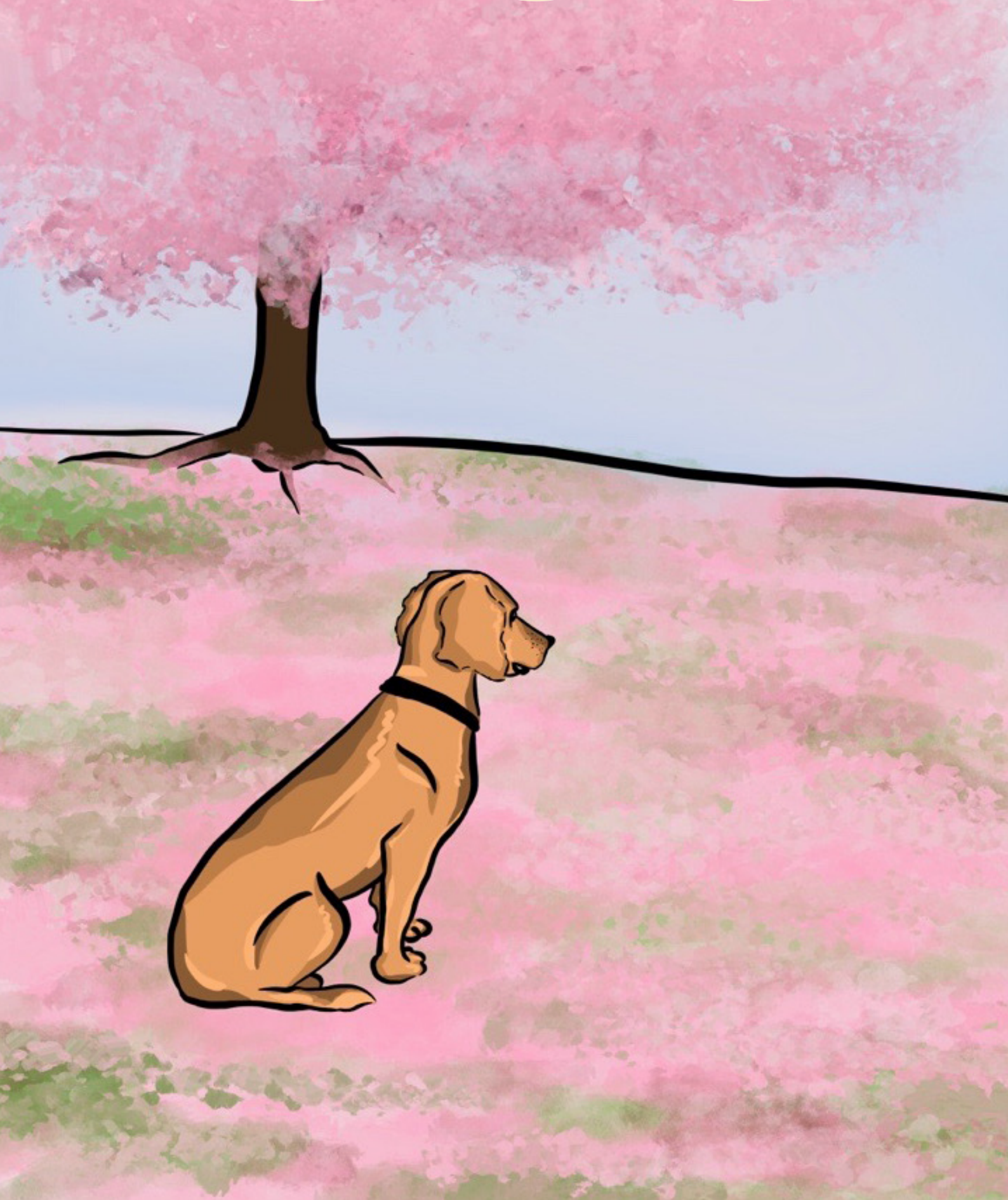


MONDAY 29TH JUNE 2020

ROGUE



EDITORIAL

To say to myself that this our last issue is terrifying. Yes, it does mean the start of summer and I'm sure come Thursday afternoon the High School Musical 2 soundtrack will be taking up residence in my brain but I've been counting issues, not weeks. To have finally made it to the end of the countdown feels beyond odd. Even just sending out the call for Issue 13 two weeks ago to our contributors feels more like two months ago, especially as I load all their hard work into InDesign on a Sunday evening for the final time.

The finality of it all is perhaps what I find most striking. Sure Rogue will be back next year but it's the end of what has been a big part of our lives for so long, for Zoya and I especially, it's the end of an era. I suppose that many of us feel like that this week, though. Not even just those that are leaving Royal Russell behind this year but for all of us to simply close our laptops and that be the end of the year is both sudden and anticlimactic but also sad in a way. It's summer but how different is it really from yesterday? I doubt that this will be an average summer for any of us but the promise of gradually lifting restrictions is promising. That being said, be sensible, be safe.

To all of our wonderful contributors: what can I say? It's been a long journey and we dumped a monumental task on to your shoulders, I don't think even Zoya and I anticipated just how long we would be doing this together but you have all risen to

the task so well. This really wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of you, all of your contributions, however big or small, have contributed to one amazing team. Zoya and I have been continually impressed by your creative ideas and how your writing has improved each week, a skill that I hope will serve you well in life. We really couldn't have asked for a more hardworking, talented team and a simple 'thank you' is really not enough to express our gratitude.

A final thank you to all of our readers for sticking with us through these past weeks, we all hope that the power of a good read has brought you a little respite in your day. Please enjoy a final dose of Rogue.

Zoya...we did it!

- Ella Westland

Hello my Rogue Readers! I hope you've enjoyed flicking through our editions as much as we've enjoyed putting them together. It's been a joy and we've loved hearing so much positive feedback.

Before I leave you to slump into some comfy sofa to guiltlessly spend the day watching TV, only taking a break for the pizza guy, I'd like to say a quick thanks to a couple of people before the term ends. The team, who we've had the pleasure of working with, you've done us proud kiddos! Ms Stenning, who has kindly dealt with emails at absurd hours with final pdf's, sent out with little notes that never fail to make

me smile like a kid. Finally, to my Co-Editor, Ella Westland, who's done an incredible job, not only with her insane layout skills... I could not have asked for a better friend.

Looking forward to getting back into the groove in September; until then, friends. As I said in my (first ever!) editorial; just keep swimming.

- Zoya Lulu Kirmani

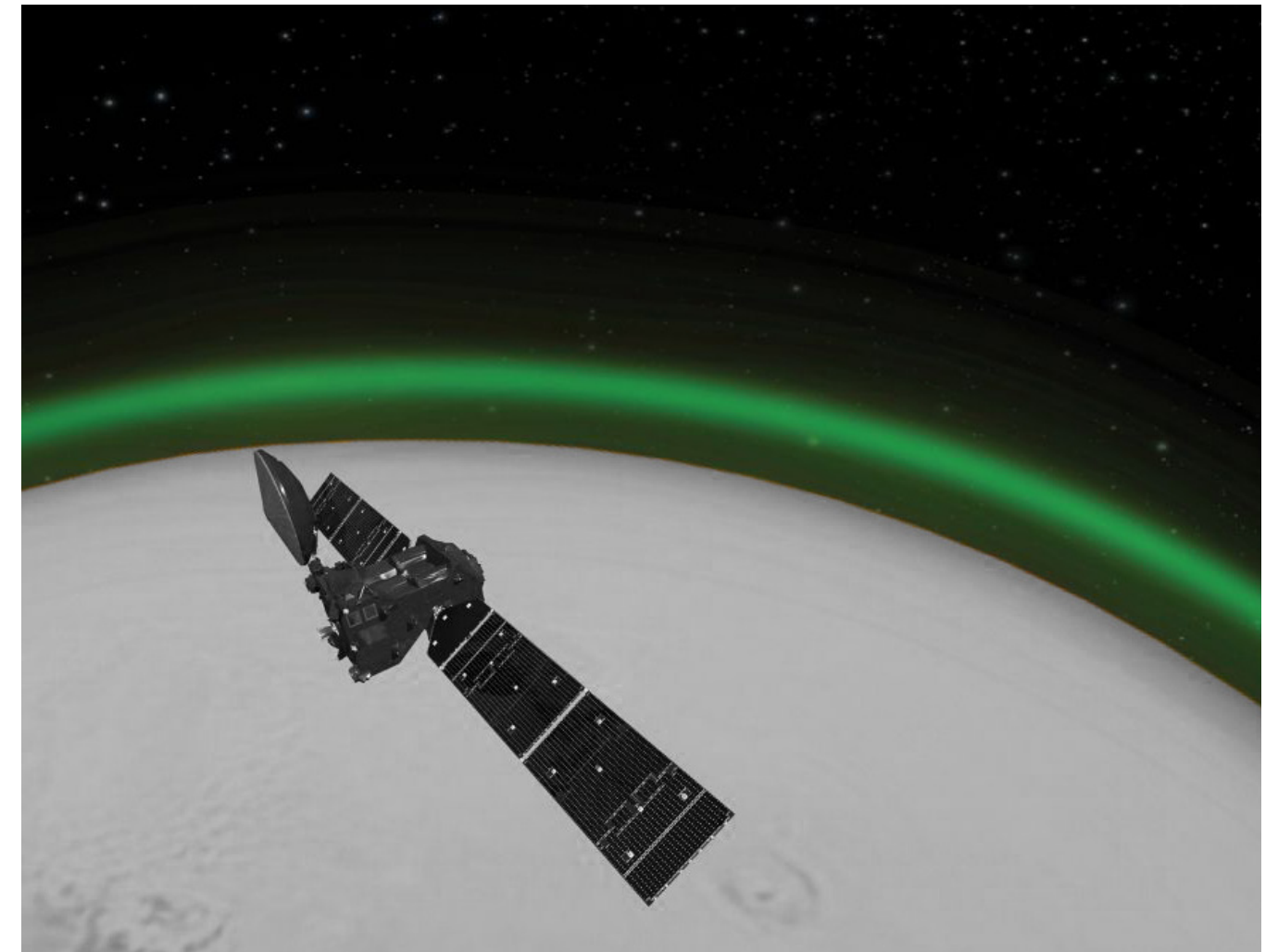
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SPACE UPDATE



Scientists have discovered a green glow around the atmosphere of Mars which is caused by sunlight releasing oxygen atoms from carbon monoxide. They have predicted that this 'green' will occur on Mars for approximately 40 years! Thanks to The European Space Agency and Russia's Space Agency Roscosmos's Exo Mars Trace Orbiter which entered the Red Planet's orbit in 2016, has confirmed this phenomenon. According to data collected between April and December of 2019, evidence has been found of the green glow in all altitudes ranging from 20-

400 KM, with the strongest at 80KM. It was found that it's mostly produced as carbon dioxide is broken down into carbon monoxide and oxygen. The resulting oxygen atoms have been seen glowing in both visible and ultraviolet light. The emissions wavelength was 16.5 times more intense than its ultraviolet wavelength. This is the first time a glow has been observed on a planet other than Earth. This is another phenomenal discovery for scientists.

BY GRACE SCOTT

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The Young Professionals work experience program for a relieved, anxious, relaxed, bored (depending on what time of day you catch us) set of YR11 Royal Russell students (22-26 June) was a mind-opening experience. Up to 2000 YR10 to college students wanting to expand their horizons, explore the different career pathways, particularly through apprenticeships, attended.

The Young Professionals Network was founded by Dan Miller, when he was only 17 and seeking to emulate LinkedIn but for young students preparing to leave school. He is still the CEO and only 20 years old. He believes students should be provided with more careers' advice in school and should

be given more opportunities to connect with employers. This is critical for students who are not enticed by the idea of going to university.

My expectations of the program were dramatically different from my actual experience. The night before Monday I sent a message to my friends; "We have to fill in logbooks every day!? Why did we sign up to this again? THIS IS SO MUCH EFFORT." However, the logbooks were a breeze and quite useful. As an added bonus, there was a good balance of work and play, there was lots laughing and cringing.

We attended webinars hosted by representatives of the NHS, EY, Capgemini,

IBM, Rolls-Royce, the RAF and others throughout the week. We were given detailed information on what a company employee experience could look like; how the companies' recruitment process works; how students can make the most of their time in lockdown to impress employers (which hopefully we're all doing, right??) and stand out in the increasingly competitive world of universities and business start-ups.

There was a lot to take in. We used those dreaded logbooks to identify 3 learning outcomes from each session and received recordings of each session in case we wanted to review something or had 'accidentally' missed out on a crucial part of the talk. I discovered that careers or companies I thought I was well-informed about weren't exactly what I thought they were. For example, there are many opportunities in the NHS besides the medical department such as IT, cyber security or management all of which are equally important for the effective running of a hospital.

We found out that EY recruits new employees through a non-CV system, where employers learn about potential recruits' skills and even more eagerly, their personality, through an interview. Every session was packed with engaging activities and every company kept me on the edge of my seat thinking of good questions to ask. I made a group chat with two friends to talk about what was going

on during the webinars and to give us a sense of competition that kept us motivated. Being able to participate in such an intensive program remotely was impressive. Being able to chat with my friends while doing so was refreshing. It was also entirely necessary that I did so too, as every time the attendees were given the opportunity to comment in the chat-box, there was a wave of thousands of teenagers who had decided they wanted to be comedians with gems such "I like chicken nuggets", "Can I use the bathroom" to "can you start from the beginning again?". All presenters used Zoom's chat function to field questions from attendees but mostly couldn't leave it open for more than 30 seconds due to the enthusiastic onslaught.

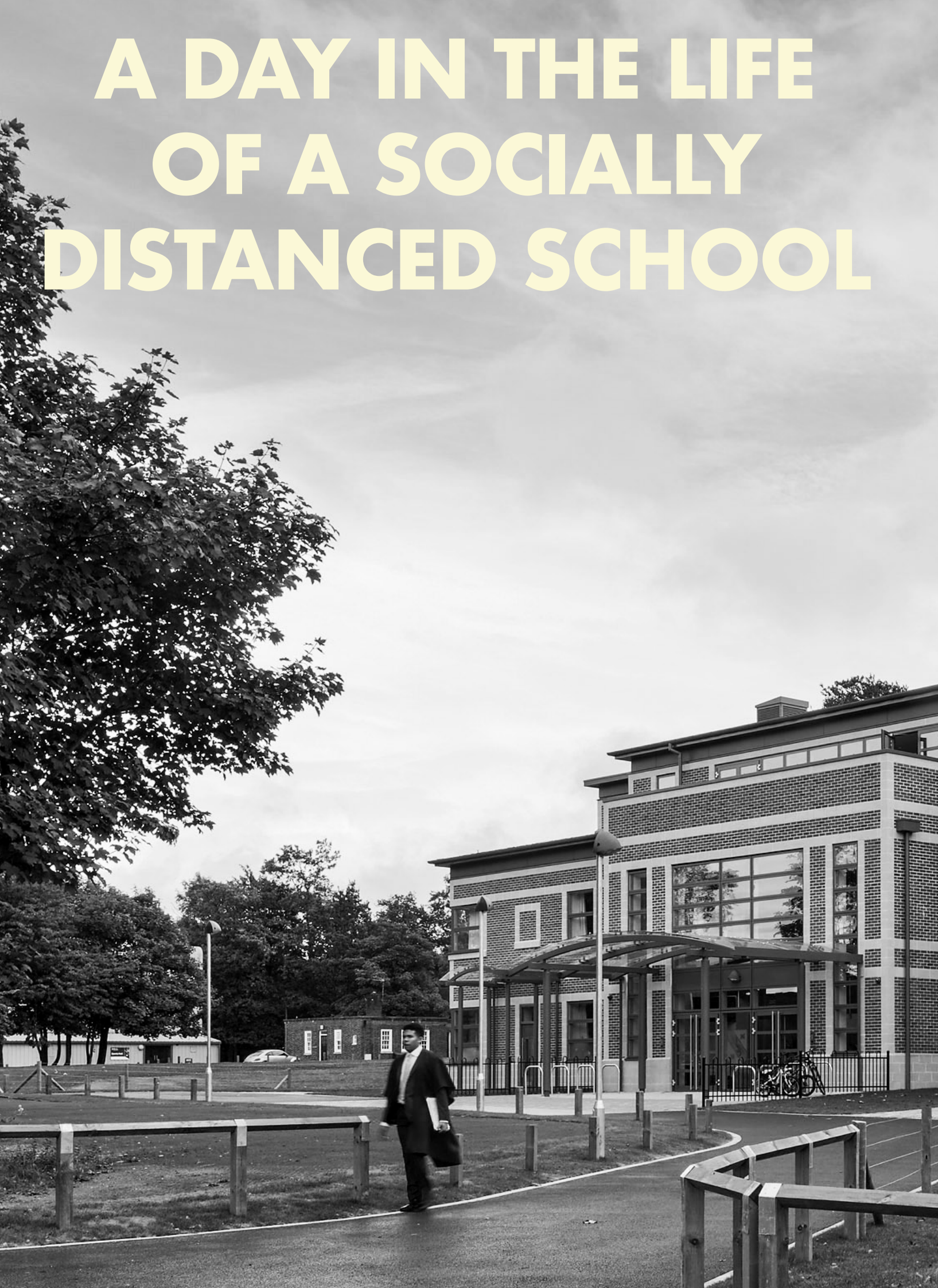
I feel that everything I've learnt on this program has given me powerful insight into the world of careers and "adulthood". Without this, I think I'd be at a huge disadvantage. Thank you to Ms. Harris for organizing this opportunity for me and many others like me who I'm sure have benefited tremendously from this experience. Thank-you to Dan Miller for coming up with this impressive idea and all the companies who gave their time, effort and encouragement so we could dip our toes into the real world.

I feel more confident now deciding where I want to go and what I want to do in the future.

BY SHIRAZ KIRMANI



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A SOCIALLY DISTANCED SCHOOL



What does it feel like being back at school? Weird, very weird!

Even though I was excited to be back, driving into the carpark on Monday morning I had butterflies in my stomach. When you are at home, you can shield yourself from the media and what's actually going on in real life, but going back into a place so familiar to you now changed to fit government guidelines puts everything into perspective and makes the unprecedented situation we are living in seem so much more real.

Walking down the path to the PAC, after a pump of hand sanitiser, and seeing so many familiar faces already put my mind at ease. I spoke to friends lining up to sign into school that I had barley spoken too in quarantine and passed teachers happy to be back in the school environment. It was difficult at first to actually abide by the two meter social distancing rules as you are so used to hugging friends and going up to the teachers desk that you had to remind yourself that you can't anymore.

Morning:

The auditorium was definitely the strangest part of the school. Most of the seats in the normally cramped, busy and loud room were taped off, literally. You had to sit with three seats in between you and your friends and I can assure you the private conversations were not possible with a large proportion of your year sitting all around you. Despite this, seeing your friends was certainly one of the biggest highlights of the experience, having social contact with someone instead of a text or zoom call really makes you value the friendships you have.

Lessons:

Our first lesson back was a learning curve. Working out where you can and can't sit and when you need to clean your desk. Though it was nice to be back in the classroom

environment even if there was only 50% of your peers in. Having face-to-face teaching is undeniably a lot easier too, as you can openly ask teachers questions and you can also ask friends for help if your struggling, almost whenever you need. It was surreal as well to watch your teachers run the lesson for the people at home to participate in as well, it was like you are on the other side and see the inner workings of what we have been experiencing. Having our science lessons without sets, all together in the auditorium gave it a university feel. We had to be more independent in our learning and this will definitely help us get ready for A levels.

Break and lunch:

As the weather has been so beautiful this week, we got to spend our breaks on the sunny Lime Tree Quad. This gave us the opportunity to split up into smaller groups and have more personal and fun conversations with friends (despite the hay fever)! Eating our prepared lunch and chatting in the sun was a good break from our action-packed school day - the burger on the last day was a lovely treat.

Just a bit of advice for when we do all go back to school: everything is under control and there is no need to be worried. Just focus on seeing your friends and getting back into the routine of lessons and everything will go back to normal in no time.

BY CHLOE SHIELDS

INDIA V. CHINA

In the past few days, tensions between India and China have dramatically increased due to conflict surrounding the border between the two countries. Last Wednesday, the Indian government admitted that there had been a serious confrontation at the border near the Himalayas with Indian troops losing their lives. After initial denial of the event, it was reported that 20 troops including a colonel were killed by Chinese troops last Monday. The Prime Minister of India made a televised appearance where he addressed fear of escalating a no-win conflict against a powerful country but maintained a tough stance of protecting 'Mother India'. He said that whilst India was mainly looking for peace, they will act if provoked. This speech served as warning; however, this incident has proved to only be the beginning of escalating tensions between the two nations.

After this conflict, an anti-china sentiment has grown in India with there being calls to boycott various Chinese products that were being sold in the country. There has been advice from experts saying that it will be difficult for India to suddenly reduce trade with China as it is a key trading partner to India and has been for years. However, New Delhi had already restricted the number of Chinese imports across the border before the clash had even occurred, suggesting some pre-existing conflict. Protests have begun in India including in Dharamsala where protesters were pictured sporting Indian flags and a giant banner saying, 'boycott China'.

However, China have taken a different approach as on Wednesday, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that China and India were important neighbours to each other and wanted to maintain 'peace and tranquillity' along the Sino-India border. Talks were held between the MEA joint secretary Naveen Srivastava and Director General in the Chinese Ministry of foreign affairs Wu Jianghao in hopes to reduce

friction and come to some sort of peaceful agreement about the mountainous borders. This is currently a developing situation as it may be set to continue for the rest of the week, so there could be changes in India or China's approaches to the situation.

The conflict has been said to be a 'turning point' in Sino-India relations with this type of violence not seen in years, casting a shadow on the countries ties with each other. India has received most of the blame for the conflict as it has been widely reported that China wanted to maintain a peaceful situation when it came to the border. However, it has been argued that whilst relations with China will worsen, India's relations with other countries such as Australia, Japan and the United States may strengthen as they are trusted to help protect and safeguard India's interests. This could cause conflict even further down the lines between India and China, as China will become concerned if India develops stronger ties with the United States.

We will have to wait and see if anything changes as the conflict unfolds. The big question is, will other countries get involved, or will this stay strictly between India and China?

BY SAMANTHA EDWARDS



**'THIS INCIDENT HAS PROVED
TO BE THE BEGINNING OF
ESCALATING TENSIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO
NATIONS'**

BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER



'Beautiful'- together with 'graceful' and 'pretty', or 'sublime', 'marvellous' and similar expressions- is an adjective that we often employ to indicate something that we like. It seems that what is beautiful, is good and we tend to judge our everyday experiences on that. What we'd like to have for ourselves. Whether it's wealth, love or to change; it stimulates our desire. Beauty has changed countless times in the lifespan of earth and there is no reason it will ever stop changing. Body types, facial features, poses, fashion, they aren't the same as 100 years ago and designers today have portrayed the versatility of beauty in truly artistic and experimental ways. A particularly notable person is Jean Paul Gaultier who in his 1995 fall/winter cyber

**'DESIGNERS
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show, broke the limits of a classic runway and included absolutely everyone. It's important to track how designers react to new technology and futuristic ideas of fashion and this was a phenomenal show that spoke to those topics. '95 was still the era of supermodels with almost unrealistic standards, but Jean also wanted to show other beauty and attitudes; he celebrated different cultures and difference. Some models were pregnant and opening the show proudly showing their stomachs, there were ethereal black women striding down the catwalk, some older ex models came back to shine with falcons in arms – they had time to play in front of the photographer unlike now where shows are much more calibrated. He allowed everybody's individuality and let them interact with the audience and truly put on a show.

They're beautifully dishevelled with dark colours and shapes and silhouettes taking inspiration from optical illusion artists. Jean Paul's perfect woman were not those who necessarily fit the 'Barbie' doll mould. Many a time did he bring light to women who's noses were Middle Eastern, Greek, Balkan etc. and presented it as beautiful Picasso's. Not in an insulting way, of course, but instead an unassuming beauty that is strange and different to show that these were not ugly traits, but normal and beautiful. As far as his pieces go, the designer was a time traveller - showing the new internet age in computer chip embroideries and menacing breastplates that lit up and were coloured traditionally. Jean Paul Gaultier is not a fashion dictator, he is able to play with tradition because he understands the craft which makes his message all the more potent. Jean was one of the first to design for all shapes and skin colour, there was no 'one look' that represented him and it was just the acceptance of the human being.

The mass media no longer truly represents a unified model or a single idea of beauty. They can retrieve all the experimental work of the avant-garde and at the same time offer models from the '20s, '50s, '80s. Commercials and TV shows are not something we should rely on; old portraits, cubism, surrealism and statues are underrated representations that symbolise all the 'flaws' we don't find beautiful because it was realistic unlike today. It is rare to find that creativity and acceptance that Jean Paul Gaultier and some others have but it's important to dig deep for it. A beautiful thing is something that would make us happy if it's our but still remains beautiful even if it belongs to someone else.

BY IRIS NUREDINI

CALIFORNIA

Corona has had a profound impact on our lives. From living largely outside to now inside. We have been bound to the homestead as if back to the hunter-gatherer societies of old with the role of the matriarch reaffirmed and reinvigorated. Every household is now a veritable village with the roles of matriarch and patriarch rearranged.

The matriarchal society is back in vogue with the primal protective instincts of the she-wolf back in full force. She makes all the major decisions as she is primitively pre-programmed to sense inherent and just over the horizon danger, to override any decisions remotely harmful to the herd and those in her charge. Her authority is supreme, freely surrendered to by the male members and a source of comfort that when faced with unseen predators, her ears will prick up first. So we huddle together, wash, scrub and stay safe under her watchful eyes.

All male instincts to answer the call of the wild are subconsciously suppressed.

Instead, we are left with a sense of wonder at how low we have been laid by an unseen enemy and an inchoate fear that God's wrath is striking silently at an ungrateful and irresponsible, reckless species.

In more empirical terms, the lessons of high school biology of "environmental resistance" setting in against an over populous and overbred species, enfeebled by indolence and their own inability to modulate against baser instincts of consumption and over exploitation of the environment. A new "apex predator" has emerged to cull the herd. One dares not wonder aloud if this is the demotion of Homo sapiens from apex predator to an infestation whose numbers need to be thinned to once again become a "sustainable" species. (Editor's note: YIKES!)

AN ADDITION TO OUR APRIL-MAY INTERVIEW SERIES, IN LIGHT OF THE ESCALATION OF THE CRISIS IN THE USA

Meanwhile, governments across the globe have lost the balance between their primary duties to protect citizens and their desire to exert herd control and not cause panic. Hence the inability to act fast for fear of "taking away the punch bowl" from a really awesome party that had been raging continuously for the last couple of centuries.

Theoretically, they could have planned better for the inevitable pandemic scientists have been warning about for the last 50 years. Practically, governments have bungled the transition from monarchy to democracy: in ceding absolute power to the citizens they gave up the upper brain function of keeping some decisions for themselves. Humans are notoriously inept at making the correct long term decisions for themselves, partly in the belief that "surely some of the smart folks in government must be doing it for us."

The stunning surprise is that government was doing nothing of the kind.

Noor Menai

BY ZOYA LULU KIRMANI



WASHINGTON DC

BY ZOYA LULU KIRMANI

Corona has caused some financial distress – although I am still employed and earn a salary, my income is also dependent on a couple of rental units and my tenants have been unable to pay their rent as normal. The stress and anxiety are also quite difficult – my heart stops when I hear my father cough, when I hear someone I love has been exposed or has a fever. And the loneliness can be quite all encompassing at times. That said, I'm one of the lucky ones – who still has a job, a home, a healthy family and lovely friends to see me through all this.

I am fearful of the unknown, grief-stricken by the loss of life but most of all I am angry at government incompetence which has been and continues to be appalling. Mass testing and contact tracing should have been instituted as soon as the virus was detected in China. Once it was detected in the US, large scale social distancing protocols should have been implemented immediately. New Zealand and Germany are excellent examples of what should have been done.

Citizens, though I can't really treat them as a monolith, have mostly been responsible; others have been purposefully ignorant. Even now, with people dying all around us, there are individuals who refuse to follow

the most basic and unintrusive directions to stay further apart from others. Personally, I wear a mask when I am not able to socially distance, work from home, stay away from family and friends. I purchased cold and flu medication as well as frozen food in bulk.

This pandemic has been a good excuse to connect with others – both those you have not seen in some time and those you see often. I check in with friends near and far sometimes on a weekly basis, sometimes on a monthly basis, but I'm speaking to friends who I do not regularly see or connect with. The worst has been listening to the news – learning about those who have lost their jobs, their families or their lives. And it isn't just from the media, either – it comes from friends and family too – so it doesn't matter how much TV I watch.

It is unsettling to not know who will be afflicted next, how bad their symptoms will be and who will succumb to it.

Josie Rajan

