found on Volcano Island on January 14th, 2020. The volcano is currently spewing gases into the air, which contains sulfur dioxide. Sulfur dioxide has harmful effects on animals and plants and restricts their growth. The horses and cows were half burnt and some that could not escape were floating dead in the lake. Numerous citizens ignored the warnings from the government and went back to rescue the animals.

In order to help this critical situation, the United Arab Emirates and Filipino volunteers began to prepare aid boxes to help families affected by the volcano. On Twitter, the government and the president of the UAE and Dubai claimed that "humanity defines our society" and that they have started "Red Crescent's campaign" that brings citizens together to provide aid to the families and individuals affected by the Taal volcano. Despite various help and support from others, on January 26th, 2020, the volcanic ash spread to Quezon City North of Manila, promoting the suspension of all flights at the capital's international airport.

Taal volcano is now considered as the most active and deadliest volcanoes in the Philippines that sits on the "Pacific Ring of Fire."

Coming to Terms With High School Stereotypes

LIFESTYLE ANANYA BALAKRISHNAN

I entered high school approximately a year and a half ago. I don't know what I was expecting, really, having been an incredibly sheltered, incredibly unassuming middle schooler— *Mean Girls*-type cliques and an abundance of pink? *Heathers*-esque bullying and drama? The frivolous day-to-day of *Clueless*? My ninth-grade self may have seen a few too many high school chick flicks, I will admit, but they gave me a sense — I thought — of what was to come.

Spoiler alert. High school is not like *Mean Girls*... I don't know how to feel about that.

So here I was, surrounded by people just as clueless as myself and utterly terrified of upperclassmen. They seemed to know what they were doing— they seemed to fit what I thought high school was *supposed* to be like. There were the popular kids, the athletic people, the nerds, the geeks, you name it. Every stereotype there was, I thought I could see. So I started trying to make myself fit into one of those, too. That's all anyone wants, after all— to fit in, right?

I acquired new clothing. I started doing more makeup. I paid attention — too much attention — to the way my hair looked. I wanted to be *something* (well, as much of "something" as a freshman can be). You want to fit in too, I'm sure. You want to be something. Maybe you want to be one of "THOSE" kids, with the perfect hair and the perfect shoes and the perfect smile. In order to be them, I thought, one needed to wake up at six and spend an hour and a half getting one's hair impeccably placed. In order to be them, one needed to surround them-

self with the coolest people in the school. Or maybe you want to be one of the idolized sports stars— you know, spending a frankly illogical amount of time on ME-SAC (you can tell I'm not a sports person) every season, pushing themselves harder and harder every time. Maybe you want to be an art kid, one who seems to always be sporting paint-speckled skin and some evidence of the levels of creative genius only IB art students could have; maybe you want to be the epitome of a Theater Kid— knowledgeable of every musical from *Six* to *Beetle-juice* and able to land every part. Maybe you want to be THE nerd: unable to survive anything less than an A+, taking all the hardest classes, annoyingly active in class. Perhaps the soon-to-be politician, the literature kid, the science geek, et cetera, et cetera.

It turned out, though, that the harder I tried to fit into one of these, the less and less I could find who I wanted to be. I would feel pretty one day and then feel dumb for spending any time at all on how I looked. I would be compelled to push myself one day and then completely lose all motivation to do anything of substance the next. It was harder than I thought to fit into a stereotype because they simply did not exist— there were the *princesses*, yes, but they weren't really princesses as such. The nerds were just as popular as the jocks, just as idolized. The geeks were living their best lives, not being bullied by everyone else like the ever-cited *Mean Girls* would have insinuated. The seniors that I quietly worshipped turned out to not be fitting into these stereotypes, but inadvertently breaking them down for everyone else. I'm sure they didn't *mean* to help a freshman such as myself (because who wants to help freshies?), but they

demonstrated the extent to which everyone can be everything. Wanting to be *something* does not mean not being something else. Like Shrek once said, "we are indeed like onions, we do indeed have layers" (definitely threw that in to prove that I can reference movies other than *Mean Girls*)— at a school that prides itself on diversity, at a school that provides us with opportunities, we have the responsibility to be more than just one thing.

I still want to find the one thing that makes me. I think everyone I know is searching for that as well. But while we're in high school — really, for all of our lives — we can be more than just *something*. We can be everything that we want to be: someone who spends way too long looking in the mirror can also be someone who prides themselves on their intelligence. Someone who has paint all over everything can also be someone who's always on the field. Someone who has read *The Odyssey* or other such pretentious works cover to cover more times than they can count can also be someone who knows every word to *Waitress*. The stereotypes that we find ourselves looking at are nothing more than the constraints that we establish for ourselves because we feel we need them to be liked. We're valuable because of who we are, not where we fit. At the end of the day, we need to be able to take down the boxes that we think we want to put ourselves into— we can be *someone*, not something. Not just another stereotype.

The "Um" Response

LIFESTYLE NAMITA PISE

Um.
Uh.
Okay.

Whether you're talking to your teachers, texting your friends, or answering a call, chances are you've said 'umm' to fill a silence. Out of our subconscious desire to escape embarrassment we occupy our awkward pauses with fillers or crutch words. The fillers allow us to collect our thoughts before moving on. Yet these fillers can easily become disfluencies "that diminish our credibility and distract from our message" (Harvard Business Review). In fact, the average speaker uses "five fillers per minute- or, one every twelve seconds" (Harvard Business Review). We wonder, then, why do we use fillers so frequently and are they truly problematic?

Fillers are usually substituted because we feel compelled to "hold the conversational floor" (Harvard Business Review). In other words, we feel uncomfortable or need some time to think, but we don't want the listener to lose their interest. Sometimes, using 'umm' or long, drawling crutch words can negatively impact the conversation:

1. The listener is distracted by the fillers and focuses on the "um" rather than your message.

2. Fillers reduce audience engagement and understanding.

3. Fillers suggest unpreparedness in formal speeches, induce an air of informality, diminish credibility and present an image of nervousness and low self-confidence.

Nevertheless, you needn't worry. Some linguists even claim that the constrained use of 'umm' isn't a liability. In 2003, The University of Rochester conducted a study that found that "these so-called superfluous words help with listener comprehension" (Tanveer et al.). The placement of fillers impacts their reception because a filler used in the middle of a sentence is more forgivable than at the start of one. Others suggest that such words "may be used to measure the degree to which people have thoughts to express" (thecut.com) Still, the overuse of words like 'um' does diminish audience interest.

There are some solutions to curtail your use of fillers as follows:

1. Know what you are saying and the points you want to articulate upon.

2. Practice eliminating the "um".
3. 'Embrace the pause.'

4. Use silence to build suspense.
5. Try to speak at a slower-than-usual pace, so you avoid rushing over your words.

6. Speak confidently.
7. Use crutch words, but use them sparingly.

Say No to After School Hunger With These Healthy Snacks!

LIFESTYLE SARAH GARCIA

We are all familiar with the incessant sensation of gnawing after-school hunger. Look back to some typical evening snacking habits. After a couple of short minutes of mental preparation, you're finally ready to work on that assignment. Laptop flipped open, music chosen, brightness turned up, and- stomach still growling.

Does this sound familiar? The only thing worse than hours of homework is spending hours of agonizing homework on an empty stomach. So, why wait until dinner? Whether it be a snack to satisfy your cravings for that crunchy and salty combo, or for the irresistible flavor of rich sweetness, you should be able to enjoy wholesome and delicious snacks that are easy to whip up after school.

1 10-MINUTE POPCORN

Popcorn gets a bad reputation for being unhealthy, but popcorn kernels are actually whole grains! Just add ¼ a cup of popcorn kernels to 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil in a medium-sized pot, then put it on a burner on medium heat and allow popcorn to cook until no more popping can be heard. This should take about 5 to 10 minutes. When all the popcorn is popped, transfer to a bowl and season with a teaspoon of salt and a drizzle of olive oil. This recipe is easy to make, and just as easy to customize!

2 BANANA "NICE CREAM"

This recipe does require some preparation, but the outcome is more than worth it. First, cut up 2 bananas into thin slices and place them in a ziplock bag. Store them in a freezer overnight. The best part about this step is that you can do it up to three months in advance! After school, just head to the freezer and drop the bananas into a blender or food processor along with 3 heaping tablespoons of all-natural peanut butter, 2 tablespoons of sugar-free cocoa powder, and about ¼ a cup of milk. Blend all of the ingredients until smooth and creamy, adding more milk if needed to ensure everything is smooth. Enjoy right away with a generous drizzle of peanut butter and sprinkle more cocoa powder on top. This recipe will have the same feel as ice-cream, but you can eat it even more happily knowing it's healthy.

3 COOKIE DOUGH BALLS (DEVELOPED BY OH SHE GLOWS COOKBOOK)

Cookie dough is irresistible, to say the least, but this cookie dough recipe has the added bonus of being irresistibly healthy as well. This delicious cookie ball only takes 20 minutes to make, and can be stored in the freezer for up to a month! Start by adding 1 cup of raw cashews and ½ a cup of rolled oats to a food processor. Process until a fine flour forms. Then add ½ cup of pitted dates and process again until they are finely ground. Next, add in 1 tablespoon of maple syrup, 1 tablespoon of raw cashew butter, ½ teaspoon of pure vanilla extract, and ¼ teaspoon of salt. Process until all ingredients are combined, the mixture should feel sticky to the touch. Now that the dough is made, form it into balls with a tablespoon or your hands, and chill them in the freezer until ready to eat. These cookie dough balls are great for giving a little delicious boost of much needed after school energy!

Don't wait till dinner to have delicious and healthy food, it only takes a few extra minutes to make and provides tasty snacks for any day!

The Street Foods of India

What comes to mind when you're thinking of India? The beautiful Taj Mahal? The bustling movie industry? Maybe it's the diverse culture that resonates with you. I think most people would agree that India is famous for its food. Spicy or not, healthy or unhealthy, India is known for the unmatched variety of its cuisine. Nevertheless, Indian food, street food included, is unique because of the complex flavors that are developed through the use of simple ingredients and spices. Street food is classified as food sold in portable stalls and carts. In Hindi, it is known as nukkadwala food roughly translating to "corner food". While it is important to note the infamous "Delhi Belly" that affects many foreigners trying street food, if you can target the most popular, busiest food stalls then you'll have no worries getting fresh, delicious food. Today, the ROAR intends to tantalize your taste buds with a selection of must-try New Delhi street foods.

Panipuri



Crisp fried dough balls stuffed with potatoes, chickpeas, sprouts, and sweet chutney is another one you simply must try. The small bursts of flavor in your mouth and its small size make it so addictive that you can't just stop at one! In North India, it is known as golgappa, with gol referring to the crispy shell and gappa referring to the eating style. It is believed to originate from Uttar Pradesh and today, it is a staple at every fair, festival, and wedding in India.

Momos



For many Delhiites momos were a childhood staple and hold a special place in their hearts. Who doesn't love momos? Momos are a kind of Tibetan dumpling that is stuffed with either vegetables or meat. They're hugely popular throughout India.

My personal favorite is Chole Bhature, a mixture of creamy and spicy chickpeas along with a puffy, steaming crispy yet delicate sphere of bread. Make no mistake, this iconic dish from Uttar Pradesh is one of the most popular in India and the perfect indulgence. The host of spices and flavors used are irresistible.

Chole Bhature



Papdi Chaat



And last, but not least, there's Papdi Chaat. Composed of crispy fried dough wafers along with boiled chickpeas, boiled potatoes, yogurt, and different chutneys, the crowd-pleasing favorite brings out a variety of flavors and textures that leaves nothing to be desired, except perhaps a dessert for afterward.

LIFESTYLE SAHIBA KAUR

Painting Of A Voice Future of Journalism

Journalism is and always has been organized gossip, yet journalists create the first draft of history— without journalism, there would be no democracy, no public voice on major issues. No matter where you stand on journalism, without it our society would drastically differ. Still, we are forced to wonder where it's headed in the fu-

ture. Is it going to fall into the rabbit hole of capitalism — if it hasn't already — or is it going to thrive into opportunities that address something much larger than us? glossy mag," at the Jaipur Literature Festival. He replied with a very simple answer: "you have to understand that in the future, journalism is going to be majorly digital. There will not be any more 'glossy mag;' regardless, journalists still need to have the drive to write, the writing still has to be interesting. People have a tendency to write an interesting introduction and conclusion but

"Still, we are forced to wonder where it's headed in the future. Is it going to fall into the rabbit hole of capitalism — if it hasn't already — or is it going to thrive into opportunities that address something much larger than us?"

ture. Is it going to fall into the rabbit hole of capitalism — if it hasn't already — or is it going to thrive into opportunities that address something much larger than us?

So, what is journalism's future? This is the question I asked Nicolas Coleridge, the "colossal of the

everything in the middle is bland crap."

If we reflect on it, as students we often tend to mimic this trend. We write flowery, somewhat-powerful introductions, then fill up our papers with the thing you're "supposed" to write.

Even in my writing— namely, the article that you're reading right now had a fun, bubbly introduction but the middle is just plain crap. Even though Coleridge's answer was theoretically simple, it is, in practice, quite layered. Journalism has and always will be one of the many powerful tools of public voice, be it digital or paperback; all it really has to be is interesting rather than true. You aren't going to read a boring book unless you have to, so why read a boring article, why read news which is not relevant— not interesting, not real? Pressing issues such as climate change, gender equality, and political tension may appeal to certain audiences in their raw form, but how would one make it irresistible to society as a whole? In the future will we have to start to sugar coat pressing issues (more so than we do now) because they are so terrifying? What if we try to cover up our future? Politicians do it today. They desperately conceal issues from the public to control outbreaks and damage to their personalized public relations campaigns, irrespective of their impacts on others. Knowing an audience is important, but expanding it is crucial. In the future, we will have to juggle between keeping the information in its raw form and making it accessible for larger groups of people. It's hard to be a journalist, and it won't become easier going into the future as we move from physical literature to digital. However, given our tendency as humans to gravitate towards solely what is interesting, it will be riveting beyond measure.

Popular Online Brands - A Review/ Guide

It's not a secret that we can spend ten times the amount on an international product, whilst finding local equivalents here in India. From skincare to vintage clothing, makeup, or shoes, the New Delhi malls lack our favorite products or seem to charge an insane shipping fee on imported fashion.

Honey: The first recommendation we have for online shopping is to find ways to make our shopping cheaper without losing the quality. "Honey" is a free chrome extension that will scan the internet for coupon codes relevant to the product you plan to purchase. At checkout, Honey will apply these codes to your total, more often than not, saving you a large sum of your bill. This extension functions in India, without the need for a VPN.

Nykaa: "Nykaa" is an online beauty store that sells skincare and makeup from all around the world. It's a reasonably priced brand, without extreme shipping costs, and the largest part of the bill is the product itself.

Beauty Bay: Another beauty import website is "Beauty Bay". It seems to be a platform from the USA that ships to India and sells higher quality products than Nykaa, which is locally based. Beauty Bay stocks a larger quantity of popular and trending skincare and makeup products than Nykaa, although it may cost you more. Both options are still reasonably affordable for the product of skincare you are receiving.

Asos: Finding high-quality clothing in India takes a turn for the worse as we find familiar brands charging twice the fee. Often times, imported fashion doesn't seem to hold products that are particularly unique, or special. Asos is a large online company that carries brands such as Nike, Top Shop, and Free People. With a larger but not extraneous shipping fee, Asos is more affordable than many other popular chains.

The Vintage Scene: However, the highlight of my list is called "The Vintage Scene", as I am a lover of vintage shopping. I would recommend looking at oversized jackets and crewnecks, as you can find some gems! Prices vary across products, the quality of clothing available is worth every rupee.

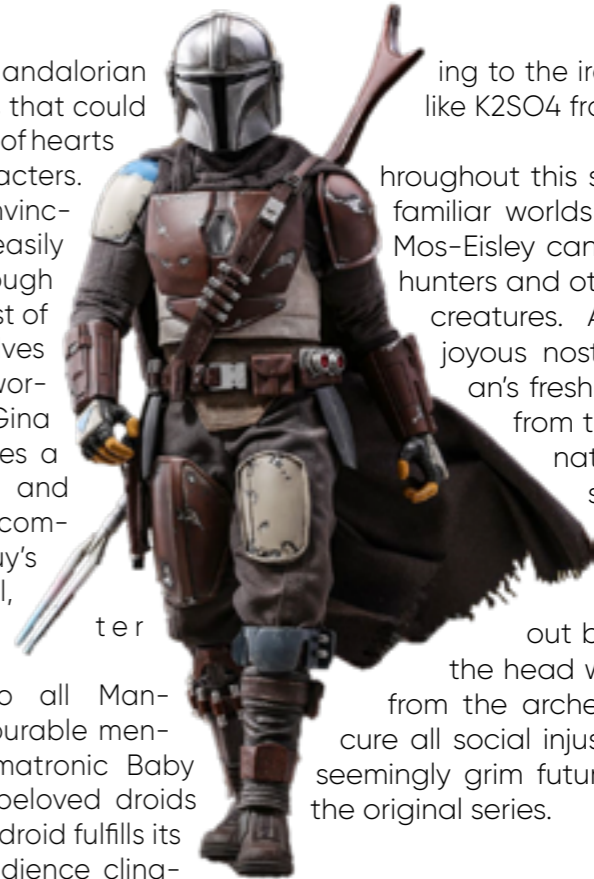
As a lover of clothing and skincare, I've always found it justifiable to treat myself to imported products when I know that they're high-quality products from sources that won't break the bank.

Websites For Fashion That Doesn't Break The Bank

"This Is The Way": A Review of The Mandalorian

Journey back to a galaxy far, far away to witness a whimsical Western-style film set in space involving a single father whose adorable charge will probably define the memes of 2020. Beyond the mere glory that is "Baby Yoda", The Mandalorian is the first live-action series in the Star Wars franchise and presents a remarkably touching narrative with Hollywood-film-worthy cinematography.

Beyond its top-quality CGI, The Mandalorian presents a stellar cast with actors that could motivate those of us with the iciest of hearts to care genuinely for their characters. Pedro Pascal's Mando wears a convincing American accent that could easily fool even a discerning ear. Although his face remains a mystery for most of the show, audiences find themselves at the edges of their seats with worry for his well being. Similarly, Gina Carano's Cara Dune demonstrates a heroine that viewers both need and deserve - she's powerful without compromising on kindness. Family Guy's Christopher Cox appears as Quill, an age-appropriate character whose iconic catch-phrase may yet become a summoning call to all Mandalorian fans. Of course, all honourable mentions go to the uber-cute animatronic Baby Yoda. Audiences don't see the beloved droids C3PO and R2D2 but, a lovable IG droid fulfills its core function and leaves the audience cling-



ing to the irony of humanoid droids like K2SO4 from Rogue One.

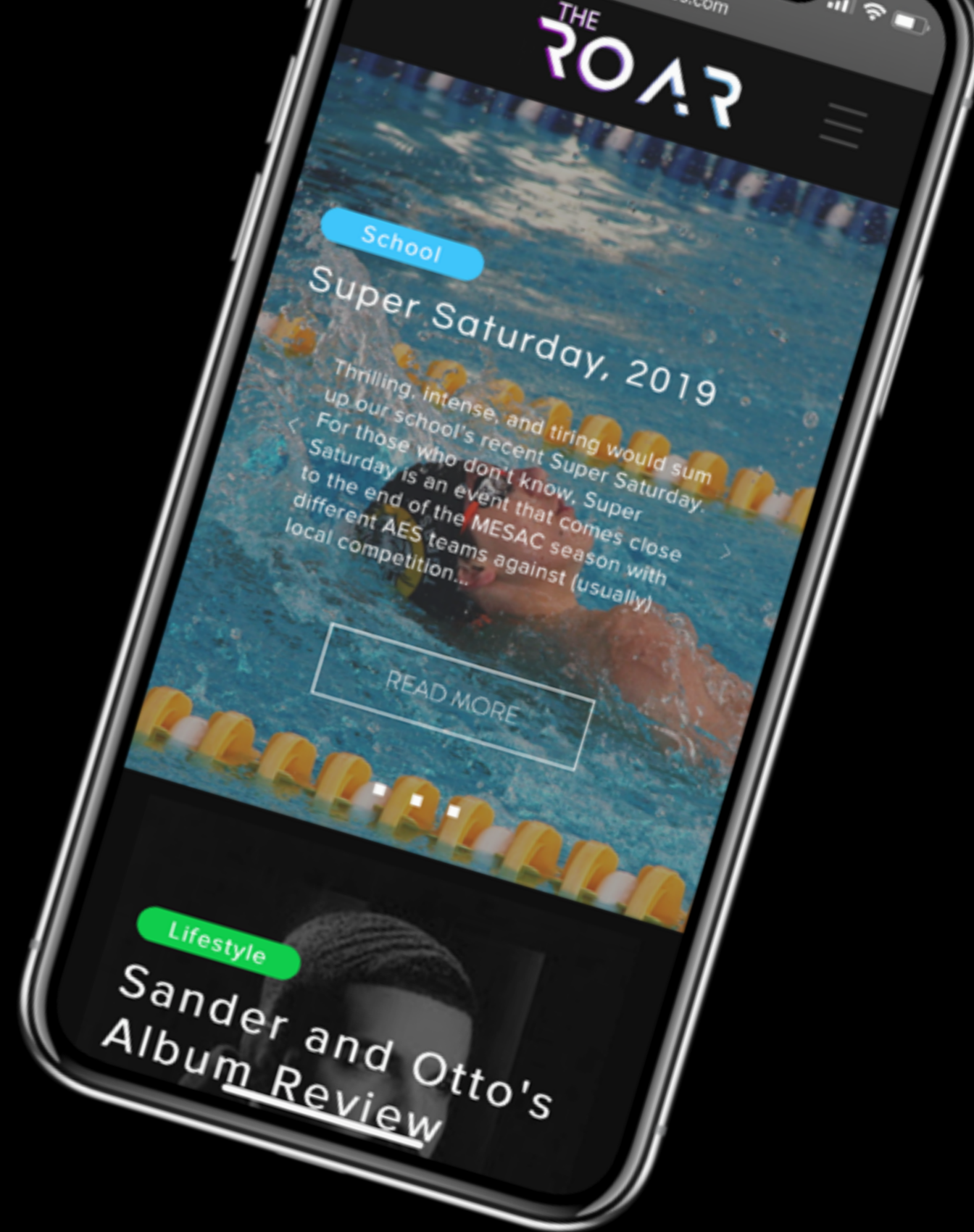
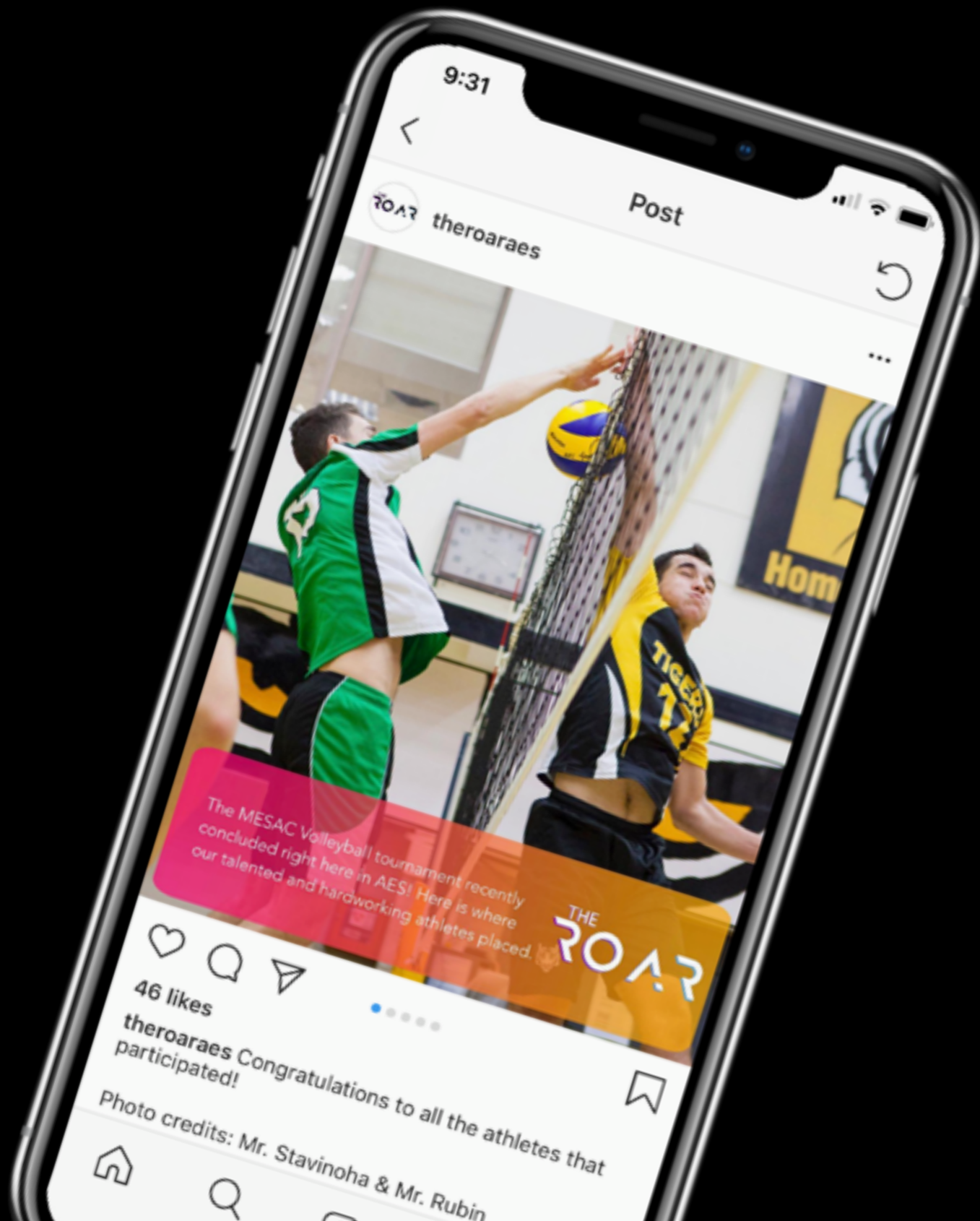
Throughout this series, viewers return to familiar worlds like Tatooine with the Mos-Eisley cantina of legend, bounty hunters and others with extraordinary creatures. Although replete with joyous nostalgia, The Mandalorian's fresh take on characters far from the Skywalker line eliminates toxic masculinity by selecting a narrative of single fatherhood and discussing issues of social justice without beating audiences over the head with a memo. Freedom from the archetypal "Empire" doesn't cure all social injustices but, the galaxy's seemingly grim future invokes the hope of the original series.

Unfortunately, this show is available only on Disney+ but, alternative means exist for those who are willing to realize that this is the way.

I have spoken.

Check Out Our Instagram

@theroaraes



Check Out Our Website

theroaraes.com

A vibrant photograph capturing the Indian festival of Holi. In the foreground, a young man with dark hair is seen from the side, his face and white t-shirt splattered with bright green and yellow powder. He is reaching out towards a woman on the left. The woman has her face and white t-shirt also covered in green and yellow powder. In the background, other people are visible, some with their faces painted in green and yellow. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a fence in the background. The overall atmosphere is festive and colorful.

ON THE COVER

Pictured on the cover is the Indian festival of colors: holi. The holiday is celebrated on March 10th of this year, however, the American Embassy School had its celebration slightly earlier on campus. Playing with both water and colors, students and parents alike covered the ground in a brand new hue!